

January 20, 2026

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Jeffries, and
Minority Leader Schumer:

Our organizations represent a broad range of Americans who care deeply about advancing opportunities for individuals and families across the country and fostering a stronger nation. We represent vital industries such as mining, manufacturing, transportation and energy; we represent hundreds of thousands of union workers; we include economic development associations; we are business leaders and much more.

We are writing to express our strong support for Congress' efforts to utilize the Congressional Review Act to disapprove of the mineral withdrawal that was enacted in northeast Minnesota by the Department of the Interior (DOI) in January of 2023 on more than 225,000 acres of federal lands.

Minerals are fundamental to everything in our modern world, from wiring in homes, to energy technologies and infrastructure, medical technologies, transportation, defense capabilities, smartphones and laptops and more. Simply put, critical minerals are vital for a safe, secure and prosperous America.

Currently, China and other adversarial nations dominate the globe in critical mineral production and processing, while U.S. dependence on foreign sources for these materials has recently reached an all-time high. The ban on mining across a significant portion of Minnesota only set us further behind as a nation.

As a result, this mineral withdrawal, an administrative action which forbids any mining or exploration activity on these lands for 20 years, was enacted in an area of the United States that contains enormous amounts of the critical minerals our nation needs to achieve its goals of energy independence, stronger domestic supply chains and American job creation. These are goals our organizations collectively work to advance.

Northeast Minnesota is home to the world's largest known undeveloped deposits of copper, nickel, cobalt, platinum group metals and more. The area contains 95% of domestic nickel resources, almost 90% of domestic cobalt and about a third of our

nation's copper. Industries pursuing the responsible development of these resources, from the mining companies who have invested in the region to the suppliers to the high-skilled workers seeking employment, have been negatively impacted by the enactment of the mineral withdrawal, as have the communities in the region that want to see mining projects move forward for the betterment of the local and statewide economy.

Congress now has the opportunity to correct a detrimental action that ran contrary to our national interest, and to do so assures that these minerals will be produced domestically according to some of the world's most rigorous environmental standards.

Minnesota and the federal government have already put in place comprehensive rules and a framework to ensure the environment is protected and that any proposed industrial activity in the area meets stringent regulatory standards. The U.S. also has some of the most robust safety standards for workers. To ignore the opportunity to produce domestically for materials we use in our everyday lives means that we are relying upon nations with low-to-non-existent worker protections.

Disapproving the withdrawal in Minnesota will undo an unnecessary and damaging action. It will also correct a course in which industries seeking to generate jobs and revenue for generations to come, were simply no longer allowed to propose mining projects in the area and forbidden to go through the law and science-based environmental review process to prove they can meet the high standards in place before earning permits to construct a mine.

We collectively support the use of the Congressional Review Act to overturn the mineral withdrawal currently under consideration in Congress, as it is an essential step forward in unlocking the resources that our nation needs to reduce our dangerous reliance on China and other adversarial nations.

Signed,

Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA)
Minnesota State Building and Construction Trades Council
The National Association of Manufacturers
International Brotherhood of Teamsters
MichAuto
Indigenous Business Advisors
Better In Our Back Yard
Iron Range Building Trades
Minnesota Pipe Trades Association
LIUNA Minnesota and North Dakota
Northern Midwest Regional Council of Carpenters
Minnesota Power
Whitebird Services Inc.
Duluth Seaway Port Authority

**Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions
Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
Women's Mining Coalition
ClearPath Action
International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49
Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 589
Area Partnership for Economic Expansion (APEX)
Range Association of Municipalities and Schools (RAMS)
MiningMinnesota
Jobs for Minnesotans
American Exploration and Mining Association
Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration
National Mining Association
United Way of Northeastern Minnesota
American Chemistry Council
Teamsters Joint Council 32
Teamsters Local 346
Laborers Local 1097 "Iron Range"
Sprinkler Fitters Local 417
UA Plumbers Local 15
Local 6 Plumbers and Pipefitters
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Minnesota State Council
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 242
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 110
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 31
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1426
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 160
Up North Jobs Inc.
Minnesota Conservative Energy Forum
Green Bridge Metals
City of Babbitt, MN – Mayor Andrea Zupancich
Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce
Laurentian Chamber of Commerce
Hermantown Area Chamber of Commerce
Copper Development Association
Mt. Iron-Buhl School Board, MN – Lisa Kvas
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
American Coal Council
Industrial Township, St. Louis County, MN – Don Carlson
Northeast Technical Services
Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital
Lakehead Constructors
Ely Public School District – Anne Oelke
Fight for Mining Minnesota
Road Machinery & Supplies Co.
Feeley Township, Itasca County, MN – Deb Langanki
Lake Country Power
Encampment Minerals, Inc.**

**Giant
B.R. Clark Consulting LLC
RMS Tritec
Global Minerals Engineering
Wyoming Mining Association
American Peat Technology
Millcreek Engineering Company
Mine Development Management LLC
Borell Consulting Services LLC
StarPoint Resources, LLC
Geobrugg North America
Clementine Exploration
Idaho Mining Association
Agnico Eagle
Pebble Limited Partnership
Archkey - Parsons Electric
Superior Rock Bit
Innate North
GEOTEMPS/GEOPROS, Inc.
Superior Marine Charters
American Peat Technology
Wescom Inc
Furin & Shea Welding & Fabricating. Inc.
Sandvik Mining and Rock Processing
City of Hibbing, MN – Mayor Pete Hyduke
City of Kinney, MN – Mayor Patrick E. Haley
APi Group Inc.
ME Global Inc
A Martin Consulting, LLC
Malton Electric Co.
Quick Supply Co.
North Star Manganese Inc & Electric Metals (USA) Limited
GR Engineering Services
Amvest Capital Securities
Twin Metals Minnesota
Kalenborn Abresist Corporation
Larkin Hoffman Attorneys
ME Elecmetal
City of Biwabik, MN – Mayor Steven Biondich
Solenis LLC
Kirscher Transport
General Equipment & Supplies Inc
JBW Consulting Engineers
PX4 Software
Gerdau Amersiteel US Inc
QT Environmental
Wolverine Fuels
Alaska Miners Association**

Furin & Shea Welding & Fabricating, Inc.
Universal Polymer And Rubber
TJR Technical Services, Inc.
Beaver Bay, Inc.
AMIGOS
Hayday
Tidal Health
Northeast Title
Marshall Area Chamber of Commerce
Timberline Drilling
Ziegler Cat
Kalenborn Canada Inc.
Superior Fuel Company
Baldwin Supply Company
Dodge Industrial
Baldwin Supply
Avivid Global Water
Vics Crane & Heavy Haul
Hamilton Monroe & Co
Electric Power Door
Duncan Co.
Victaulic
General Equipment and Supplies, Inc.
LRL Construction
Contour Inc.
Borealis Fuels & Logistics
Cenovus Energy Superior Refinery
Hibbing Taconite Co.
Snowbird Willies Boat Canvas
Hamilton Monroe
MHE Consulting
Salem Republic Rubber
Enbridge