



Friday, May 03, 2013

## **Women's Mining Coalition opposes Senator Roberson's mining tax (Nevada)**

Attn: Assembly Committee on Taxation  
Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams, Chairwoman  
Peggy Pierce, Vice Chair  
Teresa Benitez-Thompson  
Jason Frierson  
William C. Horne  
Marilyn K. Kirkpatrick  
Dina Neal  
Tom Grady  
Crescent Hardy  
Pat Hickey  
Randy Kirner  
Lynn D. Stewart

Senator Roberson's mining tax is a penalty on rural communities and counties. Misdirected senators, mainly residing in Clarke Co. and led by Senator Roberson, have devised a penalizing plan, singling out mining—gold and silver only—proposing a jobs- and industry-killing tax. This is not a fair solution for the state.

WMC's mission is to deliver the message to our legislators that a strong mining industry is vitally important to our nation, our communities, our families, and our livelihoods, and that today's regulations and modern technology ensure responsible stewardship of our lands. This proposed tax will hurt the mining industry in Nevada and the 2,300 mine-related vendor companies.

WMC members have had the pleasure of working in Nevada communities statewide and have seen the contributions that mines and mine development have provided—STATEWIDE. Mining has been contributing not only to the largely rural communities in which it is generally located, but also to the state coffers, supporting statewide needs.

Exploration is the research and development arm of the mining industry, and Nevada's share of world-wide exploration dollars has been decreasing due to difficult and uncertain permitting processes. As a result, investment dollars in exploration have been on the decline, with mine development dollars being spent elsewhere, including Canada, Mexico, South America, and Africa. Investments in Nevada-based exploration and development efforts are sitting on the sidelines now, awaiting the results of this proposed increased tax on the mining industry. If this tax is approved, these dollars will leave Nevada, seriously curtailing new mine development and eliminating the pipeline of new mine projects for development. Current mines will slowly decrease production, and investment in exploration will be deemed more effective in other jurisdictions such as Canada, Mexico, South America, and Africa. WMC members are

already seeing the negative effects of this proposed tax, with exploration and mine development dollars leaving the state. The end result: net proceeds, property, and sales and use taxes will all decrease, and this taxation effort will have chased off a valued diversified industry with its associated 2,300 support and services companies.

The WMC asks all members of the Legislature to please find a more balanced solution, one that does not single out one industry; get everyone engaged in the tax discussions and find a more balanced solution, engaging every industry in the discussions. Taxing is not the answer; certainly taxing one industry is not the solution this state needs.

WMC & our Nevada members ask you to NOT support this industry killing tax increase and proposal.

Kind regards,

Lynne Volpi

Women's Mining Coalition Coordinator

Elko, Nevada

Wanda Burget, WMC President, Norwest Corp.

Nicole Preuss, WMC Vice President, Kinross Gold Corp.

Cami Prenn, WMC Treasurer, Mine Development Associates

Alexandrea Palensky, WMC Secretary, Peabody Energy