



July 18, 2022

United States Forest Service
Attn: East Boulder Mine Amendment 004 EIS
C/O: Robert Grosvenor, Gardiner Ranger District
P.O. Box 5
Gardiner, MT 59030.

East Boulder Mine EIS Scoping Comment

Dear Mr. Grosvenor,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Sweet Grass County Conservation District to express our support of Sibanye-Stillwater Mining Company's proposal for the next phase of their tailings and waste rock storage facility at the East Boulder Mine.

The Sweet Grass County Conservation District has a long history of collaborating with the Sibanye-Stillwater to improve and protect the natural resources in our county, including the development of the Boulder River Watershed Association. The watershed association has worked closely with the mine for more than 20 years to implement natural resource enhancement and protection projects in the Boulder River watershed.

Members of our Board of Supervisors have attended meetings to address concerns of this storage facility and have met with mine officials on multiple occasions during the development of this project over the past three years.

Conservation Districts in Montana are the gatekeepers of The Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act, also known as the 310 Law, whose purpose is to keep rivers and streams in Montana in as much of a natural or existing condition as possible.

Sibanye-Stillwater Mining Company officials have gone above and beyond in their efforts to explain to the public that this proposed storage facility has been designed to the highest degree of engineering excellence and given all due diligence to every aspect of public safety and natural resource protection as possible.

We fully support their efforts to construct this new facility which will ensure the continuation of their operation which provides untold public and economic benefits to the citizens of Sweet Grass County and the State of Montana.

Sincerely,

Kevin Dawe, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

Gardiner Ranger District
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Center Gallatin National Forest