



Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority
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‘Supply Chain’ group connects with mines

September 14, 2012 John Rasche, *Elko Daily Free Press*

ELKO — A new program will help to improve the connection between local businesses and the area’s mining companies.

The Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development and the Nevada Mining Association announced at the Association’s annual convention that they are combining their efforts to form a statewide Supply Chain Committee, which will encourage more interaction between the mines and the businesses that support them.

“The mining industry has been a principal pillar of our economy since before Nevada became a state, and we are fully cognizant of its importance today,” GOED Executive Director Steve Hill said.

“While diversifying our state’s economy is a key objective of GOED, it is equally important to continue strengthening industries already contributing to Nevada’s prosperity.”

On behalf of GOED, Hill additionally stated at the convention that a search had begun for a new mining industry specialist to be located in Elko. The Nevada Mining Association will partner with GOED to help fund the specialist’s salary.

The committee and the new specialist will speak with mining companies regarding the products they purchase or require, and where the companies are getting them.

The Supply Chain Committee will then see if a gap can be filled by either local businesses or businesses interested in operating in Nevada.

Many of the businesses that support Nevada’s mining companies are located out of the state, according to the GOED.

“The (Supply Chain) Committee will encourage these companies to establish a stronger local presence, creating new jobs and expanding intellectual capital,” the GOED press release stated.

In doing this, the committee would develop a partnership between the private and public sectors of northeastern Nevada.

“It would be nice to have suppliers there in Nevada,” Hill said. “We’re trying to connect the dots and identify the opportunities.”



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Despite being in the early stages of forming, the committee is optimistic for the impact its development will have on Nevada's economy.

"We think (the committee) is a very innovative thing and we think it'll be good for the region," Hill said. "When you put a bunch of smart people in a room, you'll get good ideas, and we're certainly not putting limits on good ideas."