From: puetzerconnor@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Connor Puetzer
To: Lands, BLM_ES
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Superior National Forest Withdrawal Application
Date: Saturday, December 18, 2021 12:27:04 AM

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Dear State Director of Geospatial Services F. David Radford,

Dear Bureau of Land Management ("BLM"),

I'm gonna start this with the non-autogenerated part (although that is all important).

You can be responsible for saving one of the last beautiful places in the United States, or you could be responsible for destroying it. I understand that there can be a lot of pressure on a decision like this, but let me ask you:

What's the purpose of this? What is the purpose of industry, development, technology, economy, if we're going to destroy everything that's beautiful about the world to get there? In a perfect world where all the resources of the united states are being obtained, exploited, and used for our own purposes, what would we be left with? An absolute urban hell, worth nothing but numbers on a spreadsheet.

Their are other ways to make money, other ways to add to the economy, you don't have to destroy everything that makes life worth living to get those benefits.

With that in mind, maybe a better question would be:

Do you want to go down in history as one of the people who protected America and its natural beauty? Or do you want to be a spineless prick who was a stepping stone to an industrialized hellscape, all so you can move a decimal point in your net worth?

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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