



Mr. Michael S. Piwowar
Acting Chairman
United States Securities and Exchange Commission
100 F Street NE Washington, DC 20549

Re: Comments on Reconsideration of Conflict Minerals Rule Implementation

Dear Acting Chairman Piwowar,

As student leaders with the [Conflict-Free Campus Initiative](#) (CFCI), a joint initiative of the [Enough Project](#) and [STAND](#): The Student-Led Movement to End Mass Atrocities, we are writing to express our support for continued implementation of the Conflict Minerals Rule by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Conflict Minerals Rule is a crucial component to our mission to support peace in the Democratic Republic of Congo through increased transparency in minerals supply chains.

CFCI is a network of students across the United States and internationally who work to pass campus-level procurement resolutions that commit schools to prioritize purchasing from companies that are working to source conflict-free minerals for their products. This allows us to amplify our individual consumer influence by expanding it to the institutional level. Hundreds of schools have participated in CFCI and more than two dozen have passed resolutions to this effect. We rely on the pertinent information disclosed in Conflict Minerals Rule filings in order to assess what particular companies are doing on this issue.

As you know, conflict minerals have been one of the most lucrative sources of funding to armed groups in Congo. The connection between conflict minerals in Congo and products such as cell phones, laptops, and jewelry means that we have the opportunity to leverage our consumer power to ensure our purchases fund sustainable peace in Congo, not conflict. In order for this process to unfold, the Conflict Minerals Rule must be fully implemented, not abandoned, and strengthened with complementary measures such as livelihood projects and additional support to mining communities in Congo.

As consumers, we value access to information about the companies we purchase from, including information about mineral sourcing practices. The increased transparency enabled by the Conflict Minerals Rule has allowed us to advocate for ethically-sourced technology purchases for our institutions, and for our school administrations to assess for themselves which companies are taking steps to ensure their products are not linked to atrocities against civilians. We should provide more information for this purpose, not less.

Strong U.S. leadership is vital to support much-needed democratic change and an end to repression and high-level corruption in the Congo. As such, we urge you to keep the Conflict Minerals Rule fully intact, and to work with your fellow SEC commissioners to enforce the Rule moving forward.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Student Leaders from the Conflict-Free Campus Initiative