

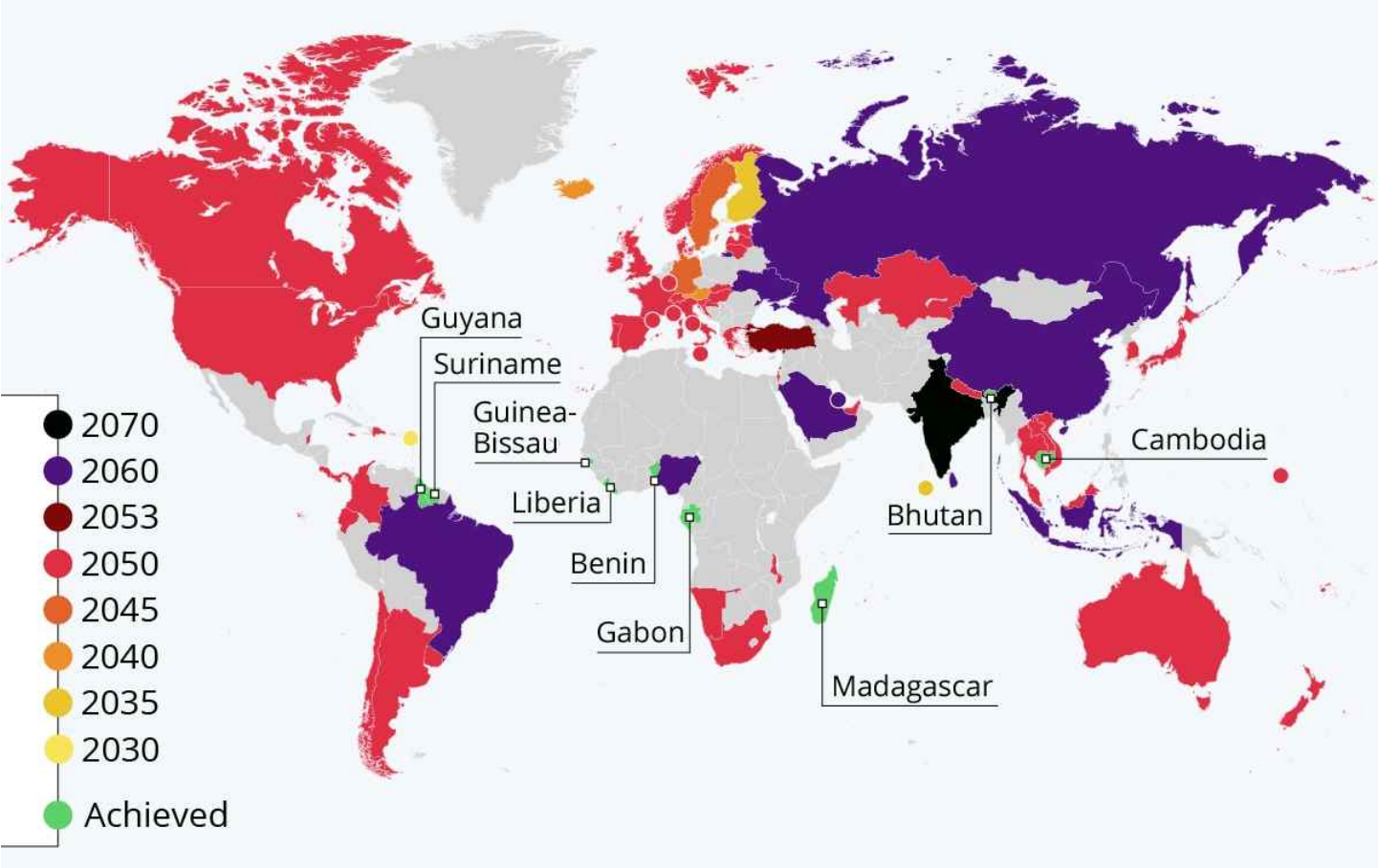
The Renewable Energy Transition: Truths and Consequences

