



HAL QUINN  
President & CEO

September 17, 2013

The Honorable Mark Amodei  
U.S House of Representatives  
222 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Amodei:

The National Mining Association (NMA) urges you to vote yes on H.R. 761, the National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act of 2013, that would improve the security and reliability of the domestic metals and minerals supply chain that is so important to our nation's economic success. H.R. 761 would allow our nation to unlock its full minerals potential by incorporating into the mine permitting process best practices for coordinating among agencies, clarifying responsibilities, avoiding duplication and bringing more accountability to the process.

While the United States is blessed with a world class mineral resource base, we face an antiquated and inefficient process that takes anywhere from 7-10 years to obtain permits and other authorizations necessary to develop our nation's mineral potential. As a result, our dependence on mineral imports has doubled over the past twenty years. Today, less than half of the mineral needs of U.S. manufacturing are met from domestically mined minerals.

These trends will only get worse if we do not advance public policies that enable our domestic minerals industry to perform to its potential. According to a KPMG report, over the next 20 years demand for mineral resources will soar while supplies will become increasingly difficult to obtain. When secure and reliable mineral supply chains disappear from our shores so do the downstream industries, related jobs, and the innovation and technology that depend upon them.

We commend the House of Representatives for addressing the impediments to the nation's mineral supply chain. NMA urges you to strengthen our economic and national security by voting YES on H.R. 761.

Sincerely,

Hal Quinn  
President & CEO