

Minerals Make Life is a National Mining Association initiative.



Dear Joe,

Leaders across the country agree—the biggest hurdle preventing U.S. minerals mining from adding jobs and growing the economy is an outdated permitting process.

Over the past few weeks, I've traveled across the country and have had the opportunity to meet with scholars, policymakers, scientists and CEOs. They readily acknowledge the importance of minerals to the lives of Americans and understand how mining can spark vital [job growth](#) in this economy.

Today, U.S. mining supports more than 1.1 million American jobs. By 2019, we will need to fill 128,000 new positions—a mere fraction of the growth we could achieve if mining weren't plagued by an unpredictable regulatory framework and a permitting process riddled with unnecessary delays.

I spent time in New Mexico, where 40 percent of the land in the state belongs to the federal government. I was told that geology and science no longer dictate mineral exploration and permitting; instead, federal bureaucrats are keeping American resources locked up and out of use. It's that type of unnecessary regulatory delay that is stopping companies and investors from doing business in the United States.

I also heard that it's permitting delays that have left U.S. manufacturers more reliant on foreign sources for minerals we have right here. That means we are transferring jobs and economic benefits overseas and needlessly complicating our mineral supply lines.

NMA is dedicated to growing America's economy, and that's why we're aggressively supporting [H.R. 4402](#), legislation that will help establish regulatory consistency and efficient mining permitting processes. These measures could attract massive investment in U.S. minerals mining, create much-needed jobs, and put our minerals to good use while maintaining strict environmental standards.

Do you have a story about the importance of minerals? I'd love to hear it. And don't forget to visit our [blog](#) for updates on our efforts and up-to-date information on H.R. 4402, as it is expected to be debated on the House floor in July.

Warm regards,

Hal Quinn
President and CEO
National Mining Association

To learn more about minerals and what they mean to America, visit mineralsmakelife.org.

ABOUT NMA

The National Mining Association (NMA) is the voice of American mining in Washington, D.C. NMA is the only national trade organization that represents the interests of mining before Congress, the administration, federal agencies, the judiciary and the media.

