

CEO Mine Recap

By Rich Nolan • Apr 08, 2025

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March 2025 will likely go down as a remarkably important moment for U.S. mining.

We have been a part of groundbreaking developments with the Trump administration—those that stand to impact our industry profoundly. These changes underscore the administration's commitment to building and strengthening domestic supply chains from the mine up, reshaping regulatory frameworks that directly affect the mining sector, and remaking trade to benefit domestic companies.

Both coal and minerals welcomed history making executive actions that underscored that this is a new era for mining in America.

The introduction of new tariffs, particularly those targeting countries with substantial trade deficits with the U.S., are aimed at leveling the playing field for American industries, including mining, but also may hold unintended consequences.

And deregulatory efforts by the EPA are a much needed first step in providing a reality-based, reasonable regulatory environment that is more closely aligned with American economic and energy realities.

We have a seat at the table in all of these discussions, and will continue to work to remain a productive partner for the administration and Congress in the weeks and months to come.

Mining on Center Stage



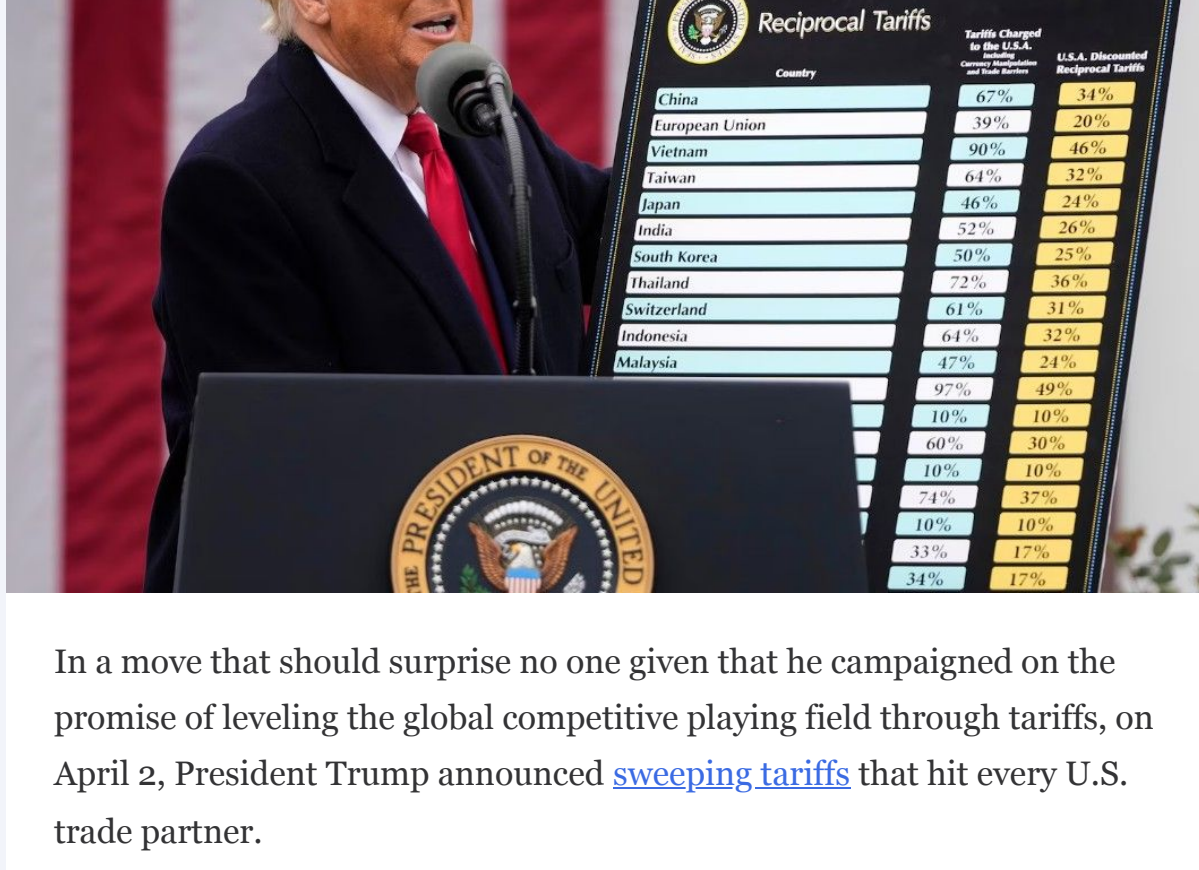
In the past month, President Trump has launched historic, sweeping executive orders on both coal and minerals that could fundamentally and positively change the shape of mining in the United States for the foreseeable future.

Minerals. “[Immediate Measures to Increase American Mineral Production](#)” addressed expanding the critical minerals list; improving permitting efficiencies; addressing the Rosemont decision and subsequent string of cases; ensuring land access; and incentivizing mineral production. Find the NMA’s memo on the EO [here](#) and a link to the NMA’s press release [here](#).

