



## Re: Conflict Minerals Sourcing

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) Section 1502; Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, titled “Conflict Minerals Rule” rule requires *publicly traded* companies to report and research the presence of conflict minerals originating in the Democratic Republic of the Congo or adjoining countries (“covered countries”).

VPC is a private corporation and therefore as defined by the SEC, the “Conflict Minerals Rule” does not apply to VPC.

In addition, the “Conflict Minerals Rule” requires that *those bound by its requirements* are only responsible for disclosing the use of conflict minerals in those products that they directly manufacture or contract to manufacture for sale. VPC products are manufactured for end use and are **not** intended for use as materials in the manufacture of other goods.

Further information is available from the SEC via this link:

<https://www.sec.gov/opa/Article/2012-2012-163htm---related-materials.html>

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01/01/2024