Adam C. Simon

Arthur F. Thurnau Professor
of Energy and Mineral Resources



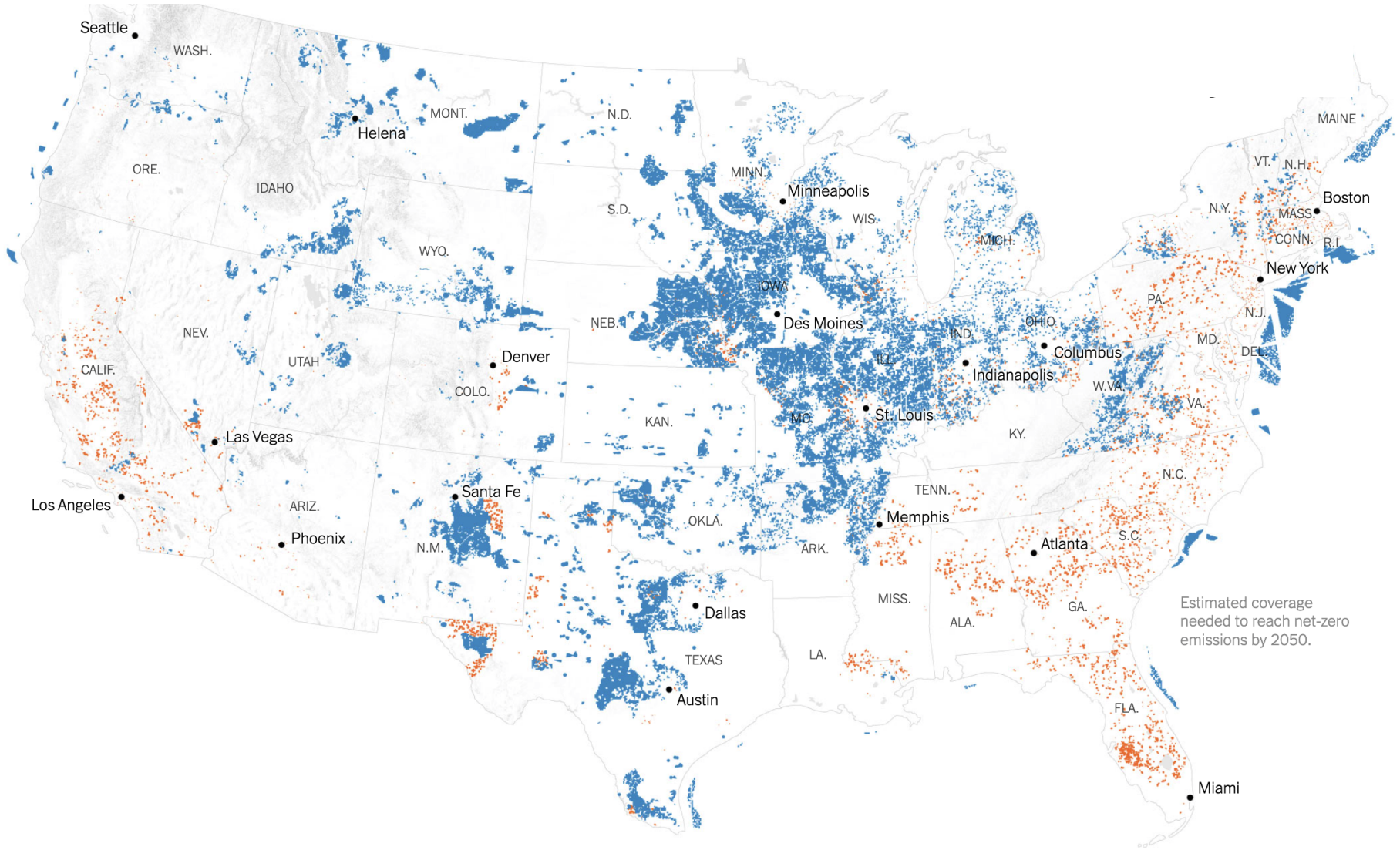
Pledges for Net Zero Emissions



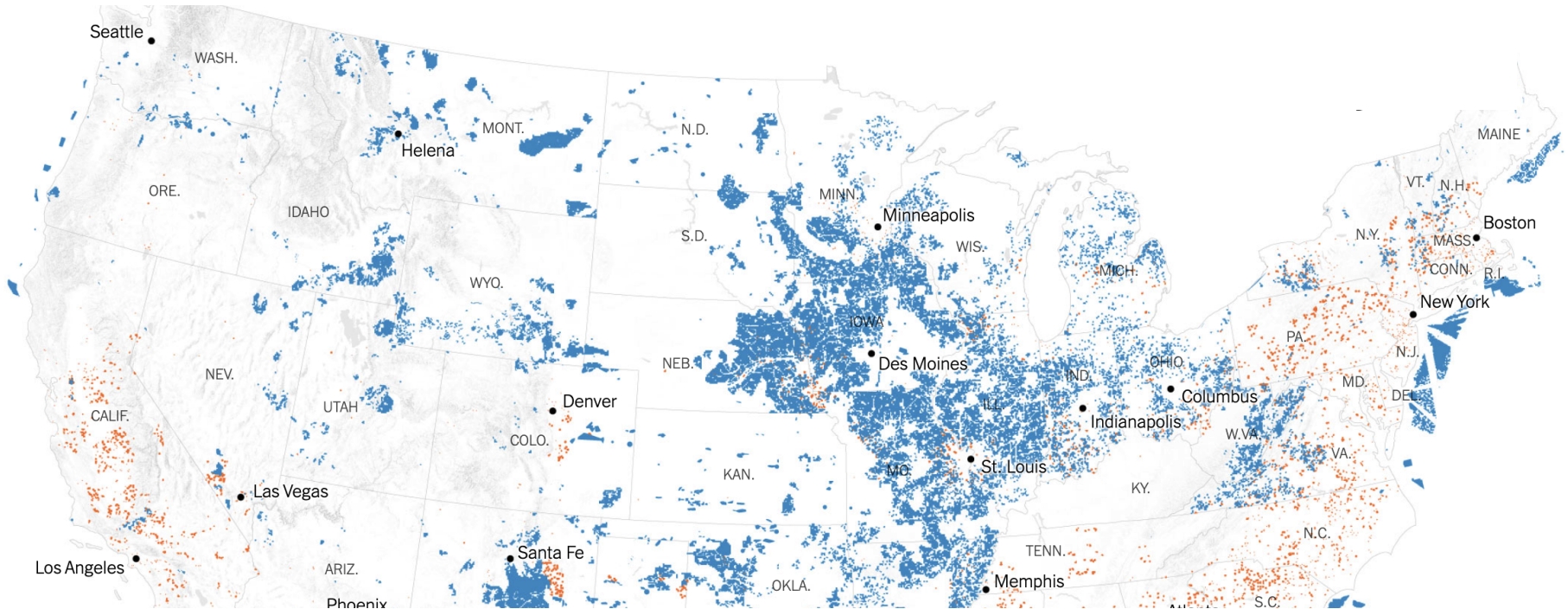


One pathway to achieving net zero emissions globally by 2050 requires a combination of photovoltaic solar + wind turbines produce about 90% of energy consumption.

Wind and Solar needed by 2050



Wind and Solar needed by 2050



Net zero requires 3 TW capacity solar + 3 TW capacity wind

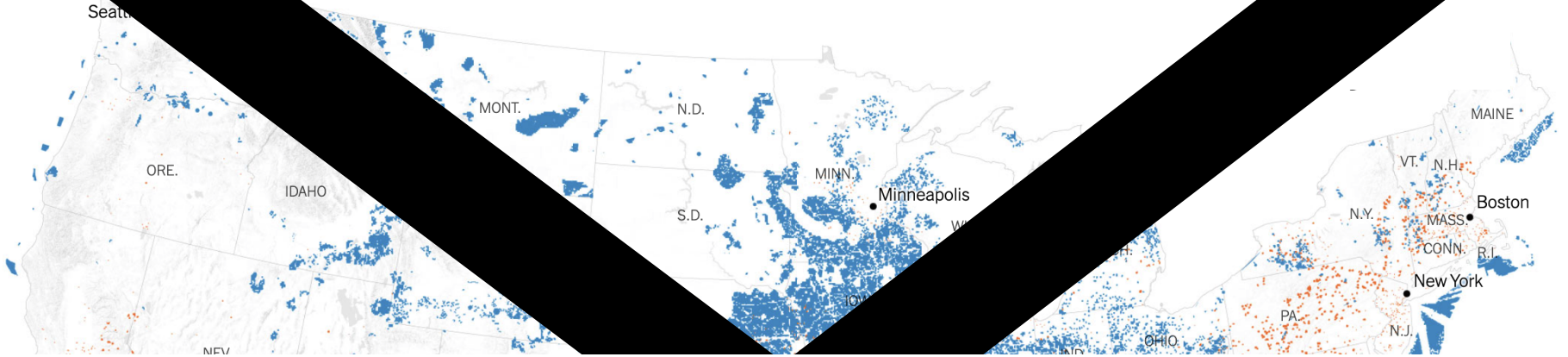
30 million acres of land for solar

1 million 3 MW wind turbines

16 million EVs annually in the U.S.



Land and Solar needed by 2050



This will not happen.



Net zero requires 100 GW capacity solar and 100 GW capacity wind

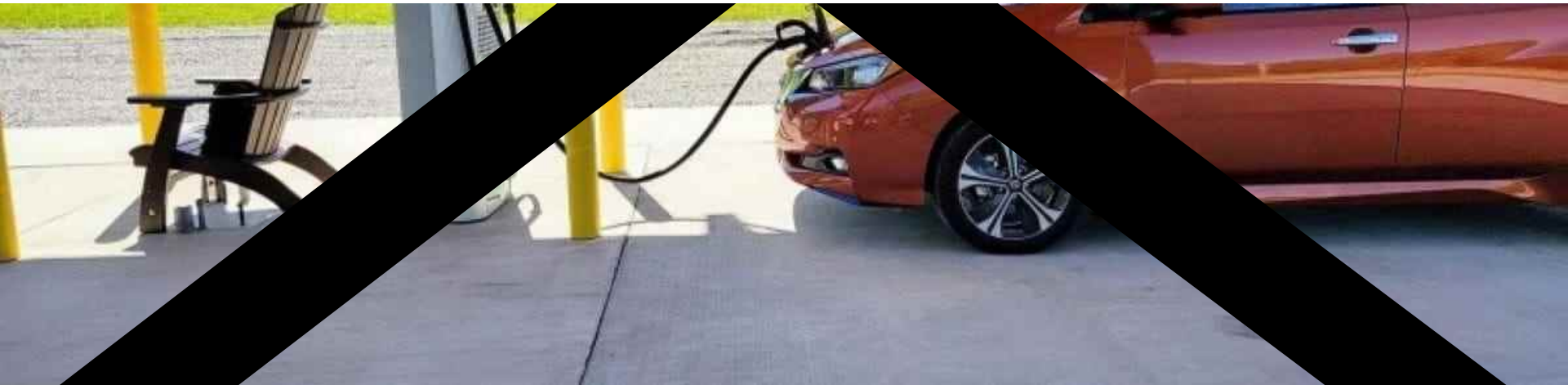
100 million acres of land for solar

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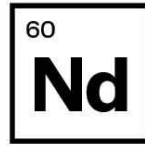
This will not happen.



