

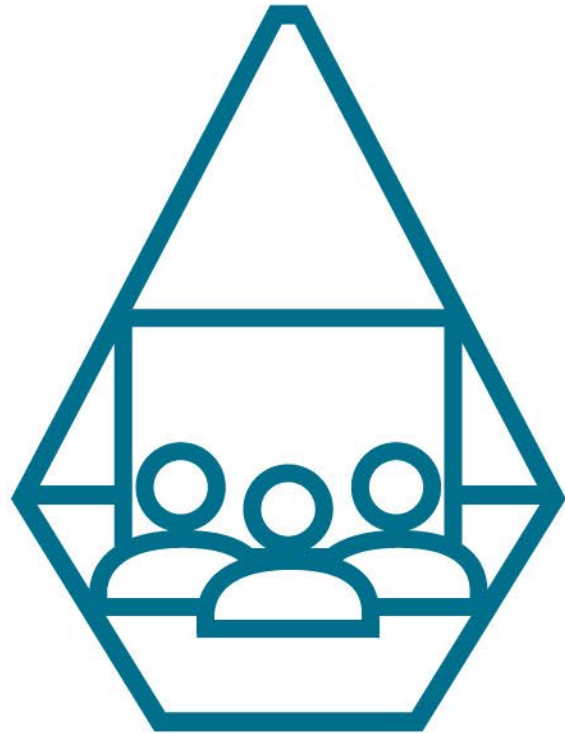


**2026 MINING AND LAND  
RESOURCES INSTITUTE**

 **AAPL**  
*Powering The Profession*

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SILENCE  
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# AAPL ENERGY INSTITUTES

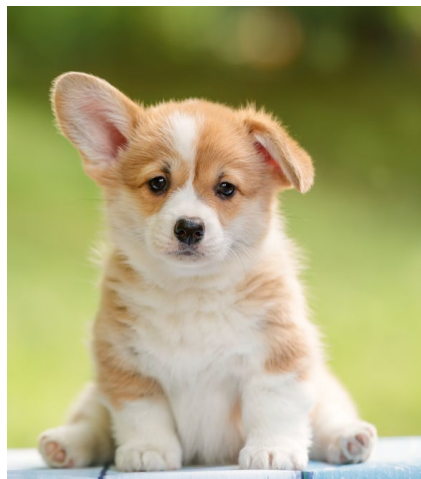
2026 MALRI

# Who the Heck is This Guy?

- 23-year veteran of public affairs, 20-years in mining industry.
- Consultant— working on mining projects in every stage of development from early exploration, permitting new mines, project expansions, to end of life mines.
- Mining exploration, lessee, and claimant.
- Every continent, except Antarctica.
- Also... a lobbyist.



