

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/10/2021 3:47:37 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: [External Email]Lutsen Mountains Ski Area Expansion Project - objection

[External Email]

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RE: Lutsen Mountains Ski Area Expansion Project

Thank you for the opportunity to review the special use permit application for Lutsen Mountain Ski Area Expansion Project #52440.

As a seasonal resident of Lutsen our family enjoys the many opportunities that Cook County and the Lutsen area offer. We are strongly opposed to the proposal by Lutsen Mountain as outlined.

The reasons for our opposition are centered on this proposal's impact to the environment and the community outlined below.

Evaluation of the Environmental Impacts associated with this proposal:

- \* Habitat degradation due to the transition from wilderness land to highly populous activities to flora and fauna.
- \* Tree clearing of over 175 acres
- \* Erosion and runoff (of rainfall, natural and manmade snow) to the Poplar River, many permanent and seasonal streams and wetlands in the downslope of Moose and Eagle Mountains
- \* Parking lot sizing many times the current parking configurations and capacity.
- \* Wastewater treatment due to the proposed facilities
- \* Noise from snow guns and increased traffic
- \* Traffic
- \* Many miles of new roads
- \* New intersection to Hwy 61
- \* Two new base areas
- \* How this proposal will impact the adjacent scientific and natural areas ( Lutsen and Schere)
- \* Reroute of the Superior Hiking Trail
- \* Limiting this year-round public property to fee paying guests during 6 months of the year. Effectively eliminating all winter activities in this vast acreage.

For these environmental reasons we object to the proposals to expand Lutsen Mountains ski resort. The "no build" alternative should be selected as the preferred alternative.

Regards,

Jack and Lynne Sullivan

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