

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

December 16, 2021

Subject: Superior National Forest withdrawal application

Dear Mr. Radford,

~~The Minneapolis Star Tribune identified you as the person to write concerning a moratorium on~~
nonferrous mining in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA).

I urge you to ban copper-nickel mining in that location for as long as the law allows such a ban. No company foreign or domestic should be allowed to contaminate these pristine waters. The minerals to be extracted are available elsewhere. Canada, our close ally, has those needed for batteries.

I am a Minnesota resident since 1974. My family has developed a deep love of this unspoiled wilderness and we wish to pass it on to our grandchildren.

If a Democratic administration cannot protect this wilderness, then what is the point of elections.

Respectfully,

William Anthony Smithson MD, JD

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