MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND

BOARD MEETING AGENDA
April 16, 2024
9:00am

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

III. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Chief Compliance Officer Quarterly Report 3

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Proposed March 26, 2024, Meeting Minutes 5
b. Suniva, Inc.: MBDP Write-Off Request 733
c. Greenfield Die & Manufacturing, Corp: MBDP Write-Off Request 738
d. BerQ US Investments, LLC: Private Activity Bond Inducement Extension..... 743
e. Michigan International Technology Center Redevelopment Authority: Act 381 Work Plan Amendment 748
f. CDBG-DR Infrastructure Projects 757
g. Albion Reinvestment Corporation and OZB Phase I, LLC: Phase I Big Albion Plan 766
h. 1108 Water Street, LLC: MCRP Amendment 786
i. Veridea Group, LLC: MCRP Amendment.....791

V. ATTRACT RETAIN AND GROW BUSINESS

a. Flint and Genesee Group Foundation: A resolution to approve a Strategic Site Readiness Program grant in the amount of $9,247,683 for the Flint and Genesee Group Foundation.....801
Location: Township of Mundy

b. Huntington Place Hotel: A resolution to approve an MSF Designated Renaissance Zone for Atwater & Second Associates, LLC. 816
Location: City of Detroit

VI. DEVELOP ATTRACTIVE PLACES

a. The Future of Health Transformational Brownfield Plan: A resolution to approve an Act 381 Transformational Brownfield Plan for the City of Detroit Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. 824
Location: City of Detroit

b. Maple Block Flats, LLC: A resolution to approve a Michigan Community Revitalization Program performance-based direct loan in the amount of $2,000,000 for Maple Block Flats, LLC, and State Tax Capture for Act 381

eligible activities for the Emmet County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. 846
Location: City of Petoskey

VII. SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESS

a. Meadowbrook Ag-Grid LLC: A resolution to approve a Private Activity Bond Inducement for Meadowbrook Ag-Grid LLC. 869
Location: City of Lake Odessa

VIII. INFORMATIONAL

a. Delegation of Authority Report 875

NOTE: Hyperlinked bookmarks are included on this page to aid document navigation - click on the project title to access the project memo.

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER
LANSING

KEVIN FRANCART, ESQ.
CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER

M E M O R A N D U M

April 5, 2024

TO: Honorable Gretchen Whitmer
Governor and Chairperson of the State Administrative Board.

Quentin L. Messer Jr.
President
Michigan Strategic Fund Board

FROM: Kevin L. Francart
Chief Compliance Officer

RE: FY2024 Q2 Report of the Chief Compliance Officer. January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024

The Chief Compliance Officer is required to report quarterly to the State Administrative Board and the Michigan Strategic Fund Board regarding compliance with internal policies and procedures as well as applicable laws related to MSF programs. I am pleased to report that all compliance matters addressed during the second quarter of the 2024 fiscal year were either successfully resolved, are being appropriately addressed, or are undergoing review and are currently being evaluated.

With respect to the Michigan Strategic Fund Board, the Michigan Strategic Fund Act requires the Chief Compliance Officer to review and evaluate compliance with internal policies and procedures along with applicable state and federal law. The Chief Compliance Officer (CCO), along with the AG and MEDC Legal, assisted with the Finance and Investment Subcommittee and the Policy and Planning Subcommittee. The review of the relationship with and the economic incentives provided to Michigan Community Capitol as reported previously continued. The CCO continued to assist the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget with the workgroup to implement the requirements of the Economic Development Incentive Evaluation Act, MCL 18.1751 *et seq*. The Evaluation for MSF's Capital Access programs is ongoing. The CCO assisted Board Members with Conflict of Interest questions. No conflicts were found. The three questions involved: (1) A potential conflict where a Board Member has an interest or employment relationship with a recipient of a grant, however, the grant program providing the incentive was not an MSF program they came before the MSF board, thus there was no Conflict of Interest under the MSF Conflict of Interest Policy. (2) A potential conflict when the Board Member's employer/company was approached by an investment fund that received MSF funding offering to invest in the company, however, at no time prior to the award was the Board Member aware that the Board Member's company was going to receive any funding from the investment fund or the MSF approved program in general; the specific investment fund was not identified at the time of the discussions and vote, it received funding from a larger incentive program; and any award to the Board Member's company was being made after the MSF vote and was not contingent on the Board Member's participation on the MSF Board. Based on the above facts

there is nothing to indicate that the Board Member had any knowledge of any benefit to their company at the time of the discussion and vote and any funding received by their company from the investment fund appears unrelated to their status as an MSF Board member, thus there was no Conflict of Interest under the MSF Conflict of Interest Policy. (3) A potential conflict when a Board Member's employer publicly expressed its support for a project that was coming before the MSF Board, however, the support was in principle not financial and neither the Board Member nor their organization was benefitting financially from the project. Thus there was no Conflict of Interest under the MSF Conflict of Interest Policy. The CCO assisted the MSF and the AG in review of the Michigan Strategic Site Readiness Program (SSRP) Grant To Copperwood Resources Inc., the Multiple SSRP Awards grant, and the DET Crosswinds SSRP Amendment. The CCO assisted the MSF, AG, and MSF Fund Manager in revising the Public Comments Policy under the Open Meetings Act. The CCO coordinated with the FBI in providing services to the MSF, MEDC, and incentive recipients. The CCO assisted the MSF Fund Manger, AG, and a Board Member with SSBCI Conflict of interest questions. As reported previously, the CCO was advised by the AG that an analysis of Board delegations and guidelines was being conducted, in addition the AG requested that the CCO assist the MSF Board with the creation, implementation, monitoring, and enforcement of an Investment Policy. These issues are being address by this office, the AG, MEDC, and the MSF Board through a workgroup established by Board Member Warner to address multiple topics including investments, delegations, and program guidelines. This office will assist with the drafting, monitoring, and enforcement of any policies adopted. The question previously referred to the AG regarding MCL 423.321 *et sec*., and *Wisconsin Dept of Indus, Labor & Human Relations v Gould Inc*, 475 US 282; 106 S Ct 1057; 89 L Ed 2d 223 (1986), remains outstanding. Additionally, a question from a Board member was referred to the AG in November 2023 regarding "does the MEDC have a fiduciary responsibility to the MSF Board? If so, what is it and how is it enforced/monitored?" remains outstanding as well. As reported previously, the site visit guidelines were changed by the MEDC compliance section to no longer require a minimum number of site visits, thus, site visits are being performed pursuant to the site visit guidelines.

The Chief Compliance Officer provided informal advice regarding various issues arising this quarter concerning such topics as the conflict of interest determination, authorized use of 21st century job fund funds, and compliance with established Board policy and limitations.

