

Mineral Project Assessment & Evaluation

Mineral Project Assessment and Evaluation is a structured, integrated framework developed by the **Pan-European Reserves and Resources Reporting Committee (PERC)** that combines Geological Confidence, Technical Study levels, Technology Maturity, Modifying Factors, Project Maturity, and Risk Assessment and Mineral Estimate Reporting to evaluate the investment quality of a Mineral Project. Stage Gates at defined decision points utilise Economic Assessment Criteria in a stepwise evaluation of the potential for economic extraction of the associated Mineral Products. Mineral Estimate Reporting ensures transparent, standardised and competent disclosure of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources, and Mineral Reserves throughout the Mineral Project lifecycle. These combined considerations ensure transparent, traceable, standardised reporting and reliable disclosure of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves. The Mineral Project Assessment Framework is discussed fully in PERC: An Integrated Approach to Mineral Projects: Internal Mineral Company Reporting, Non-public Reporting and Public Reporting (2026).

Pyramid Assessment Framework

The Project assessment fundamentals of a Mineral Project are represented by an outline Pyramid Framework, comprising the core Mineral Asset, the Project Fundamentals Nexus, and the Project Assessment Framework space with sixteen primary project assessment components as illustrated in the adjacent diagram.

Project Development Stage Gates

Project Development Stage Gates are the sequential decision points at which the Mineral Company assesses the Geological Confidence, Modifying Factors, Technical Study maturity, and the subsequent defined Business proposition. These seven Stage Gates govern progress from an Early Exploration Project through a Mineral Development Project to an Extraction Operation. Potential outcomes include proceeding to the next stage, re-assessing work, suspending activities, or abandoning the Mineral Project, and defining the project's Functional Status within the development pipeline.

Geological Confidence

Geological Confidence is the degree of certainty in geological evidence, data, and continuity derived from exploration, sampling, and testing. Increasing knowledge and understanding is reflected in the confidence in the estimates of the Quantity and Quality of the identified Mineralised Material at defined Reference Points. The Geological Confidence, when combined with the Modifying Factors, ensures the reported Mineral Reporting Classes and Mineral

Reporting Categories reflect both Mineral Project feasibility and viability.

