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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
(18.2.2026)

The Commission shares the assessment of the strategic importance of rare earth elements and permanent magnets for the EU's green and digital transitions and the need to reduce excessive external dependencies.

Under the RESourceEU Action Plan¹ and the targeted amendment to the European Critical Raw Materials Act² (CRMA), the Commission adopted measures to accelerate the deployment of recycling technologies for strategic materials. In particular, the amendments to the CRMA propose to extend the list of products required to bear information on the presence of permanent magnets, with a view to easing their identification, dismantling and recovery. It is also proposed to include pre-consumer waste alongside post-consumer waste, thereby supporting increased recycling of permanent magnets in the EU and facilitating the uptake of secondary permanent magnets in products.

As per the CRMA, the Commission is already working on the possibility of setting quotas of recycled content for permanent magnets. Including pre consumer waste as feedstock for recycling would contribute to boosting the EU recycling capacity. The RESourceEU Action Plan also puts strong emphasis on financing by setting up a CRM financing hub that will mobilise EUR 3 billion in support of projects all along the CRM value chain.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0945>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1252/oj/eng>.