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
March 26, 2024

Member Present
Quentin L. Messer, Jr.

Members Joined Remotely
Britany L. Affolter-Caine
Wesley Eklund
Rachael Eubanks
John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin)
Dimitrius Hutcherson
Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich)
Dan Meyering
Leon Richardson
Charles P. Rothstein
Susan Tellier
Randy Thelen
Cindy Warner

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mr. Messer called the meeting to order at 8:59 a.m. The meeting was held in person in the Lake Michigan Conference Room at the MEDC headquarters building in Lansing.

Mr. Messer introduced Natalie Davenport, MSF Board Liaison, who conducted the attendance roll call.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution 2024-045, Approval of Consent Agenda Items
Quentin L. Messer Jr. asked if there were any questions from Board members regarding items under the Consent Agenda. There being none, Dimitrius Hutcherson motioned for the approval of the following:

a. Approval of February 27, 2024, Meeting Minutes
b. Chelsea Rockwell, LLC: MCRP Grant Amendment **2024-046**
c. Uptown Reinvestment Corporation: Performance-Based Grant Amendment **2024-047**
d. Selden Partners, LLC: MCRP Amendment **2024-048**
e. Wixom Site Redevelopment Project: MBT Brownfield Credit Amendment **2024-049**
f. MSF Public Comment Policy Revisions **2024-050**

Dimitrius Hutcherson motioned for the approval of Resolution **2024-045** to approve the consent agenda. Britany L. Affolter-Caine seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 13 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Natalie Davenport explained the process for members of the public to participate. Public comment was had.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Davenport stated that communications were emailed to the MSF Board on Friday, March 22nd, and Monday, March 25th.

MSF Subcommittee Reports

Dimitrius Hutcherson, Chair of the MSF Finance and Investment Subcommittee, and Cindy Warner, Chair of the MSF Policy and Planning Subcommittee, provided updates on subcommittee activity.

IV. ATTRACT, RETAIN, AND GROW BUSINESS

a. Resolution 2024-051 Copperwood Resources, Inc. Strategic Site Readiness Program Grant.

Michelle Grinnell, Senior Vice President of Industry and Market Services, supported by Christin Armstrong, Senior Vice President of Business Development Programs & Execution and Associate General Counsel, provided the Board with information regarding this action. This action involves the consideration of a resolution to approve a Strategic Site Readiness Program grant in the amount of up to $50,000,000 for Copperwood Resources, Inc.

Following discussion, Dimitrius Hutcherson motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-051 for the approval of the Strategic Site Readiness Program grant. Cindy Warner seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 13 ayes, 0 nays, 0 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None.

Quentin L. Messer, Jr. announced that agenda items VII.a "Future Heritage Fund GP, LLC" and VII.b "Venture Investor Health Fund 7 (Michigan) LP" will go before agenda item V.b "M-1 RAIL."

Cindy Warner, recused, left the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

V. SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESS

a. Resolution 2024-052 SSBCI 2.0 Small Business Venture Capital Program Funding for The Future Heritage Fund, LP. Chris Cook, Managing Director of Capital Access, supported by Derek Batts, Managing Partner and Chief Investment Officer of Union Heritage Capital, Nia Batts, Chief Marketing Officer of Union Heritage Capital, Joshua Tooker, Principal at Union Heritage Venture Partners, Ashley Reid, Principal and Director of Platform at Union Heritage, and Dug Song, co-founder and general manager of Duo Security, provided the Board with information regarding this action. This action involves the consideration of a resolution to approve State Small Business Credit Initiative 2.0 Venture Capital Program funding in the amount of up to $11,000,000 in the form of a limited partner investment for The Future Heritage Fund, LP.

Following discussion, Britany L. Affolter-Caine motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-052 for the approval of SSBCI 2.0 Small Business Venture Capital Program for The Future Heritage Fund, LP. Dimitrius Hutcherson seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 12 ayes, 0 nays, 1 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen; Nays: None; Recused: Cindy Warner.

Cindy Warner rejoined the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Randy Thelen left the meeting at 11:23 a.m.

b. Resolution 2024-053 SSBCI 2.0 Small Business Venture Capital Program Funding for Venture Investors Health Fund 7 (Michigan) LP. Chris Cook, Managing Director of Capital Access, supported by Jim Adox, Executive Managing Director of Venture Investors Health Fund, and Michael Psarouthakis, Executive Director of Impact Investments and Strategic Alliances at the University of Michigan Innovation Partnerships, provided the Board with information regarding this action. This action involves the consideration of a resolution to approve State Small Business Credit Initiative 2.0 Venture Capital Program investment in the amount of up to $11,000,000 in the form of a limited partner investment for Venture Investors Health Fund 7 (Michigan) LP.

Following discussion, Quentin L. Messer, Jr. motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-053 for the approval of SSBCI 2.0 Small Business Venture Capital Program for Venture Investors Health Fund 7 (Michigan) LP. Charles P. Rothstein seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None

IV. ATTRACT, RETAIN, AND GROW BUSINESS

b. Resolution 2024-054 M-1 RAIL Michigan Business Development Program Loan Agreement Amendment. Amiee Evans, Chief of Staff and Governance, supported by Lisa Nuszkowski of M-1 RAIL, provided the Board with information regarding this action. This action involves the consideration of a resolution to approve an amendment to a Michigan Business Development Program loan agreement to change the repayment terms of the loan by substituting the current payment structure with an Acknowledgment Rights model.

Following discussion, Leon Richardson motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-054 for the approval of the Michigan Business Development Program loan agreement amendment. Quentin L. Messer seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None

c. Resolutions 2024-055 and 2024-056 Piston Automotive, LLC Michigan Business Development Program Grant and State Essential Services Assessment Exemption. Ericka Swayne, Business Development Manager, supported by Jerry Ruskowski of Piston Company, provided the Board with information regarding these actions. These actions involve the consideration of a resolution to approve a Michigan Business Development Program performance-based grant in the amount of up to $8,500,000 and a resolution to approve a 15-year 100% State Essential Services Assessment Exemption with an estimated value of up to $1,789,480 for its $80,382,857 eligible investment in Eligible Personal Property.

Following discussion, Leon Richardson motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-055 for the approval of the Michigan Business Development Program grant. Dimitrius Hutcherson seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None.

Dimitrius Hutcherson left the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Michael B. Kapp motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-056 for the approval of the State Essential Services Assessment exemption. Quentin L. Messer, Jr. seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None

d. Resolution 2024-057 Alticor Inc. Michigan Business Development Program Grant. Christopher Buck, Strategic Accounts Executive, supported by Brittney Mizer, Business Development Project Manager, Michael Nelson, Chief Operating & Chief People Officer at Amway, and Brian Kraus, Vice President of Manufacturing at Amway, provided the Board with information regarding this action. This action involves the consideration of a resolution to approve a Michigan Business Development Program grant in the amount of up to $2,000,000.

