

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Online  
18 June 2025

**Mining's Contribution to  
Circular Economy in Europe:**  
Ensuring Balance and Efficiency



EU GREEN WEEK PARTNER EVENT 2025

# Mining's Contribution to Circular Economy in Europe

## Ensuring Balance and Efficiency

**OPEN ACCESS ONLINE WORKSHOP**

**18 JUNE 2025, 10:00-12:00**

**YOUTUBE LIVE**

As the world moves towards more sustainable practices, the emphasis on secondary materials and recycling in the circular economy can sometimes overshadow the indispensable role of primary raw materials. Euromines-hosted event at the European **Green Week 2025** seeks to recalibrate the narrative by focusing on **how the mining sector can contribute effectively to the circular economy without compromising the critical contributions of primary raw materials.**

Join us as we explore the **integration of primary raw materials with innovative recycling initiatives**, such as the current state and innovative solutions of recycling mine waste (tailings). Dive into discussions on **advanced sustainable management practices** aimed at decarbonising the mining sector's environmental footprint, featuring insights from key policymakers.

This event will not only highlight the latest innovations but also foster a dialogue on the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in balancing environmental concerns with economic efficiency. Attendees will gain a comprehensive understanding of the strategic importance of primary and secondary raw materials and their place within a sustainable future.

## OBJECTIVES

- **Demonstrate Commitment to Circular Economy:** Emphasise Euromines' members dedication to advancing the principles of circularity and resource efficiency in line with the European Green Deal and the Critical Raw Materials Act.
- **Promote Sustainable Practices:** Highlight innovative projects and the role of mining in the circular economy, especially in the field of re-use of waste.
- **Influence Sustainable Legislation:** Advocate for legislative measures that ensure fair treatment of mining operations, emphasising the need to avoid regulations that disproportionately favour secondary over primary raw materials, thus maintaining technological neutrality.
- **Address Regulatory Frameworks:** Argue against double regulation and advocate for technology neutrality to ensure fair operational conditions for European metals and minerals mining operators.

## TARGET

EU policymakers, industry leaders, environmental NGOs, and academics focused on mining and sustainability.



## DRAFT PROGRAMME

**Welcome and introductory remarks** by Rolf Kuby, Director General, Euromines

**Keynote** with case studies on the current state of recycling of mining tailing waste

- Dr. Thomas Drnek, Director HSE, RHI Magnesita GmbH
- Darren Wilson, Senior VP of Business Area Special Products, LKAB

**Panel Discussion** on waste management practices aimed at reducing the environmental footprint of the sector. Experts from the European Commission, European Parliament, the mining industry and business professionals will share insights and strategies. The session will include a final Q&A.

**Pauline-Alexa Wolters**, Policy Officer, DGENV - Unit B3 From Waste To Resources, European Commission

**Representative of European Parliament** (ITRE & ENVI Committee) (TBC)

**Dr. Thomas Drnek**, Director HSE RHI Magnesita GmbH

**Darren Wilson**, Senior VP of Business Area Special Products, LKAB

**Representative of academia** (TBC)

**Moderator** Cynthia Mestanza, Environmental, Health & Safety Manager, Euromines.



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**A viable and responsible  
minerals and metals industry  
providing the essential  
economic, social and  
environmental assets to  
society's sustainable and  
clean development.**

## **Contact**

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