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Comments: As a ski racer, I grew up spending many weekends at Lutsen Mountains for events, race training, and recreational skiing. I have seen the resort transform into a regional powerhouse with improvements to infrastructure and the guest experience that have not negatively impacted the surrounding wilderness. In fact, the ownership at Lutsen Mountains has invested significantly in projects that have improved the water quality of the Poplar River by mitigating runoff from snowmaking, reducing erosion, and replacing snowmaking water pumping from the Poplar River with water pumped from Lake Superior. This expansion is critical to the continued viability of Lutsen Mountains. Other resorts in the Upper Midwest have failed to invest in infrastructure and have lost a dramatic portion of their revenue, shuttered, or have been acquired by the State and are being operated at a loss. Lutsen Mountains is one of the main drivers of revenue in Cook County, as well as a significant employer. The expansion, as proposed, is thoughtfully designed to attract more of the kinds of guests that this resort needs -- beginner and low intermediate terrain for novice skiers that spend just a few days on the slopes a year. I strongly support this expansion plan, specifically the latest version that eliminates the proposal to add lifts on the backside of Moose Mountain and focuses instead on additional terrain on the front side of Moose Mountain and the (perhaps even more important) new terrain on Eagle Mountain.