

RE: Superior National Forest Withdrawal Application

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

I support the 20 year mining moratorium on 225,387 acres of federal forest land near the BWCA.

Can you imagine what would happen if a mining project were to leak the chemicals that are produced into the watershed area of the BWCA? It will happen if there isn't a moratorium called on mining in the area of this federal forest land! The number of people who would no longer be able to use and appreciate this wilderness area would devastate the tourist industry and cause real financial hardship, while depriving citizens of an opportunity to experience a natural wilderness. That wilderness would be destroyed by the polluted leakage produced by copper mining.

The proposal to allow a Chilean-owned Twin Metals Minnesota underground project to proceed would be a disaster just waiting to happen. This company's record in providing for environmental protection in other mining projects has been disastrous. To endanger one of the most precious natural wilderness' for the sake of some jobs is unthinkable. Protect the wilderness and provide training to people who need jobs in fields that support and protect our environment. Teach them to become productive in other fields, but do not allow them to work for a company that has no care and commitment to the U.S. or the BWCA.

I have children who look forward to scheduling their opportunities to go to the BWCA. It is so important to preserve these areas for people who find peace and appreciation for nature. We are responsible for preserving this Natural Wilderness for generations to come. Please put a permanent halt to all mining in this area!

Margaret Gadiant



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