

Alyssa Bryant

From: Martha Oswald
Sent: Monday, September 12, 2016 8:19 AM
To: Alyssa Bryant
Subject: FW: Subject: Support resolution for evidentiary hearing

From: David Reisenweber [mailto:bigwater46@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 11, 2016 10:24 AM
To: Council <Council@duluthmn.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Subject: Support resolution for evidentiary hearing

To: Duluth City Council

I urge you to support the resolution requesting an evidentiary hearing regarding PolyMet permit applications.

I have witnessed 500 hundred year precipitation events occur at the 3 locations in the Dakotas and MN. I have lived since 1993. I have asked that such events be considered in the Polymet permitting process. The response I've found is in the final EIS volume 3 page A-670:

"The effects of individual storms are considered by designing facilities to handle a 100 year - 24 hour storm event based on current data."

I have not found evidence that downstream Duluth would be safe from the effects of a 10" rainfall like fell on my farm in one night in July 1993.

Proponents of speedy permit approval say things like:

Through strong environmental review and permitting process and established regulatory systems that include the opportunity for public review and input, there are already measures in place to ensure that PolyMet will meet the standards set in place by our government. We should rely on the established scientific and objective processes

Putin has said equally meaningless things:

President Vladimir V. Putin "promised that industrial development in the Arctic would progress with the utmost care," Mr. Chuprov said in a telephone interview. "Unfortunately, these words are only a formality."

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/09/09/world/europe/russia-red-river-siberia-norilsk-nickel.html?partner=msft_msn&r=0

Most citizens want evidence before permit approval because they

understand that:

This kind of mining has never happened in Minnesota before, but in other states, it is associated with long-lasting water pollution.

- No sulfide mine has ever operated without polluting its nearby waters
- The EPA identifies the hardrock mining industry (sulfide mining is a type of hardrock mining) as the largest toxic-waste producing industry in the U.S.
- The sulfide ores that are excavated react with oxygen in the air and water from rain and other precipitation – and form sulfuric acid. This acid is harmful to organisms that live in water (fish, invertebrates, etc). It also leaches out toxic heavy metals in the rocks with which it comes in contact – metals harmful to people and to wildlife. This polluted discharge is often called “acid mine drainage,” and it can persist for hundreds, even thousands, of years.

Guess who's down stream of this! You do have a responsibility to Duluth to insist on seeking impartial evidence. Politically motivated public relations waffle words are not science.

Thank you for your attention.

David Reisenweber
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