January 19, 2012

Dear Joe,

Last year, our Minerals Make Life program raised awareness about the contribution of minerals to economic growth, innovation and national security in America. Thanks to these efforts, we saw the momentum around the minerals conversation grow in Washington and throughout the country. In the year ahead, we hope to continue to build on this success by reflecting on lessons learned, and with the help of supporters like you.

In this video, my colleague Carol Raulston, senior vice president of communications, provides a recap of key findings and milestones from 2011, including:

- Reports by the U.S. Department of Defense and PricewaterhouseCoopers that revealed the importance of a steady minerals supply to the U.S. military and hi-tech and automotive sectors, among others;
- The introduction of the "Critical Minerals Policy Act of 2011" by Sen. Lisa Murkowski, aiming for an in-depth analysis of our nation's minerals needs and the ability to meet those needs domestically; and
- The passage of a similar bill by Rep. Doug Lamborn, the "National Strategic and Critical Minerals Policy Act of 2011," which received bipartisan approval in the House Committee on Natural Resources in June 2011.

As we begin the new year, we must remain focused on advocating sound policies that promote a strong U.S. minerals mining sector and improve our economy. We thank you for your support and encourage you to follow our blog for the most up-to-date minerals news and headlines.

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.