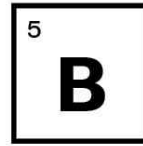
Magnet generation



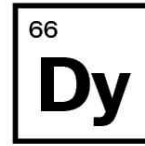
Iron



Neodymium



Boron

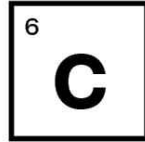


Dysprosium

Steel used to build turbines



Iron



Carbon

Battery energy storage



Lithium



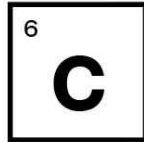
Nickel



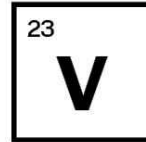
Manganese



Cobalt

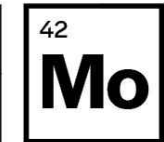


Carbon



Vanadium

Corrosion protection

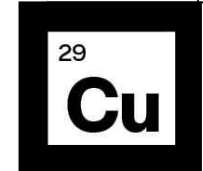


Molybdenum



Zinc

Controls

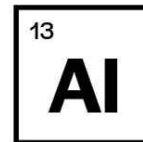


Copper

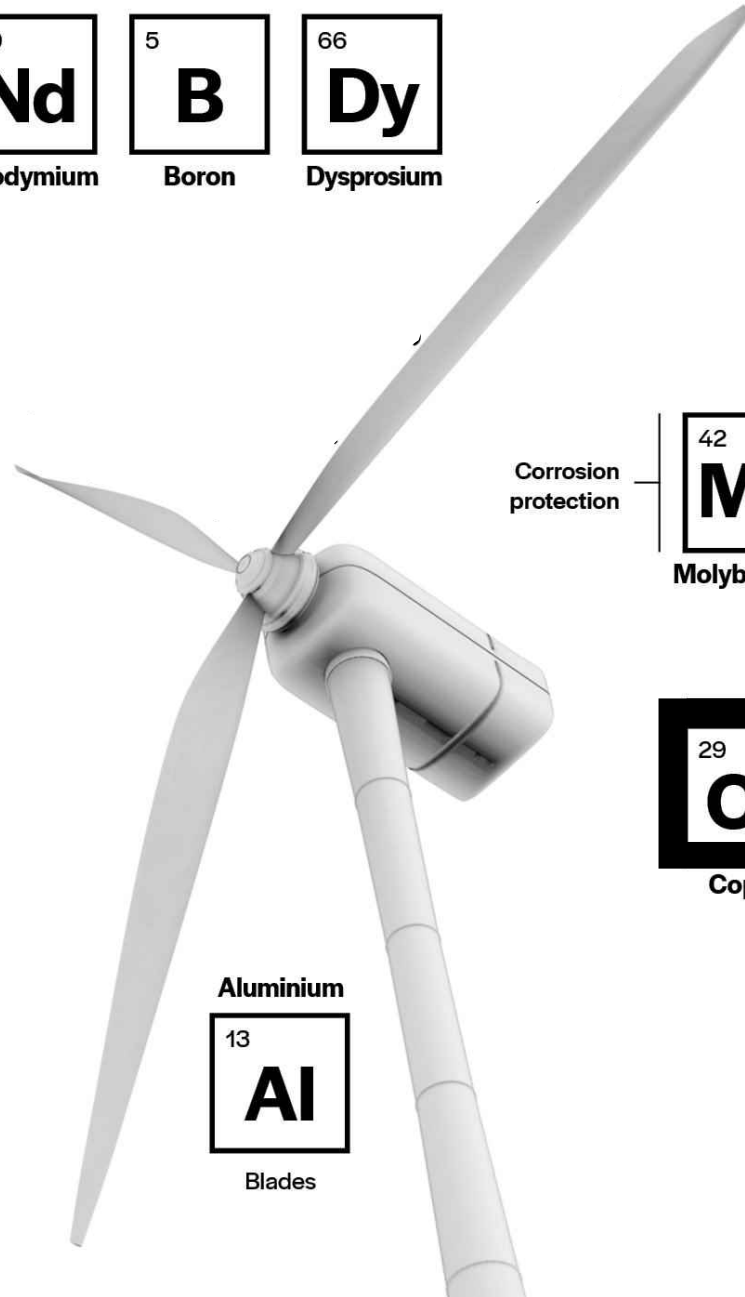


Silicon

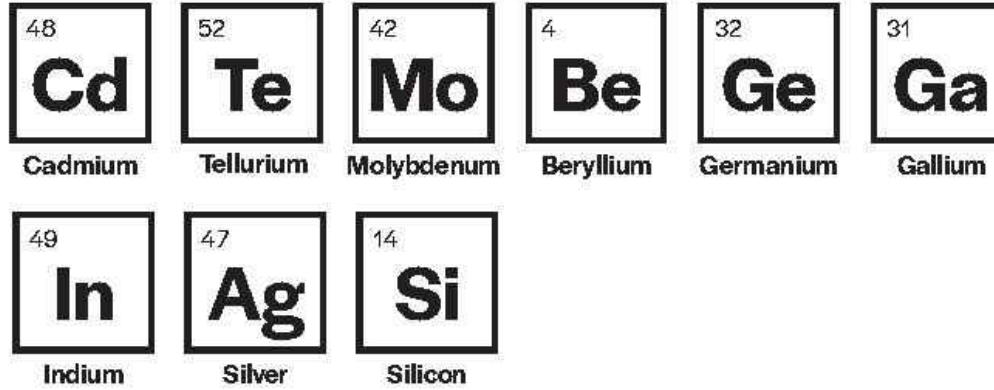
Aluminium



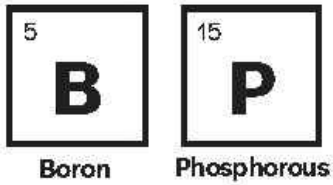
Blades



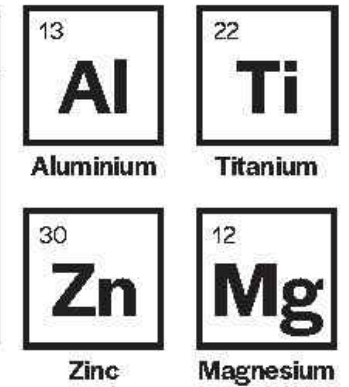
Solar panels

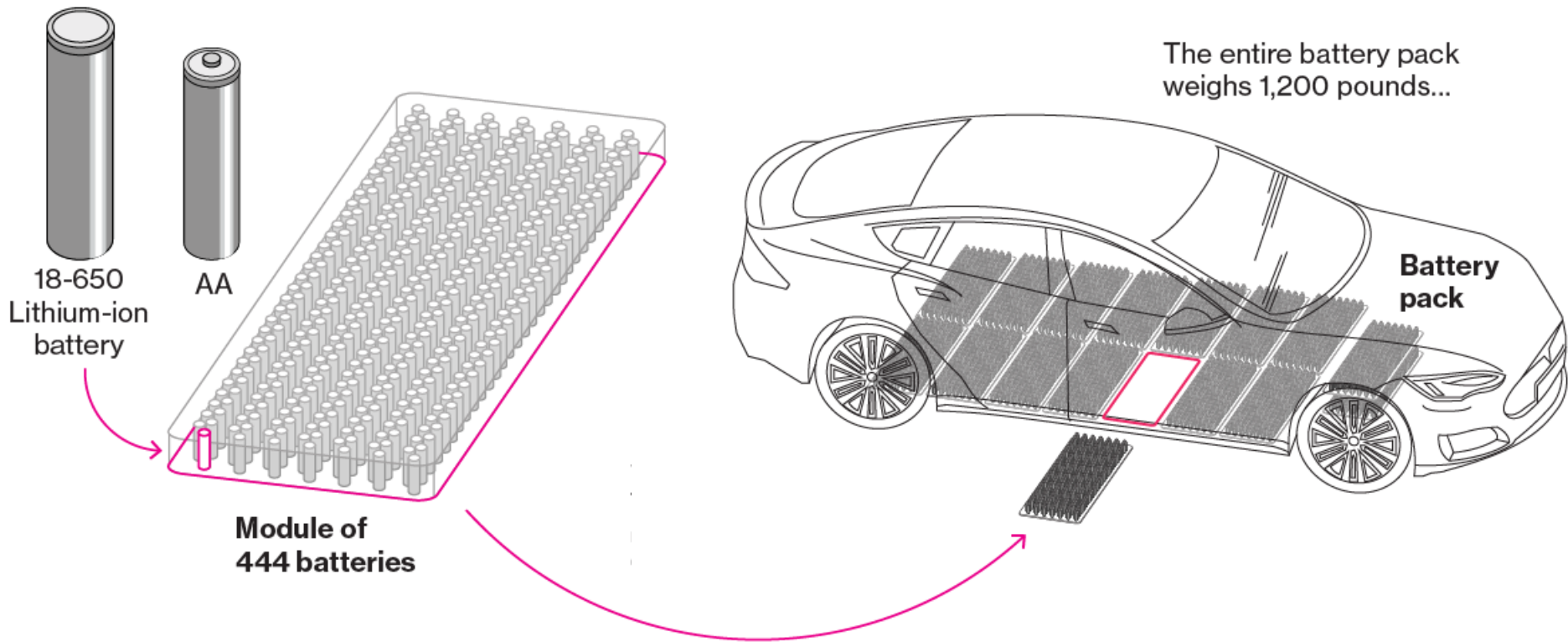


Semi-conductor



Frame





A typical battery electric vehicle contains

Lithium	25 pounds
Copper	200 pounds
Nickel	60 pounds
Manganese	44 pounds
Cobalt	31 pounds
Rare Earth Metals	5-11 pounds



