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NEVADA MINERALS INDUSTRY FACT SHEET – 2008

- FACT:** Nevada led the United States in the production of gold in 2008. Nevada's mines produced 5.698 million ounces, down from the 2007 production level of 6.037 million ounces. Nevada's silver production was 7.96 million ounces in 2008.
- FACT:** Nevada's gold mines contributed 77% of the U.S. gold production in 2008, and 8% of the total world's gold production.
- FACT:** About 24% of Nevada's gold was produced from underground mines in 2008.
- FACT:** In 2008, Nevada produced aggregates, barite, clays, copper, diatomite, dolomite, gypsum, lime and limestone, lithium compounds, magnesite, mercury, molybdenum, perlite, precious opals, salt, and silica sand.
- FACT:** In 2008, approximately \$6.1 billion in mineral commodities (not counting oil and geothermal) were produced in Nevada.
- FACT:** In 2008, there were on average 12,198 Nevadans directly employed by the mineral industry at an average salary of \$77,037. It is estimated that another 48,000 jobs are involved in supplying goods and services to the industry.
- FACT:** There are 17 geothermal electric generating plants that produced 1.38 million megawatt hours of electricity in 2008. That is enough power to supply 80,000 typical homes.
- FACT:** In 2008, approximately 436,000 barrels of oil were produced from oil fields in Nye and Eureka counties.
- FACT:** Mineral exploration activity remained strong in 2008, which should lead to additional discoveries and production in the future.