



## **Empire State Mines reopens after \$33 million investment by Titan Mining**

June 19, 2018 - Front Section

Fowler, NY According to governor Andrew Cuomo, Empire State Mines, a zinc mine in St. Lawrence County, has opened. The mine is officially reopening after the completion of a comprehensive, \$33 million investment by Titan Mining Corp., which has created more than 200 jobs at the site, exceeding the firm's commitment to the state. The Empire State Mines project is being directly supported with a four-megawatt allocation of low-cost hydropower from the New York Power Authority's St. Lawrence-Franklin D. Roosevelt Power Project in Massena, New York.

"Job creation continues to be one of New York's top priorities and the reopening of Empire State Mines will provide an economic driver for the North Country for years to come," governor Cuomo said. "Our ability to allocate low-cost power to this project was crucial to its completion, and ultimately helped us to bring hundreds of skilled labor opportunities to the region."

In addition to low-cost power, NYPA also provided \$330,000 in funding as part of a \$1.2 million Empire State Mines program to train up to 60 local workers as certified underground miners. NYPA also provided the mine's restart with a \$500,000 loan from its North Country Economic Development Fund, which is administered by the Development Authority of the North Country.

Empire State Mines is part of a mining district that first began production more than 100 years ago and produced more than four million tons of zinc contained in concentrate. The 2,700-acre zinc mine ceased operation in 2008 due to low zinc prices, but is now starting to produce again. The primary uses of zinc are for galvanizing steel, die-casting alloys and brass castings mainly for construction, transportation, and infrastructure.

NYPA's hydropower allocations from the St. Lawrence-FDR power plant are provided to manufacturers under seven-year contracts and are reserved for businesses in Franklin, Jefferson and St. Lawrence counties. The NYPA Board of Trustees approved the hydropower allocation to facilitate the reopening of the zinc mine in December 2014.

Keith Boyle, COO of Titan Mining, said "We are thankful for the direct support from NYPA and our many stakeholders in the successful restart of the mine. We are very proud of this opportunity to create new jobs and skills-development which will serve the company and community well for future generations."

There is more than 235 MW of low-cost NYPA hydropower still available for allocation to businesses

looking to create jobs and invest in the North Country through NYPA's Preservation Power program.

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