# Before We Get Started



**\$4,828.40 AU**

**\$79.74 Ag**

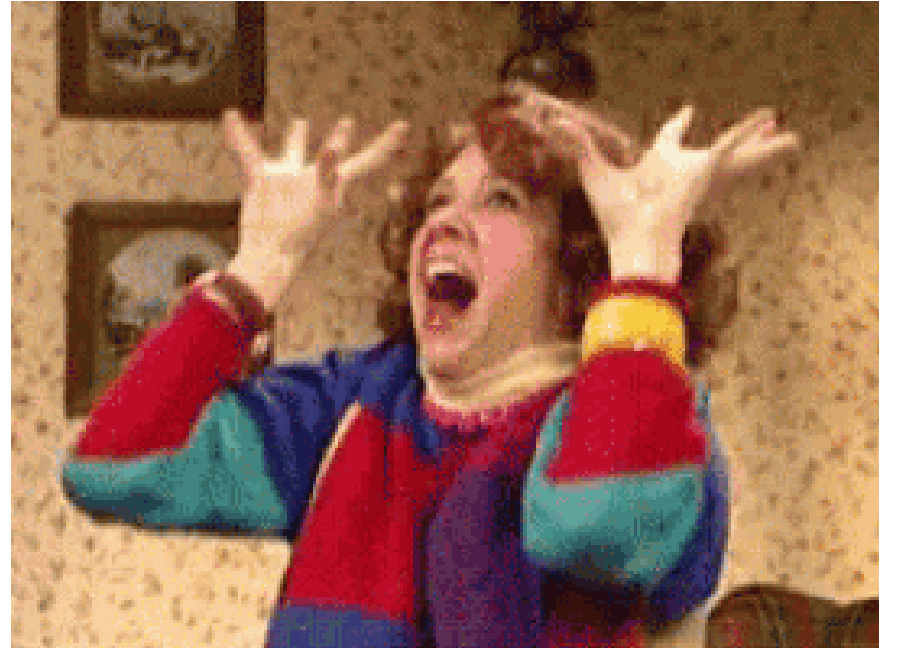
**\$5.49 Cu**

# Predictions



# Your 2026 Legislative and Regulatory Update

- Key Legislative Priorities
- Major Regulatory Changes
- Administrative Revocations & Efficiency Measures
- FAST-41, Tariffs, and the National Mineral Stockpile
- Public Financing and the Future of Mining



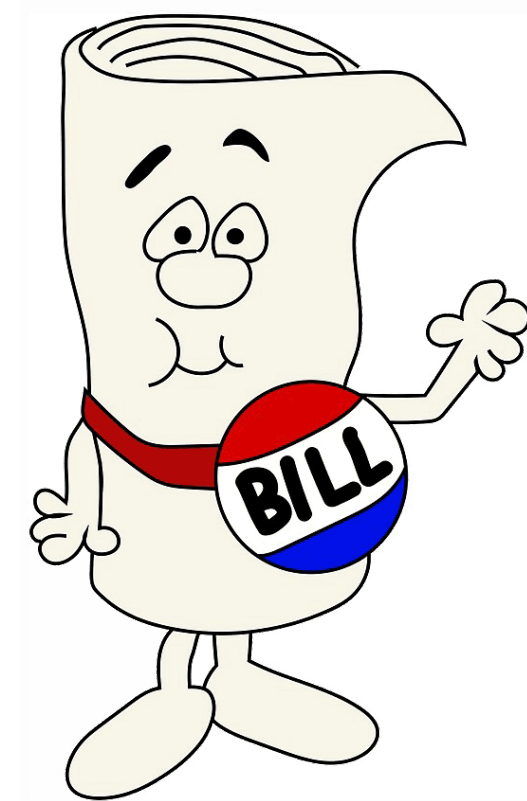
# Mining Regulatory Clarity Act

- Would address issues from Rosemont decision and reassert 100 years of precedent.
- Issues stemming from the need to demonstrate an economic mineral deposit to use federal land for ancillary purposes.
- House has passed its version, while the Senate is expected to consider the Act this year.



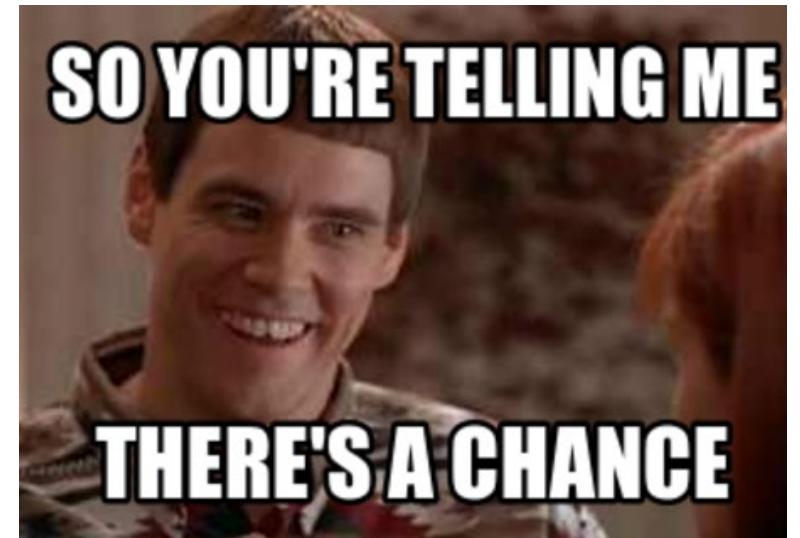
# Congressional Review Act Resolutions

- CRAs = Congress' way to overturn federal agency rules by passing a joint resolution of disapproval.
- Voids rules and makes it near impossible to resurrect.
- Prevents lame duck measures.
- Being used to prevent onerous state-level emissions rules, resource management plans, and mining withdrawals.



# Legislative Bonus Round

- **Critical Mineral Dominance Act** would codify some of President Trump's executive orders to expedite domestic hard rock mining projects.
- **Protecting Domestic Mining Act** would codify mining as a covered sector under the FAST Act.
- **Critical Minerals Supply Chain Resiliency Act** would make actions authorized under the Defense Production Act eligible for the FAST-41 process.
- **SECURE Minerals Act** would help create more predictable investment markets.
- **Domestic ORE Act** would make it easier to conduct exploration activities on federal land without triggering NEPA requirements.
- **ESA Amendments Act** and other permitting reform being considered in Congress today.



# USFS Section 228 Regulations

- Forest Service proposing to align its regulations to similar ones enforced by the BLM (5-acre rule).
- Changes would result in quicker, more efficient/transparent reviews and likely prevent potential regulatory encroachment from other federal agencies.
- Some stakeholders concerned about giving much discretion to USFS, right of access, adding long-term trust agreements to the financial assurance process, and more.
- Current draft has issues (local discretion over 228 vs 251, special use authorizations, contradiction in definitions, etc.)



**CAN PREVENT  
UNNECESSARY  
NEPA**

# USFS HQ Moves West

- Moving HQ from DC to SLC.
- Closing regional centers and moving functions to new HQ and state offices.
- State offices will include limited staff (likely no subject matter experts).
- Will impact HQ staffing.



# Who Doesn't Want to Talk NEPA Updates?

- The WH aggressively transforming NEPA to fast-track mining and other major projects.
- CEQ withdrew its broad-reaching NEPA implementation regulations in January 2026.
- Expanded use of categorical exclusions and emergency permitting procedures to expedite certain EIS reviews in under a month.
- Streamlining the public engagement process.
- “Big, Beautiful Bill” allows project sponsors to pay fees to expedite environmental reviews.



# Who Wants Some Love for Critical Minerals?

- In late 2025, the USGS's critical mineral list added ten new minerals.
- New additions include boron, copper, lead, metallurgical coal, phosphate, potash, rhenium, silicon, silver, and uranium.
- Copper/silicon added due to a serious risk of supply chain disruption.
- DOE already considered copper a critical mineral.
- Expands the number of projects eligible for federal funding/loan guarantees, tax incentives, expedited permitting, and DoD support.



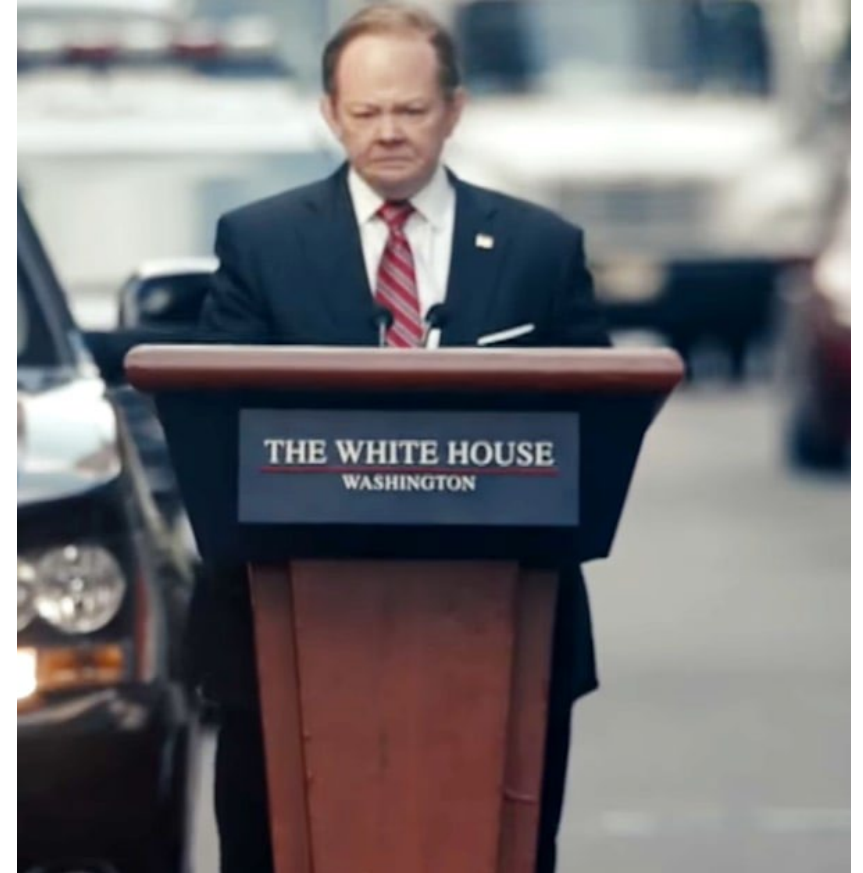
# Conservation and Landscape Health Rule

