

Alyssa Bryant

From: Roberta Pirkola
Sent: Wednesday, September 07, 2016 2:46 PM
To: Alyssa Bryant
Subject: FW: Polymet: Support Process in Place and Say No To Unnecessary Hearing

From: Scott.Bradt@wellsfargo.com [mailto:Scott.Bradt@wellsfargo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 07, 2016 2:32 PM
To: Council <Council@duluthmn.gov>
Subject: Polymet: Support Process in Place and Say No To Unnecessary Hearing

PLEASE Vote Against Evidentiary Hearing Resolution for PolyMet

To: Duluth City Council Members

I'm dismayed as a Duluth resident and business community member to hear of the recent push for evidentiary hearing regarding the Polymet permit process. I know it's critical we protect our natural resources. I also know that many with much more knowledge and as much at stake have moved this project to the stage it's at, based on 10 years of research and information. They know that there can be a balance between jobs and economic opportunity and the environment, now and for the future. The PolyMet project is an opportunity to sustain a region. A region that has worked hard and given so much to our state and our nation -northern Minnesota's Iron Range. The Duluth-Superior area has also long been a benefactor of mining and mining related activities.

A select group of citizens are requesting the Duluth City Council adopt a resolution asking the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to hold an evidentiary hearing before deciding on PolyMet's application for a permit to mine. This is a totally inappropriate action and expectation.

Experts have completed years of environmental review and permitting process and established regulatory systems. There has been ample opportunity for public review and input. We have been assured PolyMet can meet the standards set in place by our government. Why would the council ignore established processes and risk losing economic growth and prosperity to our community and communities of our region?

I see firsthand the decline in standards of living and economic opportunity of those affected by mining downturns through my work in our region. I lived it as well, growing up in an Iron Range community of proud, hard working people, and surrounded by challenges of daily life as they are affected by factors outside of their control. Should you be part of enabling the voices of a few to affect the lives and the futures of so many?

As a lifelong outdoorsman, and a person with family and friends who live and work in the BWCAW and across Lake Vermilion and numerous other lakes and cities in the area, I respect and appreciate our precious natural resources. I also respect the work you all do on behalf our city. I don't believe the requested resolution is an issue you should engage in or support.

I respectfully urge you to vote against this resolution and protect our established process.

I say "WHEREAS, Duluth's local economy relies heavily on the benefits, indirect and direct, of the extraction, processing, transporting, maintaining, constructing, and supporting of minerals on and around the Iron Range; and Duluth has invested significant financial resources in building, restoring, and maintaining services and

goods ensuring that our people and businesses are strong and supported both for current and future generations; and the region has launched numerous multi-million dollar re-vitalization efforts in the St. Louis County area focused on infrastructure, employment and growing population, the very population of employed who will continue to use and enjoy our multitude of outdoor recreation opportunities.”

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Scott R. Bradt

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