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## **Submitter Information**

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## **General Comment**

Tariffs and conflict minerals law:Lithium, Cobalt, Rare Earth Elements, Steel, Iron, aluminum should be added to conflict minerals law of 2010? and start US tariffs; Section 232 investigation is conducted under the authority of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 to better considerate the social, economic environmental issues on due to monopolistic supply conditions, dumping, environmentally unsustainable mining and manufacturing practices in many Nations that harm America workers, and poor.

China, Baotou; mass concentrations of particulate matter and the concentrations of heavy metals (Cr, Ni, Pb, Cd, Cu, Mn, Co, and Zn).

Africa; 90 percent of China's cobalt originates in Congo, where Chinese firms dominate the mining industry.

China; controls 98% of current supply production Neodymium magnets

China: magnets made from neodymium and dysprosium, almost exclusively in China.

China: Jiujiang steel and rolling mills is country's 10 smoggiest cities in 2017.

Chile: Chile has 70.6 percent of working children ages 5 to 17 are engaged in dangerous forced labor in mining, construction.

Chinese producers capture 95% to 98% of the world market of "rare-earth" materials. Chinese monopolistic stranglehold over rare earth supplies for the globe, China produces 86 percent of the world's supply of Rare Earth Elements in 2014 and close to 60 percent of American supply was imported.

Malaysia Kuantan; where Neodymium oxides; The world's largest refinery for rare-earth metals in has radiation concerns, Concern Wind turbines and Electric cars use rare-earth component of the

magnets.

China and India: Radioactive import steel

Asian capitals of citys that manufacture steel, Electric and windfarm batteries, such as Beijing or Delhi, Seoul hazardous smog ranks of the world's most polluted countries. See world Pollution-tracking website called AirVisual

China produces about 65 percent of the world's supply of graphite, an advantage the government has used to boost battery manufacturing rather than exporting the mineral.

LG Chem has an electric vehicle factory in Nanjing Samsung SDI Xi'an 40,000 vehicles annually. are two top-tier lithium-ion battery vendors worldwide.

There is a reasonable indication that many industries in the United States are materially injured by reason of imports of materials

Africa; human rights in The Democratic Republic of Congo alone accounted for more than 50% of cobalt in 2016, now 65%. Cobalt is a chemical element Cobalt is primarily used in the preparation of magnetic, and used as a radioactive tracer and for the production of high energy gamma rays. Lithiumion batteries can pose unique safety hazards since they contain a flammable electrolyte a short circuit could leading to explosions and fires. No one is addressing on how to recycle 1000 lb toxic batteries end of 8 years. Metal analysis revealed that the levels of copper and cobalt in soils from mining sites in the Lubumbashi (DR-Congo) were up to 200 fold higher. About 65 percent comes from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, has some of the most dangerous and environmentally destructive mines on the planet, often worked by children. Most Congolese authorities are deeply corrupt, and civil war is a significant risk in mining regions.

Many Nations: Children in small-scale mining, vulnerable to panoply of social, psychological, and physical dangers not found in many other forms of work. Mining areas are notorious for violence, prostitution, drug-use (especially of alcohol), and crime, and they attract those unable or unwilling to sustain traditional lifestyles or occupations. Where temporary towns have shot up, there is seldom potable water. Schools are non-existent. Mining is a hazardous occupation and children who work in mines and quarries are at serious risk of injury and illness, some disabilities becoming apparent only years later. in 1978 Zaire controlled 48% of the cobalt supply and yet political unrest in Zaire resulted in a disruption to global supply that became known as the "Cobalt Crisis".

Recent focus has been the link between mineral extraction, trading, and conflict and human rights abuses, particularly in areas such as the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the broader, Lakes region of Central Africa. These natural resources are sometimes at the center of disputes, directly or indirectly financing warring groups, resulting in violence or other human rights abuses. Conflict areas also appear to have limited attention to safety and environmental protection. The U.S. Labor Department lists Congolese cobalt as a product it has reason to think is produced by child labor. Amnesty International reports alleging improprieties including forced relocations of villages and water pollution. Amnesty's reported, Congo DongFang buying materials mined by children. South Korea ...South Korea's two largest battery manufacturers.