



P.O. Box 1660 • Boise, ID 83701
208.342.0031 • mineidaho.com

November 19th, 2025

Congressman Bruce
Westerman, Chairman House
Committee on Natural
Resources Submitted via email

Re: Support for the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED Act)

Dear Chairman Westerman:

The Idaho Mining Association (IMA) appreciates the opportunity to provide its support for the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED Act). We appreciate you and Congressman Goldens' introduction of this bipartisan bill aimed to improve America's permitting process.

IMA is a non-profit, non-partisan, state-wide trade association located in Boise, Idaho. IMA is the recognized voice in support of exploration and mining in the state of Idaho. Our purpose is to advocate for a responsible mining industry that benefits our state and local communities, while advancing the mineral resource and mining related interests of our members. We represent and inform our membership on legislative, regulatory, safety, technical and environmental issues that surround the mining industry. We are committed to the protection of human health, the natural environment, and a prosperous mining industry.

Since 1903, IMA has represented miners and mining companies engaged in mineral exploration, mineral development, mining and land reclamation throughout the state of Idaho. Our membership also consists of companies and industries that provide services to the mining industry within the state. IMA and its members are dedicated to responsible and sustainable mineral withdrawal in Idaho, and our member companies continue to utilize and explore more innovative and science-based methods to extract minerals essential for everyday life while protecting and preserving the environment in Idaho for future generations.

The provisions included within in the SPEED Act can have meaningful impacts to the mining industry here in Idaho and throughout the nation. It is crucial that we address the duplicative reviews and permitting seen between the various federal and state agencies

with interest in resource extraction. Additionally, providing sideboards for agency review, limiting the scope of environmental review to impacts of a project and not speculative “downstream” impacts, providing timelines for review and litigation are all appropriate and needed reforms.

We must be competitive in the global mineral supply market, and it is my hope that this proposal will lend a hand in reducing the three decade mine permitting process we have here in the United States. With the unlocked mineral potential of this nation, the robust environmental and regulatory schemes in place and the friendliest labor standards in the world, there is no reason why we should be relying on other nations for our mineral needs rather than sourcing these minerals here at home. The SPEED act will not only help American miners in their effort to permit mines but will also be critical in our national security efforts and critical mineral needs.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide our support and thank you for taking the initiative to make these meaningful changes. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any further information about the IMA’s support of the changes proposed in the SPEED Act.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. J. Davenport", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Benjamin J. Davenport
Executive Vice President,
Idaho Mining Association