

Mining and Metals 2022 wrap

fieldfisher

Fieldfisher's mining team recorded another stellar year for mining and metals-related transactions, litigation and general advice in 2022, advising on matters with a value of over US\$3.4bn.

As in previous years, our instructions have been varied and complex, with some notable trends in client needs. The growth of the 'cleantech' minerals sector continues to surge, generating more demand for financing advice but also greater potential for disputes. Operating environments are becoming more complicated, competition is increasing and costs are rising, prompting more M&A activity and distressed corporate activity.

Consequently, last year, our team led by [Head of Mining and Metals Jonathan Brooks](#), advised clients on a range of corporate and financing matters, as well as a growing body of disputes, investigations, ESG, regulatory and compliance issues following the arrival of our new [commercial crime team](#).

Notable deals

- › **M&A:** Advising Amur Minerals Corporation on the US\$35m sale of its Kun-Manie nickel-copper sulphide project in Russia to a vehicle controlled by Russian entrepreneur, Vladislav Sviblov.
- › **Financing:** Advising a large commodity trading house on a US\$15m zinc, lead and copper concentrates prepayment facility for a Turkish producer.
- › **IPO:** Advising CleanTech Lithium PLC on its admission to trading on London's AIM market with a market cap of £23.7m and placing raising £5.6m.
- › **Dispute:** Representing an individual in relation to the ongoing Serious Fraud Office investigation into Rio Tinto.
- › **Financing:** Advising a European headquartered commodity trading house on a US\$30 m prepayment facility agreement to a Vietnamese fluorspar producer.
- › **Financing:** Advising an exploration and development company on a US\$15m bridge facility from, and a royalty payable to, a debt fund to develop a polymetallic project in the Balkans.
- › **Dispute:** Representing ENRC in relation to an ongoing Serious Fraud Office investigation.
- › **Financing:** Advising a commodity trading house on a €55m prepayment facility with a Turkish multinational for the production of soda ash and sodium bicarbonate.
- › **Dispute:** Advising an energy conglomerate on bringing a claim against an Australian company in a dispute concerning a South Asian lithium refinery.
- › **Financing:** Advising a European headquartered private debt fund in relation to the restructuring of its funding for the development and expansion of an anthracite mine in Wales and the work-out of the financing.
- › **Dispute:** Advising Asian investors on a Bilateral Investment Treaty claim against the Republic of North Macedonia.



Selected press coverage and articles:

- › [Mining's role in the energy transition: Time for an image refresh](#)
- › [Fieldfisher advises Cornish Metals on £40.5m equity fundraising](#)
- › [Davis' Vision Blue leads £40m fundraising to revive historic UK tin mine](#)
- › [Fieldfisher advises CleanTech Lithium on AIM IPO](#)
- › [The role of climate change in post-M&A arbitration](#)



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2022 in numbers:

US\$3.4 bn+
in deals and disputes in 2022

Advising
60+ clients
in the mining and metals industry worldwide

25+ mining specialists
across our international corporate, finance and disputes teams