



Committee: House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party
Event: [Predatory Pricing: How the Chinese Communist Party Manipulates Global Mineral Prices to Maintain Its Dominance](#)
Date: November 19, 2025

Executive Summary:

The House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party held a hearing on November 19, 2025, to discuss the committee's [new report on Chinese mineral market manipulation](#) and recommendations to combat that manipulation.

- **Bipartisan Agreement on the Threat of China's Predatory Market Manipulation, Some Divergence on Solutions:** Both Republican and Democratic members agreed that China uses a deliberate, decades-long playbook of predatory pricing and dumping to achieve market dominance. Proposed actions to increase American mineral production included trade enforcement, permitting reform, cooperation with allies, and federal financial support.
 - Republican members pointed to permitting reform as a major solution to increasing domestic mineral capabilities. Many of them also expressed support for federal financial incentives, such as the *Defense Production Act* (DPA) and price floors. However, Rep. **Dusty Johnson** (R-SD-At Large) expressed concern over the federal government's taking equity stakes in private companies.
 - Democrats emphasized research into alternative materials, workforce development, and cooperation with allies to break dependence on China.
- **Witness Consensus on Public-Private Partnerships and Financial Tools:** Witnesses from MP Materials and Lithium Americas confirmed that high upfront capital costs and market distortion are the most significant financial barriers to domestic mineral production. They argued that public-private partnerships are essential to provide low-cost capital and signal national security importance. The witnesses also called for federal procurement preferences and incentivizing large U.S. end-users, like automotive companies, to purchase domestic minerals.

Member Toplines:

[Chair John Moolenaar \(R-MI-02\)](#): Moolenaar highlighted the threat posed by China's control of mineral supply chains and pointed to restrictions on rare earth exports as an example of that threat. He said this control has been for decades a key element of Chinese policy to undercut the U.S. Moolenaar added that China's dominance of mineral supply chains allows them to manipulate global pricing and prevent the development of American mining projects. He praised President **Donald Trump** for his pro-mining agenda and called for Congress to take similar actions.

[Ranking Member Raja Krishnamoorthi \(D-IL-08\)](#): Krishnamoorthi argued that China has deliberately taken control of mineral supply chains to weaponize mineral monopolies against the U.S. He

warned of the threat Chinese mineral price fixing poses to American economic success and national security. Krishnamoorthi called for a "Manhattan Project" for rare earths. He added that mining workforce training is another key element of reducing dependence on China.

Witness Toplines:

[Jonathan Evans, Chief Executive Officer, Lithium Americas](#): Evans discussed the Thacker Pass lithium project. He explained the backstory of China's efforts to dominate both the global lithium production and battery manufacturing markets. He said the Chinese government provides generous subsidies to Chinese companies to support rapid expansion and distorts global mineral prices to discourage mineral development outside of China. Evans called for permitting reform and federal financial incentives, especially price floors, as important steps to support domestic mineral projects.

[Matthew Sloustcher, Executive Vice President of Corporate Affairs, MP Materials](#): Sloustcher discussed his company's work to restore American rare earth production and its recent partnership with the Department of War. He called for the government to continue to neutralize China's mineral market distortion through federal support mechanisms and urged Congress to take action on permitting. Sloustcher added that the government should incentivize American companies to source minerals domestically.

[Jonathan Rowntree, Chief Executive Officer, Niron Magnetics](#): Rowntree said that while China's control of rare earth and mineral supply chains is a significant national security risk, it also provides an opportunity for the federal government to take action to support domestic magnet manufacturers. He called for Congress to establish federal procurement preferences for domestically manufactured magnets; extend Title III of the DPA to alternative magnet technologies; create technology-neutral tax incentives for magnet production; prioritize supply chain security over short-term savings; and provide import tariff exemptions for manufacturing equipment from allied nations.

Major Takeaways:

- Multiple Members focused on what policies are needed to neutralize China's market manipulation and reshore mineral supply chains. Rep. **Robert Wittman** (R-VA-01) specifically asked about the impact of price floors. Rep. **Zach Nunn** (R-IA-03) pointed to the DPA as a key tool for the government to support domestic mineral production. Rep. **Neal Dunn** (R-FL-02) spoke about the recovery of critical minerals from tailings and industrial waste. Rep. **Jill Tokuda** (D-HI-02) proposed statutorily limiting critical mineral purchases from China to create domestic demand and also mentioned export restrictions on electronic waste.
 - The witnesses all generally agreed that price transparency, permitting reform, public-private partnerships, working with our allies, and incentivizing private sector purchases of American minerals would all be impactful in increasing domestic mineral production. Evans specifically highlighted Resolution Copper's permitting delays. Sloustcher agreed with the usefulness of the DPA.
 - The witnesses and several Members all called for permitting reform.

- Johnson expressed concern over the federal government taking equity stakes in mineral companies and asked the witnesses for their opinions on equity deals.
 - Sloustcher said that price floors are the most impactful way of combating China's price distortion, but that equity deals allow for taxpayers to benefit from market intervention.
 - Evans said that equity deals can be an impactful signal to private capital.
 - Johnson said he was open to the idea that this is a special circumstance where federal intervention is needed but worried that this will set an example for other industries and reduce the government's commitment to the free market.
- Rare earths were another major topic of the hearing. Krishnamoorthi compared China's control of the rare earth market to the 1973 oil embargo. He specifically highlighted Chinese manipulation of the neodymium, praseodymium, and samarium markets. Krishnamoorthi said the U.S. must move away from magnets that contain rare earths.
 - Nunn said rare earths should be prioritized under the DPA.
 - Rep. **Ashley Hinson** (R-IA-01) and Sloustcher both pointed to the American auto industry as most at risk from China's control over rare earth magnet production.
- Trade issues also came up several times in the hearing. Rep. **Haley Stevens** (D-MI-11) said the upcoming United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement negotiations will allow the U.S. to make progress on allied mineral efforts. Rep. **Shontel Brown** (D-OH-11) called for changes in trade enforcement to protect against Chinese below-cost mineral dumping. Rep. **Carlos Gimenez** (R-FL-28) proposed the idea of rolling tariffs on Chinese minerals in cooperation with the European Union. Rep. **Nathaniel Moran** (R-TX-01) asked what targeted tariffs on China would be beneficial to domestic mineral producers and how those tariffs could be structured to not inadvertently harm industry.
 - Sloustcher replied that trade actions should look at mineral derivative products and the import of those products in other consumer goods.
- Stevens and Gimenez both urged for synthetic critical materials and mineral alternatives to be included in congressional policy.
- Krishnamoorthi and Tokuda also called for workforce development to be included in efforts to restore American mineral independence.