



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1834		DATE: 3/13/2024	
COMMITTEE: Economic Development			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CHASE CAMPBELL		PHONE NUMBER: 573-864-0972	
REPRESENTING: WINTON POLICY GROUP		TITLE: LOBBYIST	
ADDRESS: 124 E HIGH ST			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/13/2024 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: DOUGLAS JOST		PHONE NUMBER: 314-313-5735	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: JOST CHEMICAL COMPANY		TITLE: CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER	
ADDRESS: 8150 LACKLAND ROAD			
CITY: ST LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63114
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/13/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: HEIDI GEISBUHLER SUTHERLAND		PHONE NUMBER:
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY		TITLE: LOBBYIST
ADDRESS: 428 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/13/2024 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: RAY MCCARTY		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-2246
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF MISSOURI		TITLE: PRESIDENT/CEO
ADDRESS: 3234 W TRUMAN BLVD		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: rmccarty@aimo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/12/2024 4:12 PM

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We support this incentive that will help Missouri businesses reduce American reliance on foreign sources of chemicals, gases, metals and minerals.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/13/2024 11:28 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am Opposed to this Bill and the giving away of even more Tax-Credits, making instant over-night Millionaires on our dime, while the loss of Revenues and Tax-Credits are chocking our State.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA VATTEROTT		PHONE NUMBER: 314-727-0600	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT		TITLE: POLICY DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 725 KINGSLAND AVENUE, SUITE 100			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63130
EMAIL: mvatterott@moenvironment.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/13/2024 12:18 PM	

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March 13, 2024 Chairman Brad Hudson House Economic Development MO House of Representatives 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 207-A Jefferson City, MO 65101 Dear Chairman Hudson and Members of the Committee, Missouri Coalition for the Environment is a statewide, advocacy nonprofit organization that works to empower Missourians to protect their environment and health. House Bill No. 1834 seeks to incentivize businesses to extract “produce chemicals, metals, gases, or rare earth minerals” for the purposes of decreasing our nation’s reliance on such materials extracted from other countries. Missouri is fortunate that we have large reserves of certain minerals, particularly cobalt, that are of interest to diversifying our energy portfolio through the creation of wind turbines and solar panels and to other matters of national defense. At the same time, these minerals are carcinogenic and/or the extraction process can release acids, heavy metals, and radioactive materials into our environment. The same need is true for any other chemicals or gases incentivized under HB 1834. As such, MCE urges this committee to amend HB 1834 to include the needed framework outlined in HB 2734, sponsored by Representative Eric Woods. In addition, MCE urges this committee to amend HB 1834 to define “nontraditional defense contractor,” as used in the definition of “qualified company.” Why does Missouri need a new framework for these particular minerals? We do not have an existing regulatory framework that governs these minerals or requires protections to handle extraction of carcinogenic and radioactive materials. These minerals currently come mostly from China and the Congo, countries that do not have good track records for human health or environmental protections. We must learn from the impacts of Doe Run’s lead operations on children and families in southeast Missouri and ensure that adequate protections are in place and enforced around extraction and processing of dangerous minerals. We can also look at the ongoing health crisis in North St. Louis County where the radioactive and hazardous materials from the creation of the Atomic Bomb in the 1940s has led to thousands of individuals living and playing in proximity to the processing and storage sites of uranium to be diagnosed with rare cancers and other diseases at disproportionate rates. MCE is most concerned about the health and environmental impacts of three minerals: cobalt, Rare Earth Elements (REEs), and silica sand. Cobalt and REEs are important for high tech devices such as phones and laptops and for some renewable energy infrastructure such as electric vehicle batteries and wind turbines. Silica sand, also known as “fracking sand” is predominantly used in the hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking,” of natural gas. Silica sand mining has impacts on our health and environment and only furthers our reliance on fossil fuels, the burning of which contributes to increased extreme weather events. As such, MCE urges that Missouri halt all silica sand mining. The mining of cobalt and REEs also pose significant environmental and health impacts for current and future generations of Missourians. As such, Missouri needs increased government oversight of mining operations for these minerals. This includes requiring proposed mining operators to submit detailed environmental

assessments of their proposed operations and to adopt preventative measures once in operation to minimize harm. Below I have outlined some of the most significant concerns with mining these minerals. Cobalt – Mining cobalt releases toxic particles that have the potential to cause an assortment of serious health ailments, including cancers, and lung, vision and male reproductive system harm. Cobalt particles from mining operations enter surface water, leading to degraded water quality and heightened levels of eutrophication. Rare Earth Elements (REEs) – Processing REEs involves the separation and removal of uranium and thorium, which results in radioactive wastes. Inhalation of REE gasses can cause lung embolisms, especially with long-term exposure. This concern with inhalation of REE gasses is particularly concerning from yttrium, which is the REE believed to be most prominent in Missouri. Yttrium can also cause lung cancer and damage to the liver. The wastewater discharge from mining yttrium is particularly concerning as it contains acids, radioactive elements, and heavy metals which have significant impacts on humans, fauna, and flora. Silica sand or fracking sand – The mining, transport, processing, and use of silica sand in the fracking process for natural gas create the air pollutants particulate matter 2.5 (PM 2.5) and respirable crystalline silica. Respirable crystalline silica can cause major problems when inhaled, including lung-related disease and kidney disease. Mining causes alteration of land structure due to excavation. Silica sand mines also cause interference with the land's natural drainage, depletion of ground water sources, topsoil loss, degraded forestland, and harm to aquatic life in nearby waterways. The impacts are compounded by the harms from fracking natural gas. Studies have indicated that these gas and oil operations can lead to loss of habitat for animal and plant life, decline of species, disrupt animal migration which all leads to land degradation. They have also been associated with human health risks. Studies show associations between residential proximity to these mining operations and an increase in adverse effects such as risk of pregnancy effects, cancer, hospitalizations and asthma. Fracking operations that are located near marginalized communities disproportionately worsen the health and the environment of the individuals living there. The public outcry regarding the NexGen silica mine proposed in St. Genevieve County is evidence that Missourians do not want to be exposed to these operations. In conclusion, Missouri Coalition for the Environment respectfully urges you to amend HB 1834 to include the necessary framework needed to protect the communities surrounding and downstream from mines from long term health harms that can occur if exposed to these important but dangerous minerals. Thank you for your time and please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions. Sincerely, Melissa Vatterott, JD Policy Director Missouri Coalition for the Environment mvatterott@moenvironment.org (314) 727-0600, ext. 111