- WH finalizing the revocation of the Conservation and Landscape Health rule.
- Biden-era rule elevated conservation to a separate land-use category, rather than a land management tool.
- Would have effectively prioritized non-use over traditional productive land uses like mining, grazing, and timber harvesting.
- Would return BLM land management to traditional multiple-use principles.



# Roadless Rule

- The 2001 USFS rule restricted development/road construction on nearly 60 million acres of federal land.
- Trump admin proposed to rescind the rule in June 2025.
- Revoking rule would help support wildfire mitigation and eliminate certain prohibitions on mining/logging.
- Final decision expected later this year, following environmental review.



# Endangerment Finding

- Obama-era finding drastically expanded EPA's regulatory authority over greenhouse gas emissions, effectively underpinning dozens of Clean Air Act regulations.
- Major impact is on vehicle emissions standards, but it could also affect regulations on power plants and other major facilities.
- In February, the Trump admin issued final rule rescinding the Endangerment Finding.
- Could save \$1.3 trillion over the next several decades.
- Called the "single largest deregulatory action in U.S. history."



# Reopening Alaska

- Reviving the Ambler Road project, which would enable the development of Alaskan critical mineral deposits.
- Overturning a Biden-era decision that closed 1.5 million acres in the North Slope to oil and gas leasing.
- Reopening more than three-fourths of the National Petroleum Reserve's 23 million acres.
- Considering authorizing seabed mining on 113 million acres of Alaskan coastal waters.



# Utilizing FAST-41

- Much more usage of the FAST-41 process than the previous administration.
- Added 65 new projects to the federal permitting dashboard; now more than 50 critical mineral projects included on the dashboard.
- 13 projects completed federal permitting in the Trump admin's first year.
- Permitting Council entered into a first-of-its-kind MOU with Alaska to support select projects in the state.



# Tariffs and Uncertainty For The Mining Industry

- Major critical mineral tariffs imposed on foreign mineral exports last year.
- Items made almost entirely of copper, steel, and aluminum paying 50% of the full value.
- Changes in early April reduced tariffs on derivative articles and other items.
- Changes resulted from months of lobbying from companies arguing they were unfairly charged duties.
- Companies are suing the federal government to recover funds paid.



# The National Mineral Stockpile

- WH establishing a \$12 billion critical mineral stockpile, called “Operation Vault” to reduce China’s supply chain dominance.
- Involves \$10 billion in Ex-Im Bank funds and \$2 billion in private capital.
- Focus on defense, tech, and electric vehicle minerals.
- Pure metals, oxides, and specialized alloys will be held in facilities across the U.S.
- Also considering a sovereign risk insurance fund.



# Public Financing In the Mining Industry

- Federal government following Chinese public investment model.
- Now owns between 5% and 15% of more than a half-dozen critical mineral companies.
- Focused on rare earths, lithium, and mining infrastructure projects.
- Democrats concerned about potential conflicts of interest and transparency.
- Signaling a new normal for publicly owned mining infrastructure.



# Questions/ Discussion?



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- ▶ PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT
- ▶ TRUSTED RESOURCE
- ▶ PROTECTING THE PROFESSION
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