

Online Comment

Permit Portal: Air

3/6/2018

Comment:

Hello, My name is Gary LaFave and I am a journeyman pipefitter. My wife Cathy and I are life-long residents of northern Minnesota and we are both in favor of the Polymet NorthMet Project. Polymet has proven its' commitment to northern Minnesota by complying with every one of Minnesota's strict environmental standards and are doing more than what is expected by addressing the current water quality issues created by legacy mining. Their water quality will generate a net decrease in mercury and sulfate that may reach the St. Louis River and Lake Superior. All water on the NorthMet Project site will have low concentrations of mercury. All water discharges will comply with the Great Lakes Initiative standard of 1.3 nanograms per liter of mercury. Because of this treatment process, all discharged water will be about 8-9 times cleaner than the rainwater that falls on the site and will also be 2-3 times cleaner than the natural runoff within the watershed. Polymet is also protecting the environment by using an existing basin that has been stable for over 40 years. They will also replace every acre of wetlands distributed by the project at a greater than one-to-one ratio. No other country in the world has stricter environmental standards than those here in the United States, and if we cannot produce the raw materials needed manufacturing electronics, etc. in this country we'll be forced to get them from countries who could care less about the environment or the air we breathe. Polymet's NorthMet Project will create up to 1,000 very much needed jobs in this region of our state. These jobs will play an important role in sustaining the viability of the Iron Range, not to mention the \$515 million boost to St. Louis county annually. Polymet is a solid company that is wholly committed to doing the right thing for our environment and the people of Minnesota. That is why I am in favor of Polymet's NorthMet Project.

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Attachments: