



Follow Up Call - EIA & MB

Mon, Feb 9, 2026 at 12:14 PM

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter.

- **Questions 1-4:** while we implement a mapping and auditing program in our battery supply chains, we do not comment on specific business relationships. In principle:
 - Mapping: Although Mercedes-Benz does not currently source most raw materials directly, we map battery raw material supply chains in a detailed, ongoing process, as they are dynamic, highly complex, and involve many tier levels.
 - Since 2018, we have commissioned our external audit partner RCS Global to create transparency along the complex cobalt supply chains of our battery cells and to audit them according to OECD Due Diligence Guidance.
 - Following initial progress in cobalt supply chains, our cooperation with RCS Global was expanded in 2022 to include additional battery raw materials—specifically lithium, nickel, graphite, manganese, and copper. Mercedes-Benz is increasing transparency and conducting audits in these supply chains as well. Furthermore, the audit scope has been expanded from human rights priorities to include environmental aspects.
 - In addition to our own commitment, we place great value on participating in industry initiatives. These help us make complex supply chains more responsible through joint action.
- **Questions 5-6:** we are not in a position to comment based on the information provided.
- **Question 7:**
 - Mercedes-Benz is committed to ensuring that our products only contain materials that have been extracted and produced without violating human rights or environmental standards.
 - Mercedes-Benz does not currently source most raw materials directly
 - We investigate any reports of potential violations in our supply chain and review them immediately. If allegations prove to be substantiated and verifiable, we take appropriate measures to ensure compliance with our standards.
 - In September 2025, EIA approached Mercedes-Benz through a third party, sharing allegations of SO2 emissions around the Tenke Fungurume (TFM) mine site in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
 - Mercedes-Benz treats allegations with regard to negative impacts on human rights or environmental standards seriously and is seeking to check them diligently. However, due to vague information, Mercedes-Benz was unable to verify or substantiate whether the claims had merit.
 - In November 2025, EIA provided Mercedes-Benz with study results that prompted Mercedes-Benz to initiate an incident management process.
 - Mercedes-Benz subsequently conducted outreach through relevant standard setting initiatives and its own supply chain.
 - However a review of audit results of the facility from both the Copper Mark and audits commissioned by Mercedes-Benz- did not indicate shortcomings related to SO2 emissions and the respective

environmental management systems.

- Mercedes-Benz met with TFM beginning of February. Unfortunately, due to limitations set forth by EIA, Mercedes-Benz was only able to raise concerns in principle and not permitted to share specifics with TFM. Both Mercedes-Benz and TFM agreed to follow up should additional information become available to substantiate or verify the claims.
- TFM noted that no complaints were issued under their community grievance mechanism in the timeframe in question.
- TFM is currently in the process of undergoing an IRMA audit, which includes extensive stakeholder engagement including with mining communities by an independent third party. Mercedes-Benz requests its supply chain to undergo IRMA audits and is member to the IRMA Board of Directors. As such, Mercedes-Benz is following the process closely.

Best,

[Quoted text hidden]

If you are not the addressee, please inform us immediately that you have received this e-mail by mistake, and delete it. We thank you for your support.