Following discussion, Quentin L. Messer, Jr. motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-057 for the approval of the Michigan Business Development Program grant. Leon Richardson seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None

VI. DEVELOP ATTRACTIVE PLACES

a. Resolution 2024-058 Hotel Rose, LLC Michigan Community Revitalization Program Other Economic Assistance Loan Participation. Mackenzie Miller, Community Development Manager, supported by Julius Edwards, Director of Commercial Real Estate Investment, Ryan Wheeler, President of Wheeler Development Group, and Thad Beard, City Manager at the City of Rockford, provided the Board with information regarding this action. This action involves the consideration of a resolution to approve a Michigan Community Revitalization Program Other Economic Assistance Loan Participation in the amount of up to $3,250,000 for Hotel Rose, LLC.

Following discussion, Quentin L. Messer, Jr. motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-058 for the approval of the Michigan Community Revitalization Program other economic assistance loan. Michael B. Kapp seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: Randy Thelen

VIII. Informational

a. Quentin L. Messer, Jr., noted the Michigan Strategic Fund Delegation of Authority Report for the period February 1, 2024, to February 29, 2024, was included in the meeting packet. There were no questions regarding the report.

Wesley Eklund left the meeting at 12:12 p.m.

Quentin L. Messer, Jr., noted that the resolution for the Wixom Site Redevelopment Project Area B under consent agenda item II.e “Wixom Site Redevelopment Project: MBT Brownfield Credit

Amendment" was inadvertently left out of the meeting packet. The resolution was provided to the MSF Board via email.

Quentin L. Messer, Jr. motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-059 for the approval of the Wixom Site Redevelopment Project Area B Brownfield Redevelopment Michigan Business Tax Credit Amendment. John Groen seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None

Quentin L. Messer, Jr. adjourned the meeting at 12:14 p.m.

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
DIRECTOR

January 21, 2022

Ms. Katelyn Wilcox
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

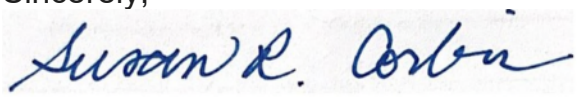
Re: Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Designees

Dear Ms. Wilcox:

Pursuant to MCLA 16.51, I hereby confirm my designation of John Groen and Jonathan Smith as the persons authorized and empowered to act in my stead as a member of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board for scheduled meetings or portions thereof that I am unable to attend.

If you need anything additional, please contact Diane Burton at (517) 230-5454. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Susan R. Corbin
Director

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

Ms. Rhonda Bishop
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund Office
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Bishop:

I hereby confirm and ratify my designation of Michael B. Kapp, Administrator, Michigan Department of Transportation, as the person authorized and empowered to act in my stead for Michigan Strategic Fund meetings that I am unable to attend.

Sincerely,

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

March 20, 2024

MSF Fund Manager
MEDC
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan

Dear Fund Manager,

This is to advise that I am recusing myself from voting and excuse myself during the discussion of the following item on the Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Agenda on March 26, 2024.

- Hotel Rose, LLC, MCRP loan request

The reason for my recusal is I have a potential conflict with this item due to a potential MSF grant to RPI related to this project.

Sincerely,



Randy Thelen

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

Subject: FW: Union Heritage Board Agenda Item

From: Cindy Warner <cindy.warner@360OFME.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 3:50 PM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Subject: Union Heritage Board Agenda Item

Hello Matt,

I will need to recuse myself on the Union Heritage Fund agenda item, as I have spoken to some members of this team regarding funding for my technology company and in general know Derek and his daughter somewhat. I do not feel comfortable making a decision on their request that is on the agenda, therefore would like to recuse myself from the discussion and voting on this item.

Can you please let me know if this is sufficient to do the recusal or if you will need some other form/format to do so.

All the best,
Cindy

Cindy Warner
CEO/Founder
360ofMe.com
1-844-360-ofme x700
cindy.warner@360ofme.com

"When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace. Jimi Hendrix"

From:	Carl
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	$50 million grant for the Copperwood project
Date:	Thursday, February 8, 2024 8:11:29 AM

To whom it may concern,

People who believe that “renewable” energy can help solve climate change are misinformed. Because the facts are that they will not. And the truth, based on facts, will always trump belief. I am not a climate denier, but you don’t have to be a climate denier to know that these things are bad and are doomed to failure. And you also don’t have to be linked to the fossil fuel industry. Truth be told, most of these rebuildable extractive energy companies have ties to fossil fuel companies. In reality what is really going on, aboondoggle, that you won’t hear about in mainstream corporate media because they only give disinformation, is this. That after years of rebuildable energy, solar and wind infrastructure, the world used more fossil fuels in 2023 than it did in 2022, as it did the year before that and the year before that. We are in fact using more fossil fuel than ever before. From 61 thousand terawatts-hours of primary energy consumption in 1973, which was the year of the OPEC oil embargo, when governments began to massively support research and development of large wind turbines and solar panels, to 137 thousand today. Well over twice as much. In that same period of time emissions went from 17 billion metric tons of CO2 emissions to the 37 billion metric tons today. A 20 billion metric ton increase in the last 50 years. And after all of that, 80% of our energy use still comes from fossil fuels. The percent of US energy use from electricity has remained the same, about 20%. Of that, wind turbines account for 7% and solar energy provides 2% of total US electricity used. So the dream of a 100% electric power supply is just that, a dream.

Why? Because these energy intense extractive technologies require massive amounts of fossil fuels to produce and those emissions are adding onto what is already being used, not subtracting(Jevons paradox). Thus spewing more planet-heating carbon dioxide into the atmosphere at a time when greenhouse gas emissions world wide must nosedive to stop extreme weather from growing more unpredictable and violent. The only reason CO2 emission may drop in countries installing rebuildable extractive energy and electric vehicles is because they have outsourced the mining and manufacture of these machines to other countries. Thus increasing the CO2 emissions in those countries. And LNG has replaced dirty coal to run power plants. Add on to all of this, easy access resources are gone. So the

Energy Return On Investment(EROI) has gone down sharply in that time. Instead of Jeb shooting for some food, we have to use fracking and offshore drilling, mountaintop removal and deep sea mining. In the foreseeable future, the energy needed to produce our energy needs could approach unsustainable levels, a phenomenon called "energy cannibalism."

If this continues, the so called "green" energy transition will in fact be an energy correction, complements of Mother Nature, bigger and more storms, flooding, fire, drought and biodiversity collapse. There are no more natural disasters, these more powerful weather events are man made.

