

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Natural Resources
Washington, DC 20515

February 6, 2024

Mr. Rich Haddock
Senior Advisor
Barrick Gold
1359 E. Barton Creek Circle
Bountiful, UT 84010

Dear Mr. Haddock:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources at a legislative hearing on Wednesday, January 31, 2024, on the following bills:

- **H.R. 2925 (Rep. Amodei)**, “*Mining Regulatory Clarity Act of 2023*”;
- **H.R. 6862 (Rep. Lamborn)**, To amend the FAST Act to include certain mineral production activities as a covered project, and for other purposes;
- **H.R. 7003 (Rep. DelBene)**, “*National Landslide Preparedness Act Reauthorization Act of 2024*”; and
- **H.R. 7004 (Rep. Curtis)**, To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to amend references of gilsonite to asphaltite.

Your testimony on H.R. 2925 and H.R. 6862 was extremely helpful in defining the Subcommittee’s understanding of the issue and I appreciate the effort you took to prepare and present your testimony. While many questions were asked during the hearing, the Subcommittee has additional questions, attached, for your reply.

Please forward your responses to Lonnie Smith, Clerk of the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, at Lonnie.smith@mail.house.gov by February 21, 2024. Your assistance in meeting this deadline is requested, as failure to meet it will be noted in the printed transcript.

Once again, thank you for your extensive effort in making this a valuable hearing.

Sincerely,



Pete Stauber
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources
Chairman

Enclosure

Committee on Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources
Legislative Hearing
1324 Longworth House Office Building
January 31, 2024
2:00 PM

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Questions from Rep. Stauber for [Mr. Haddock, Senior Advisor, Barrick Gold]

1. Dr. Feldgus was asked if somebody located a mining claim and just after it was included in a national park, could the locator keep the claim from becoming part of the National Park. What would be the legal status of that claim, under existing law, and under H.R. 2925?
2. Dr. Feldgus was also asked if a nuisance claim were filed to interfere with a proposed solar project, wind project, or transmission line, could those projects be stopped or delayed under H.R. 2925 by the nuisance claim. Please explain the status of the nuisance claim in this hypothetical, under existing law, and under H.R. 2925?
3. Dr. Feldgus was also asked if the holder of a group of nuisance claims could extract large sums of money from the federal government. Please explain the status of nuisance claims, under existing law, and under H.R. 2925?
4. Dr. Feldgus was asked if H.R. 2925 would allow a claimant to build a house on a mining claim, occasionally pan for gold, and claim that her occupancy was part of her mining operation? How would this activity be treated under existing law, and under H.R. 2925?

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Questions from Rep. Lamborn for Mr. Rich Haddock, Senior Advisor, Barrick Gold

- 1) Mr. Haddock, Barrick Gold mines gold and copper at this time, can you talk about the hardrock mining industry and perhaps opine a little on where these minerals are going? Are they for national security assets, do they help us secure the supply chain? Are they even in support of clean energies?