Technical Study Level

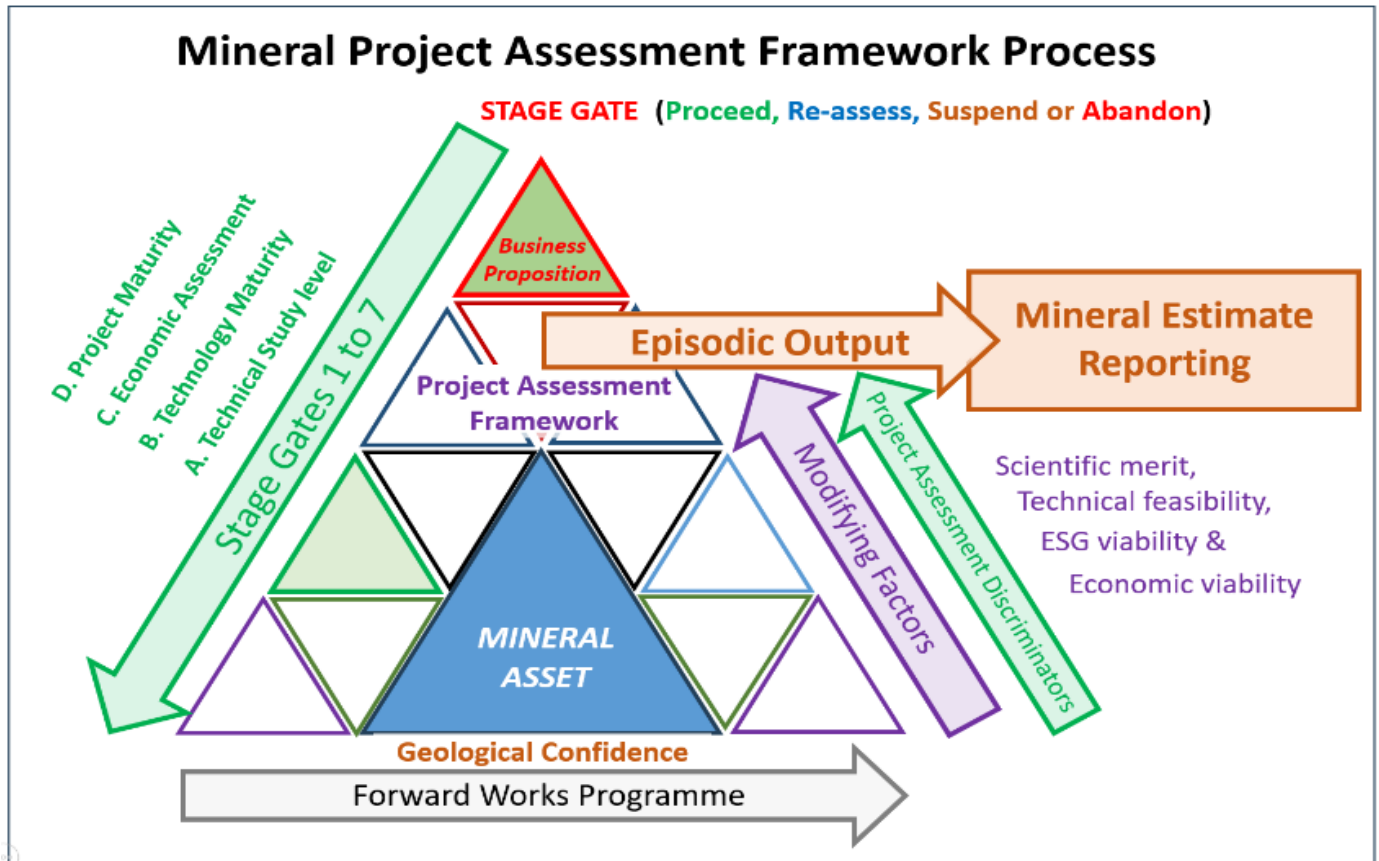
The Technical Study Level is the scope and accuracy of formal studies, such as Target Generation, Geological Report, Scoping Study, Pre-Feasibility Options, Feasibility Study, and Operational Study. Technical Studies progressively analyse the geological, engineering, Mineral Product and economic factors with increasing precision, and determine the effective level of completeness and outcome.

Technology Maturity

Technology Maturity assesses the confidence in the mining, mineral processing, and metallurgical technology choices. Nine categories encompass early development, pilot plant demonstration, scoping, feasibility and operational implementation stages. By-products and co-products may require separate assessment. Technology Maturity mitigates premature decisions by aligning technological readiness and feasibility with Mineral Estimate confidence.

Modifying Factors

Modifying Factors encompass Technical feasibility, ESG viability, and Economic viability, and underpin the Project Economic Assessment Criteria (see below). The Confidence in the Modifying Factors increases from early Technical Studies to Feasibility Studies or Operational Studies.



Project Assessment Pyramid Elements

The list presented below shows the main elements of the individual Pyramid framework triangles as presented in the figure above, numbered from 1 in the bottom left-hand side to 14 at the apex. The **Project Nexus**, or key elements, is presented in **Red Text** and represents the core elements of all Mineral Projects

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|---|---|----|---|
| 1 | Investigation, Sampling & Data Management | 9 | Marketing |
| 2 | Interpretation & Geological Modelling | 10 | Mineral Product |
| 3 | Legal, Ownership & Project History | 11 | Engineering & Infrastructure |
| 4 | Geography, Geology, & Mineral Deposit Type | 12 | Mining, Processing, Technical Modelling |
| 5 | Tenure & Permitting | 13 | Cost & Economic viability Assessment |
| 6 | Environmental, Social & Governance | 14 | Risk Assessment & Project Viability |
| 7 | Analysis & Processing test work | 15 | LOMP Production Schedule |
| 8 | Mineral Estimation | 16 | Business Proposition & Forward Programme |

Note: Capitalised Words refer to PERC Standard Definitions and defined Terminology in the PERC An Integrated Approach to Mineral Projects (AIA).

