



121 W. FIREWEED SUITE 120 | ANCHORAGE, ALASKA | 99503 | 907.563.9229 | ALASKAMINERS.ORG

March 27, 2025

Megan Healy, Principal Deputy Director for NEPA
Council on Environmental Quality
730 Jackson Place NW
Washington DC 20503
Submitted electronically at regulations.gov

Re: Comments on the Council on Environmental Quality Interim Final Rule to remove National Environmental Policy Act Regulations: Docket CEQ-2025-0002

Dear Ms. Healy:

The Alaska Miners Association (AMA) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments in response to the February 25, 2025 Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) proposed Interim Final Rule (IFR) to remove its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations from the Code of Federal Regulations.

AMA is a professional membership trade organization established in 1939 to represent the mining industry in Alaska. AMA's more than 1,400 members come from eight statewide branches: Anchorage, Denali, Fairbanks, Haines, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan/Prince of Wales, and Nome. Alaska's miners are individual prospectors, geologists, engineers, suction dredge miners, small family mines, junior mining companies, major mining companies, Alaska Native Corporations, and the contracting sector that supports Alaska's mining industry.

Many of Alaska's mining operations and projects regularly require federal permit authorizations that cause NEPA review, thus AMA members have longstanding and extensive experience with NEPA inefficiencies. We strongly support efforts to improve the NEPA process, as indicated by a position in our [2025 AMA Federal Issues of Concern for the Alaska Mining Industry](#), *"Implement NEPA reforms that provide certainty to project proponents and stakeholders including strict adherence to the scope of the reviews and timelines dictated by Congress. Reform litigation practices to shorten appeal timelines and provide clear sideboards to the scope of litigation against proposed projects and remedies available. Federal agencies must be adequately resourced to efficiently and durably permit large projects that provide a steady supply of minerals and grow our economy."*

AMA wholeheartedly supports and incorporates by reference the comment submitted by our national mining organization partners, the National Mining Association and the American Exploration & Mining Association. Their breadth of experience and voice of miners across the nation is an asset to AMA, and their comments are inclusive of the needs of Alaska miners to be successful and contribute to a reliable domestic supply of energy and minerals.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,

Deantha Skibinski
Executive Director