



JUNE 28, 2016

Joe—

July 4th is a time to celebrate and thank the brave men and women who have sacrificed so much to safeguard our country and our freedom. At the same time, let's remember that minerals make possible much of the technology that enables modern national defense.

Minerals keep our nation and our troops safe and fuel innovations that improve veterans' quality of life. For example, minerals are essential in manufacturing **prosthetics** for wounded soldiers once they return home.

Below are examples of just some of the minerals and metals that are essential to defense technologies like fighter jets, radar and night-vision goggles. Click to learn more about their applications:

- [Uranium](#)
- [Molybdenum](#)
- [Silver](#)
- [Copper](#)
- [Rare Earths](#)

The strength of our nation's defense is reinforced by our domestic mineral supply. The U.S. has a supply of mineral resources estimated at \$6.2

DID YOU KNOW?

Op-Ed: Keeping Minerals in the Ground Keeps Them Out of Our Economy



Megan E. Hansen of Strata and William F. Shughart II of the Independent Institute explain how proposed mineral land withdrawals can hurt the U.S. economy. Read the full op-ed in *Inside Sources* [here](#).

Minerals Make Fireworks!

trillion. However, many of these minerals remain locked underground due to a redundant and duplicative [mine permitting process](#).



As we thank the servicemen and women who work diligently to protect our country, let's also acknowledge the importance of providing our military with resources, technology and equipment they need.

I hope that you and your family have a wonderful 4th of July.

Thank you,

Hal Quinn
NMA President and CEO



Minerals like barium, copper, lithium and magnesium are used to make fireworks! Share this fun fact with your friends on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



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