From: lauren101796@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lauren Starks
To: Lands, BLM_ES
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Superior National Forest Withdrawal Application
Date: Saturday, December 18, 2021 1:20:31 PM

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Dear State Director of Geospatial Services F. David Radford,

Dear Mr.Bureau,

I'm sure you have at least read the message below at least once, so I will save you the time with this short message. My whole life, it has been a dream of mine to see the night sky in its glory without any light pollution. I don't know the type of guy you are Mr. BLM, but if you had any type of fun when you were younger, I'm sure you had a park or some place that holds memories. I'm sure you wouldn't want that to be destroyed along with all the memories in order to make money. The purpose of life isn't to make money. The reason we live is to experience emotions and create beauty! With natural disasters hitting this planet, (currently the Tornadoes in America) you never really know when the beauty that you know in your life(your home, the blocked off bridge that you made your secret hideout, that quiet place in the forest that brings you bliss, or even that spot on the concrete that looks like a funny face) will be taken away. There is no need to add to that chaos and purposefully destroy the little beauty we have left. Once it's gone, it's gone for good. Even if memories and happiness mean nothing to you, at least do it to protect these beautiful waters from pollution. In recent years, more and more people have realized that we really need to take better care of our planet, for if we don't, there won't be much left in 50 years! We still need to live on this planet for at least a hundred more years, so we can't let that happen. To conclude my point, we can't have this natural beauty stripped away from us! It will do much more harm than good. I'm sure there was at least a few good reasons as to why you wanted to mine there, but there are better reasons as to why this land should be kept protected! Thank you for your time good sir!

I strongly support the proposed mineral withdrawal to protect the watershed of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness ("Boundary Waters"). The threats posed by sulfide-ore copper mining are unjustifiable in the watershed of such a sensitive and important area.

The Boundary Waters is America's most popular and water-rich Wilderness Area. Its 1.1 million acres contain more than 1,000 pristine lakes and 1,200 miles of river and stream, offering unmatched fishing, hunting, and other public lands wilderness recreational opportunities for all Americans to enjoy. Priceless and irreplaceable, the Boundary Waters must not be put at risk of perpetual pollution from the most toxic industry in America.

During environmental review of the proposed withdrawal, please be sure to thoroughly address the following:

· Cleanest water quality in North America - The lakes, rivers, and streams of the Boundary Waters watershed are among the cleanest waters in North America and are especially sensitive to acids and heavy-metals found in copper mine pollution;

·America's most visited & accessible wilderness destination - The Boundary Waters is the most popular Wilderness Area in the U.S., and the largest east of the Rockies and north of the Everglades. Visitors travel through it by boat or canoe, and can choose routes to avoid having to carry their gear, making the Boundary Waters more accessible to families, children, and people with physical limitations; and

· Economics - The Boundary Waters supports a strong, sustainable, growing outdoor recreation industry in Minnesota. It is a principal driver of the $850 million, 17,000-job recreation economy in Northeastern Minnesota, it

contributes to hundreds of manufacturing jobs, and it helps keep and attract talent to Minnesota.

I urge the BLM to withdraw the 225,378 acres of national forest lands to protect the Boundary Waters from the threat of endless sulfide-ore copper mining pollution. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
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