



October 16, 2018

Dear Joe

October marks Manufacturing Month and we want to recognize the immense contributions the manufacturing industry makes to our nation's economy. But this month also presents an opportunity to bring awareness to the manufacturing sector's deepening import reliance on minerals and metals.

The U.S. is home to an estimated \$6.2 trillion in domestic mineral resources. But protracted delays in the mine permitting process have forced manufacturers to look overseas for the supplies of minerals and metals they need to produce all types of goods. This reliance on countries like China, leaves our manufacturing sector vulnerable to supply chain disruptions.

Furthermore, these delays constrict the number of domestic manufacturing jobs. According to the [National Association of Manufacturers](#), there are currently 12.75 million manufacturing workers in the U.S., accounting for 8.6 percent of the workforce. The number of these well-paying jobs could see a significant increase if mining policies enabled the manufacturing sector to grow domestically.

To learn more about how these delays impact our manufacturing sector, check out our latest blog post.

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DID YOU KNOW

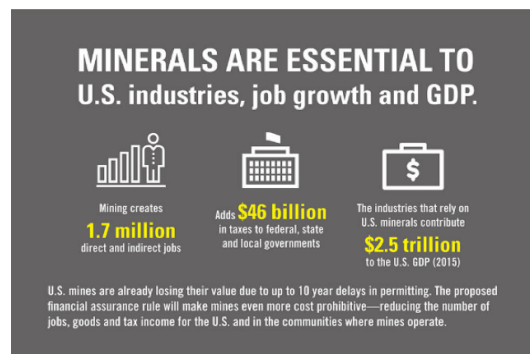
[Infographic: Mining for a Stable Supply Chain](#)



Our import dependence for key mineral commodities has doubled over the past two decades. Learn why this a major issue for our nation in our latest infographic.

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With more mining projects comes increased job growth and heightened support of critical U.S. industries. Discover the full impact of mining on our economy here.

To support and encourage American-made products, we must change. In the U.S., it can take anywhere from seven to 10 years to obtain a mine permit. By shortening the timeline to just two to three years – the length of the process in countries like Australia and Canada – our country could become the top manufacturing nation in the world.

A [poll](#) conducted by Morning Consult showed that sixty-five percent of voters support enacting policies such as a shorter permitting process to give our manufacturing industry stable access to minerals and metals. It's time for our decisionmakers to support policies that enable and encourage the use of domestic resources.

Manufacturing is the backbone of our economy. Let's strengthen the future of our nation and take action to ensure manufacturers have the materials they need when they need them.

Thank you,

Hal Quinn
NMA President and CEO



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