



January 16, 2013

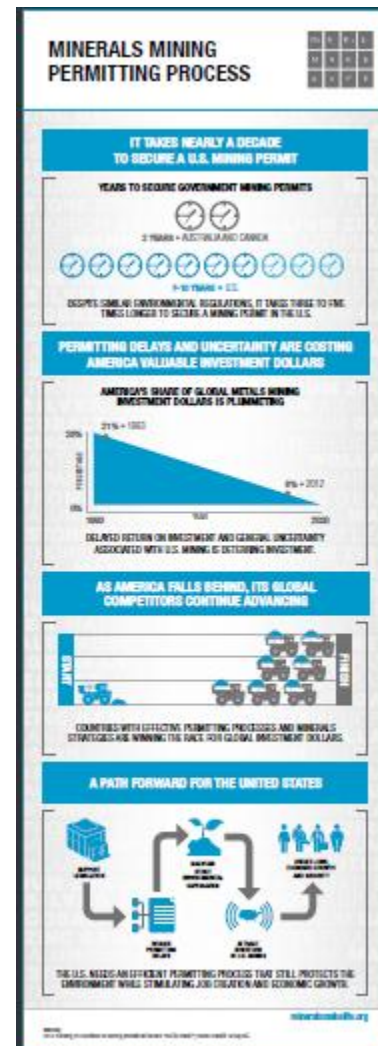
Dear Joe,

The beginning of new administrations and legislative sessions always provide an opportunity to talk about the "big" things -- the things that can truly help shape the future of our country. This year, perhaps more than any before it, certainly fits that mold with so many "big" items on the table. We're still in the midst of a substantive debate on job creation and the U.S. economy, in addition to other policies that are imperative to competitiveness and our prosperity as a nation.

U.S. minerals mining is playing a key role in getting our nation's economy back on solid footing. But we can do more. To achieve our full potential, our government must finish the job of implementing a more efficient permitting process. This is critical to fostering a secure and reliable minerals supply chain that will drive American innovation and support millions of American jobs. [This video explains more.](#)



THE COST OF DELAY



This infographic shows the impact of mining permitting delays across the economy.

Share it with colleagues who need to understand the importance of this critical issue.

Having new mining projects delayed longer than a decade in the U.S., while our major economic competitors bring resources to market at more than twice that speed, is not a recipe for a resilient and resurgent American economy. Action must be taken immediately to address this issue.

Thank you for your continued support in this and other key efforts, and I hope you and your families had a happy, healthy holiday. Now on to a more prosperous 2013!

Best regards,

Hal Quinn
President and CEO
National Mining Association