forms of mine waste and metallurgical activities, including mine waste piles, abandoned mine land sites, acid mine drainage sludge, byproducts produced through legacy mining and metallurgy activities, and oil shale.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out the program under paragraph (1) $30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report evaluating the research and development of advanced processing technologies for the extraction, refining, separation, melting, or production of critical minerals, including rare earth elements.

Subtitle B—Critical Mineral Development and Technology Support

SEC. 6421. IMPROVING DOMESTIC PERMITTING PROCESSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and except with agreement of the project sponsor, the total period for all necessary Federal reviews and permit consideration for a critical mineral project on Federal land reasonably expected to produce critical minerals may not exceed—

(1) with respect to a project that requires an environmental assessment under section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)), 18 months; or

(2) with respect to a project that requires an environmental impact statement under that section, 24 months.

(b) DETERMINATION UNDER NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent that the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) applies to the issuance of any mineral exploration or mine permit relating to a critical mineral project, the lead agency may deem the requirements of that Act to be satisfied if the lead agency determines that a State or Federal agency acting under State or Federal law has addressed the following factors:

(A) The environmental impact of the action to be conducted under the permit.

(B) Possible alternatives to issuance of the permit.

(C) The relationship between long- and short-term uses of the local environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity.

(D) Any irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources that would be involved in the proposed action.

(2) PUBLICATION.—The lead agency shall publish a determination under paragraph (1) not later than 90 days after receipt of an application for the permit.

(3) VERIFICATION.—The lead agency shall publish a determination that the factors under paragraph (1) have been sufficiently addressed and public participation has occurred with regard to any authorizing actions before issuing any mineral exploration or mine permit for a critical mineral project.

(c) SCHEDULE FOR PERMITTING PROCESS.—For any critical mineral project for which the lead agency cannot make the determination described in subsection (b)(1), at the request of a project sponsor, the lead agency, cooperating agencies, and any other agencies involved with the mineral exploration or mine permitting process shall enter into an agreement with the project sponsor that sets time limits for each part of the permitting process, including—

(1) the decision on whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or similar analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.);

(2) a determination of the scope of any environmental impact statement or similar analysis required under that Act;

(3) the scope of, and schedule for, the baseline studies required to prepare an environmental impact statement or similar analysis required under that Act;

(4) preparation of any draft environmental impact statement or similar analysis required under that Act;

(5) preparation of a final environmental impact statement or similar analysis required under that Act;

(6) any consultations required under applicable law;

(7) submission and review of any comments required under applicable law;

(8) publication of any public notices required under applicable law; and

(9) any final or interim decisions.

(d) CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out this section, the lead agency shall consider deferring to, and relying on, baseline data, analyses, and reviews performed by State agencies with jurisdiction over the proposed critical mineral project.

(e) MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT.—The lead agency with respect to a critical mineral project on Federal land, in consultation with any other Federal agency with jurisdiction over the critical mineral project, shall, on request of the project sponsor, a State or local government, an Indian Tribe, or another entity the lead agency determines appropriate, establish a memorandum of agreement with the project sponsor, a State or local government, an Indian Tribe, or another entity the lead agency determines appropriate to carry out the activities described in this section.

(f) ADDRESSING PUBLIC COMMENTS.—As part of the review process of a critical mineral project under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the lead agency may not address any agency or public comments that were not submitted—

(1) during a public comment period or consultation period provided during the permitting process; or

(2) as otherwise required by law.

SEC. 6422. TECHNOLOGY GRANTS TO STRENGTHEN DOMESTIC MINING WORKFORCE.

(a) DEFINITION OF MINING SCHOOL.—In this section, the term ''mining school'' means—

(1) a mining, metallurgical, or mineral engineering program or department accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc. that is located at an institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)); and

(2) a geology or engineering program or department that is located at an institution of higher education (as so defined) located in a State the gross domestic product of which in 2020 was not less than $1,000,000,000 in the category ''Mining, quarrying, and oil & gas extraction'', according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

(b) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of the Interior, shall establish a competitive grant program under which an entity receiving a grant shall carry out a study, research project, or demonstration project relating to the production of critical minerals, including relating to—

(1) enhancing and supporting mining and mineral engineering programs at mining schools;

(2) mining, mineral extraction efficiency, and related processing technology;

(3) reclamation technology and practices for active mining operations;

(4) the development of remining systems and technologies that facilitate reclamation that fosters the recovery of resources at abandoned mine sites;

(5) critical mineral extraction methods that reduce environmental and human impacts;

(6) technologies to extract, refine, separate, melt, or produce rare earth elements;

(7) reducing dependence on foreign energy and mineral supplies through increased domestic critical mineral production;

(8) enhancing the competitiveness of United States energy and mineral technology exports;

(9) the extraction or processing of coinciding mineralization, including rare earth elements, within coal, coal processing byproduct, overburden or coal residue;

(10) enhancing technologies and practices relating to mitigation of acid mine drainage, reforestation, and revegetation in the reclamation of land and water resources adversely affected by mining;

(11) enhancing exploration and characterization of new or novel deposits, including rare earth elements and critical minerals within phosphate rocks, uranium bearing deposits, and other non-traditional sources;

(12) meeting challenges of extreme mining conditions, such as deeper deposits or offshore or cold region mining; and

(13) mineral economics, including analysis of supply chains, future mineral needs, and unconventional mining resources.

(c) MINIMUM AMOUNT FOR MINING SCHOOLS.—The Secretary shall use not less than 70 percent of the amounts made available for the grant program established under subsection (b) for each fiscal year to provide grants for the purpose described in paragraph (1) of that subsection.

