

CTA Name: Cancel PolyMet

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Resources:

https://waterlegacy.org/polymet_mine/

<https://www.sierraclub.org/minnesota/mining/polymet>

Description of the issue: (include links to relevant articles/resources)

The Canadian PolyMet Mining Corporation wants to dig the first ever copper-sulfide mine in Minnesota on protected Superior National Forest lands, threatening the Lake Superior watershed and communities along the St. Louis River. This type of mining is highly dangerous and has been called “America’s most toxic industry” by the EPA.

From Sierra Club:

A judge has recommended that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources deny PolyMet’s permit to mine. This is the third key permit issued for this dangerous proposal that's been revoked. Now, Governor Walz and the DNR have the opportunity to make the right decision to protect Minnesota's communities and water.

We continue to learn that our state agencies are failing to uphold their missions to protect the public and follow the law.

In June, the Army Corps of Engineers pulled back the wetlands destruction permit because it violated the water quality standards of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

Then in August, the Minnesota Supreme Court reversed the PolyMet water pollution permit. They also revealed that the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency covered up the Environmental Protection Agency's concerns about the permit.

Last week, an administrative law judge announced that PolyMet’s proposed permit to mine, previously approved by the Department of Natural Resources, would violate Minnesota’s rules. **The judge concluded that PolyMet’s plan for storing toxic mine waste was not “practical and workable” to comply with the law.**

Call to Action: (what action are we taking)

We are contacting Governor Walz and asking that he revoke the PolyMet permit.

Contact Info:

Phone: Telephone: 651-201-3400

Email form:

<https://mn.gov/governor/connect/contact-us/contact-form.jsp>

Sample Script (voice or email):

Dear Governor Walz -

My name is [name] and I am a member of Indivisible Saint Paul [or other] and a concerned constituent and environmentalist.

The PolyMet permit to mine was issued in November 2018, before you took office. The Minnesota Supreme Court sent that permit back to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources because of concerns it would not protect Minnesota's waters. Now, an administrative law judge recommends that you deny PolyMet's permit application because it violates Minnesota law.

I'm asking you to finally deny the permit and move on from the failed PolyMet sulfide mine proposal. This is not the only PolyMet permit that has been struck down. In August, the Minnesota Supreme Court reversed the PolyMet water pollution permit and made public the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's conduct in hiding federal regulators' concerns about the permit. In June, the Army Corps of Engineers revoked the wetlands destruction permit because it violated the water quality standards of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. PolyMet is a bad project and should never have been permitted by our state. And it shouldn't have taken multiple lawsuits - time and money - to stop it.

Now this key permit to mine is in your administration's hands, and you have the opportunity to make the right decision. Follow the judge's recommendation, deny the PolyMet permit to mine, and move on from PolyMet for the sake of all Minnesotans and our home.

Sincerely,

