

Company Responses to CBS News re: allegations of children mining cobalt in Congo

TESLA

"Tesla's mission is to accelerate the world's transition to sustainable energy. This is our reason for existing, and we are focused on protecting the environment and creating a better, safer, more sustainable planet for all of us. This means we spend a lot of time trying to make our supply chain as environmentally sound as possible, and ensuring that working conditions in our supply chain are safe and humane, and that workers are treated with respect and dignity. These are issues about which we care deeply and we are always striving to do our best. Tesla is committed to only sourcing responsibly-produced materials, and we have a Human Rights and Conflict Minerals policy that outlines our expectations to all suppliers and partners that work with us. We strictly follow all U.S. and foreign law, and require our supply chain to do the same. Tesla performs on-site audits to the best of our ability during the sourcing and vetting process for suppliers, to view operations and methods of risk management. And all of our contracts require suppliers to adhere to our human rights policy and environmental and safety requirements. Unlike other auto manufacturers, there is very little cobalt in Tesla's battery cells. Also, it's worth noting that the overall trend in battery development is towards higher-energy, lower-cobalt chemistries."