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MINE Update

MINING INDUSTRY NEWS E-COMM UPDATE

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Brought to you by the National Mining Association

This Week in The News

With Congress still in recess, the Senate parliamentarian cleared the way for consideration of the Biden administration's infrastructure proposal under reconciliation rules – a key step in an increasingly partisan debate. The National Mining Association (NMA) remains focused on actively engaging to advance mining's interests at both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue. Plus we have updates on how the mining and energy markets are faring.

Safety Share

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [updated its travel guidance](#) concluding that fully vaccinated people can travel at low risk to themselves.

NIOSH Safety and Health Technology Awards

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) opened nominations for its annual [NIOSH Mining Health and Safety Technology Awards](#) to recognize companies that have developed innovative solutions to unique safety and health challenges. This year's awards event, which is sponsored by the National Mining Association, will take place during [MINExpo INTERNATIONAL®](#) in Las Vegas, Nevada, September 13-15, 2021. Information regarding the event will be available in the coming months.

The [coal](#) and [metal](#) sectors have separate application processes. Applications for the NIOSH awards are due by July 1, 2021.

Sen. Mark Kelly (D-Ariz.) Staff Joins MPTF Discussion



Today, Nick Matiella, Legislative Assistant to Senator Mark Kelly (D-Ariz.), joined the NMA's Minerals Policy Task Force call to provide an outlook on the congressional agenda and discuss the Senator's priorities for the 117th Congress. Prior to joining Senator Kelly's staff, Nick worked as a professional staff member on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee under former Chairman Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) as well as for former Arizona Senators Jon Kyl and the late John McCain. During the call, he discussed Senator Kelly's committee assignments on the Senate Armed Services Committee, Energy and Natural Resources (ENR) Committee, and Environment and Public Works Committee and the critical nexus each committee plays related to the NMA's policy priorities. Nick also addressed several questions related to the President's recently unveiled infrastructure plan and how the issue of Mining Law might be addressed in the ENR committee under Chairman Manchin's (D-W.Va.) leadership. The NMA has enjoyed working with Nick in his previous capacities and is encouraged by his willingness to work with the industry and help educate Senator Kelly on issues important to the mining industry.

NMA Comments on Risks to Semiconductor Manufacturing Supply Chain

The NMA this week [responded](#) to a U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) request for comments regarding risks in the semiconductor manufacturing and advanced packaging supply chain as directed by Executive Order 14017 on America's Supply Chains. Noting that as many as 60 elements are used in the manufacture of modern high-speed, high-capacity integrated circuits, NMA's comments positioned the mining industry as the front end of the semiconductor supply chain. NMA's comments primarily focused on one key element of the request, providing "policy recommendations or suggested executive, legislative, regulatory changes, or actions to ensure a resilient supply chain for semiconductors." The NMA offered specific policy recommendations to improve permitting timeframes, increase access to federal lands, and avoid damaging changes to the Mining Law.

According to the executive order, DOC has until early June to submit a report to the White

House containing policy recommendations to ensure a resilient semiconductor supply chain.

