



DECEMBER 10, 2014

Dear Joe,

As 2014 comes to a close, I'm reflecting on mounting evidence that improved access to domestic minerals makes for a healthier and more vibrant U.S. economy, including two reports released by the National Mining Association.

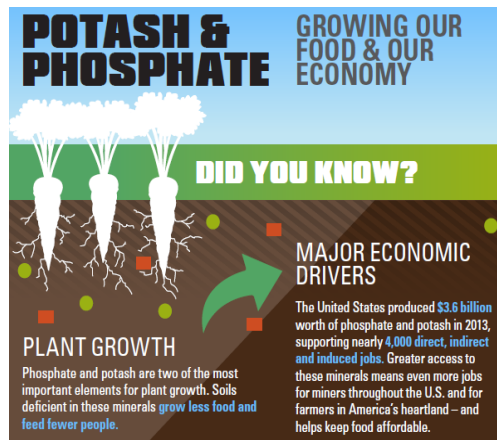
There is no question that "Made in the USA" is making a comeback; however, what remains in question is our ability to meet the growing demand of minerals necessary for production. A recent [survey](#) commissioned by NMA shows that while **80 percent** of U.S. manufacturing executives recognize the importance of sourcing minerals and metals from the United States, the majority are worried they will not have access to the minerals and metals they need when they need them

Moreover, SNL Metals & Mining's [U.S. Mines to Market](#) study emphasizes that the primary obstacle preventing the domestic mining industry from providing U.S. manufacturers with the minerals they need is the length of time it takes to obtain the permitting necessary to operate—a whopping seven to 10 years on average.

These studies' findings show that mining permitting reform is critical and we're asking

DID YOU KNOW?

Potash & Phosphate: Growing Our Food & Our Economy



POTASH & PHOSPHATE GROWING OUR FOOD & OUR ECONOMY

DID YOU KNOW?

PLANT GROWTH
Phosphate and potash are two of the most important elements for plant growth. Soils deficient in these minerals **grow less food and feed fewer people.**

MAJOR ECONOMIC DRIVERS
The United States produced **\$3.6 billion** worth of phosphate and potash in 2013, supporting nearly **4,000 direct, indirect and induced jobs.** Greater access to these minerals means even more jobs for miners throughout the U.S. and for farmers in America's heartland – and helps keep food affordable.

As you enjoy your holiday feasts this season, it is important to remember that those meals rely on minerals. In fact, potash and phosphate are critical to our food supply and agriculture industry. Learn more about these minerals' contributions in our newest [infographic](#).

[U.S. Mines to Market](#)

Congress to make it a priority for 2015. In September, the House passed the bipartisan National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act for the third year in a row, which would eliminate duplication and require better coordination between state and federal agencies — all without compromising rigorous environmental review. Now, the Senate must act on similar legislation to help the United States strengthen industry supply chains and encourage further economic growth nationwide.

Let's make 2015 the year we ensure American competitiveness and continued economic growth.

Are you with us?

Best,

Hal Quinn



NMA's newest study, "U.S. Mines to Market," reveals a major obstacle to continued manufacturing growth - access to a steady supply of domestic mineral raw materials.



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