WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- **Sixty-three percent of voters believe** the U.S. should be doing more to encourage the use of domestically-mined minerals.
- To further innovation, decisionmakers must support legislation that would encourage domestic mining, as seen in recent proposals from [Sen. Murkowski](#) and [Rep. Amodei](#).
- Over the past 20 years the **United States’ import dependence has doubled** and currently we rely on China for 20 critical minerals.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO  
JUNE 4, 2019

Dear Joe,

Technologies are advancing and changing more quickly today than at any other point in history. From the way we communicate on a daily basis to the way we conduct business, none of today’s modern technologies would be possible without mining. Minerals and metals that are found here in the U.S. – $6.2 trillion worth of resources – are the backbone of technologies used in healthcare, consumer electronics, defense and manufacturing.

SEE OUR LATEST BLOG POST TO LEARN MORE

Without minerals like copper and titanium, electric vehicles would not exist. Our cell phones require 90mg of silver and 36mg of gold, two minerals that can be mined in the U.S. Every modern-day technology relies on minerals.
To allow continued technological innovations, we need an efficient mine permitting process that will help industries access mineral resources in a timeframe that reflects the current pace of change. Currently, it can take anywhere from seven to 10 years to obtain a permit to begin a mining project, forcing key sectors to become increasingly reliant on foreign producers for minerals we can produce domestically. This dependence on foreign materials puts critical supply chains at risk.

Some in Congress recognize the need to make a change. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Chairman Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), along with Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV), reintroduced a bill to support increased domestic mining. In the House, Rep. Mark Amodei (R-Nev.) introduced the “National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act,” a proposal that would create efficiencies in our outdated mine permitting systems. Furthermore, American voters are in support of reforms such as these, with sixty-three percent saying that the U.S. should be doing more to encourage the use of domestically-mined minerals and decrease reliance on foreign-imported minerals in a recent poll.

While we are encouraged by Sen. Murkowski, Sen. Manchin, and Rep. Amodei’s work, we need your help. Call on decisionmakers to support these bills so that the U.S. is able to drive innovation and compete in the global marketplace.

To learn more about modern mining’s contributions to our world, check out our blog.

Thank you,
The Mining Law of 1872, which governs exploration and mining for minerals such as gold, copper, silver and lithium, is one of our nation’s oldest. Now some want to change that law, and here is why that’s unnecessary.

Rep. Mark Amodei (R-Nev.) introduced the “National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act” in an effort to streamline the mine permitting process and encourage investment in domestic mining.