MIIT Weekly Brief

Regulations on Rare Earth Management

Original Link

Effective Date: 2024-10-01

Summary

- The regulation aims to protect and utilize rare earth resources effectively, promoting high-quality development of the rare earth industry.
- It applies to all activities related to rare earth mining, refining, utilization, and trade within China.
- The regulation emphasizes the balance between resource protection and development, adhering to principles of safety, innovation, and green development.
- The state owns all rare earth resources and implements protective mining policies.
- A unified national plan for the development of the rare earth industry is established, encouraging technological advancement and sustainable practices.

Strategic Insights

- Western businesses should monitor China's rare earth policies closely as they may impact global supply chains.
- Analysts should assess the potential for increased regulatory scrutiny on rare earth imports and exports.
- Policymakers might consider engaging with Chinese counterparts to understand the implications of these regulations on international trade.

Key Provisions

- Rare earth resources are state-owned, and protective mining is enforced.
- A unified national plan for rare earth industry development is mandated.
- The regulation encourages R&D in new technologies and sustainable practices in the rare earth sector.
- Strict controls are placed on rare earth mining and refining, with specific companies designated for these activities.
- A traceability system for rare earth products is established to ensure compliance and transparency.
- Penalties are outlined for illegal mining, refining, and trade of rare earth products.

Recommended Actions

- Foreign companies should ensure compliance with China's rare earth regulations to avoid penalties.
- Policymakers should consider the strategic importance of rare earths and explore diversification of supply sources.
- Businesses should invest in technology and processes that align with China's emphasis on sustainable and innovative practices.

Translation

The Regulations on Rare Earth Management, approved by the State Council on April 26, 2024, will be effective from October 1, 2024. The regulation aims to protect and utilize rare earth resources effectively, promote high-quality development of the rare earth industry, and ensure ecological and national resource security. It applies to all activities related to rare earth mining, refining, utilization, and trade within China. The regulation emphasizes balancing resource protection and development, adhering to principles of safety, innovation, and green development. The state owns all rare earth resources and implements protective mining policies. A unified national plan for the development of the rare earth industry is established, encouraging technological advancement and sustainable practices.

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- The regulation aims to protect and rationally develop rare earth resources, promoting high-quality industry development.
- It applies to all activities related to rare earth mining, refining, utilization, and trade within China.
- The regulation emphasizes the balance between resource protection and utilization, adhering to principles of safety, innovation, and green development.
- The state owns rare earth resources and enforces protective mining practices.
- A unified national plan for rare earth industry development is mandated, with encouragement for technological advancements.

Strategic Insights

- Western businesses should monitor China's rare earth policies closely, as they impact global supply chains.
- Analysts should assess how China's control over rare earths might affect international trade dynamics and technological sectors.
- Policymakers should consider strategic reserves and alternative sources to mitigate dependency on Chinese rare earths.

Key Provisions

- Rare earth resources are state-owned, and protective mining is enforced.
- The regulation mandates a national development plan for the rare earth industry.
- Only approved enterprises may engage in rare earth mining and refining.
- Strict penalties are imposed for illegal mining, refining, and trade of rare earth products.
- A traceability system for rare earth products is established to ensure compliance and transparency.
- The regulation encourages the use of advanced technologies for the comprehensive utilization of secondary rare earth resources.

Recommended Actions

- Foreign companies should ensure compliance with China's rare earth regulations to avoid penalties.
- Policymakers should explore partnerships with non-Chinese rare earth suppliers to diversify sources.
- Businesses should invest in research and development for alternative materials to reduce reliance on rare earths.

Translation

The Regulation on Rare Earth Management, approved by the State Council on April 26, 2024, will be effective from October 1, 2024. It aims to protect and rationally develop rare earth resources, promote high-quality industry development, and ensure ecological and national resource security. The regulation applies to all activities related to rare earth mining, refining, utilization, and trade within China. It emphasizes the balance between resource protection and utilization, adhering to principles of safety, innovation, and green development. The state owns rare earth resources and enforces protective mining practices. A unified national plan for rare earth industry development is mandated, with encouragement for technological advancements. Only approved enterprises may engage in rare earth mining and refining. Strict penalties are imposed for illegal mining, refining, and trade of rare earth products. A traceability system for rare earth products is established to ensure compliance and transparency. The regulation encourages the use of advanced technologies for the comprehensive utilization of secondary rare earth resources.

Establishment of Expert Group for Rectifying the Rare Earth Industry Order

Original Link

Effective Date: Not specified

Summary

- A new expert group has been established to support the rectification of the rare earth industry.
- The group comprises experts in technology, finance, and law.
- The initiative aims to institutionalize and normalize the crackdown on illegal activities in the rare earth sector.
- The expert group will assist in technical analysis, raw material testing, financial data analysis, and legal compliance.
- Members are drawn from industry associations, key rare earth groups, and research and legal institutions.

Strategic Insights

- Western businesses should monitor the regulatory changes in China's rare earth sector for potential impacts on supply chains.
- Analysts should assess how these regulatory measures might affect global rare earth prices and availability.

• Policymakers could consider engaging with Chinese counterparts to understand the implications of these regulations on international trade.

Key Provisions

- Formation of an expert group to support the rare earth industry regulation.
- Focus on technical analysis, raw material testing, and financial data analysis.
- Emphasis on legal compliance and administrative enforcement.
- Involvement of industry associations and key rare earth groups.
- Aim to institutionalize the crackdown on illegal activities in the sector.

Recommended Actions

- Foreign companies should evaluate their supply chain dependencies on Chinese rare earth materials.
- Policymakers should initiate dialogues with Chinese authorities to ensure clarity on compliance requirements.
- Businesses should prepare for potential changes in rare earth material costs and availability.

Translation

To continuously advance the special action against illegal activities in the rare earth sector and gradually institutionalize and normalize the rectification work, the Rare Earth Office has established an expert group composed of experts in technology, finance, and law. This group will provide support and assistance in areas such as enterprise production technology analysis, raw material composition testing, financial data analysis, and legal administration for the inspection and rectification of the rare earth industry order. The members of the expert group mainly come from relevant industry associations, key rare earth groups, research, and legal institutions.