

Four-Year Tenure Marked by Strong Leadership and Record of Accomplishments

National Mining Association President and CEO Jack Gerard has announced his decision to accept the position of president and CEO of the American Chemistry Council (ACC) in Arlington, VA, effective July 1, 2005.

NMA's Board immediately directed a search for candidates to replace Gerard as head of the trade association representing US producers of coal, base and precious metals, and their related manufacturers and suppliers.

NMA Chairman John Brinzo, chairman and CEO of Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc., said on behalf of NMA's Board, "We extend our thanks to Jack Gerard for his tireless service to NMA and to the industry. Jack came to the association with a mission — to make NMA more reflective of the modern mining industry — and he has been successful by every measure the Board has set for him."

"Among his many accomplishments, Jack moved the association to Capitol Hill as part of a comprehensive strategy to make NMA a more effective advocate for the industry. During his tenure, NMA tripled political giving, built a strong grassroots advocacy program, and modernized its communications capabilities. Jack focused the association on its core public policy objectives and solidified the merger of NMA's two predecessor organizations, the American Mining Congress and the National Coal Association. He has helped forge an exceptional member company commitment to an organization that is well positioned to serve the US mining industry in the days and years ahead," Brinzo noted.

"Finally, Jack assembled an outstanding staff at NMA, and the Board is confident the association is in capable hands while we conduct the search for Jack's successor. We will miss Jack, and we wish him and Claudette every success as they begin a new chapter in their lives," Brinzo concluded.

Gerard, 47, announced his decision to the NMA Board of Directors at its meeting in Phoenix, AZ. "We accomplished a great deal in these past few years to raise the awareness of an industry whose many contributions to the nation's energy and manufacturing sectors are vital to the American economy," he said.

Gerard's leadership of NMA was marked by a strong emphasis on legislative, regulatory and public affairs advocacy, signified by the association's move from its traditional downtown headquarters to its current location on Capitol Hill. Gerard quickly reorganized NMA to become a more vocal advocate on behalf of public policies that affected coal and mineral mining and directed the association's efforts in aggressively supporting political candidates who espoused those policies.

Gerard, an Idaho native, has led NMA since December 2000 following a successful career in private business and close to a decade of service on Capitol Hill. Immediately prior to his position at NMA, Gerard was a founding partner, chairman and chief executive officer of McClure, Gerard & Neuenschwander, Inc., a Washington-based consulting firm formed with former U.S. Senator James McClure. Gerard serves on the boards of the National Capital Area Council - Boy Scouts of America Executive Board; the George Washington University Graduate School of Political Management's Council on American Politics; the Mineral Information Institute and also chairs the National Energy Foundation's Board of Directors.