



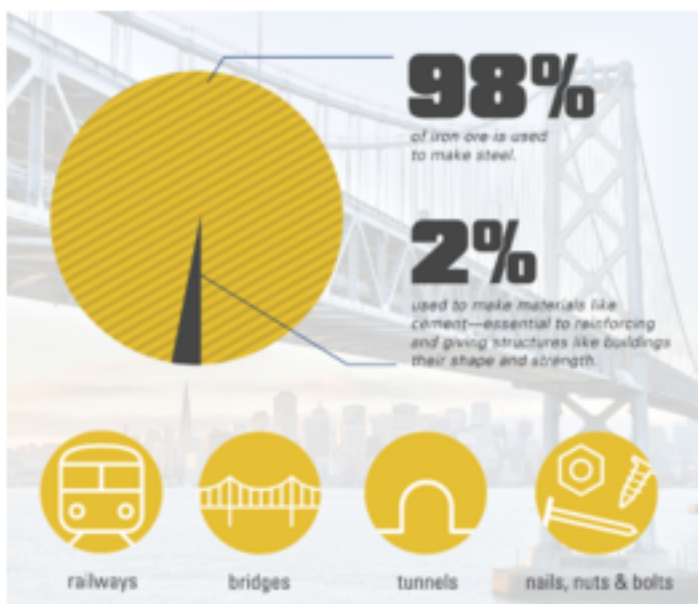
MINERALS
MAKE
LIFE

July 26, 2017

Dear Joe,

In 2017, the U.S. received a troubling D+ in the American Society of Civil Engineers' Annual Infrastructure Report Card. This rating indicates that much of America's infrastructure is near failure, putting lives and economic growth at risk. To address this, the administration hopes to invest \$1 trillion in much-needed repairs and revitalization. But, without a large and stable supply of minerals, bipartisan plans to rebuild our infrastructure remain in jeopardy.

Minerals Make Life has a new [infographic](#) that details just how vital minerals are to modern infrastructure development and repair.



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So, what is holding us back from helping to address key infrastructure challenges? Currently, many key U.S. minerals mining projects are delayed, caught in a web of lengthy and duplicative regulations in the mine permitting process.

Compounding this is the recent proposal to remove 10 million acres of mineral-rich [U.S. federal lands](#) from mining exploration and development, which could potentially cut our access to U.S. mineral resources in half. Frivolous federal land withdrawals drastically inhibit the mining industry as these lands are significant sources of mineral wealth.

Preventing access to minerals that are vital to infrastructure development will jeopardize our supply chains and could stymie the proposed rebuilding initiative.

Fortunately, members of Congress have recognized the inefficiencies of the U.S. mine permitting process by introducing The Energy and Natural Resources Act of 2017, a new bipartisan energy bill that includes actions that modernize the minerals permitting process and ensure greater access to domestic minerals and metals.

If passed, this legislation will be the first bill passed by Congress in 10 years to change U.S. resource and energy policies. Provided the bill remains intact, it will create the necessary reform we so desperately need to improve efficiencies, reduce duplication and ensure access to the minerals required to rebuild our roads, bridges and railways, along with other critical infrastructure.

Thank you,

Hal Quinn
NMA President and CEO

DID YOU KNOW?

[Op-Ed: Infrastructure Plan Could be Stymied by Lack of Resources](#)



Read NMA President and CEO Hal Quinn's op-ed to learn how the current mine permitting process impedes the growth and revitalization of U.S. infrastructure.

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Infographic: Minerals Re-building America



View our latest infographic to learn how minerals form the foundation of U.S. infrastructure.

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