

November 19, 2025

The Honorable Bruce Westerman, Chairman
House Natural Resources Committee
U.S. House of Representatives

Subject: Nevada Mining Association's Support of SPEED Act

Dear Chairman Westerman:

The Nevada Mining Association strongly supports the *Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development Act* (the SPEED Act, H.R. 4776) to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). The federal government owns approximately 80.1% of the land in Nevada, totaling approximately 56.3 million acres. This percentage reflects the highest percentage of federally owned land in the lower 48 states. As a result, the NEPA process is the gatekeeper for nearly all resource projects in Nevada, and the SPEED Act's NEPA improvements would have a significant positive impact on project development within our state.

First organized in 1913, the NVMA consists of nearly 500 companies and their thousands of employees who comprise Nevada's mining industry and rely, in whole or in part, on this state's foundational industry. These member companies are engaged across the broad spectrum of the industry in Nevada, from exploration and discovery to development and construction, to operation and production, to closure and reclamation. The NVMA serves as the voice for Nevada's mining industry in federal, state, and local policy matters, community engagement, public education, and workforce development.

Nevada is home to more than 100 operating mines producing twenty different minerals today, and with our state's unique geology, there is the opportunity to expand the mineral production and meet the needs of our country to domestically produce more minerals. One of the key constraints of expanding the mineral production in Nevada today is the existing cumbersome and expensive NEPA process. Our members are fully supportive of regulations that promote environmental protection and sustainable development, but the existing process takes far too long - in many cases, it takes more than twenty years to permit a mine.

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This extended time frame creates uncertainty and makes it more difficult to make the investment decisions to develop a domestic mineral project.

We are honored to join the large consortium of entities supporting this bi-partisan legislation, and we thank you and Congressman Golden for introducing this bill.

Sincerely yours,

Amanda Hilton

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