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First name: Jake

Last name: McDermott

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to show my support of Amendment 4.

As a Montanan native, I have had many family and friends who have been employed by mines in Montana. Mining is a crucial part of Montana's socioeconomics. Without mining, there are no raw materials in which we use in our everyday lives. "Out of sight, out of mind" is an unfortunate mentality which has been adopted by people of this country, who probably use some piece of modern convenience in their everyday lives, which happens to come from the natural resources mined from the Earth. Given the nature of mining, it has not always been done as responsible as it has been today, and continues to evolve and mature with new laws and regulations (such as this public comment period, for example).

The Stillwater and East Boulder Mines have always been responsible and accountable for their environmental impact, the records of years past are proof of that, and will continue to be so as long as there are environmental watchdogs (such as the Northern Plains Council) to keep the mining operations in balance.

I want to continue to live in Montana, as this is my and my families home, where I make a living from the mining operation at East Boulder.

Again, I support Amendment 4 in its entirety.

Thank you,

-Jake McDermott