COPPER

29

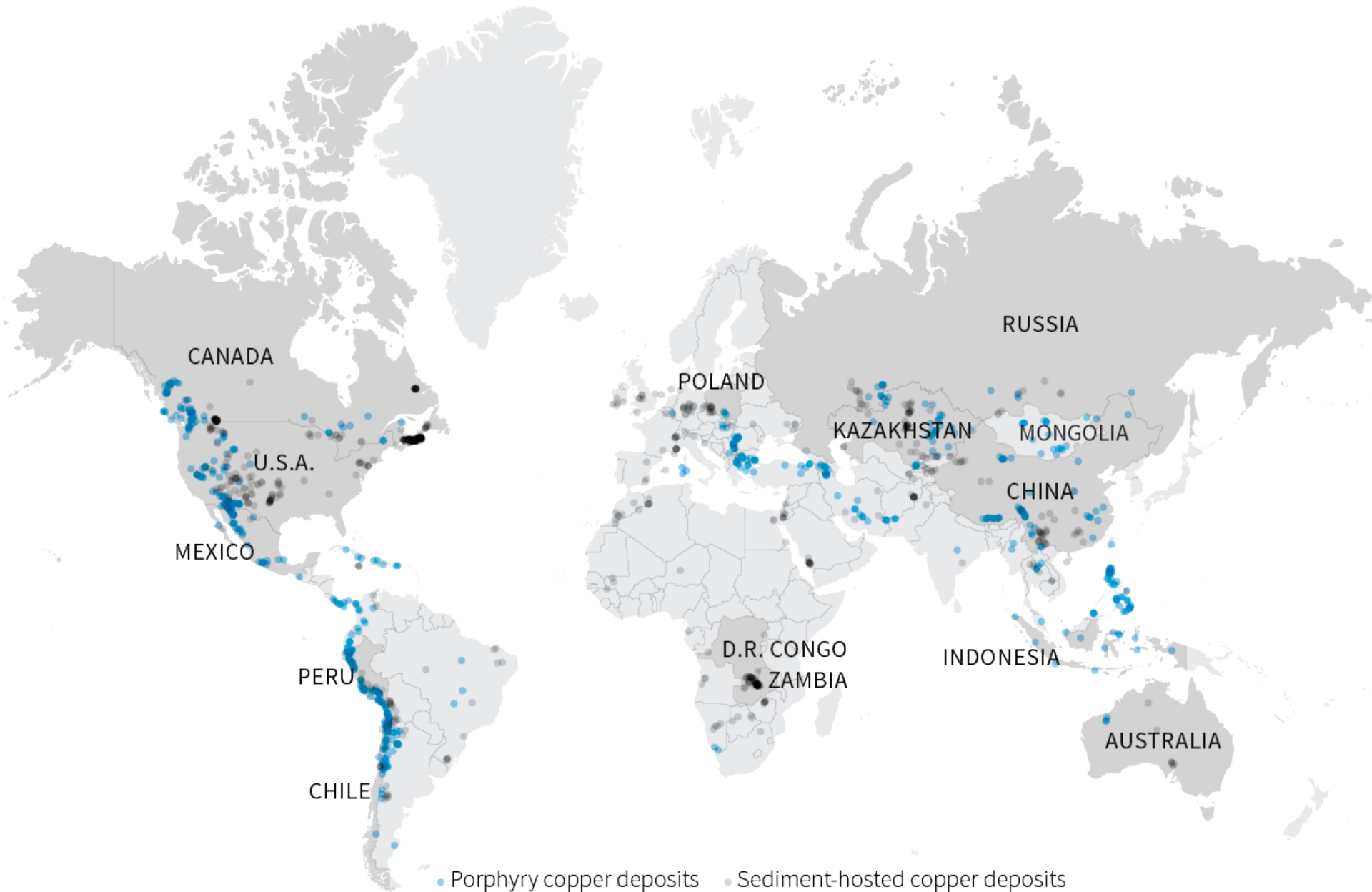
Cu

63.55

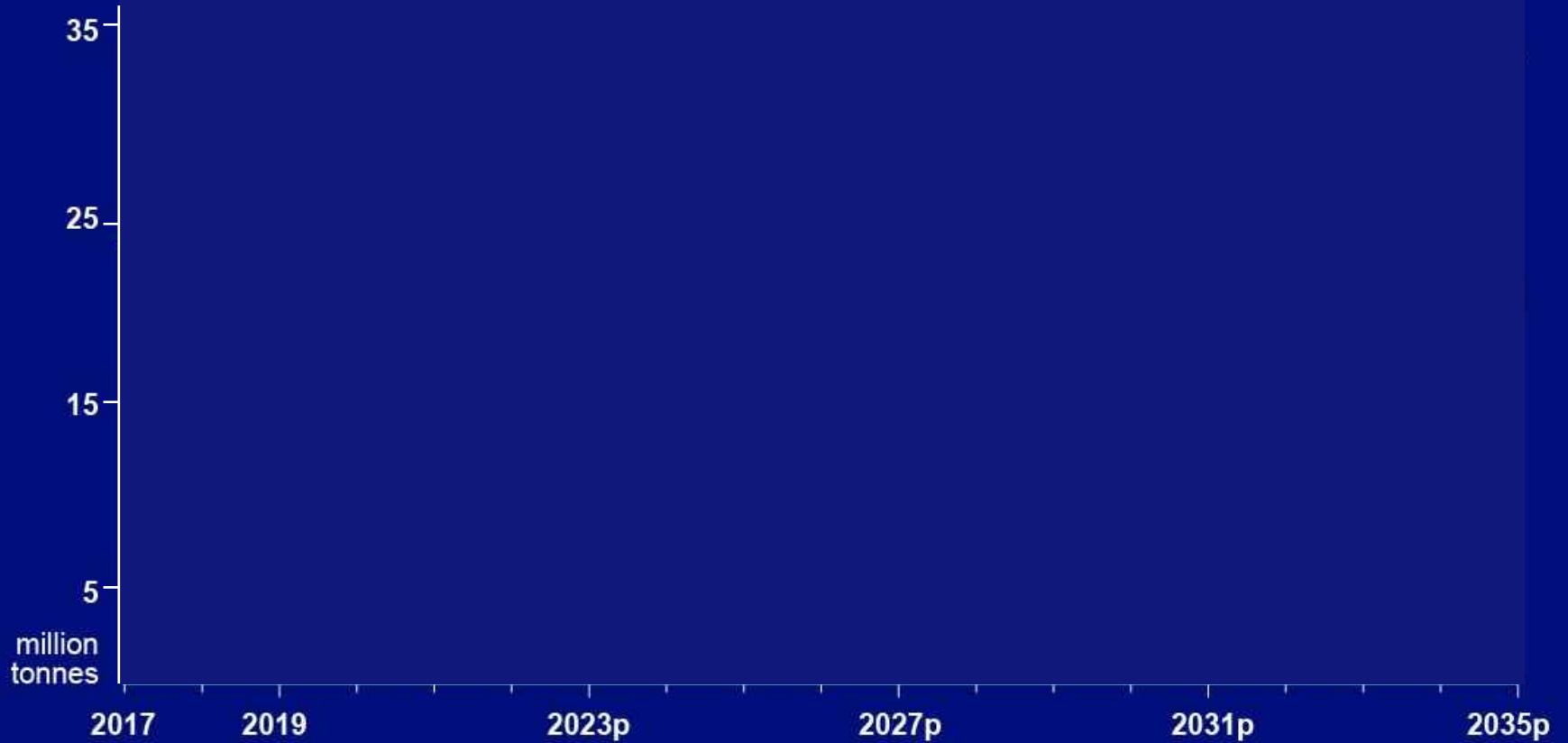
1085 °C

8.92 g/cc

250 copper mines in 40 countries



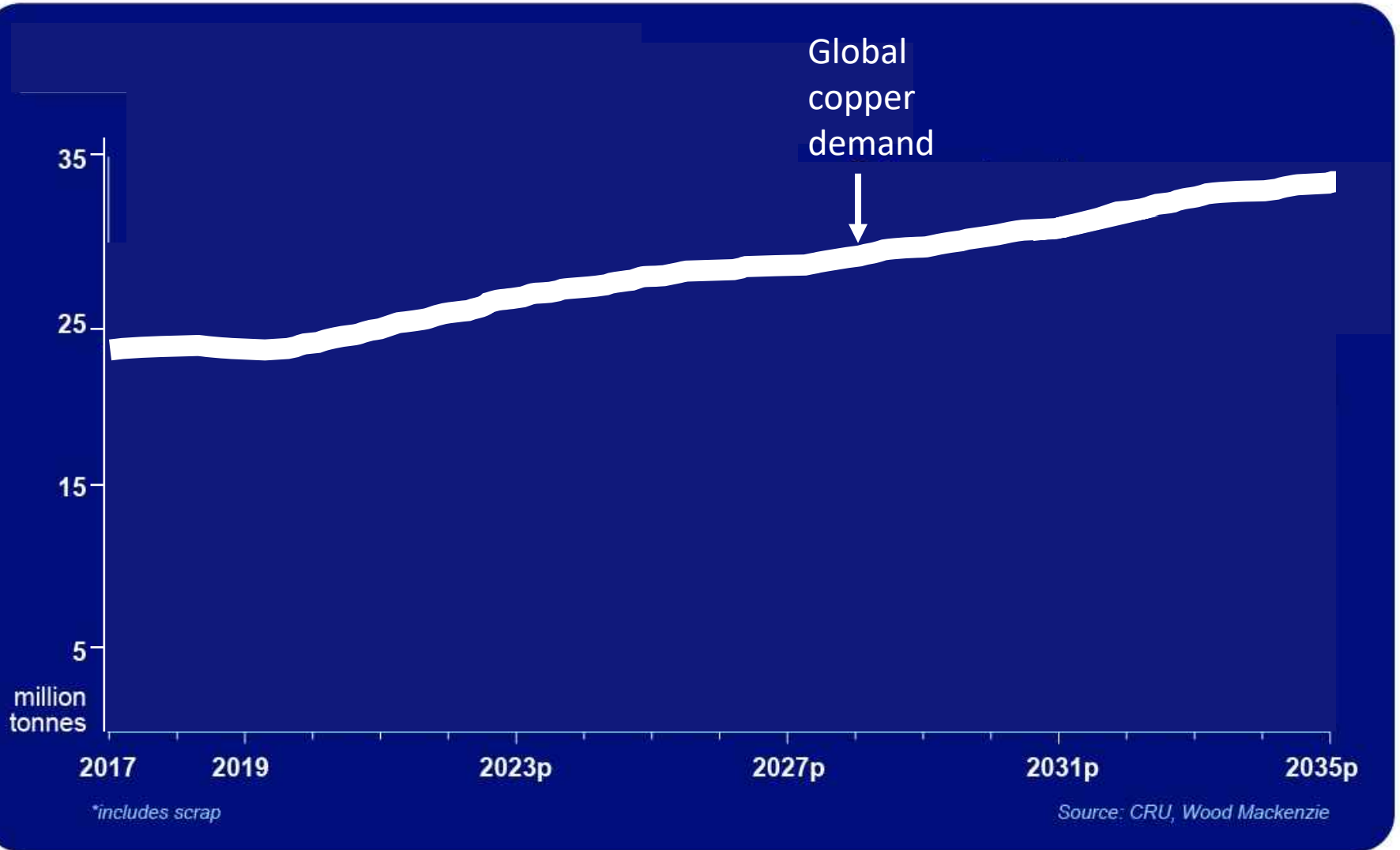
Global Copper Demand vs. Supply to 2035



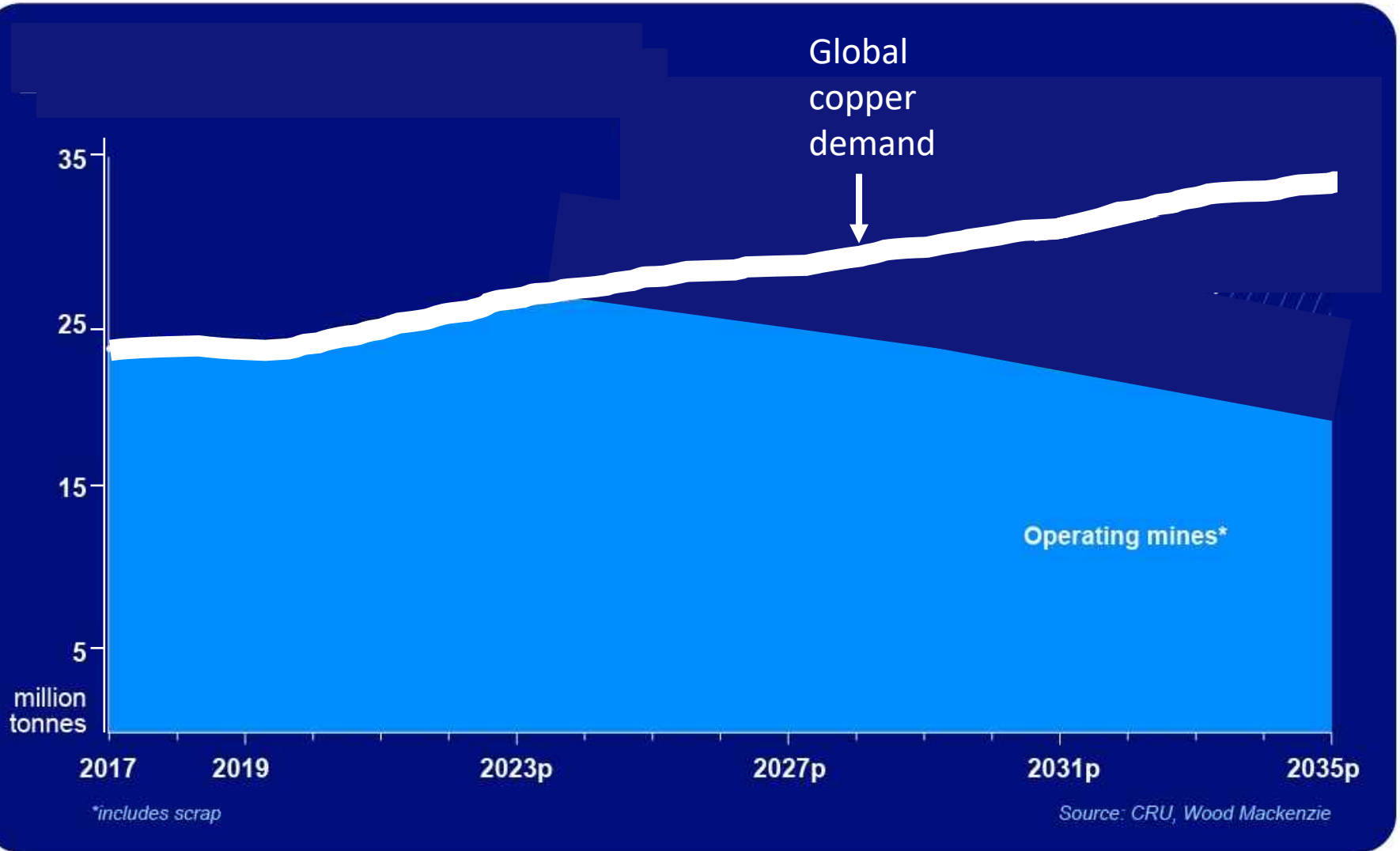