Project Maturity

Project Maturity is the readiness for viable production of the Mineral Product, and nine categories are recognised, from Project abandonment to operational production. Project Maturity incorporates technical and non-technical contingencies and must be assessed before classifying the Mineral Resources or Mineral Reserves.

Project Risk Assessment

Project Risk Assessment evaluates uncertainty and residual Risks arising from geological variability, Modifying Factor confidence, and external conditions. Risks are classified as 'broadly acceptable', 'tolerable', or 'intolerable'. A bottom-up methodology aggregates Risks into the Mineral Project profile. Risk Assessment requires evaluating cause and impact, and documenting Material Risks and mitigation plans.

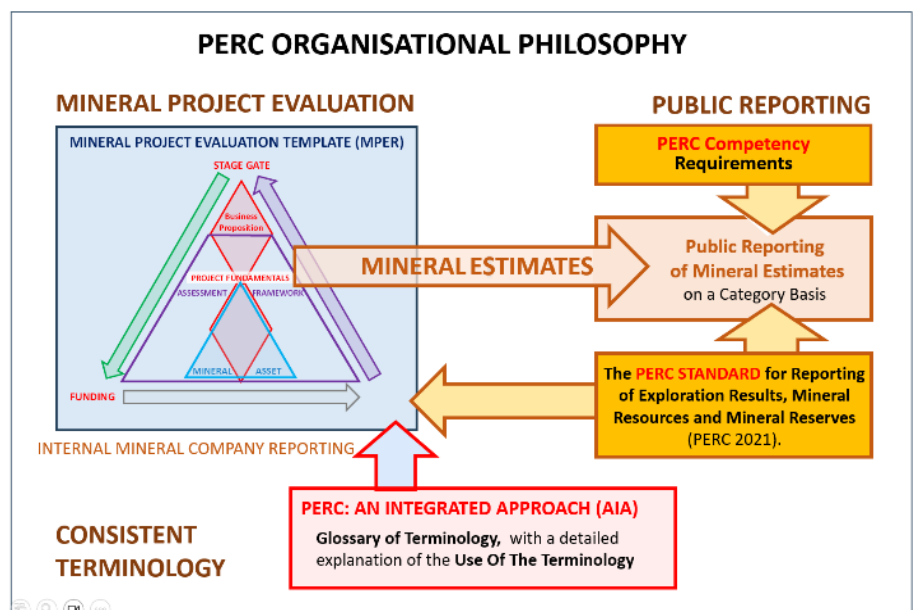
Project Economic Assessment Criteria

The Project Economic Assessment Criteria are a staged evaluation of a Mineral Project's potential, integrating Scientific merit, Technical feasibility, ESG viability, Economic viability, and overall confidence in the Mineral Product estimates. Assessment criteria increase with Project Maturity. Six thresholds are recognised: Potential Economic Interest, Potential Future Economic Extraction, Possible Economic Extraction, Reasonable Prospects for Economic Extraction, Economic Extraction Reasonably Justified, and Continued Extraction is Commercially Justified, each requiring progressively higher minimum Geological Confidence and progressively better-defined Modifying Factors.

Mineral Estimate Reporting

Mineral Estimate Reporting discloses categorised estimates of the Quantity and Quality of Mineralised Material, integrating

Geological Confidence, Modifying Factors, Technical Study level, and Project feasibility and viability assessments. Technical Reports that contain Mineral Estimates must always maintain transparency, traceability, and competence regardless of the report purpose (Internal Mineral Company reporting, Non-public reporting, or Public Reporting). Mineral Estimate Reporting for Public Reports must comply with the PERC Reporting Standard 2021 and the CRIRSCO Template Table 1. The process of systematic Mineral Reporting is effectively managed using the MPER Template and associated MPER Reports (see PERC Fact Sheet 1).



PERC Organisational Philosophy

The PERC organisational philosophy (see figure below) uses the Framework Pyramid for the progressive evaluation of the required sixteen elements for all Mineral Projects through the progressive Stage Gates for all types of Mineralised Material and associated Mineral Estimates, with the episodic Public Reporting of the Exploration Results (including Exploration Targets), Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves.

Original Source Document, see PERC: *An Integrated Approach to Mineral Projects: Internal Mineral Company reporting, Non-public reporting, and Public Reporting*, 202



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