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First name: John

Last name: Tracey Carey

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Courage Needed - Prevent Copper Mining

I am writing to express my deep concern about the proposed copper mining venture in Minnesota. While this kind of mining has proven devastating to every environment in which it's been undertaken, I am appalled to know it is under consideration given our pristine and very fragile BWCA waterways. I am convinced this project will prove devastating to our environment and the overall health of our community. We live on the St.Louis River. Any risk of potential contamination to our critical water supply should be unacceptable and conscientiously guarded against.

We have to make decisions that take take into account the long term impact - as well as the short term benefit of a handful of jobs - especially where those who stand to financially benefit reside outside the US and shoulder no responsibility for the devastation this project may cause for generations to come. For so many reasons, we must protect our natural resources. Seriously - this is a really awful idea.

Please demonstrate the courage to do what is right. I would rather see us invest in the retraining of miners than see our northland suffer the effects of a decision influenced by pure greed. The potential detriments far outweigh the short term benefits.

Thank you for providing the courageous leadership that is needed to protect our environment and health.

Tracey Carey
16 Kilner Bay Drive
Superior, WI 54880