

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

February 11, 2025

Dr. Morgan Bazilian
Director
Payne Institute for Public Policy
Colorado School of Mines
1500 Illinois Street
Golden, CO 80401

Dear Dr. Bazilian,

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources at an oversight hearing titled, *"Now Ore Never: The Importance of Domestic Mining for U.S. National Security"* on Thursday, February 6, 2025.

Your testimony 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 Jacob Greenberg, Clerk, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, at Jacob.Greenberg@mail.house.gov by February 26, 2025. 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
Oversight Hearing
1324 Longworth House Office Building
February 6, 2025
10:00 AM**

"Now Ore Never: The Importance of Domestic Mining for U.S. National Security"

Question from Rep. Westerman for Dr. Bazilian, Director, Payne Institute for Public Policy, Colorado School of Mines:

1. During the hearing, you discussed ways to improve coordination between federal agencies that maintain separate lists of critical minerals and materials.
 - a. Can you elaborate on how Congress can streamline processes between agencies like DOD, DOE, and DOI when it comes to determining criticality?
 - b. How would H.R. 8446, the Critical Minerals Consistency Act of 2024, which passed through the House last Congress, contribute to these goals? Do you recommend any additional policies to accompany this bill specifically in the 119th Congress?

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"Now Ore Never: The Importance of Domestic Mining for U.S. National Security"

Question from Rep. Fulcher for Dr. Bazilian, Director, Payne Institute for Public Policy, Colorado School of Mines:

1. How critical is it that land management agencies, the Department of Defense, and other key departments work together to streamline timelines and cut through bureaucratic delays? When it comes to permitting, how can these agencies better engage with industry—both to understand their challenges and to collaborate on solutions that ensure we meet permitting milestones efficiently, from exploration to full-scale development?

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“Now Ore Never: The Importance of Domestic Mining for U.S. National Security”

Questions from Rep. Ezell for Dr. Morgan Bazilian, Professor and Director, Payne Institute for Public Policy at Colorado School of Mines

1. Semiconductors, critical to autos, military, and other key national security applications rely on palladium supply for their fabrication. We saw the disruption to many of our key national industries due to the semiconductor supply chain disruption during the early onset of the pandemic. Will we see this again if palladium supplies are withheld from the U.S?