



APRIL 21, 2016

Joe—

Yesterday, the U.S. Senate passed Sen. Lisa Murkowski's (R-Alaska) "Energy Modernization Policy Act of 2016." The Minerals Make Life team and **I applaud** the U.S. Senate for passing this piece of energy legislation, which also includes critical minerals provisions.

The U.S. is home to a mineral supply worth \$6.2 trillion — one of the largest mineral reserves in the world — but an **outdated and duplicative mine permitting process** creates delays that can last up to 10 years. As a result, mining projects lose value and U.S. manufacturers often **rely on imported resources** to meet their industry's needs.

Through this bipartisan effort to streamline the minerals mine permitting process, U.S. policymakers can work to secure the nation's **energy future**. Simply put, mineral security is a critical element to U.S. energy systems and Sen. Murkowski's bill promotes better access to the raw materials that make it all possible.

Uranium, for instance, is used to generate nuclear energy while other minerals like **copper** and **molybdenum** are required to make

DID YOU KNOW?

GIF: Permitting Delays

MINE PERMITTING DELAYS CAN TAKE UP TO 10 YEARS AND DECREASE A PROJECT'S VALUE

How does the U.S. mine permitting process timeline compare to the development of major U.S. infrastructure projects? Find out [here](#).

Video: Mark Fellows: U.S. Mining & Global Competitiveness

alternative energy technologies like wind turbines and solar panels.

To learn more about how minerals help the U.S. meet its energy needs, read our blog post [here](#) and see our energy infographic [here](#).

Sen. Murkowski noted, "What we came away with was a substantive, timely and a bipartisan measure that has a very real chance of being the first major energy bill signed into law in well over eight years." I urge the U.S. House and Senate to continue this momentum and work together to deliver to the president minerals legislation that will strengthen our nation's energy system and economy.

Take action [here](#) to encourage your policymakers to join these collaborative efforts to improve access to U.S. minerals.

Thank you,

Hal Quinn
NMA President and CEO



SNL Metals & Mining's Mark Fellows explains why mine permitting delays hurt the U.S. economy and global competitiveness. Watch the video [here](#).

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