



**MAY 18, 2015**

Joe,

Last Tuesday was an important day for the minerals mining industry. In a Senate hearing on the **“American Minerals Security Act of 2015,”** expert after expert testified before legislators that the U.S. has an abundant wealth of minerals, *but not sufficient access to it.* Congress needed to hear this, because it has the power to change it.

The federal mine permitting process must be modernized in order to open access to these minerals. Doing so would boost our economy, create mining jobs, support U.S. manufacturers and jumpstart innovations—like these recent advancements in the **medical technology** and **auto** industries.

Ed Fogels, deputy commissioner of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, testified to the effects of a duplicative and inefficient permitting process and the United States’ minerals potential.

*“Our reliance on imports is growing, as is our need for these minerals,” Fogels stated, in reference to the estimated \$6.2 trillion worth of key mineral commodities locked under U.S. soil. “Our overreliance on imported minerals, however, is certainly not due to an absence of*

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*Meeting 21st century challenges*



*“The ‘American Mineral Security Act’ is a step forward in bringing the U.S. in line with its global peers who are preparing to meet the 21st century challenges of mineral supply chain reliability and security,” Red Conger, NMA Chairman and President of the Americas Division of Freeport-McMoRan Inc., **testified.***

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resource potential. In fact, many U.S. regions contain significant potential for strategic and critical minerals.”

NMA Chairman and President of Freeport-McMoRan Americas Red Conger also testified that Congress must reform the current permitting process or risk hurting American industry and the economy. Indeed, the longer we wait to act on that potential, the less competitive we remain. Kevin J. Cosgriff, a former vice Admiral in the U.S. Navy and current President and CEO of the National Electrical Manufacturers Association, voiced this concern.

*“This legislation is about the government enabling U.S. manufacturers to compete fairly into the future because they will have access to the information, the minerals and the other resources they need to conduct business.”*

The message—and **takeaway**—from the hearing was clear: Congress must pass legislation to reform the permitting process.

You can watch a video of the full hearing [here](#).

Thank you,

Hal Quinn  
NMA President and CEO

## Bring the permitting process into the 21st century



Ask your legislator to support the “American Mineral Security Act of 2015.” [Click here to learn more.](#)



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