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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 12, 2022

The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm
Secretary, US Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Granholm:

I am writing to express my support for Talon Nickel (USA)'s application to the U.S. Department of Energy's Battery Materials Processing and Battery Manufacturing Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Number (DE-FOA-0002678). Thank you for your consideration.

This project will help establish a domestic battery material supply chain in nickel and other battery minerals from mining operations up through cathode manufacturing. Under this proposal, Talon will construct a Battery Minerals Processing facility in North Dakota, which will accept raw ore from the Tamarack mine in Minnesota to produce nickel/iron and copper concentrate products. The nickel/iron concentrate will be further refined to battery grade material by Talon's offtake partner Tesla.

As the only high-grade Ni-Cu-Co-PGE deposit under development in the U.S., the Tamarack mine stands as an important resource for our nation's future. Developing domestic sources of critical minerals like this remains a key priority as we work to support technologies that strengthen our nation's energy and manufacturing capabilities, and lessen our dependence on foreign supply chains. Further, Talon has established partnerships that align with the priorities of this funding opportunity, including with relevant unions, trade groups and tribal governments, while also undertaking steps to ensure good environmental stewardship.

Accordingly, I hope this application receives your favorable consideration, and that all of North Dakota's applications receive your full and fair consideration. Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please keep me informed of the review process, and feel free to contact my office with any updates or inquiries you may have.

Sincerely,

John Hoeven
U.S. Senator