*includes scrap

Source: CRU, Wood Mackenzie

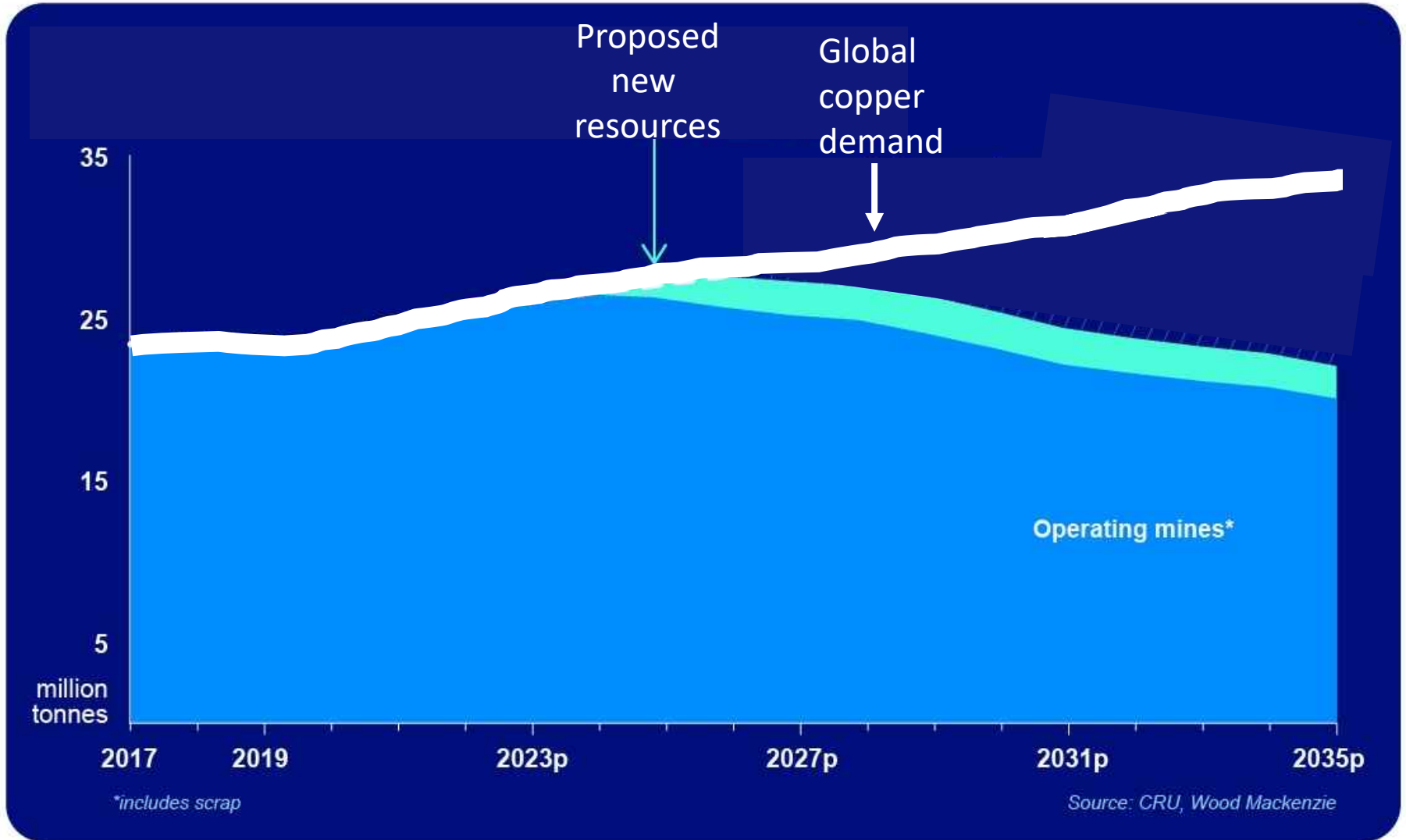
Global Copper Demand vs. Supply to 2035



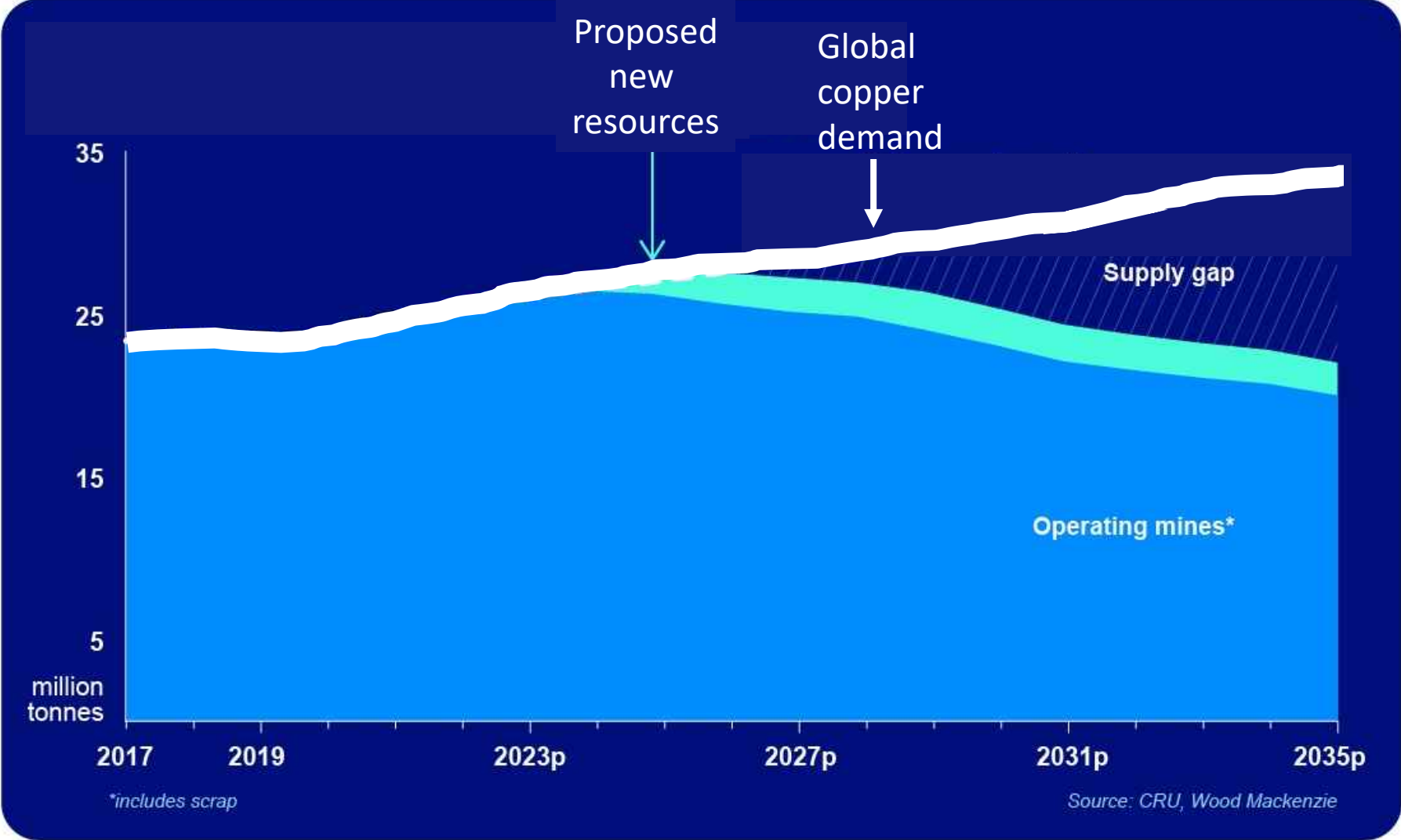
Global Copper Demand vs. Supply to 2035



Global Copper Demand vs. Supply to 2035



