



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Shane Jones	Portfolio	Resources
Title of Cabinet paper	A Non-Binding Framework on Critical Minerals Between the United States and New Zealand	Date to be published	17 March 2026

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
February 2026	A Non-Binding Framework on Critical Minerals Between the United States and New Zealand	Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs Office of the Minister for Resources
2 February 2026	A Non-Binding Framework on Critical Minerals Between the United States and New Zealand CAB-26-MIN-0018 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

YES

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's policy on Proactive Release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Some information has been withheld for the reasons of international relations, negotiations, legal professional privilege, commercial information, confidential advice to government, and free and frank opinions.



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

A Non-Binding Framework on Critical Minerals Between the United States and New Zealand

Portfolios **Foreign Affairs / Resources**

On 2 February 2026, Cabinet:

- 1 **noted** that New Zealand will be represented at a ministerial meeting hosted by United States (US) Secretary of State Rubio in Washington DC on 4 February 2026;
- 2 **noted** that officials have negotiated amendments to the text of the proposed United States – New Zealand Framework for Securing of Supply in the Mining and Processing of Critical Minerals and Rare Earths (the Framework), and that, Negotiations [REDACTED]
- 3 **noted** that New Zealand will not sign a non-binding Framework with the US on critical minerals at the upcoming ministerial meeting;
- 4 **invited** the Minister for Resources to return to Cabinet with further advice on the proposed Framework, and to seek approval for the next steps.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet