



Rich Nolan
President & CEO

February 26, 2025

The Honorable Chris Wright
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Energy
1000 Constitution Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Secretary Wright,

The National Mining Association (NMA) cordially invites you to speak at our Spring Board of Directors meeting on Monday and Tuesday, April 14-15, 2025, in Sea Island, Georgia. NMA's board of directors represents the association's nearly 300 members. The NMA is the only national trade organization that serves as the voice of the U.S. mining industry and the hundreds of thousands of American workers it employs before Congress, the federal agencies, the judiciary, and the media, advocating for public policies that will help America fully and responsibly utilize its vast natural resources under world-leading environmental, safety and labor standards. Our member company CEOs and executives attend our board meetings, and this April's meeting will include strong attendance from our company executives.

The U.S. mining industry is a crucial part of a vibrant U.S. economy—providing energy and raw materials for downstream industries, creating jobs, spurring innovation, ensuring the reliability of critical supply chains for new technologies, manufacturing, critical infrastructure, supporting energy security, national security, and a reliable electric grid.

As Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy, you have championed the importance of domestic energy dominance, a strong domestic supply chain for minerals, and the Department's significant role in helping achieve those goals. There is widespread recognition that we are entering human history's most energy, mineral, and metal-intensive era. The International Energy Agency (IEA) estimates that by 2026 energy demand from data centers alone will be roughly the equivalent of Japan's annual electricity usage. IEA further estimates that demand for minerals like lithium, copper, graphite, nickel, aluminum, and cobalt, to name a few, will grow by 20 to 40 times by 2040. Consequently, the right policies to secure and expand energy and new domestic mineral production and our supply chains are more important than ever.

With your role as both Secretary of the Department of Energy and Vice Chairman of the new National Energy Dominance Council, our member companies would be interested to hear from you about your plans for your department and its work with other key federal departments and agencies to strengthen our nation's energy security and increase domestic mining production and processing.

Specifically, we invite you to be our keynote speaker for the morning session on Tuesday, April 15, 2025. We would like you to address the Board at 9 a.m. Eastern Time for approximately thirty minutes, followed by a brief question-and-answer period. If this time does not work, we can accommodate a time between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on Monday, April 14, or between 8:00 a.m. and noon on Tuesday, April 15.

Our meeting will be held at the Sea Island Resort, 100 Cloister Drive, Sea Island, Georgia. We thank you in advance for your consideration of our request and hope your schedule will permit you to give remarks followed by a short question period.

Please advise if there is anything NMA can do to assist you and your staff in making appropriate arrangements by contacting Richard Russell, NMA's Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, at (b) (6) or rrussell@nma.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rich Nolan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rich Nolan