Global Copper Demand vs. Supply, 2017-2035



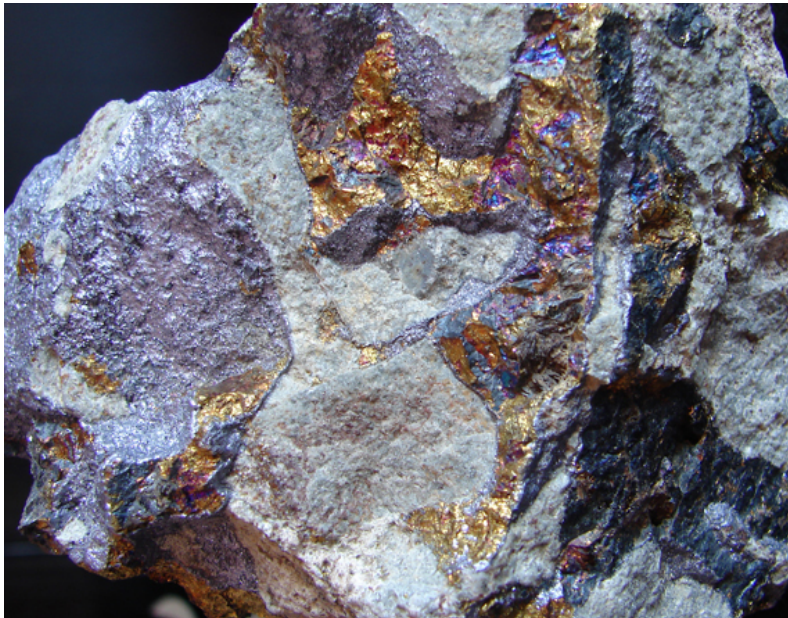
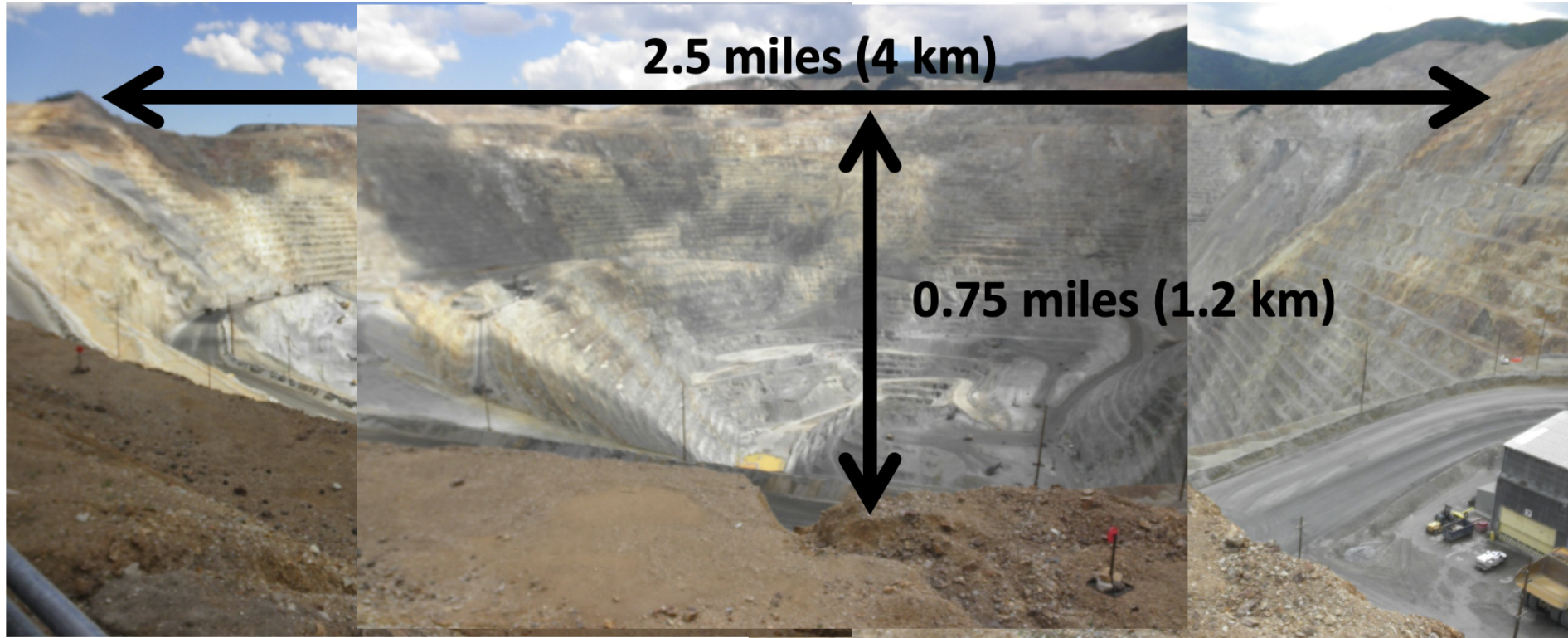
**There is a deficit of at least
10 million tonnes of copper
per year by 2030.**

Carbon neutrality requires new mining. Lots.

