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Prof. Alan Williams

Guest Editor of CHIMIA

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Concern: Submission of an invited short review to CHIMIA

Dear Editor,

With this letter, I enclose an electronic copy of our manuscript entitled '**Set Aside When Building the Periodic Table 150 Years Ago, Are Rare Earths Any Better Considered by Chemists in the 21st century?**' which I would like to be considered for publication in the special issue of CHIMIA dedicated to the jubilee of the discovery of the Periodic Table.

In phase with the current gilets jaunes' revolt, the future lanthanide elements were discarded by Mendeleyev from the original periodic table in 1869 because of the lack of specific properties worth to be highlighted. It took fifty years for these elements to get a satisfying status as full members of the chemical community. Nowadays, lanthanide elements, which belong to the larger category of rare earths elements, are crucial components in a myriad of modern technological applications working as magnets, catalysts, optical relays, etc.

This short review tells this story and try to highlight the change of paradigms affecting these outsiders along the 150 past years.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration of this manuscript, I remain.

Claude Piguet  
*Full Professor*