EbindV MAY 2 2008

Jenna Yanik
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Rep Knollenberg
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RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
NOT ACKNOWLEDGED

The Honorable Vernon J. Ehlers
United States House of Representatives
2182 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-2203

Dear

Hello. My name is Jenna Yanik. I am writing to you to discuss an environmental issue that I believe is very important in our state. You see, Michigan is known for it's nice waters and beautiful wild lands, so why would we want to ruin that in any way. We want to make sure that we do whatever is possible to keep it non-polluted before all of it is ruined completely, so that is why I believe we need to think twice before we decide to be a lot more careful with Metallic Sulfide Mining.

As www.savethewildup.org states, "There has never been a metallic sulfide mine that has failed to pollute its watershed. Once such a reaction starts it is difficult to keep this acid drainage out of the water. When water becomes acidic it leaches out and disperses heavy metals into lakes and streams. Heavy metals are dangerous to health, wildlife, and the environment. There is more to be worried about here than "just" the coaster brook trout: when the insects and microscopic life in streams are affected it starts a chain of events that leads in unexpected and unpredictable directions affecting the fish, the birds, the predators – and us. This is NOT about people, and not about a company. It's about a *PROCESS*." They also stated that, "The legacy of sulfide mining is acid mine drainage. It poisons water forever. (2,500 - 10,000+ years.) The industrial development required to mine it on State land, in Michigan's wildest area, will destroy that wildness forever."

So, as you can see, it is a big deal. I believe if we come up with a better alternative to this situation, it will be very helpful to all. We will be able to keep the land and waters we are known for and all the living things that surround them. People will continue to come and share this with us more and more if we make the effort to keep it nicer than ever. It is something that we can't afford to lose, in any way. It's a beautiful thing we have to share with the world, and we need to do whatever it is possible to keep it that way.

Well, thank you for your time and patience. I hope you enjoyed my letter and I look forward to hearing from you.

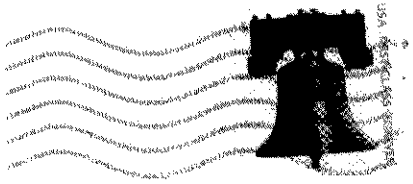
Sincerely,



Jenna Yanik

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