Coal. President Trump’s [actions today](#) on coal comprise a bold step forward for the industry, ensuring the reliability, resilience and security of the grid by using the Section 202c of the Federal Power Act; streamlining and prioritizing coal leasing on public lands; providing royalty rate relief; adding met coal to the critical minerals list; advancing coal technologies; among other actions.

A link to the NMA’s statement is [here](#).

Trump’s Trade Tactics



In a move that should surprise no one given that he campaigned on the promise of leveling the global competitive playing field through tariffs, on April 2, President Trump announced [sweeping tariffs](#) that hit every U.S. trade partner.

The details:

- Baseline 10 percent tariff: A 10 percent tariff will be imposed on all imported goods.
- Reciprocal Tariffs: Higher tariffs will be applied to countries with which the U.S. has the largest trade deficits and that charge the highest tariffs on U.S. goods.

But there are some exemptions:

- Steel, aluminum, autos/auto parts already subject to 25 percent tariffs remain at those levels.
- Sectors currently under Section 232 investigation—including Copper—are temporarily exempt.
- The existing trade restrictions on Canada and Mexico remain, with USMCA-compliant goods exempt and non-compliant goods continuing to face a 25 percent tariff.

The tariffs will remain in effect... as long as the President wants. We’ve seen with past trade issues that the President has occasionally been willing to negotiate so we will keep you updated as the situation develops.

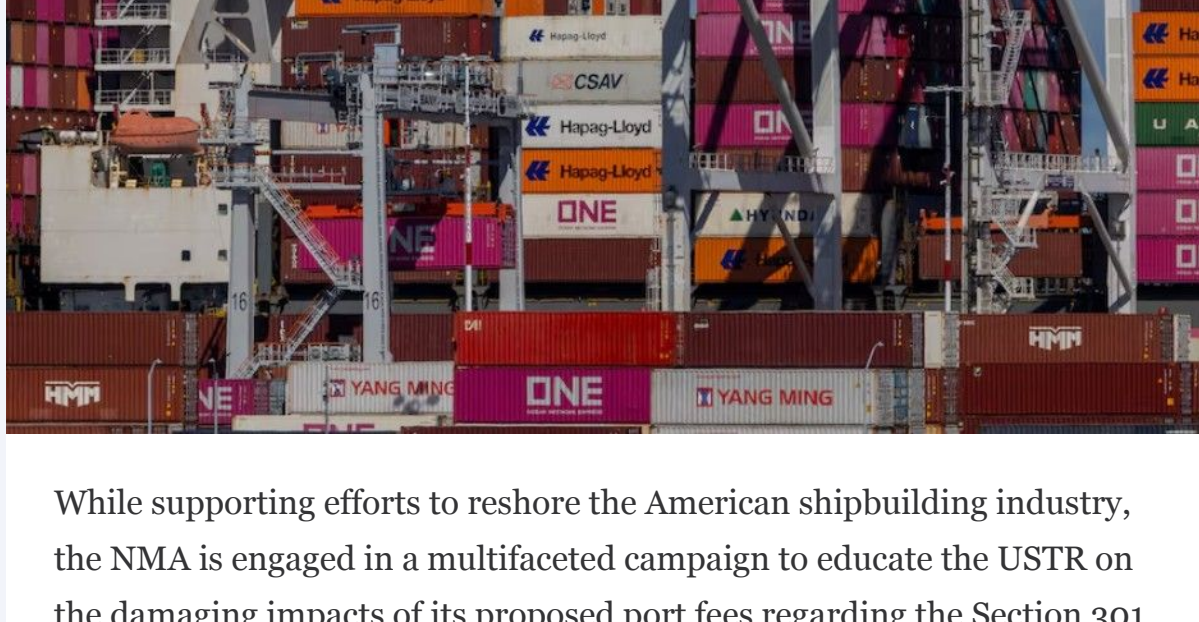
The EPA’s “Most Momentous” Day



In what it called “the most momentous day in the history of the EPA,” the agency announced it will reconsider 31 actions under the Biden-Harris administration to advance President Trump’s Day One executive orders, including the “Clean Power Plan 2.0” and 11 other mining priorities. On the same day, Zeldin separately announced that the agency would revise the definition of “Waters of the U.S.” to “reduc[e] red-tape, cu[t] overall permitting costs, and lowe[r] the cost of doing business.”

Are we done yet? Hardly. Most actions are reconsiderations, which typically take 18 to 24 months to complete. The team will be working closely with the administration on a legally durable solution for each rule. A full list of the EPA’s actions can be found [here](#) and the NMA’s press release can be found [here](#).

