



Rep. Tom Emmer on Emmer Celebrates Victory for Minnesota's Mineral Rights (Opening Statement)

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****HOST:**

** [Introduction not provided in transcript]

****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer an amendment, which I am pleased to say I intend to withdraw, because after months of hard work in this chamber and with the administration, it's no longer necessary. Minnesota is the proud home to the Iron Range, which boasts an abundance of natural resources and critical minerals. When it comes to protecting the environment while developing our economic assets, nobody does it better than Minnesota. Despite this history, on its very last day in office, the Obama administration proposed to withdraw over 240,000 acres of land in our state from mineral exploration and development. This last-minute action was an assault on our way of life, threatening thousands of jobs, billions of dollars in state revenue and school trust funding, and handicaps our national security by increasing our reliance on foreign sources of minerals. That's why I offered this amendment to stop this foolish action. This amendment is identical to one that was unanimously adopted by this chamber last year and echoes the good news delivered by the President to thousands of Minnesotans on January 20th when he announced his intent to rescind this arbitrary withdrawal, which is now in process. With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

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