



NATIONAL STONE, SAND  
& GRAVEL ASSOCIATION

May 16, 2023

The Honorable Pete Stauber  
Chairman  
House Subcommittee on Energy & Mineral Resources  
1324 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Stauber,

On behalf of the 450 members of the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA), I am writing to express our strong support for House Concurrent Resolution 34. This legislation seeks to nullify the mineral withdrawal in Northern Minnesota by utilizing Section 204(c) of the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act, which permits Congress to disapprove of mineral withdrawals over 5,000 acres.

NSSGA represents the aggregates and industrial sand industry, with over 9,000 facilities and more than 100,000 employees in high-paying jobs. The industry procures 2.5 billion tons of aggregates annually, which are crucial in sustaining our lifestyle and constructing our nation's infrastructure and communities. The products sourced by this industry are fundamental components required for building our country's aging infrastructure and assist our nation's goals in lowering the overall energy cost for families.

We believe that access to our nation's abundant mineral resources is essential for economic growth, national security and job creation. By nullifying the mineral withdrawal, House Concurrent Resolution 34 would foster responsible mineral development and contribute to our nation's prosperity.

The withdrawal in question has far-reaching consequences on local economies and job markets, particularly in the state of Minnesota. By disapproving this withdrawal, the legislation would enable hundreds of high-paying jobs, millions of dollars in economic investment and a significant boost to the communities in Northern Minnesota. These economic benefits would, in turn, lead to improvements in infrastructure, education and public services.

Furthermore, this resolution would support the United States' efforts to become less reliant on foreign mineral imports, particularly those designated as critical minerals. This move towards self-sufficiency would enhance our national security and mitigate the risks associated with supply chain disruptions.



With an emphasis on responsible mining practices and environmental stewardship, the potential mineral development can be sustainable and environmentally conscious.

I encourage you to support House Concurrent Resolution 34 and promote responsible access to our nation's valuable mineral resources. We believe that by endorsing this legislation, we can together create a brighter future for the stone, sand and gravel industry, and the communities we serve.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to working with you on this crucial issue.

Sincerely,

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

Michael W. Johnson  
President & CEO  
National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association

