

Good morning, Ms. Kelley,

Please accept this email and enter it into the public record as strong support from the Montana Mining Association (MMA) for Chairman Westerman's bipartisan reform legislation, the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act. These proposed NEPA revisions and judicial reforms are very reasonable and should provide much more certainty and efficiency in the federal permitting process. Montana knows all too well the tale of extended NEPA deadlines and myriad litigation leading to projects being delayed and delayed, some never seeing the light of day. Meanwhile, our states could all benefit from the jobs and economic impacts a new or expanded mine brings. A 2023 economic report showed that Montana's mining industry created \$7.3 Billion in economic output and supported over 18,000 jobs. Further, now is the most crucial point in our lifetimes for the U.S. to immediately increase its domestic mineral production to ensure a stable supply of the critical elements our country needs for national security and our economic stability. We thank the Chairman and Rep. Golden for bringing this much-needed and awaited fix forward and do appreciate having the Montana Mining Association added to the list of organizations in Support of H.R. 4776.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need anything else.

Sincerely,

Matt Vincent,

Executive Director

(406) 565-0234