> Nature is not more complicated than you think, it is more complicated than you CAN think" ~Frank Edwin Egler

Rebuildable extractive energy capturing machines are not clean except through greenwashing and are only making our predicament worse. In fact the trillions in government subsidies given to this sector only makes the rich richer. The Inflation Reduction Act(IRA) should more appropriately be called the 4th Industrial Revolution Act. This is government redistribution of wealth from the working class to offshore transnational state sponsored corporations and the wealthy financial class which are also principally owned by fossil fuel companies. And ultimately any money that is offered by them as payouts for grants, agreements, promotion or mitigation will come from the utility ratepayer. This is a scam that is not financially feasible without trillions in government subsidies. This is what their balance sheet looks like. What is done to environment is even worse.

Wildlife and rebuildable energy machines are an uncomfortable mix. The mining and manufacturing process is done at the expense nature. The building process is a kind of war zone. The noise and devastation are a disaster to fragile ecosystem habitats. Consider how you would feel if these massive monsters were put up next to your house in your town. Your health would be adversely effected. Life can not exist if the delicate balance is disrupted. These projects are doomed to failure in more ways than one.

True resilience and sustainability comes by thinking globally and acting locally. The land base that people live on should be able to, on its own, continually feed, clothe and house the people that live on it. It makes no sense to destroy the sustainable food provided by the ocean in order to keep the lights on. It is preferable to eat in the dark than to starve in the light. Also know that fish farms are in the same league as wind farms. It is an enclosure of the commons for corporate control of our food supply, what they call "The Blue Economy". What we need is food sovereignty.

How do we know that rebuildable energy will be a “pain” now and into the future for fishing, tourism, cultural heritage, beauty, integrity, stability, sustainability, ecological balance and quality of life? Millions of dollars are offered up to mitigate (bribe) it.

How to Convince a Community to Destroy Their Future

Step 1. Think About a Suitable Name for Your Destructive Project

Change the name from Pilgrim and Mayflower(tone deaf) to South Coast Wind or Vineyard Wind(more like Graveyard). Call it “clean”, “green”, “renewable” energy that is the solution to climate change(save our lifestyle not the planet). With the proper branding, people can drink any poison.

Step 2. Get the Local Government on Your Side

Pay off the local politicians to agree and hand out licenses. Tell them there is nothing they can do to stop it so they should just get the best Good Neighbor Host Agreement possible or get nothing.

Step 3. Lobby as Much as Possible to Bend the Law

Create legal loopholes and tax credits for corporations, behind closed doors. Speed up the “permit” the destruction process. Buy-off federal and state politicians and corporate capture regulatory agencies. Nobody wants these in their backyard, let’s just put them out to sea.

Step 4. Presents! Buy Off Public Opinion

The major ENGOs have entered into agreement with offshore wind: Natural Resources Defense Council, National Wildlife Federation, and Conservation Law Foundation andtaken money Sierra Club, Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund, Environmental League of Mass., etc. along with aquariums, universities and the media.

Step 5. Create Chaos and Conflict; Divide the Community in Two Camps.

Tout the temporary “good paying union” jobs you will create over the permanent sustainable jobs, fishing and tourism, destroyed forever. Destroying a food source never makes good sense. What is truly needed at this time of ecological collapse is food soveignty. Then don’t forget to accuse those opposed to offshore wind of promoting “disinformation”. Push it as a choice in political values, Republicans against Democrats.

Step 8. Having Wreaked Havoc, Now Frame It as a Successful Story of Growth and Prosperity

Sincerely,

Carl van Warmerdam

Protect the Porkies, Protect Lake Superior— Stop the Copperwood Mine!

From: Glenn Kowalske
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: $50M grant for Copperwood
Date: Monday, February 26, 2024 2:40:34 PM

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Member,

https://us01.z.antigena.com/l/mlogLkbU9gkOr61P6nSyQiqpB5M1m6LrQ_H4fONAk0LvZajK84~aEAc9pBXPOohHHzPAGT3BSzRPraIz2oJSi0GS91hqlqHqbMMesq-iigBMrFigAUyuETQaPA7B-SXSLoIYMBtSKohPyQ26gzQX08i4bDQF459_lE5I0D4lbCkBhQSGFSDtUXrLrv2UkQOfY8nfRokJ6Xk-CCXPamVa13bgaN9uZC9poDlryRt-6Lny~3_NskLx1zb

I am appalled that the State of Michigan would consider this large subsidy for mining in a fragile, and beautiful, part of our state. Copper being a high demand commodity in today's electricity driven industrial environment should be enough to provide the necessary investment for mining operations (the free market). To use Michigan Taxpayer money for this is irresponsible.

Instead, the State of Michigan should provide the protection and oversite to ensure that this mine, and other industrial and mining operations, do not pollute and destroy our environment.

Glenn Kowalske, P.E.
15548 17 ½ Mile Rd.
Marshall, MI 49068
269-282-4401

From:	John
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	"Public comment for February 27th board meeting,"
Date:	Monday, February 19, 2024 6:13:56 AM

Board Members -

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit comments as you consider a grant request from Highland Copper to help them fund the Copperwood Mine project slated for the Western Upper Peninsula.

I am writing today to ask that you specifically deny Highland Copper's request and permanently close their grant request.

By now I am sure you have heard many reasons for not granting Highland's request; they are a Canadian company that does not have the market capitalization to fund their own project to-date, the proposed mine is too close to Lake Superior, the proposed mine is too close to the North Country Trail (a newly designated National Park), etc.

But most recently, Fodors, an internationally recognized travel guide, has placed the entire Lake Superior region on their "no" list for 2024. Please refer to https://www.fodors.com/news/news/fodors-no-list-2024

One might think that the list is a compilation of places Fodor's reviles. On the contrary, it is a list of places they revere.

The number one threatened place based on Water Quality and Sufficiency (**in the world**) is Lake Superior. The Lake was placed on the "no" list in part because of the continued pollution related fish consumption advisories and algae blooms, both of which could very well be further exacerbated by the proposed mining activities. Human activity so close to the lake, including tourism, has also contributed to the "no" ranking.

With that, I would once again respectfully ask that you deny Highland Copper's request.

Thank you.

