January 23, 2019

Dear Joe,

Many Americans still do not know or understand the impact that minerals have on our modern world. Minerals are absolutely essential to almost every industry – from healthcare to manufacturing to national defense. Without minerals, our lives would not be the same.

More than 13 minerals are required to make cell phones, devices on which five billion people rely to communicate. Copper is key to the production of life-saving medical equipment like MRI machines. Zinc and molybdenum play an important role in alternative energy technologies, while nickel is a crucial material for military body armor that keeps our troops safe.

To learn more about how minerals make life, watch our latest video.

Although minerals and metals are so essential to our everyday lives, our nation’s

DID YOU KNOW

Op-ed: Lawmakers must find common ground to support the defense-industrial base

A robust supply of domestic minerals and metals is critical to strengthening our defense-industrial base. Get the full scoop from Jeff Green in Defense News.

Blog: Mining Leads the Way in Innovation

The mining sector is using technology in new and exciting ways to extract the minerals on
outdated and duplicative mine permitting system restricts our access to these materials. Currently, it can take anywhere from seven to 10 years to obtain a mine permit in the U.S. In countries with similar environmental standards like Australia and Canada, it typically takes less than three years. The length of our mine permitting process not only hurts our economy, but the security of our nation.

A new poll from Morning Consult shows that 63 percent of Americans support action to encourage the use of domestically-mined minerals to decrease our military’s reliance on foreign-imported minerals. It’s time for our decisionmakers to listen to American voters and work towards policy changes that will support U.S. mining for our defense, and the prosperity of our country as a whole.

To learn more about minerals’ role in our modern world, visit our website.

Thank you,

Hal Quinn
NMA President and CEO

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