



# Aluminum's Role in Economic and National Security

## Why Aluminum is critical:

13  
**AI**  
Aluminum

Aluminum is one of only 11 mineral commodities designated as essential to all critical sectors of the U.S. economy.

The Department of Defense recognizes aluminum as key to the nation's defense industrial base.

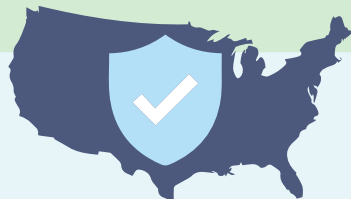
The Aluminum industry supports nearly  
**700,000**  
American jobs.



The same facilities that make aluminum for cans and cars also often make aluminum for less obvious applications, like fighter jets, body armor, transmission lines, and building materials.



Producing aluminum and maintaining access to its alloying elements is essential to U.S. economic security and national defense.



### Develop a National Strategy to Support Critical U.S. Aluminum

There are currently several different critical materials lists. Each of these lists has different purposes, but none of them provide a whole-of-government strategy for prioritizing, producing and defending the critical materials we need for our economic and national security. If the United States is to become critical materials independent, we need a national strategy that identifies clear goals, actions and outcomes.



### Prioritize

#### Eliminate reliance on minerals and materials from non-market or adversarial countries

- ▶ Establish a national strategy that supports the entire domestic aluminum supply chain, including alloying agents.

Aluminum | Cobalt | Dysprosium | Gallium | Graphite  
Iridium | Lithium | Neodymium | Nickel | Platinum | Terbium

- ▶ Support existing and new legislation to address aluminum recycling, production, infrastructure and trade priorities.
- ▶ Maintain, refine and expand the 45X Advanced Manufacturing tax credit program.



### Produce

#### Increase Aluminum production in the United States, for the United States

- ▶ Incentivize the production of more primary (new) and secondary (recycled) domestic aluminum and products, decreasing reliance on foreign countries like China for aluminum supply and alloying materials.

◆ **Primary:** Pursue permitting reform and other policies to bring new, affordable electricity online for smelters. Increase availability of bauxite/alumina. Support upgrades for aging primary facilities.

◆ **Secondary:** Support natural gas production and pipeline expansion to leverage U.S. energy resources. Explore options for new energy sources to expand access and lower the carbon footprint of the aluminum industry in the United States.



### Defend

#### Grow Metal Supply by Keeping More Scrap Aluminum for Recycling

- ▶ Retain and grow aluminum supply through infrastructure investments to collect, sort and melt more aluminum scrap domestically.
- ▶ Support policies that grow consumer and industrial aluminum recycling in the United States.