A Call for Reason on Port Fees

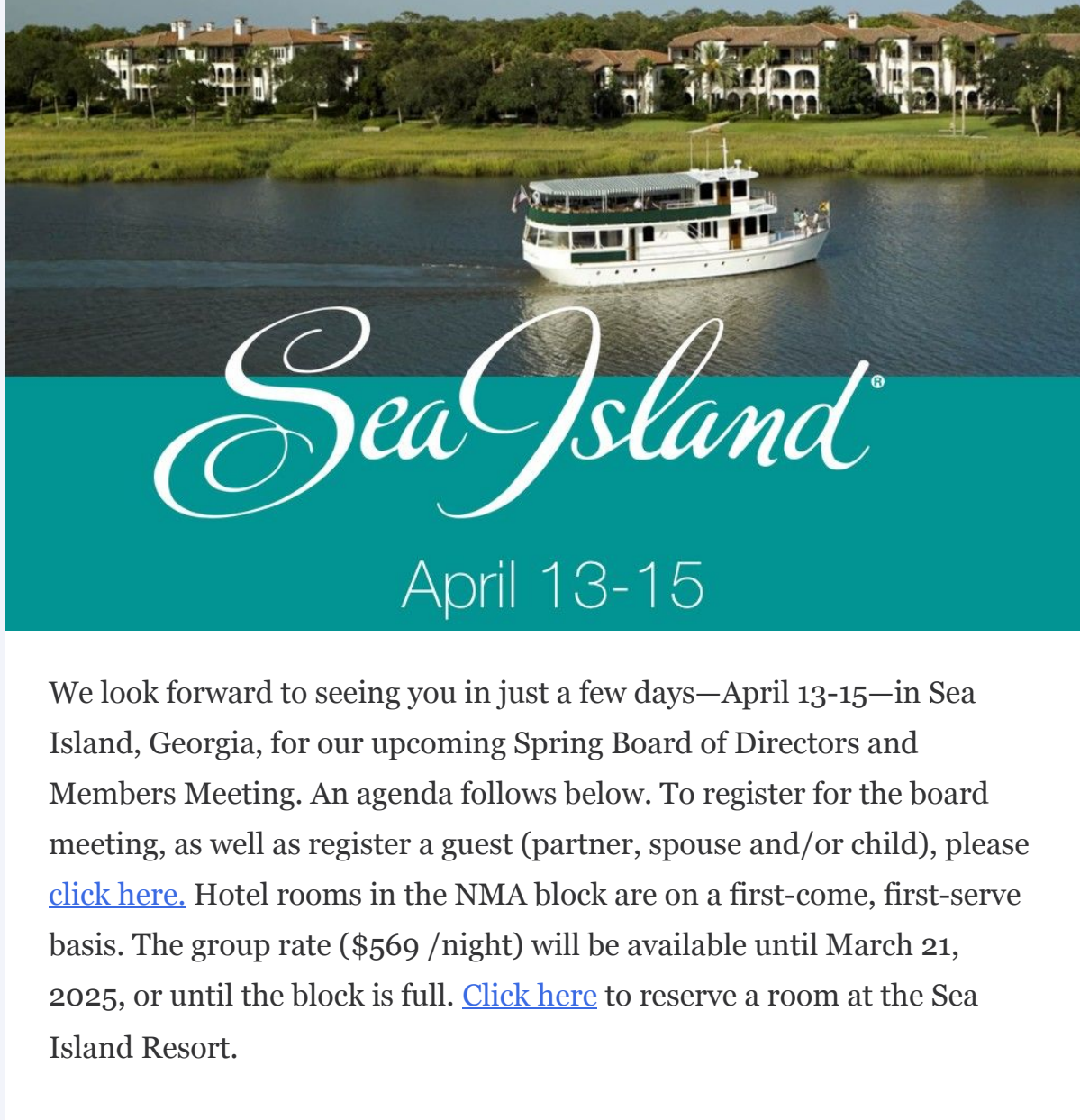


While supporting efforts to reshore the American shipbuilding industry, the NMA is engaged in a multifaceted campaign to educate the USTR on the damaging impacts of its proposed port fees regarding the Section 301 investigation into China’s dominance in the maritime, logistics and shipbuilding sectors.

The NMA and our members have worked together by: submitting [comments](#) to the government; directly engaging with USTR, the Departments of the Interior, Agriculture and Commerce, Congress and the White House National Energy Dominance Council; testifying at a USTR hearing; supporting an [economic study](#) outlining broad negative impacts; and submitting a [coalition letter](#) signed by more than 300 trade associations opposing the proposed remedies.

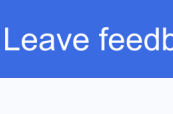
Our work is not yet done and we will keep you posted on any new developments.

See You Next Week



We look forward to seeing you in just a few days—April 13-15—in Sea Island, Georgia, for our upcoming Spring Board of Directors and Members Meeting. An agenda follows below. To register for the board meeting, as well as register a guest (partner, spouse and/or child), please [click here](#). Hotel rooms in the NMA block are on a first-come, first-serve basis. The group rate (\$569 /night) will be available until March 21, 2025, or until the block is full. [Click here](#) to reserve a room at the Sea Island Resort.

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