

[+Bracketed/Underscored Material+] - New
[-Bracketed/Strikethrough Material-] - Deletion

1 deer, salmon, steelhead and countless other fish and wildlife species are
2 similarly dependent on public lands; and

3 WHEREAS, Federal public hardrock minerals are mined without any return
4 to the federal tax-payer; mining corporations have removed an estimated \$245
5 billion worth of minerals from public lands without paying a federal royalty;
6 and, unlike hard rock mining, the coal and oil and gas industries, which also
7 operate on public lands, pay royalties of roughly twelve and one half percent
8 (12 ½%); and

9 WHEREAS, the 1872 Mining Law, passed shortly after the Civil War, still in
10 effect today, is largely to blame for these conditions because said law is badly
11 out of date and puts mining as the highest and greatest use of public lands
12 ahead or more important public interests; and, America needs a modern
13 Federal mining law for the 21st Century — a new law that protects clean water
14 and restores the balance and common sense to land management decisions
15 involving mining.

16 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
17 CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE:

18 Section 1. That the City Council supports responsible comprehensive
19 Federal mining law reform that:

- 20 (i) establishes commonsense standards to protect clean water;
- 21 (ii) ends the selling off (patenting) of public lands for mining in perpetuity;
- 22 (iii) holds mining companies responsible for restoration and reclamation;
- 23 (iv) restores balance to public lands management;
- 24 (v) explicitly gives land managers, with input from local communities,
25 authority to deny mines that cause undue threats to clean water and other
26 values;
- 27 (vi) provides financial resources for the cleanup of abandoned mines; and
- 28 (vii) protects highly valued public lands, including wild and scenic rivers,
29 roadless national forests, Native American sacred places and wilderness-
30 quality lands from large-scale industrial mining.

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