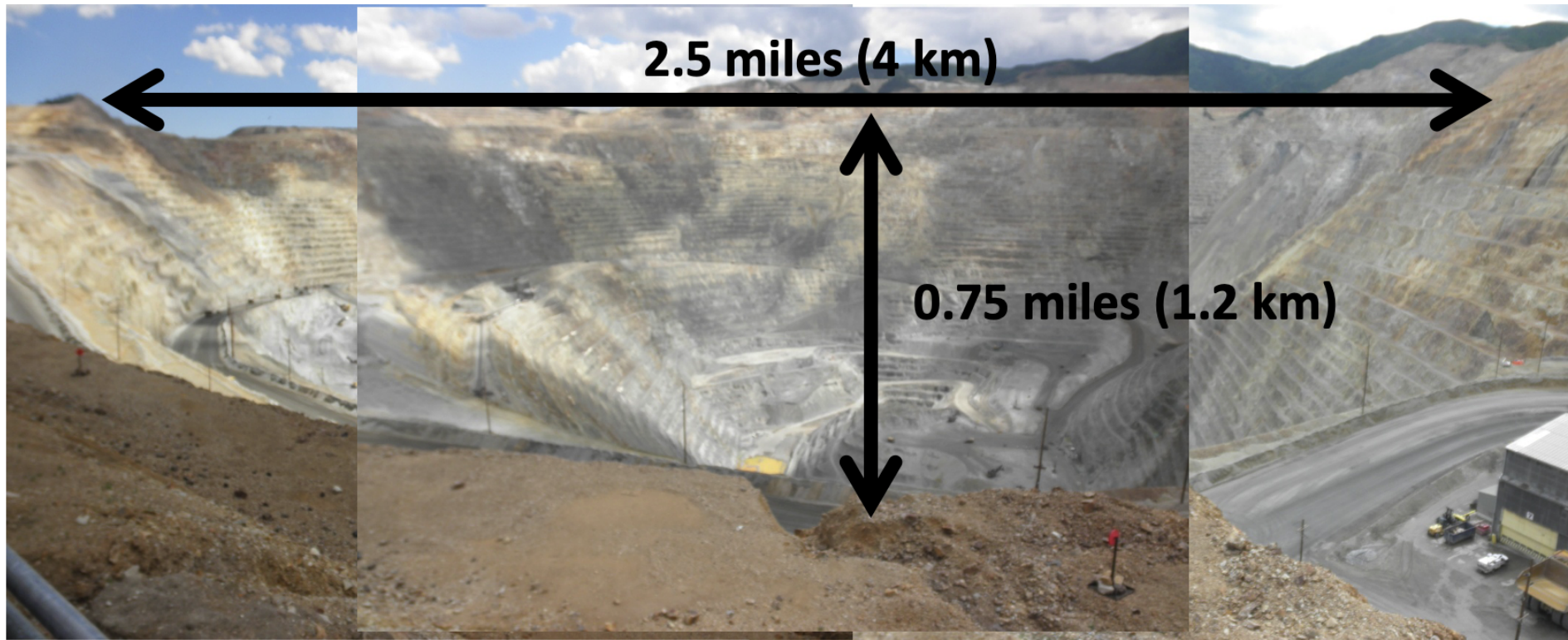


**SALT LAKE CITY AREA
STATE OF UTAH
LOCATION MAP**





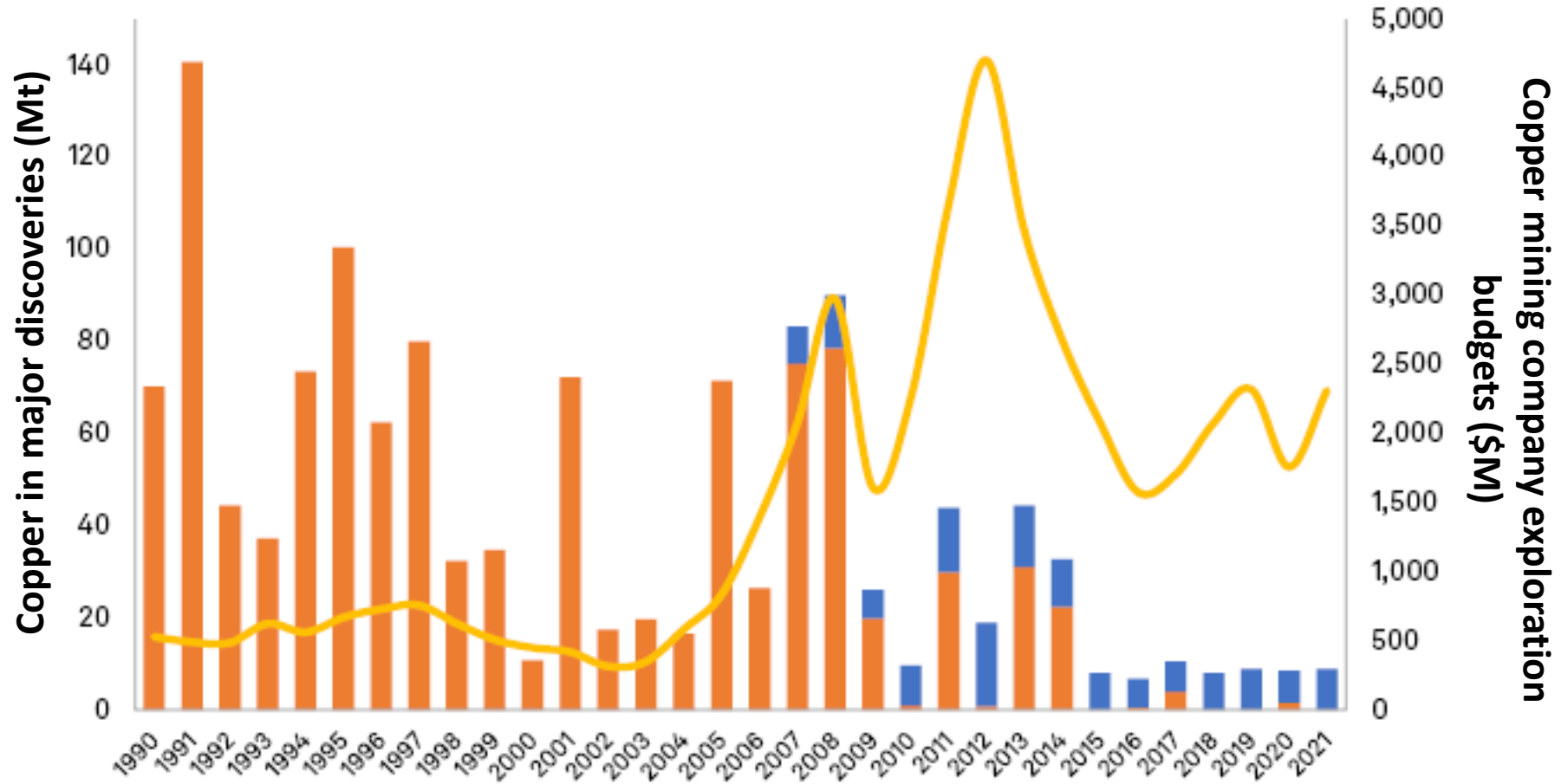
This mine produces
~150,000 tonnes of
copper per year.



65 mines this size need to be discovered, permitted, and fully operational by 2030 to achieve net zero by photovoltaic solar + wind turbines.

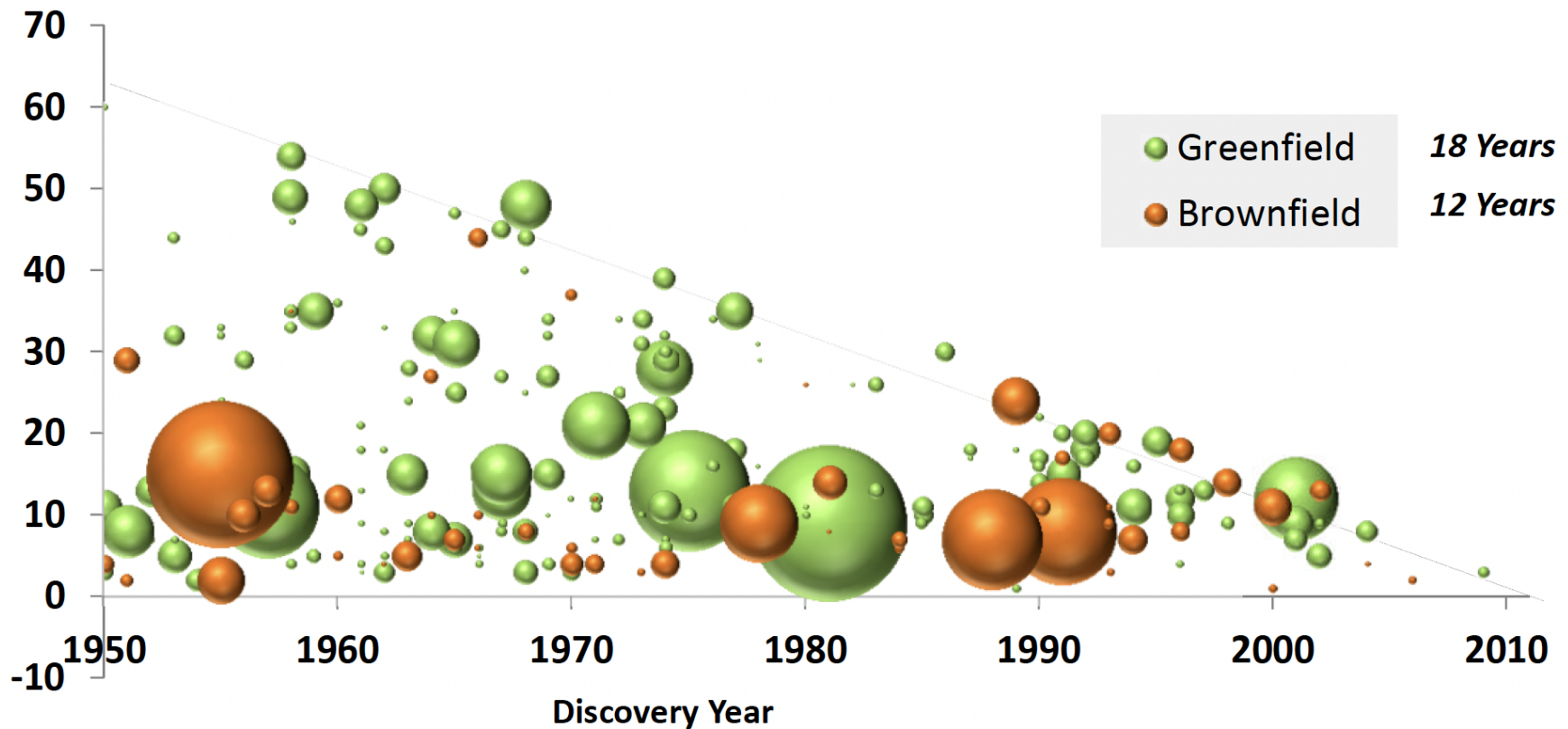
This is not possible.