John

John Burton Frick
Cell/Text: (906) 360-3458

From: mark mcgrath
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: 2-27-24 Board Meeting
Date: Monday, February 26, 2024 8:11:10 PM

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board,

I am writing to express my opposition regarding Highlander Copper's proposed sulfide-ore copper mine in section 5 north of Wakefield Michigan, south of Lake Superior, west of the Presque Isle River, and East of the Black River. The importance of the aforementioned watersheds should be enough to stop this project, and let us not forget the close proximity of the proposed mine to the Porcupine Mountains State Park and its extensive old growth hardwood forest. I am a forty five year resident of Ontonagon and Gogebic counties. I do not want my tax dollars to subsidize Highland Copper. This company has no mining experience, and if they do not have enough capital then the project will end. The Keweenaw Land Association, who owns the land, has changed their business model from forestry to mining as of 12-27-2021. I understand that this business model is a way to maximize dollars for shareholders. A sulfide-ore copper mine is a very careless and reckless way to make money considering the location. My tax dollars would be better spent purchasing the land or blocking this project.

Thank you,
Mark McGrath

From: Tom Grotewohl
Subject: 21 Reasons Not to Invest in Copperwood
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024 12:35:05 PM

Hello,

I found this video very informative: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0mdl_lLPQw

Environmental concerns aside, Copperwood seems like a terrible business investment.

Sincerely,
Tom Grotewohl
Upper Peninsula resident

From: SUSAN BELANGER
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Beloved sacred Porkies
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:16:23 PM

Please save one of our last UP wild places from destruction like this mine would bring.
Please.
Keep the “wild” in wilderness.
Sincerely,
Sue Belanger

Sent from my iPhone on this beautiful day!

From:	Concerned Citizen
To:	MEDC MSF Comments; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@Michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Cancel Copperwood: Will history remember you as hero or villain?
Date:	Thursday, February 8, 2024 8:12:30 AM

Michigan Strategic Fund board members et al.,

I write to express my deep opposition to the proposed grant for the Copperwood copper mine project that poses tremendous risks to our beloved Lake Superior, local biodiversity, old growth forests, and vibrant tourism industry.

The fact that this venture is spearheaded by a foreign company, comfortably distant from the devastating consequences it may bring, is deeply troubling. Our precious Lake Superior deserves better than becoming a casualty in their purely-profit-focused endeavors. We cannot afford to ignore the environmental catastrophe waiting to happen in our own backyard. **We cannot afford - nor do we have the right - to put 10% of the entire world's fresh water at risk**.

Allow me to emphasize that allocating a staggering $50MM to such a project is incredibly misguided, especially when we have far more pressing and locally impactful needs that demand our attention. We also have far better opportunity to do right. In an era where electronic waste is polluting our landfills and leaching dangerous toxins into our soil and water, investing in local e-waste recycling initiatives promises a brighter and healthier future for our next generations. **Statewide e-waste recycling programs could yield more copper than Copperwood at significantly lower cost and environmental impact**, in addition toother precious metals i.e., gold and platinum**. Yet MI only provided a $250k grant for e-waste in 2023 - 200x less than the proposed Copperwood grant. How does that add up?**

Imagine the positive impact we could achieve by directing that $50MM towards the development of state-of-the-art infrastructure, educational programs, and awareness campaigns aimed at tackling the mounting e-waste crisis. Our environment would benefit greatly, and the MI economy would flourish through job creation and sustainable practices. **Importantly, e-waste recycling jobs would be created throughout the entire state in lieu of being concentrated in one, low-population economic area.** You could take it even further - landfill mining has been shown to be profitable and ripe with opportunity.

Given the extreme opposition to the Copperwood mine from concerned citizens like me, and the clear economic superiority and longevity of investing in e-waste and/or landfill mining programs over greenfield prospective mines, I can only suspect that **you, the decision makers, are acting not out of respect for our community and its best interests, but rather out of personal gain**. Lobbying has no place in deciding the fate of our current and future generations; in destroying irreplaceable old-growth forests and in polluting 10% of the worlds fresh water.

I implore you to deny the $50MM grant for the atrocity named Copperwood. **Instead, pursue ethical investments that would enrich our communities and preserve the natural wonders that define our beautiful state**. Let us stand united as guardians of Lake Superior, protectors of local biodiversity, champions of our booming tourism industry, and innovators in the e-waste circular economy.

Together, we have the power to make that right choice. Not only Michigan's future depends on it.

Will history remember you as hero or villain?

~ Concerned Citizen

From: Jaci Christenson
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Cancel the $50M to Copperwood
Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 10:42:35 AM

Greetings!

I am a lifelong Minnesotan and have spent a lifetime going to Porcupine Mountain State Park in all seasons. I go for the wilderness, the opportunity to see wildlife (whether I see them or not, the thrill is in knowing I might), to walk with the old growth hemlocks and to be at the shores of Lake Superior. It is the reason that I go to Michigan, not because there aren't other beautiful places in Pure Michigan but because of my three generation tradition to go to the Porkies. I do not own property--but I bring my recreation dollars to the area.

So I am baffled. Why would Michigan (Michigan Strategic Fund to be exact) invest $50 million dollars in a copper sulfate mine?
-With a 100% failure rate in water rich environments
-Owned by a foreign corporation
-By Michigan Economic Development--the same people that promote PURE MICHIGAN
-In Porcupine State Park, named "the most beautiful park in the country"
-Mining 100' from Lake Superior, which incidentally, I as a Minnesotan have a responsibility to protect
-Generating 98.5% toxic waste, 171' deep
-Where the waters/contaminants flow towards Lk Superior
-AND without consent from Anishinaabeg and 1842 Treaty people

Why this risk? Why not invest $50 million in copper recycling or any other number of things that benefit many over a few?

I am grateful for the 4 MSF board members who have expressed doubts about this grant and I can only hope that as other board members learn more about the risks/liabilities they will embrace PURE MICHIGAN--PURE WATER, PURE AIR & PURE LANDS.

Protect the Porkies!
Thank You!
Jaci Christenson
12309 Fiona Ave N
White Bear Lake MN 55110

From:	sandy@communitybroadcast.org
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	comment for MSF
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 7:38:33 PM

The attached comments are from Sandy Lyon, P.O. Box 354, Stone Lake WI 54876

Thank you for your consideration. My sister's family lives in Bear Lake MI and we all love the U.P. in the exact condition is currently in.

My attached comment may sound humorous, but, please take it seriously, for it contains some very real facts.

Fact number one is There has never been a successfully reclaimed metallic sulfide mine anywhere in a water rich environment like the Great Lakes area. In fact the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources could not locate any successfully reclaimed metallic sulfide mine that has not polluted the surrounding water. Including the so called "Flambeau Mine" in Ladysmith Wisconsin (which is currently polluting the Flambeau River located just 120 feet from the mine pit). THAT deposit was a surprising 10% copper (a MUCH higher percent of "product" verses "waste" when compared to the proposed "Copperwood" mine which has only .5 percent copper). The higher the percent of copper the less waste. Waste will produce acid mine drainage, a chemical reaction once started that can not be stopped. The so called "Copperwood" metallic sulfide mine uphill and upstream from Lake Superior would have much more waste than Ladysmith (in fact at that mine Kennecott Copper hauled all the waste via rail to Timmins Ontario, so very little waste was left onsite. But it still was unable to receive the "Certificate of Completion" by the WDNR because even that small mine is now polluting. A much bigger and lower grade copper mine would leave even more acid mine drainage materials behind, for current and future generations to deal with, if even possible.

