

NEWS NUGGETS

Compiled by Shane Lasley



CONSTANTINE METAL RESOURCES LTD.

Constantine Metal Resources has applied for permits to build a road that would provide safer, less expensive and more reliable exploration of the Glacier Creek deposit at its Palmer project near Haines, Alaska.

BLM enters final stage of EA for exploration road at Palmer

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management April 26 opened a 30-day public review and comment period on environmental analysis of Constantine Metal Resources Ltd.'s proposed plan of operations to expand exploration at its Palmer project located on federal mining claims near Haines, Alaska. The plan, submitted by Constantine last June, proposes up to 2.5 miles of additional road construction that would provide access to up to 40 new drill sites on the Southeast Alaska property. The drill

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PUBLIC POLICY

Breaking gridlock

Murkowski pushes energy bill with mining perks toward President's desk

By SHANE LASLEY
Mining News

During an era of partisan gridlock on Capitol Hill, U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, has managed to garner broad support for an energy bill aimed at modernizing the way power is produced in the United States, including numerous provisions important to Alaska. The legislation, which was passed out of the U.S. Senate with an 85-12 vote, also contains provisions to improve access to the U.S. mineral resources supply by streamlining the minerals mine permitting process.

"My top priority as chairman is to deliver for Alaska – and I worked hard to add dozens of our state's priorities for energy, mineral, and lands policy into my broad, bipartisan bill," Murkowski, chair of the Senate Natural Resources Committee, explained.

For the mining sector, Murkowski's legislation, S. 2012, addresses key bottlenecks in the United States' minerals supply chain by establishing timelines for critical mineral projects and making the mine permitting process more efficient.

"The 'Energy Modernization Policy Act of 2016,' passed by the Senate today, includes much-needed improvements in the nation's permitting systems for metal and mineral mines to better position our country to achieve a truly all-of-the-above energy portfolio," said National Mining Association President and CEO Hal Quinn. "Simply put, mineral security is a critical element

to U.S. energy systems and Sen. Murkowski's bill promotes better access to the raw materials that make it all possible."

Bipartisan bill

Co-authored by U. S. Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., the ranking Democrat on the Natural Resources Committee, S. 2012 is touted as the first comprehensive energy bill to pass out of the Senate since before President Obama took office.

Over the ensuing nine years, technological advances have driven sweeping changes to how energy is produced, stored, transmitted and used in the United States.

"There's so much change going on in the energy sector now, we need to have an energy bill every year," said Sen. Cantwell.

"This bipartisan bill is an important next step for saving consumers money on energy costs, providing more options to power U.S. homes and businesses, and preparing the next generation of workers for jobs in clean energy," she added.

To craft energy legislation that is palatable to Republicans and Democrats alike, Murkowski and Cantwell avoided partisan pitfalls and included provisions that are important to lawmakers on both sides of the aisle.

S. 2012 includes provisions that support further development of mineral, oil and gas resources as well as renewable resources such as wind and solar.

As a result, the Energy Policy Modernization Act of 2016 garnered support from trade organizations such as the National Mining Association, Alaska Oil and Gas Association and American

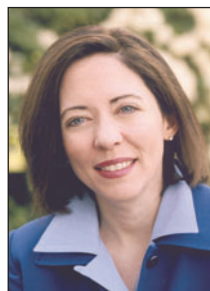
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