



NATURAL RESOURCES KEEP UTAH OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Natural resources are essential to Utah's strong economy and provide economic benefits to all Utah citizens.

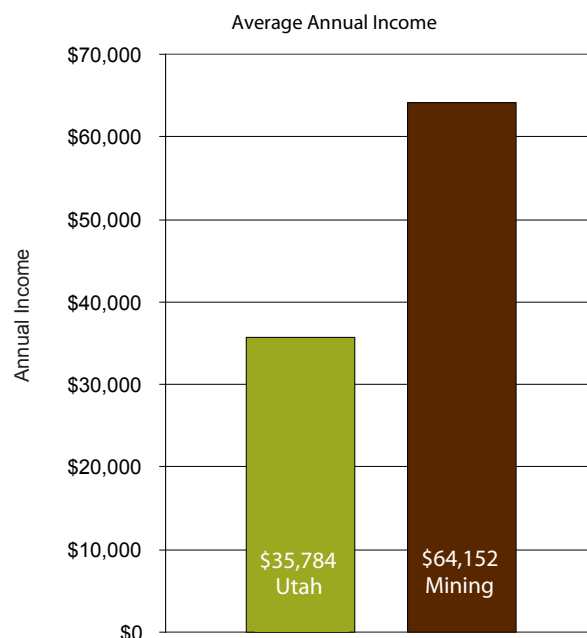
FACT: 1,480 UTAH BUSINESSES, EMPLOYING OVER 35,000 UTAHNS, DEPEND ON NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THEIR LIVING

Natural resources, such as fossil fuels and underground minerals, play a vital role in Utah's economic strength. Utah's resources support economic sectors that deliver high-paying jobs to Utah families, particularly to families with few other employment opportunities.¹ In 2007, Utah's 525 mining establishments employed nearly 11,200 Utahns.² With an average annual income of \$64,152, mining workers earned 79% more than Utah's aver-

age annual income.³ Clearly, keeping Utah's natural resources open to private development will provide economic benefits.

These benefits are not limited to individuals in the mining sector alone, however. Another 955 Utah businesses employing 24,571 people depend directly upon natural resources for their existence.⁴ Employees in these sectors, like those in mining, also earned more than the state average (\$55,524 per year). Moreover, all Utah businesses rely on Utah's natural resources to generate affordable electricity, which helps keep Utah a cost-effective place to do business.

Additionally, development of natural resources can lead to further economic activity in areas surrounding a mine. A prime example is the Daybreak community in South Jordan, near the Kennecott Copper Mine. Kennecott plans to build over 10,000 new homes in the community over the next 15 years, and plans to es-



establish a “major commercial center” in Daybreak to support jobs and economic growth.⁵ Further development of Kennecott’s remaining land on Salt Lake’s west side is expected to add 163,000 homes and 100,000 new jobs to the area.

While Kennecott’s situation is somewhat unique, the economic principles that led to the increased economic activity near the mine are universally applicable. Further, the results of keeping Utah’s natural resources open to private development are clear: thousands of high-paying jobs for Utahns that will support economic strength and freedom in the state.

ENDNOTES

1. Davidson, Lee. 2008. “What Utahns Earn: Analysis of Wages Shows Education Pays Off – Usually.” *Deseret News*. April 13, 2008.
2. Data reported are for the third quarter of 2007, which was the most recent data available. Department of Workforce Services. 2008. “Utah Employment and Wages.” State of Utah. At <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoIndustry.do>.
3. *Ibid*. The average annual salary figures were calculated by multiplying the average monthly wage from the third quarter of 2007 for both the mining sector and overall, by 12.
4. *Ibid*. These sectors include Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing, Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing, Primary Metal Manufacturing, Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing, and Pipeline Transportation.
5. Kennecott Land. 2008. “Kennecott Land – Questions and Answers.” Rio Tinto Group. At http://www.kennecottland.com/assets/q_a.pdf.