Former NMA Chairman Gary Goldberg Inducted to Mining Hall of Fame



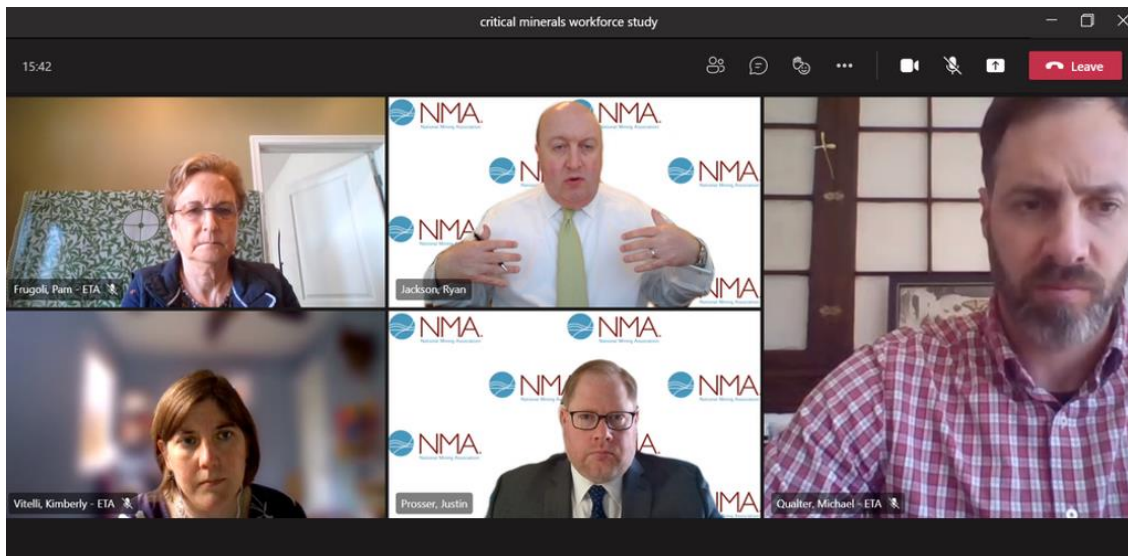
The National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum announced the class of 2021 National Mining Hall of Fame inductees, naming Gary J. Goldberg among those recognized. Chairman of the NMA Board of Directors from 2008 to 2010, Mr. Goldberg became President and CEO of Newmont Mining Corp. in 2013. He turned the company's overall performance around through a disciplined focus on safety, technical fundamentals, and value over volume. This enabled Newmont to execute acquisitions, including Goldcorp in 2019, the largest transaction in the history of gold mining. That same year, Goldberg was instrumental in creating the Nevada Gold Mines joint venture with Barrick to capture the potential synergy of the two companies. Prior to joining Newmont, he held leadership roles with Rio Tinto companies around the world. As NMA Chair, he led the CEO's Safety Task Force and launched the CORESafety initiative, with a five-year goal of eliminating fatalities and reducing mining's injury rate by 50 percent. As Vice-Chair of the World Gold Council, he led the group that developed and launched the Responsible Gold Mining Principles. He

was honored with the Daniel C. Jackling Award by the Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration for his contribution to safety in the mining industry. He received the Charles F. Rand Memorial Gold Medal for his leadership and contributions to the mining industry in value, sustainability, and safety. He is an inductee into the American Mining Hall of Fame.

NMA Member Call with DOE's Loan Programs Office

On Thursday April 8, the NMA, along with interested members, will have a call with the Department of Energy's (DOE) Loan Programs Office (LPO) to discuss loan guarantee and lending opportunities for qualifying critical minerals projects. An outgrowth of the call the NMA arranged with the LPO last December, this discussion seeks to focus on commonalities qualifying projects share and what interested companies can do prior to approaching the LPO that might help those conversations be more productive. It is also an opportunity for NMA-members to ask questions and provide feedback to the LPO to help expand their understanding of the hardrock mining industry and obstacles proponents face during project development. Please find the NMA's memo on the call [here](#).

NMA Meets with Department of Labor to Implement American Mineral Security Act



This week, NMA met with the Department of Labor's Office of Workforce Investment, Employment Training Administration, and Office of Apprenticeship concerning the implementation of the bipartisan American Mineral Security Act. This new law authored by Senators Murkowski (R-Alaska) and Joe Manchin (D-W. Va) contained an education and workforce subsection. Specifically, the new law requires the U.S. Departments of the Interior and Labor along with the National Academies of Science and Engineering to assess the workforce for critical and host mineral production for skills in shortest supply presently and in the near future, demographics of the workforce, and the effectiveness of training programs and future needs. The section also directs these federal entities to develop interdisciplinary program on mineral supply chains, production, manufacturing, research, and recycling, evaluate undergraduate and graduate programs, and develop guidelines to improve programs at universities, along with developing a four-year grant program for universities to implement these guidelines to improve mining programs. The NMA will continue to work on the variety of sections enacted from the American Mineral Security Act with the federal department implementing these sections and build on them with new legislation this Congress.

