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Comments: I have worked with Sibanye-Stillwater and their East boulder facility since the 1990's. I have personally visited the East Boulder site many times. In my opinion, the Sibanye-Stillwater mining complex is the best run & best managed mine I have ever worked with.

Consider the following:

1. They are the largest producer of the critical element, Pd, in North America. This is an integral component of all automotive catalytic converters, as well as dozens of process catalysts required for petroleum refining, various chemical manufacturing processes, and in electronics.
2. This project is critical to extending the mine life for ~ 20 years or more. Taking that production 'offline' would likely cause the price of Pd to rise, impacting the fuels & chemical manufacturing sectors in the US, the automotive industry, the electronics manufacturing industry, truck & farm equipment manufacturers, the chemical manufacturing industry, and more.
3. Everything about the East Boulder complex has been designed, constructed, and operated, with the topmost concerns being, a) total environmental compliance and b) workers' safety.

I am in full support of this project and urge the Gardiner Ranger District to "approve" this project.