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Comments: This proposal would permanently sacrifice 30 acres of our pristine Custer Gallatin National Forest for industrial waste storage, risking catastrophic, long-term toxic runoff into our local aquifers.

There must be a rigorous environmental review. How will this potential expansion impact water quality? How will this potential expansion impact wildlife and their habitats?

What will the impact be on the local and area communities? How will the potential expansion impact the economy? Will this potential expansion create or eliminate jobs? What impact will this potential expansion have on the water and air quality for the local communities?

It is vital that the public not only have the opportunity to respond to this potential expansion, but there must be transparency throughout the entire process that includes public participation. There must be regulatory oversight. Regulatory measures must be strictly adhered to and monitored for the safety of all involved.

The expansion threatens Class I groundwater aquifers connected to the Stillwater River watershed with nitrogen and ammonia pollution. ? This is not acceptable.

The synthetic liners used to contain this toxic mine waste have a lifespan of only 20-30 years-but this mining permit would run for 42 years. What is the plan to address this?

Industrial noise and habitat fragmentation threaten critical migration corridors for Canada lynx, grizzly bears, and wolverines. ?

Future generations shouldn't be left holding a multi-million dollar bill for perpetual water treatment and toxic cleanups.

I strongly request that a rigorous environmental review be conducted, and the results shared with the public with another open comment period prior to any potential expansion.

Thank you for your time and consideration