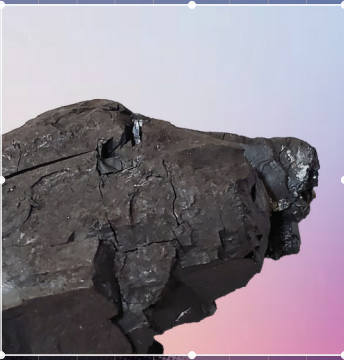
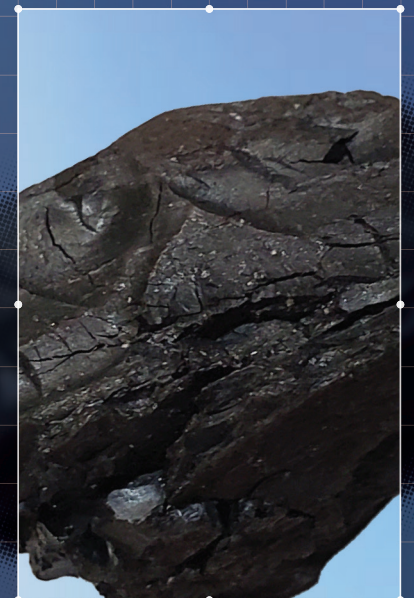




School of Energy Resources
Center for Economic
Geology Research



Rare Earth Element Occurrences *in Wyoming and Montana Coal*



School of Energy Resources Authors

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WHAT THIS STUDY IS ABOUT

The study represents a first-of-its-kind explanation of rare earth element (REE) enrichment in Powder River Basin (PRB) coals.

WHY IT WAS NEEDED

By pinpointing the predictable trends in rare earth element variability and their proximity to bounding highlands, this paper provides the scientific infrastructure needed for the next generation of mineral exploration. It effectively transitions coal-hosted rare earth elements from a theoretical concept to a mapped, predictable resource for the entire industry.

WHAT THE RESEARCH TEAM CONCLUDED

As the global demand for critical minerals grows, identifying domestic sources is a priority for energy independence. This research suggests that active coal mines in the PRB could be repurposed or dual-utilized to provide these essential materials.



Read The Full Study
doi.org/10.1016/j.coal.2026.104964



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