

A Tariff on Russian Palladium Raises Questions for Midwest Manufacturing

By Matthew Kayser | March 23, 2026

https://www.stltoday.com/exclusive/article_8583dc39-f1af-59e8-b154-e229c04b65c5.html

In early 2026, the U.S. Department of Commerce announced a preliminary anti-dumping duty of 132.83% on palladium imported from Russia. The decision is still under review, and the outcome may change. Even so, the announcement has already caught the attention of manufacturers across the Midwest.

Many companies in the region rely on palladium, a metal used in catalytic converters that help vehicles meet emissions standards. Because the Midwest is home to many automotive plants and equipment manufacturers, changes in the palladium market may influence how businesses plan their purchasing and supply strategies.

For business leaders, the situation highlights how global commodity policies can affect everyday manufacturing decisions.

Palladium's Role in Midwest Manufacturing

Palladium is a platinum-group metal used mainly in catalytic converters. These components help reduce emissions from gasoline-powered vehicles.

Most consumers rarely think about palladium, but it is an important material in the automotive supply chain. Catalytic converters appear in nearly every gasoline vehicle produced in the United States.

The Midwest plays a large role in that industry. Vehicle assembly plants in Missouri and nearby states produce trucks, vans, and passenger vehicles each year. The region also supports a wide network of suppliers that manufacture engine parts, exhaust systems, and emissions components.

Beyond passenger vehicles, palladium is also used in some agricultural, construction, and transportation equipment. This means that changes in the palladium market may affect several sectors connected to manufacturing.

The CME Connection

Commodity markets help set global prices for metals like palladium. Many industrial buyers monitor futures contracts traded on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME), including the NYMEX palladium futures market.

These markets allow manufacturers and traders to track price movements and manage risk when purchasing raw materials.

The newly announced tariff adds another factor that companies may consider when planning purchases. If supply from certain regions becomes more expensive, businesses may evaluate alternative suppliers or adjust procurement timelines.

Some industry analysts have noted that palladium prices have moved sharply in the past when supply concerns emerged. During earlier market cycles, price swings occurred even before actual shortages developed. Because of this history, some manufacturers may monitor the situation closely as the tariff review process continues.

A Western Hemisphere Answer

Around the same time that the tariff announcement circulated in commodity markets, Klotho Neurosciences Inc. reported that it had completed its acquisition of Greenland Mines Corp. Through that transaction, the company gained control of the Skaergaard mineral project in Southeast Greenland.

The Skaergaard site has been studied for several decades and contains deposits of palladium and gold. Geological drilling programs have produced mineral resource estimates that researchers continue to analyze.

Projects like Skaergaard are part of broader conversations about future mineral supply. Mining projects can take many years to develop, and exploration results do not guarantee that production will occur.

Still, undeveloped deposits in different parts of the world sometimes attract attention when global supply concerns emerge. Industrial buyers and commodity analysts often watch such projects as part of long-term supply planning.

Midwest Auto Supply Chain Considerations

Manufacturing companies in the Midwest may evaluate several factors as they follow developments in the palladium market.

Automakers, parts suppliers, and emissions system manufacturers typically rely on stable metal supplies to plan production schedules. When policies affect the cost or availability of raw materials, procurement teams may review sourcing options.

Companies may consider strategies such as adjusting purchasing timelines, exploring different suppliers, or reviewing existing contracts. Some businesses may also increase communication with metal traders and commodity analysts to understand potential price changes.

Because catalytic converters remain essential for gasoline vehicles, palladium demand often reflects broader trends in vehicle production.

The Greenland Jurisdiction

Greenland has attracted attention in the mining sector because of its mineral resources and regulatory framework. As an autonomous territory within the Kingdom of Denmark, Greenland has its own mining policies and licensing systems.

The Skaergaard project is located near the coast in Southeast Greenland and has been the subject of geological research for many years. Exploration teams have conducted drilling programs and published mineral resource estimates based on those studies.

Mining development projects usually move through several stages, including exploration, environmental review, and economic analysis. Each stage can take time, and many projects remain under evaluation for long periods before production decisions are made.

For this reason, mining analysts often view projects like Skaergaard as part of the broader long-term conversation about future mineral supply rather than immediate production solutions.

What Midwest Industry Should Know

The new palladium tariff remains a preliminary decision, and the final ruling has not yet been issued. Because of this uncertainty, manufacturers may treat the situation as one of several factors influencing supply planning.

Companies across the Midwest already operate in a complex global supply environment. Metals, energy costs, logistics networks, and international policies all play a role in manufacturing decisions.

For procurement teams and supply chain managers, the key challenge is often managing uncertainty. Monitoring commodity markets, evaluating supplier diversity, and maintaining flexible sourcing strategies help companies respond to changing conditions.

Palladium may not be a metal that consumers often think about. However, for manufacturers of vehicles and industrial equipment, shifts in the palladium market can become part of everyday business planning.

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