Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/6/2024 7:19:30 PM
First name: Roger
Last name: Smith
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.
It is my opinion that you have arrived at the correct conclusion to permit this mine project. I have been aware of this mine site and the environmental issues that accompanied it for over 20 years now.
One thing that most people do not consider regarding mine sites that are considered to be "polluting" their surrounding areas is that the minerals were placed there millions of years ago and have been eroding into the local environment for just as long. The local ecology has adapted to the geologic condition and environment. Mining may have exposed more of these minerals to erosion or leaching and accelerated the process of these minerals eroding or leaching into the "environment". But often times mining has removed most or all of these "offensive" minerals and "contaminants" and the land is left cleaner (per our standards) than premining.

It is my opinion that most of the mine superfund sites in this country should be mitigated by completely mining out the deposit and removing the offensive minerals from the environment and processed. (Even though they have been there for millions of years and are part of that local environment). This way the minerals can be utilized and the site is properly reclaimed for the long term. A win-win situation.

My only complaint is that the process to arrive at this conclusion to permit this mine took so long and cost so much money.

Respectfully
Roger Smith