

PPDO-102
Promoting Technology Innovation with Rare Earth Elements

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Abstract

Many high tech companies using rare earth elements (REEs) in the U.S. have recently moved their R&D operations to Asia to be closer to the source of REEs and to potential markets. This puts the U.S. at risk of losing its leadership in REE technology innovations.

This project will use expertise developed at CMU to assist Western PA in maintaining leadership in the metals industry, focusing on rare earth elements (REEs). The research will provide first-time information on global flows of REEs and will use this information to develop projections of supply and demand for these elements. The research will also help decision makers develop strategies to decrease the movement of U.S. REE R&D activities overseas and strengthen REE innovations and markets here at home. These developments will, in turn, help generate ideas to establish an infrastructure for recycling REEs here in Western PA, contributing to economic development of the region.