

**MINERALS
MAKE
LIFE**



February 8, 2011

Dear Joe,

Minerals play an invaluable role in our quality of life, our ability to [innovate](#), our [economic health](#) and our [national security](#). Fortunately, the United States has reserves of more commodity minerals and metals than any other country in the world. Increasing development of these resources would strengthen our economy and make us more secure.

Minerals mining supports more than [1.1 million American jobs](#), and U.S. minerals are used to make roughly \$2 trillion worth of products annually—about 13 percent of U.S. gross domestic product. Yet, despite our vast reserves, our share of global investment in metals mining has dramatically declined over the last 20 years—[falling from 21 percent in 1993 to 7 percent today](#).

To remain competitive in today's market and ensure our nation's security, it's imperative to engage in constructive conversations about balanced policies that encourage investment in the development of domestic minerals.

I invite you to visit www.mineralsmakelife.org. There, you'll find information about minerals and what they mean to America, the challenges facing our supply chain, and solutions to ensuring we can provide the minerals needed for economic prosperity and national security. You can also read our [educational tool kit](#).

I'll check in with you again soon. For now, I welcome and appreciate any feedback you have to offer.

Thank you,

Hal Quinn
President and CEO
National Mining Association

U.S. MINING'S ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS



Read [more](#) about PricewaterhouseCoopers' analysis of U.S. mining's economic contributions.

FAST FACTS

Did you know the estimated value of key mineral resources in the United States is \$6.2 trillion?



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Learn [more](#) about minerals and their link to the economy, national security and innovation.

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ABOUT THE NATIONAL MINING ASSOCIATION

The National Mining Association (NMA) is the voice of American mining in Washington, D.C. NMA is the only national trade organization that represents the interests of mining before Congress, the administration, federal agencies, the judiciary and the media.