



Interstate Mining Compact Commission

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

GREGORY E. CONRAD

July 10, 2013

The Honorable Mark Amodei
U.S. House of Representatives
Room 222 CHOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Amodei:

I am writing in support of H.R. 761, the "National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act of 2013", which I understand may receive action on the House floor this week. As the primary regulators of mineral production activity within their borders, the member states of the Interstate Mining Compact Commission (IMCC) have a vital interest in the development of all minerals, particularly those of strategic and critical importance to the United States. Even where minerals are produced on federal lands, states often work in concert with our various federal agency partners to insure that these minerals are mined in an efficient and effective manner while also protecting the environment and balancing impacts on other resources such as the land, water and air.

We are particularly supportive of those provisions in H.R. 761 that would require enhanced coordination between federal government agencies such as the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and state government agencies that have similar responsibilities for the development of mineral resources. We believe that renewed and revitalized efforts in this regard would avoid duplicative reviews, minimize paperwork and result in more timely processing of permit applications. The bill also recognizes and gives credence to the critical role played by the states with jurisdiction over mining projects.

We appreciate your leadership on this initiative and urge passage of H.R. 761.

Sincerely,

Gregory E. Conrad
Executive Director

cc. Rep. Doc Hastings