Please read my comments as to how to deal with the this issue for this proposed metallic sulfide mine in the U.P.

From:	Kerry Dennison
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Comment from professional mine inspector: Copperwood situated on dangerous fault line
Date:	Wednesday, March 20, 2024 10:56:00 AM

Hello,

I have over 32 years in the underground mining experience, mostly in West Virginia and the state of Idaho. I have a degree from the University Colorado in mining and I am a graduate of the federal mining underground rescue academy and qualified mine inspector and fully licensed to instruct in all phases of the mining industry. And I have a geology degree from the Tug Valley Institute in Mingo County West Virginia from my coal Mine days. In short, I know what I'm talking about.

I have studied the proposed underground mine maps and I have studied all of the geology of this proposed area. Even if you go all the way back to the Foster and Whitley study of this area **it is a highly dense fault line zone.** In this area of the Porkies you also have very unstable, very wet ground which could automatically lead to underground collapse and floodings. The old Atlantic mine collapsed from a similar situation. These would be extremely unsafe mining practices considering the distance between their levels and the existing fault lines.

Even if the mine gets all of its permits in place, I predict in the unstable ground they will have catastrophic underground collapse, followed by very high volume water flow which will wipe out all of the underground workings. You would think the engineers would recommend for them to proceed with this project, but it's possible that the engineers have been muted for the sake of gaining investors.

Anyhow, just my two cents as a professional mine inspector.

Kerry Denison

From:	Kristen Haitaian
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Comment on Copperwood Mine Funding
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 8:40:31 PM
Attachments:	Michigan Strategic Fund Copperwood Mine Comment 3_25_24.pdf

Dear Members of the Board,

Please see the attached comment requesting a rejection of the $50M grant to Highland Copper.

Thank you,

Kristen Haitaian
Howell, Michigan

From: James Galbraith
Subject: Comment: Highland Copper asking for grant $$$ they already received
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 9:57:47 AM

Hello,

The grant proposal says that Highland Copper is requesting $5M in order to "turn Co Rd 519 into a Class A road, allowing year-round access to the State Park." However, Co Rd 519 **is already a year-round road.** They already plow it after snowfall. You can already reach the State Park any day of the year. So they're asking for money for a thing which is already done.

And according this article from 5 years ago, **they were already awarded $4.8M by MDOT for this very purpose**: "Turning Co. Rd. 519 into a Class A road allowing for use 365 days a year."

Does anyone else feel the deja vú? They are asking for money they already received five years ago, in the name of a job which is already completed. Before voting on this ludicrous project, I suggest you clear up why they are double dipping.

And there seem to be a number of other errors in the grant proposal, which make it seem like quite dubious document indeed.

Hope you all research this thoroughly before awarding taxpayer dollars to such a divisive project.

Sincerely,
J. W. Galbraith

From:	Brenda Moseley
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Comment: Highland Copper Grant Proposal
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 3:55:23 PM
Attachments:	copperwood.pdf

Dear Members of the Board:

Please reject Highland Copper's request for a $50 million grant. The company has had over a decade to attract investors to their very short-term boom and bust mining project. They have failed to do so despite times of higher copper prices, and the State of Michigan shouldn't be the one to subsidize a Canadian limited-liability corporation seeking to build a mine on the border of one of the last remaining areas of protected old-growth forest and wilderness in the Midwest. The project would turn the road to Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park's Presque Isle unit into an industrial corridor and harm the growing tourism and outdoor recreation industries in Gogebic County. Those citing the economic benefits of these projects usually fail to discuss the negative economic consequences or the added costs to the cities due to the boom-bust nature of the project. And if the tailings pile sloping toward Superior were to fail, the long-term economic loss could be catastrophic.

I haven't been able to read all of Highland Copper's reports, but unless the company has done more recent testing that I am not aware of, the design of the project and the computer models used to determine future risks by the firm hired to complete Copperwood's EIS, may be flawed by reliance on two years of hydrological readings made during atypical dry years. The state also indicated that Highland Copper only needed to show that their project could withstand a 100-year storm event and a 50-year combined rainfall and snowmelt event. But in 2024, many scientists are challenging these assumptions and arguing that these measurements are no longer accurate due to our increasingly unstable climate. Flooding in Wisconsin and Michigan's UP is becoming more frequent and more severe due to warmer air that can hold more moisture, and responsible investment should be based on an accurate assessment of risks rather than outdated regulations.

Highland Copper is also counting on higher costs for copper, but many are motivated to find cheaper and less environmentally damaging alternatives. Recycling copper is becoming more economically attractive and is estimated to have less than 1/8 of the environmental consequences of original extractions. Others are working to make aluminum far more conductive and have even shown how aluminum, at its standard 60% conductivity, can replace copper in most green energy applications through redesign and the application of simple new technologies. Carbon nanotubes can be possible replacements for copper wiring. And more novel concepts are under development.

We don't need to sacrifice one of the last great nature sanctuaries in the Midwest on the alter of green energy. And if you really want to see what $50 million can do, see what can happen if you use it to promote small businesses.

Thank you,

Brenda Moseley

Resident of Ironwood, Michigan

From: Ryan Bishop
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments on Copperwood Mine
Date: Monday, February 26, 2024 2:06:24 PM

Dear MSF Board Members:
I am a lifelong Michigander and Upper Peninsula resident. I'm writing today to urge you to DENY the $50 million grant to Highland Copper for the Copperwood Mine by voting NO on the grant at the MSF board meeting. This risky investment is a terrible decision for the State of Michigan to make, for environmental as well as economic reasons.

Highland Copper, a Canadian "junior mining" company, touts the number of jobs created by the Copperwood Mine as a huge boost for the local and state economy. However, many of the best-paying jobs won't go to Michiganders. Although the Upper Peninsula will be the frontlines of extraction, Highland says the copper-concentrate will then be shipped off to Ontario, Quebec, or even Europe or Asia for further processing. Michigan should not be financing a foreign company who outsources so much of its labor.

Copperwood is actually more likely to negatively impact the local economy in the long-term. A study done by Dr. William Freudenburg of UW-Madison and UC-Santa Barbara analyzes the quantitative impacts of mines on nonmetropolitan areas in the U.S. and shows that only 29% of mines led to a positive economic outcome for rural communities. Half of those cases came from before 1982, and the majority of them came from the western U.S. The study concludes by saying, "there is surprisingly little evidence that mining will bring about economic good times, while there is a good deal of evidence for expecting just the opposite." Should Michigan be paying to perpetuate an industry which is more likely to impoverish this area in the long term than enrich it?

