



August 29, 2018

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On January 8, 2018, you submitted the nomination of Marco Rajkovich to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission (the “Commission”). His nomination was favorably reported by the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions on March 14, 2018, and was placed on the Senate’s Executive Calendar that same day. The Industrial Minerals Association – North America (IMA-NA) supports your nomination and urges your nominee’s speedy confirmation by the Senate. It is this latter matter that has proven problematic and the stakes are about to be raised.

As of August 30, 2018, the terms of Commissioners William Althen and Robert Cohen, Jr., expire. As a result, the Commission will lack a quorum of members (it will have only two of its five members) and therefore will be without authority to take substantive actions in any of the cases pending before it until at least one additional Commissioner is both nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate. We are halfway to that goal with your nomination of Mr. Rajkovich. IMA-NA urges you to communicate with Senate Majority Leader McConnell and help move Mr. Rajkovich’s nomination forward.

IMA-NA also requests that you identify and nominate qualified individuals to bring the Commission to its five-member complement. A fully functioning Commission is critical to both the continued growth of the economy as well as furthering a vibrant, appropriately regulated mining industry. As such, the Commission serves both mine operators and miners.

IMA-NA looks forward to working with your Administration on policies that support growth across the entire U.S. economy. Mine safety and health is but one of them.

Sincerely,

Mark G. Ellis
President

IMA-NA was formed in April 2002 and represents mineral producer members and associate members providing goods and services to the industrial minerals industry. Membership is comprised of companies that are leaders in the ball clay, barite, bentonite, borates, calcium carbonate, diatomite, feldspar, industrial sand, kaolin, soda ash (trona), talc, wollastonite and other industrial minerals industries. IMA-NA is the principal trade association representing the industrial minerals industry in North America.