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Comments:

This revision states that " The Forest Service proposes the amendment of its locatable mineral regulations that better reflect the needs of both the Forest Service and mining industry. By addressing recent issues and remedying existing weakness in current regulations that have been identified..."

What about the needs of the local population in proposed mining areas and the protection of existing jobs that rely on a clean environment? I believe this amendment is simply to make it easier for international corporations to exploit land and minerals for a short term financial gain. Regulations should be more robust and have stronger environmental regulations and rules. Particularity where mining is being considered in water rich environments like those found in Northern Minnesota.

I am part of a group of businesses in Northern Minnesota that employ nearly 1000 people. our jobs rely on clean water and a clean environment. The proposed copper mining in our area could threaten our existing economy and negatively impact existing jobs. Clean water is far more crucial for the future than copper and precious metals. Please view our group here: <http://www.downstreambusinesscoalition.org/>