

Welcome
To the Women's Mining Coalition
Washington, DC Fly-in



www.wmc-usa.org

U.S. Government Fundamentals

- The Legislative Process

<http://usgovinfo.about.com/od/uscongress/a/legprocess.htm>

- How Laws Are Made

www.thomas.gov/home/lawsmade.toc.html

How We Can Influence the Legislative Process

- Introduction of Legislation ~ Bills & Resolutions
- Committee Action
- Subcommittee Action
 - Hearings
 - Mark Ups
 - Reporting Out
- Publication of a Written Report
- Floor Action ~ House and Senate
- Conference Committee
- Action by the President
- Overriding a Veto



These are some of the stopping points for any draft legislation. If we talk to the right people when bills are in committee, we may be able to influence how some of the details are crafted in the document. If we reach the members before a vote, we can let them know where we stand on the legislation as a whole – either for or against passage.

How We Select Members to Visit

WMC works closely with
State & Regional Associations including
The Northwest Mining Association
and
The American Coal Council
to identify key members in Congress
& key Congressional committees

Factors that affect decisions:

- ▣ What legislation is currently proposed
- ▣ What committees are involved
- ▣ Who is supporting/opposing mining interests
- ▣ WMC fly-in participants' representatives
(Members give meeting preference to their local constituents)

Targeted Committees and Staff

- ▣ Members in Leadership positions
- ▣ Members in States where we work
- ▣ Senate Committees
 - Energy and Natural Resources
 - Commerce, Science and Transportation
 - Environment and Public Works
- ▣ House Committees
 - Energy and Commerce
 - Natural Resources
 - Science and Technology
 - Transportation and Infrastructure
 - Select Committee on Energy Independence & Global Warming



Logistics On the Hill

- ▣ Visiting the Senate and House office buildings
- ▣ Security
- ▣ Building layouts
- ▣ The tunnels
- ▣ Transportation to and from the hill



The Capitol: view from the west
Source: www.aoc.gov

WMC Meetings

- ▣ As many as 130 meetings over 4 days
- ▣ Groups of 3-5 Women
- ▣ Reception with ACCCE Tuesday evening



Typical Meeting

- ▣ Overview of WMC ~ By Designated Lead Speaker
- ▣ Introductions of WMC Meeting Participants
 - Name, Title, Company, Home/Work Base
 - Discuss your job responsibilities within the industry
- ▣ Talk about the Target Points
 - Follow up with more comments on points where the staffer shows interest
 - If you don't know an answer, promise to follow-up
- ▣ Ask if there are any questions
- ▣ Offer to provide more info if needed
- ▣ Get a business card from the staffer before you leave

When you sit down with the staffer, it's time to get right to the point. After a few pleasantries your lead speaker should introduce the group. When your turn comes say whatever is comfortable – about your job, the industry, the issues. Groups will usually fall into a rhythm and you will find that your comments are refined as you progress through the day.

The staffer may be very knowledgeable about our issues, or more commonly, may not have a lot of background. You are the expert and can help educate them about how mining works, and why you have chosen your career.

The Daily Schedule

- ▣ Arrival on Sunday – informal welcome/ dinner
- ▣ Monday morning briefing
 - Issues
 - schedules
 - Afternoon Hill visits
 - Evening wrap-up meetings
 - Next day's schedule
- ▣ Tuesday-Friday
 - Meet your group
 - Hill visits
 - Reception
 - Evening wrap-up meetings
 - Next day's schedule

Logistics

- ▣ What to wear
 - The daily uniform
 - Walking shoes
- ▣ What to pack
 - Business cards
 - Photos
 - Umbrella
 - Camera

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Do I really know enough to speak up?



Absolutely!!

- ▣ If you aren't familiar with a specific issue, talk about the business you know and how changes in the law will affect you. Explain the pictures or photos you've brought along.
- ▣ You are the face of the industry, and probably not the same one the staffer has in mind.
- ▣ Ask what the member's opinion is on the various issues; let the staffer talk to you.
- ▣ If you can't speak to a topic or question, make a note and tell them you'll have someone from WMC get back to them.

Ongoing Issues

- ▣ Permitting delays
 - EPA process for approving NEPA notices to the Federal Register now requires 14 approvals at the federal level.
- ▣ Keeping a strong US mining industry
 - Minerals available in the US are now imported at greater rates than ever before.
 - Mining provides stable high-paying jobs.
- ▣ Mine safety and health
 - It's not a priority; it's a core value.

The Senate

- ▣ Three interconnected buildings
 - Dirksen
 - Hart
 - Russell



Senator Crapo, Idaho 2010



Hart Senate Office Building



Dirksen Senate Office Building
Source: www.aoc.gov

Mountains and Clouds, sculpture by Alexander Calder, 1986

The House

- Cannon
- Longworth
- Rayburn



Hon. Cathy McMorris Rodgers
5th District Washington, 2010



Hon. Don Young
Alaska, 2010



Longworth House
Office Building



Canon House Office Building
Source: www.aoc.gov

After the Meeting

- ▣ Respond/follow up to requests for additional information
- ▣ E-mail a thank you

Some of the WMC Supporters & Sponsors

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www.nwma.org
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www.peabodyenergy.com
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