

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/17/2024 8:20:28 PM

First name: James

Last name: Blackwell

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I support the Hermosa project for national security reasons. Hermosa will strengthen our domestic supply of critical minerals to reduce our reliance on foreign sources, reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions by removing the need to transport these materials abroad, and combat human rights risks by producing these materials safely and sustainably here in the United States with strong labor and environmental protections. Right now, the US is 100% reliant on foreign sources for manganese and produces just 6% of the world's zinc at a single mine in Alaska that is nearing the end of its service life. Hermosa has the potential to responsibly boost our nation's critical mineral security.