

468 Shasta Drive
Toledo, Ohio 43609-2077
4 November, 2021

In re: Superior National Forest Withdrawal Application

F. David Radford,
Deputy State Director of Geospatial Services
BLM Eastern States Office
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA. 22041

Dear Director Radford:

I write in support of the proposal to ban mining on federal lands adjacent to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area.

I was born in Kentucky and grew up knowing the destructive impact of mining on the green lands of Appalachia. Mining is a short-term project, particularly today when most labor is accomplished by large, expensive machinery.

I also know that 100% of mines leak. The metals sought in northern Minnesota now are sulfide-ore metals, copper and nickel. Mining these metals releases toxic sulfides and other lethal acids into water systems. The fresh water lakes of northern Minnesota are connected to such an extent that we can count on poisons leaching into fresh waters all the way north to the Rainy River, killing fish, plants, and animals. The destruction will change forever the nature of the Boundary Waters. Although foreign-owned- and out-of-state mining corporations claim they have new technology that will prevent leaks, no mine has ever been found not to leak its poisons into water systems.

The fresh waters of northern Minnesota must be protected.

I urge you to place a ban on non-ferrous mining near this internationally known and valued natural resource.

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Yours sincerely,

James Bradley
James Lowell Bradley