

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 2, 2020

Honorable David R. Bernhardt  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20240

Honorable Sonny Perdue  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20250

Re: Modernizing regulations for domestic mineral production (RIN# 1004-AE71 and RIN# 0596-AD32)

Dear Secretary Bernhardt and Secretary Perdue:

We write to thank you for your leadership in proposing rules to modernize regulations governing the domestic production of locatable minerals on federal land and encourage you to finalize these rulemakings as soon as possible. As you know, there are opportunities to improve the regulatory environment by streamlining authorizations, reducing costs, and improving security of tenure.

Such changes would help to strengthen domestic supply chains for every facet of the manufacturing economy, which would support the President's trade policy objectives. These potential changes would also be consistent with the spirit of the President's Critical Minerals Executive Order of December 20, 2017, which was focused on improving national security by reducing our reliance upon foreign suppliers of critical minerals. And modernizing these regulations will serve as a catalyst for investment, which is vital as the U.S. works to overcome the economic impacts of COVID-19.

Thank you in advance for your work to advance regulatory reform and modernization. We look forward to seeing the results of this work and stand ready to assist the Departments in completing these important rules as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senator



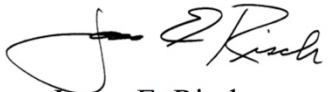
Rob Bishop  
Member of Congress




John Barrasso  
United States Senator




Bruce Westerman  
Member of Congress




James E. Risch  
United States Senator



Steve Daines  
United States Senator




Martha McSally  
United States Senator




Bill Cassidy, M.D.  
United States Senator



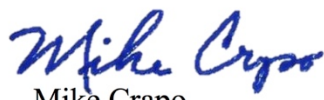
John Hoeven  
United States Senator




Kevin Cramer  
United States Senator



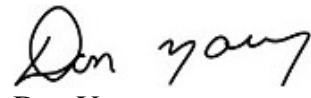
Dan Sullivan  
United States Senator



Mike Crapo  
United States Senator



James Lankford  
United States Senator



Don Young  
Member of Congress




Jody Hice  
Member of Congress



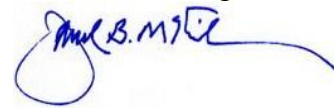
Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress




Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress




Paul Cook  
Member of Congress




David B. McKinley, P.E.  
Member of Congress



Chris Stewart  
Member of Congress



Pete Stauber  
Member of Congress



Scott Tipton  
Member of Congress



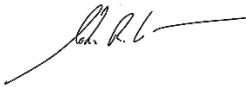
Cindy Hyde-Smith  
United States Senator



Dan Newhouse  
Member of Congress




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John Curtis  
Member of Congress



Rick Crawford  
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Daniel Webster  
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