(d) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall—

(1) consult with relevant stakeholders; and

(2) provide to undergraduate and graduate students at mining schools significant opportunities for participation.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

SA 1538. Mr. JOHNSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill S. 1260, to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title III of division F, insert the following:

SEC. 63_____. USE OF PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED FUNDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any amounts appropriated under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–2), other than amounts appropriated under a provision exempted under subsection (b), that are unobligated on the date of enactment of this Act shall be made available for purposes of carrying out this Act, including the amendments made by this Act.

(b) EXEMPTIONS.—No amounts made available under subtitle D, E, F, G, or H of title II, subtitle C of title III, or title V of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–2) may be used for purposes of carrying out this Act, or any amendments made by this Act, pursuant to subsection (a).

SA 1539. Mr. JOHNSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill S. 1260, to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title V of division B, insert the following:

SEC. 25___. RESCISSION.

Of the amounts made available by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–2) (including any amendments made by such Act), except for amounts made available under subtitle D, E, F, G, or H of title II of such Act (or amendments made by any such subtitle), and remaining unobligated on the date of enactment of this Act, $109,700,000,000 (or, if the full such amount is not unobligated on such date, the portion of such amount that remains unobligated) is hereby rescinded.

SA 1540. Mr. JOHNSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill S. 1260, to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1105, line 21, strike ''; and'' and insert a semicolon.

On page 1106, line 7, strike the period at the end and insert a semicolon.

On page 1106, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

(5) include an evaluation of and recommendations for modification, consolidation, or repeal of regulations with the aim of complying with domestic content procurement preferences and improving competitiveness; and

(6) include an assessment of the impacts of Federal permitting processes on the operation of any applicable domestic content procurement preference.

SA 1541. Mr. JOHNSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill S. 1260, to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1437, line 4, strike ''$252,000,000'' and insert ''$184,524,000''.

SA 1542. Mr. JOHNSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill S. 1260, to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1437, line 6, strike ''$418,000,000'' and insert ''$351,000,000''.

SA 1543. Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill S. 1260, to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 2116, between subsections (e) and (f), insert the following:

(f) AMOUNTS FOR NEXT GENERATION RADAR AND RADIO ASTRONOMY IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Foundation for a fiscal year under this section, $176,000,000 shall be made available for the design, development, prototyping, or mid-scale upgrades of next generation radar and radio astronomy improvements and related activities under section 14 of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n-4).

(2) SUPPLEMENT AND NOT SUPPLANT.—The amounts made available under this subsection shall supplement, and not supplant, any other amounts appropriated to the Foundation.

SA 1544. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1260, to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

After section 2527 of title V of division B insert the following:

SEC. 2528. REVIEW PANELS.

(a) INCLUSION ON REVIEW PANELS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each review panel for a specific Federal research grant shall include—

(1) at least one individual who is not professionally affiliated with any academic or research institution, has not been professionally affiliated in the 10 years preceding the date of inclusion on the panel, and is an expert in a field unrelated to the field of research under which the grant proposal was submitted; and

(2) at least one individual who shall serve primarily as a ''taxpayer advocate'' (defined as someone whose main focus is on the value proposed research delivers to the taxpayer).

(b) PROHIBITION ON RECEIVING RECOMMENDATIONS FROM GRANT APPLICANTS ON REVIEW PANEL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each agency that awards a Federal research grant shall not accept recommendations from an applicant for such grant as to who should or should not be on the grant review panel for such applicant.

SEC. 2529. SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL AND TAXPAYER ADVOCATE FOR RESEARCH.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established an Office of the Special Inspector General and Taxpayer Advocate for Research.

(2) HEAD OF OFFICE.—There shall be at the head of the Office described in paragraph (1) the Special Inspector General and Taxpayer Advocate for Research, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(b) TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS AND SAVINGS.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, unless otherwise provided or indicated by the context—

(A) the term ''Federal agency'' has the meaning given to the term ''agency'' by section 551(1) of title 5, United States Code;

(B) the term ''function'' means any duty, obligation, power, authority, responsibility, right, privilege, activity, or program; and

(C) the term ''office'' includes any office, administration, agency, institute, unit, organizational entity, or component thereof.

(2) TRANSFER.—There are transferred to the Office of the Special Inspector General and Taxpayer Advocate for Research all functions which the Office of Inspector General of the National Science Foundation exercised before the date of enactment of this division (including all related functions of any officer or employee of the Office of Inspector General of the National Science Foundation).

(3) RULES.—The Office of the Special Inspector General and Taxpayer Advocate for Research is authorized to prescribe, in accordance with the provisions of chapters 5 and 6 of title 5, United States Code, such rules and regulations as the Office of the Special Inspector General and Taxpayer Advocate for Research determines necessary or appropriate to administer and manage the functions of the Office of the Special Inspector General and Taxpayer Advocate for Research.

(4) TRANSFER AND ALLOCATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS AND PERSONNEL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the personnel employed in connection with, and the assets, liabilities, contracts, property, records, and unexpended balances of appropriations, authorizations, allocations, and other funds employed, used, held, arising from, available to, or to be made available in connection with the functions transferred by this subsection, subject to section 1531 of title 31, United States Code, shall be transferred to the Office of the Special Inspector General and Taxpayer Advocate for Research. Unexpended funds transferred pursuant to this paragraph shall be used only for the purposes for which the funds were originally authorized and appropriated.