Global copper ore deposit discoveries



Data as of 10 May 2022

Years from Discovery to Production





Biden Administration Cancels Mining Leases Near Wilderness Area

The leases, reinstated during the Trump years, would have allowed a Chilean mining conglomerate to dig for copper and nickel near the Boundary Waters wilderness in Minnesota.

Jan. 26, 2022



Proposed annual metal production

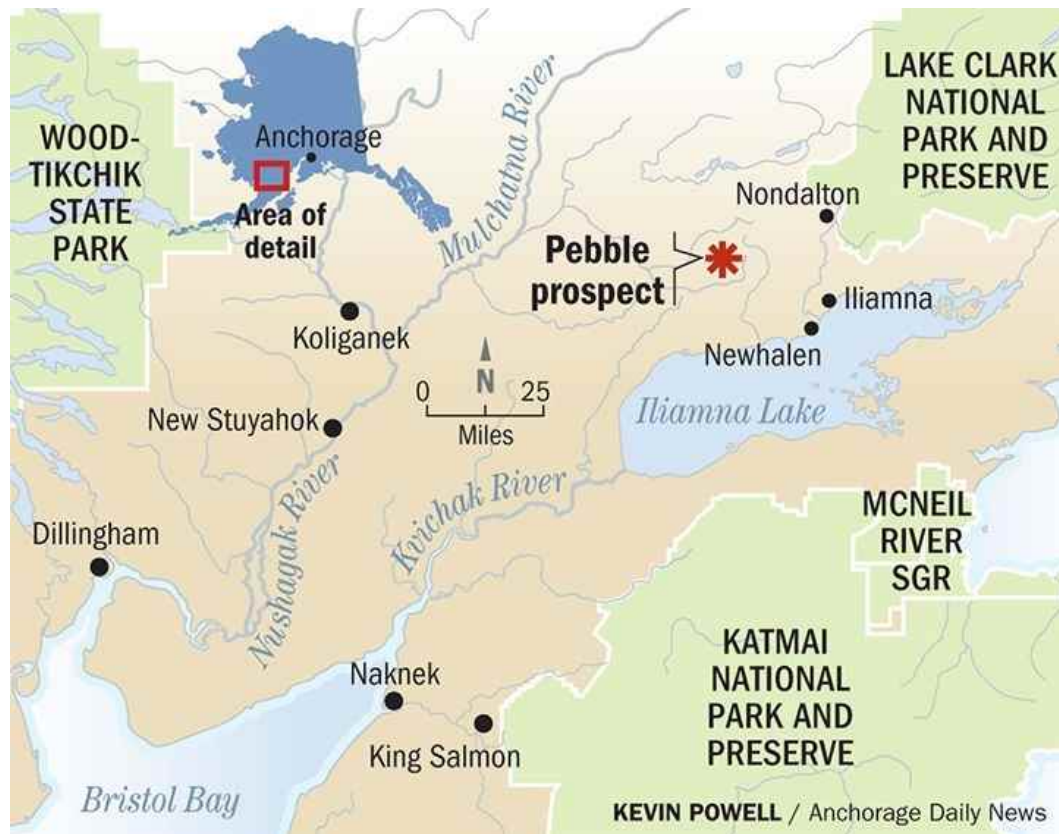
99 million pounds copper

31 million pounds nickel

1.6 million pounds cobalt

Energy & Environment — Biden administration blocks Pebble Mine

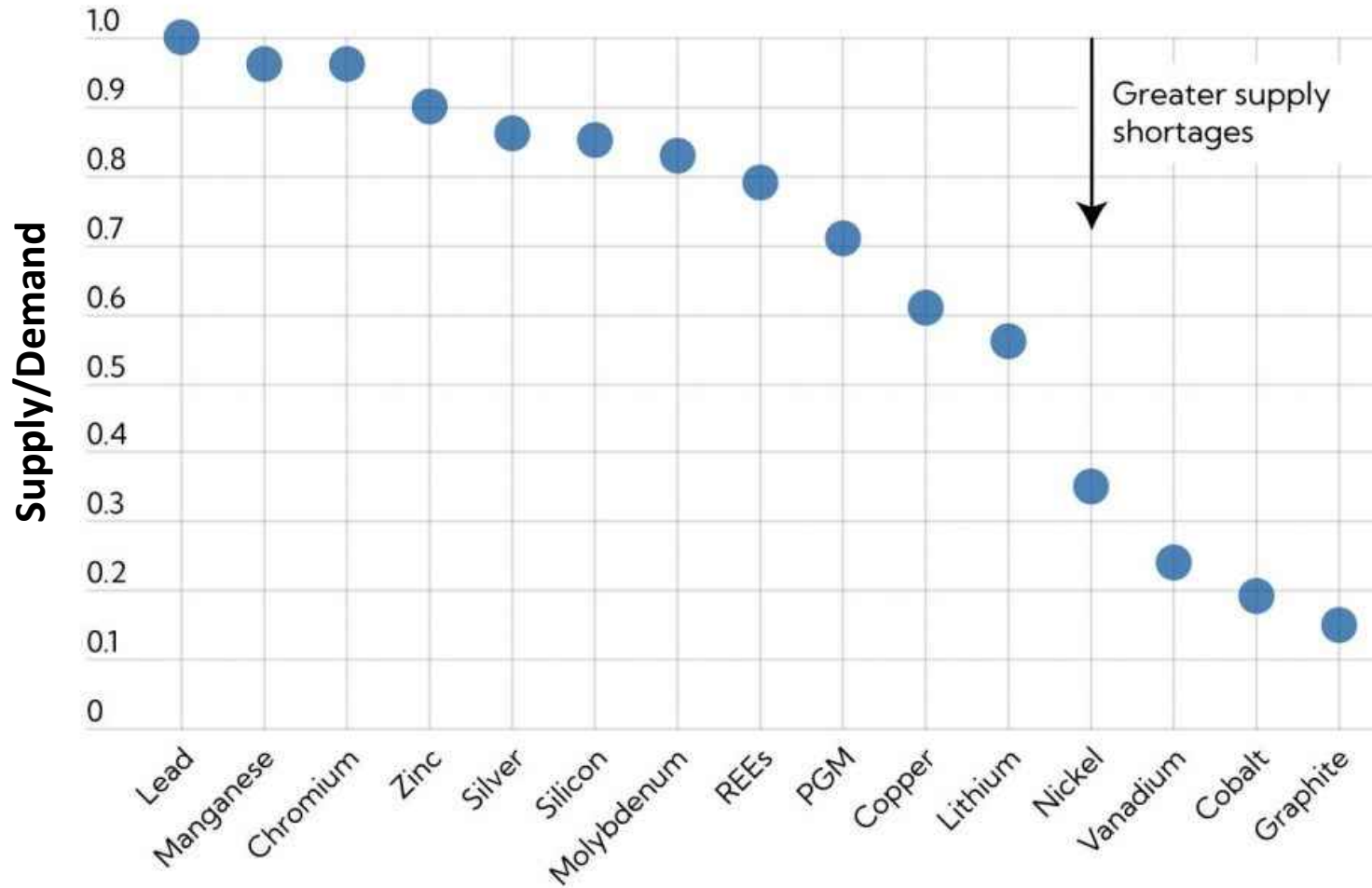
BY RACHEL FRAZIN AND ZACK BUDRYK - 01/31/23 6:59 PM ET



**Proposed annual
metal production**

320 million pounds copper

Global Demand vs. Supply



Achieving net zero with a combination of photovoltaic solar and wind turbines is not possible.

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Other solutions must be explored.

Impact of recycling on primary mine demand

