



AUGUST 24, 2016

Joe—

The EPA is fast tracking new rules for the hardrock mining industry that ignore modern mining practices and duplicate existing federal and state programs. These rules are intended to assess the risk of potential hazardous substance releases and estimate the cost for cleanup. Ultimately, these new rules will require companies to set aside tens of millions of dollars of capital in the form of financial assurances to cover these costs.

But the EPA's rule just doesn't make sense since mining companies have already set aside billions of dollars in financial guarantees to ensure operations will not leave an environmental liability for the taxpayer. The EPA's new regulatory efforts will just create new barriers for an already strained industry and stifle future mineral development.

According to the United States Geological Survey (USGS) **Mineral Commodity Summaries for 2016**, the estimated value of raw materials mined domestically in 2015 totaled \$78.3 billion. Additionally, minerals mining employs more than 400,000 people. In an industry plagued by redundant regulatory hurdles, additional rules must be considered carefully. The EPA proposal does not take into account existing state and federal programs that

DID YOU KNOW?

Tesla's New Gigafactory Relies on U.S. Minerals

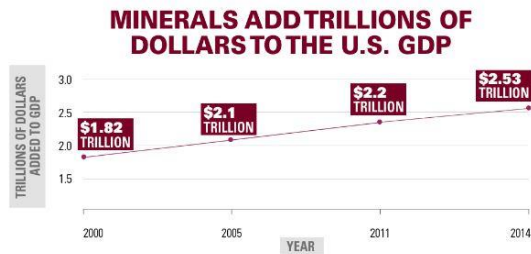


As Tesla grows more popular, their production is ramping up. Their commitment to sourcing materials domestically means demand for minerals like lithium will continue to increase. Find out more [here](#).

Minerals Mining is a Key Player in Environmental Stewardship

are designed to eliminate or significantly reduce the same environmental risks the EPA wants to cover under its own rule. To make things worse, it appears that the EPA's formula for estimating the costs of the rule relies on data that exaggerates the risk at existing modern mining projects.

Learn more about how minerals strengthen the U.S. economy [here](#).



No mining project is considered complete until the land has been fully restored. Find out more about how former mines take on new life as farms, wildlife areas, and parks in a video from the Idaho Mining Association [here](#).

Mining companies go to great lengths to ensure they have a positive impact on the communities in which they operate. Reclamation efforts have turned mines into parks, housing developments [and more](#). Plus, there are a multitude of experts and analysts that must weigh in during the approval process of any mining project. The EPA, however, is making assumptions about risks and costs without consulting mining industry experts. Today, no mine can be approved for operation without first meeting federal and state requirements to ensure that mining facilities are designed, constructed, operated and eventually closed in manners protective of both the environment and the taxpayer.

Sign our [petition](#) today to protect one of our nation's most important industries.

[Sign the petition](#)

Thank you,

Hal Quinn
NMA President and CEO



Unsubscribe or update your subscriptions or your profile



National Mining Association
101 Constitution Avenue NW, Suite 500 East
Washington, D.C. 20001

mineralsmakelife.org