

Alyssa Bryant

From: Martha Oswald
Sent: Monday, September 12, 2016 8:21 AM
To: Alyssa Bryant
Subject: FW: Monday's Resolution on Polymet hearing

From: Patricia Francisco [mailto:patricia@pfaduluth.com]
Sent: Friday, September 09, 2016 10:35 AM
To: Council <Council@duluthmn.gov>
Subject: Monday's Resolution on Polymet hearing

Duluth City Councilors

RE: Vote on Resolution for evidence-based hearing for Polymet permit to mine

I have so many concerns about the proposed Polymet mining for northern Minnesota.

Quite simply, copper-nickel mining has never been done anywhere without creating a serious impact on surrounding surface and groundwater. In some cases, no amount of money in cleanup efforts has been able to restore damaged waterways.

It is my understanding that environmental impact studies to date for the Polymet project in Minnesota have been conducted by Polymet itself. We need an impartial hearing on scientific evidence about the possible impact copper-nickel mining could have not only on the immediate area, but on surrounding waters, including Lake Superior.

Lake Superior is not only the lifeblood of Duluth and the region, it is the largest fresh water lake in the world. It is a resource far more valuable than ground metals, and one that we have all been charged with protecting.

While economic growth and creation of jobs in the region is always important, we cannot jeopardize the clean air and water that are the very reason so many of us choose to live here. We not only have an interest in protecting Lake Superior, but a responsibility to do so. If we who live on its shores don't protect them, then who will??

I urge you all to support the resolution that would allow for an impartial hearing with a neutral judge to examine all scientific evidence on the impact of copper-nickel mining before a permit to mine application is approved by the DNR. It's not only prudent, just plain common sense.

Sincerely,

Patricia Francisco

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