



March 12, 2019

Dear Joe,

U.S. reliance on foreign mineral imports continues at alarming levels, according to the [U.S. Geological Survey 2019 Mineral Commodity Summaries](#). The new report shows that the U.S. is 100 percent import reliant for 18 minerals – 14 of which have been deemed “critical” to our national defense and economy by the Secretaries of Defense and the Interior.

USGS reports that our nation is more than 50 percent reliant for another 30 minerals. This risky trend of relying on imports for key minerals and metals poses a threat to important sectors of our economy including infrastructure, tech and national defense.

CRITICAL COMMODITIES

The U.S. is home to minerals that build our infrastructure, advance new technologies, improve our standard of living, develop advanced energy solutions & support our national defense. Some of these minerals include:



Our nation is certainly not lacking in deposits of minerals. Nevada is known for its production of gold, a material used in computers, cell phones and other electronics. Minnesota produces iron ore, an essential component of the steel that forms the

DID YOU KNOW

[Blog: Sen. Murkowski Calls for Action on Minerals Mining](#)



Sen. Lisa Murkowski recently called on Congress to reform our mine permitting process to ensure a stronger future.

Get The Full Scoop

[Poll: American Voters Support Government Action on Key Mining Priorities](#)



According to a recent poll, 63 percent of American voters believe our nation should be

foundation of our infrastructure. And Arizona, Utah and New Mexico produce copper, a metal that is not only used throughout our infrastructure, but is critical to producing aircraft and vehicles.

Domestic minerals are the foundation of manufacturing and defense supply chains and critical to the health of our economy. The USGS report found that domestic industries that consume minerals as raw materials contributed \$3.02 trillion the U.S. GDP in 2018. Imagine how that number could grow if important sectors of our economy had better access to our mineral resources.

We can boost our economy and strengthen our global competitiveness by supporting our mining sector. With the help of individuals like you, we can change the mine permitting process to provide critical industries like manufacturing and defense with the raw materials they need.

To learn more about mining's impact on our economy, check out our [infographic](#).

Thank you,

Hal Quinn
NMA President and CEO

doing more to encourage the use of domestically mined minerals to support our defense and decrease our reliance on foreign-imported minerals.

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