Thank you for taking the time to carefully consider my comments. Please, vote NO to DENY Highland Copper's request for a $50 million investment from the State of Michigan. The future of the Lake Superior shoreline and outdoor recreation viability of the Upper Peninsula is critically important to me and my community. I urge you to be on the right side of history and do what is within your power as an MSF board member to prevent these potentially catastrophic impacts to the Porcupine Mountains and Lake Superior watershed.
Respectfully,

Ryan Bishop

From:	Emilyn Staat
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Comments on the Copperwood Mine
Date:	Sunday, February 25, 2024 1:27:57 PM

Dear MSF Board Members:

I am a lifelong Michigander and a current Upper Peninsula resident. I'm writing today to urge you to **DENY** the $50 million grant to Highland Copper for the Copperwood Mine by voting **NO** on the grant at the MSF board meeting. This risky investment is a terrible decision for the State of Michigan to make, for environmental as well as economic reasons.

Mining is an important part of UP history and the current economy, and responsible mining should continue to happen. **However, this mine is NOT ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE**. The Copperwood Mine plans to be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior ever constructed. There has **never been a sulfide mine that did not contaminate nearby waters.** Sulfide mining is dangerous because the mining process pulls the mineral from a sulfide-rich ore body, producing sulfides as a byproduct. If exposed to air or water, sulfides create sulfuric acid, an extremely toxic chemical. Copperwood's Copper ore grade is averaged at 1.5%. That means for every ton (2,000 lbs) of material extracted from the ground, at best 30 lbs will be copper, and 1,970 lbs will be heavy metal-laden waste rock that will need to be treated and stored on-site forever. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, heavy metal-laden waste, requiring on-site storage, forever. Again, there has *never* been a sulfide mine that did not contaminate nearby waters.

Additionally, Copperwood's tailings dam design has a high risk of rupturing. Because of the mine's short anticipated lifespan, its infrastructure is only designed to withstand 100-year storm events, but the immediate area has seen two 1000-year storms in the past decade. If a rupture occurs, cleanup would likely be almost impossible due to the immediate impacts on Lake Superior, but efforts would cost billions. The risk of catastrophic ruptures is so high that insurance companies in the US and Canada have stopped providing coverage for tailings dams after 2019's deadly tailings dam failure in Brazil; those that still provide insurance have increased the costs by double or more. This sulfide mine's proximity to Lake Superior, which holds 10% of the world's surface freshwater and is the cleanest, coldest, and largest of the Great Lakes, poses an extreme risk to not only the lake environment but also the health and safety of Michiganders and others who rely on the Superior watershed for clean drinking water.

This plan is also **not financially responsible**. If Copperwood is as lucrative as Highland Copper claims, then where are all the investors, and where's the company's stability? After more than a decade of planning, Highland Copper's market cap has stagnated, and they still have only 10% of the necessary capital to begin construction. **The State of Michigan should not be bailing out a failing Canadian company.** Additionally, just a few months

ago, Highland Copper's CEO stepped down with no explanation. And he's not alone; Highland Copper has had 4 CEOs in the past decade. If this project is so risky that it can't keep investors *or* employees, it is too risky for the State of Michigan to endorse.

Thank you for taking the time to carefully consider my comments. Please, vote **NO** to **DENY** Highland Copper's request for a $50 million investment from the State of Michigan. The future of the Lake Superior shoreline and outdoor recreation viability of the Upper Peninsula is critically important to me and my community. I urge you to be on the right side of history and do what is within your power as an MSF board member to prevent these potentially catastrophic impacts on the Porcupine Mountains and Lake Superior watershed.

Respectfully,

Emilyn Staat
1718 Fitch Ave
Marquette, MI, 49855

From:	Anna Bunting
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	obiobiobi@ameritech.net
Subject:	Comments on the Copperwood Resources Inc. Grant Request
Date:	Monday, February 26, 2024 9:48:04 AM
Attachments:	Comments on the Copperwood Resources Inc.docx

Hello - Please see Dick Dragiewicz's comments on the grant request for Copperwood Resources Inc attached below. Thank you!

--

Anna Bunting (she/they)
Program Co-Director
anna@freshwaterfuture.org | 248-807-3065
Freshwater Future | Follow us | Facebook
I am currently residing in the traditional unceded territory of the Anishinaabe.

Comments on the Copperwood Resources Inc. Grant Request

Please don't issue Copperwood Resources Inc (Company) the requested $50,000,000 from SSRP plus the additional $5,000,000 from MDOT. Why doesn't the Company generate the necessary equity and financing for their proposed project from the private investor marketplace? What do these investors know about the proposed Copperwood mine development that isn't being shared with us? The private investor market must have good reasons to stay away.

Deny the Company's request.

Here are some reasons and facts to support denying the Company's request.

Concerns with the information contained in the January 30, 2024 MEDC Memorandum (Memo)

1. Copper is not a critical mineral according to the 2023 Secretary of Interior report. Memo p 49
2. Company is really asking for two grants. A $50,000,000 grant from SSRP and a $5,000,000 grant from MDOT. See Memo p 51 & p 52. The total is 13% of the projected cost.
3. Company says they've been meeting with community leaders. Why haven't they met with the general public and tourists, since this is a major tourist area? This action means they don't have the necessary Social License for the Copperwood project that the public doesn't want.
4. Company says their employee talent pool will come from the soon to be closed Eagle Mine. Memo p. 53. The Company won't be creating new employment it will just relocates employees from Eagle to Copperwood. With this action how can they say new jobs will be created? Sounds like creative double talk. Will there really be an increase in area employment if Copperwood is allowed to be built? How many jobs?
5. The mining industry is moving to automated processes that reduce the number of employees they hire. Does Copperwood guarantee the level of projected employment? Is the requested grant conditioned on hiring levels?
6. Michigan's Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) is supposed to monitor the work at the proposed Copperwood mine. Where will EGLE get the staff and money needed to support this work? Does their staff have hands on mining knowledge and experience for this task?
7. On Memo p. 50 Copperwood says $145,000,000 of infrastructure work will benefit the site. Did they talk with users of this area? Outdoor enthusiasts don't want this proposed construction, they want peace and quiet, not noise from blasting, milling, 24 hour lighting, etc. They come to the Porkies so they can enjoy nature. And, what about the animal and aquatic life that will be disturbed?
8. Highland Copper Company's (Highland) 2023 Feasibility Study Update on pages 1.4, 1.5, 10.1. shows there have been more than 15 attempts to open a copper mine on this site since 1953, plus Highland's numerous recent attempts. None of them developed a mine, probably due to a lack of investors equity/financing for inexperienced mining companies. Was the lack of interest a result of inadequate minerals on site? Cost to extract the minerals? Other issues? Maybe the investor market got tired of inexperienced companies continually searching for the necessary equity/financing on a less than desirable project?

