

Oregonite & Josephinite as the Official Twin Minerals of the State of Oregon

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1. In 1965, California became the first state to have an official rock, mineral or gem stone.
2. In that same year the Oregon Senate passed a measure making the thunderegg our official state rock.
3. Since that time, 22 states now have an official mineral.
4. No other state holds the honor or privilege of having a mineral named after itself or a location within the state.
5. For that matter, no other state has a twin mineral.
6. Oregonite and Josephinite, so closely tied chemically to rocks from space, bravely represents our voyage into the 21st Century and into the exploration of frontiers beyond Earth.
7. Always at the forefront, in the pioneer spirit of our people and of this place, Oregon will have the honor of being the first state with its own namesake minerals and twins at that. I would like to think that this reflects our ability to do everything twice as well as other states.