Senate Moving Forward with Tax Legislation

On Monday, Senate Finance Committee Chair Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) and two of his Democratic committee colleagues, Sens. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) and Mark Warner (D-Va.), [released](#) their [framework](#) to overhaul U.S. international taxation. The framework overlaps somewhat with the international tax proposals included in President Biden's American Jobs Plan released last week but signals that the Finance Committee will not simply adopt the President's proposals. The framework, which is not fully detailed, would modify three of the key international tax components enacted in the 2017 tax reform legislation: the Global Intangible Low-Taxed Income (GILTI); Foreign Derived Intangible Income (FDII) and the Base-Erosion and Anti-Abuse Tax (BEAT). For the GILTI, the framework would eliminate the exempt return on foreign tangible investments perceived as an incentive to ship jobs overseas, increase the tax rate (leaving open the exact rate), move to a country-by-country system, and adjust the treatment of U.S. R&D expenses so they would no longer increase the GILTI tax. For FDII, the framework would equalize the FDII and GILTI tax rates and end perceived incentives to offshore factories. For the BEAT, the framework would restore the value of tax credits for domestic investment and create a higher, second tax bracket for income associated with base erosion.

Next week, Senator Wyden expects to release the newest version of his Clean Energy for America Act. This is legislation which Senator Wyden introduced in 2019 aiming to consolidate over 40 tax provisions specifically addressing energy generation and production into categories incentivizing certain fuel and energy generation and energy efficiencies for residential and commercial buildings.

NMA and Third-Party Voices

In the news, [S&P Global](#) and [Roll Call](#) quote Rich Nolan on the President's jobs and infrastructure plan.

[The Associated Press](#), [The Philadelphia Inquirer](#), [Washington Post](#) and others quote the NMA on AML proposals contained within the President's infrastructure proposal.

From our third parties, [RealClearEnergy](#) (D.C.) carries an op-ed by Bernard Weinstein, an emeritus professor of applied economics at the University of North Texas in Denton and a fellow of Goodenough College in London, in which he argues the power grid requires an all-of-the-above energy policy, including coal and nuclear, to remain agile and reliable.

[Arizona Capitol Times](#) (Ariz.), [Wilkes Barre Times Leader](#) (Pa.), [Las Vegas Sun](#) (Nev.), [Alaska Journal of Commerce](#) (Alaska) and [Greeley Tribune](#) (Colo.) all ran an op-ed by Michael Stumo, the CEO of the Coalition for a Prosperous America, in which he writes that a semiconductor shortage highlights the need to reshore U.S. production and the mineral supply chains that support critical U.S. industries.

Mining and Energy News

[S&P Global reported](#) that gold merger and acquisition activity was up in 2020, with a 39% larger number of deals compensating for a lack of the very large deals at the top of the industry that marked the previous two years.

[The Economist](#) reported that the governments of the U.S., China and others are working to identify the minerals needed for economic and national security.

[Energy Storage News](#) reported the U.S. could see new mines and raw material production "scale up" as demand for battery energy storage systems and grid resilience increases over the next decade.

[Wall Street Journal](#) reported copper prices have fallen about 7% from a near-decade high hit in late February, part of a broad retreat from speculative trades even as the Biden administration pledges to pump trillions of dollars into the economy.

Hydrogen Fuel News reported the emerging hydrogen economy is [boosting platinum producers](#).

U.S. Energy Information Administration reported total energy consumption [fell by a record](#)

[7 percent](#) in 2020.

President Biden's infrastructure proposal included billions of dollars in [electric vehicle, transmission and clean energy investments](#).

A *Wall Street Journal* commentator opined: "It [takes lots of permits](#) to save the planet."

Politico published: "Biden's green energy plans [clash with pledge](#) to create union jobs."

A University of Wyoming professor predicted enactment of the infrastructure proposal would [hasten coal's decline](#).

The White House held the first meeting of its "Interagency Working Group on [Coal and Power Plant Communities](#) and Economic Revitalization."

U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm attributed the decline of coal to a "[global market decision](#)."

A report by environmental groups concluded China [commissioned 76 percent](#) of the world's new coal plants in 2020.

Bloomberg reported Nature Conservancy [launched an investigation](#) into the veracity of millions of dollars in carbon credits that it sold.



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