9. Speaking of sharing accurate information, a 2019 contested case in Michigan's Office of Administrative Hearings, Docket No. 18-0113058, was about the issuance of a Wetlands Permit to Aquila Resources Inc (Aquila) for its proposed Back Forty metallic sulfide mine. Testimony by representatives from Michigan's Water Resources Division (WRD) factually contradicted testimony by Aquila's representatives from Foth, et al, on the wetlands issues. The WRD representatives pointed out numerous times that Aquila's representatives knew the answers that were needed to support the Back Forty, so they created formulas and reports to support the desired results and ignored the facts. Judge Pulter issued a decision on January 4, 2021 in favor of the Petitioners (Tom Boerner, Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin, and the Coalition to Save the Menominee River). The testimony in this case makes me wonder what Highland's reports and permit applications really say? This concern also relates to the lack of private investors that probably really understand the mining proposal for the Copperwood project.
10. Is the lack of investor dollars due to Highland's lack of mining experience?
11. Financial Assurance (FA) is addressed in Highland's 2023 Feasibility Study Update. Essentially it says that the necessary FA undisclosed amounts will be provided. Highland also states the FA amounts can be negotiated downward. Am concerned that the FA amounts won't be enough to solve the environmental problems created at the mine site. Reasons for this thought is that recently there have been three major tailings dam failures. Mount Polley, British Columbia in 2014 that left residents with a $1,200,000,000 bill for follow up work. In 2015 the Samarco tailings dam at Bento Rodrigues Brazil collapsed. Two international mining companies Vale and BHP, partners on this mine, are obligated to spend $9,700,000,000 on the follow up work. In 2019 the Vale tailings dam at Brumadinho Brazil collapsed. Vale, the mining company, is obligated to fund $7,000,000,000 for follow up work. These events clearly suggest that the unstated FA amounts will be inadequate and need to be substantially increased and kept in place forever, just like the tailings dam will be there forever. Fortunately, Vale and BHP have the assets to cover these costs. Highland doesn't have anywhere near enough money to solve any environmental issues it will create. Will Highland have enough money to clean up the pollution that will flow into Lake Superior? Probably not.
12. The River Alliance of Wisconsin produced a short video on the hazards of metallic sulfide mining. Here's the link to it. https://wisconsinrivers.org/back-forty-sulfide-mine/. Be sure to watch it, since it summarizes the problems associated with metallic sulfide mines.

Denying Copperwood Resources Inc.'s grant request is necessary to protect Lake Superior and the surrounding area from the pollution this proposed project would produce. This geographic area needs to stay natural so we can have peace and quiet.

Thank you,

Dick Dragiewicz

From:	Richard Dragiewicz
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	Dragiewicz Dick
Subject:	Comments on the proposed grant to Copperwoos
Date:	Monday, February 26, 2024 11:53:43 AM

Hello Michigan Strategic Fund.

Here are my comments on this proposed grant and a request to deny it.

Am requesting that the Michigan Strategic Fund deny Copperwood Resources Inc.'s request for a $50,000,000 grant and their request for $5,000,000 grant from MDOT for the following reasons:

The State of Michigan has more than 24,000 contaminated sites including 64 Superfund sites according to the Michigan's Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE). There may be more sites that haven't been formally designated yet. They all need to be cleaned up to protect the environment and residents/visitors.

https://www.house.mi.gov/hfa/PDF/EGLE/EGLE_Subcmte_Testimony_Contaminated_Sites_Presentation_3-1-22.pdf

Why would the members of the Michigan Strategic Fund want to create another contaminated site by issuing a $50,000,000 grant to Copperwood Resources Inc.?

The requested $50,000,000 could be used to clean up existing contaminated sites. This kind of program would produce most of the same economic benefits that Copperwood says the State of Michigan would enjoy from the construction of the Copperwood project. Jobs would be created and contaminated areas would become usable. And, I'm certain that the costs of cleaning up existing sites would be substantially less than solving the perpetual environmental problems that the Copperwood project would create. As you know, or should know, metallic sulfide mines ALWAYS pollute nearby water resources, this would include Lake Superior. Once this pollution starts it is unstoppable. We need clean water to survive we don't need copper to survive.

How can the inexperienced Copperwood Resources management assure the State of Michigan that they won't pollute nearby water resources? They've never developed or operated a metallic sulfide mine.

Examples of solving problems, aka preventative maintenance, before they happen include:

--[if !supportLists]-->1. <!--[endif]-->The I-696 green/blue ooze pollution work could have been solved quickly and inexpensively if not allowed to happen.

--[if !supportLists]-->2. <!--[endif]-->Inspections of the manufacturing firm Tribar in Wixom could have prevented the Huron River pollution problems. Tribar has done this before. Wonder if it was a cost savings program?

--[if !supportLists]-->3. <!--[endif]-->Repair of the Detroit River seawall that collapsed at the Revere Dock site would have been cheap compared to the cost of fixing the wall and cleaning up the pollution after the seawall collapsed.

--[if !supportLists]-->4. <!--[endif]-->The recent Mound Road building in Warren that flooded Bear Creak with contaminated material could have been prevented with inspections.

--[if !supportLists]-->5. <!--[endif]-->The Eagle mine and Humboldt Mill sites are polluting their geographic areas. What's going to prevent the water filled lake that's being used to store contaminated waste materials from overflowing in the future?

--[if !supportLists]-->6. <!--[endif]-->The Tilden iron mine wants to expand its contamination area. Not good.

--[if !supportLists]-->7. <!--[endif]-->Related to the suggestion to practice preventive maintenance on contaminated sites was the collapse of the Edenville and Sanford dams. All the authorities knew these dams weren't up to basic safety standards. Yet nothing was done to prevent the $200,000,000 area destruction. Use of

Use of Michigan Strategic Funds to clean up existing contaminated sites in the Upper Peninsula would be more beneficial to the State of Michigan than the creation of new contaminated site known as the Copperwood mine.

Another point is that Barry O'Shea, CEO of Copperwood Resources said that this grant would be an endorsement by State of Michigan. Seems to me that if the State endorses the Copperwood this is or may be a conflict. Why would the State provide an endorsement for a project that would contaminate Lake Superior and other nearby water resources?

Barry O'Shea's comment that was taken from a January 30, 2024 Detroit News article.
https://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2024/01/30/michigan-strategic-fund-board-defers-50m-request-for-u-p-copper-mine/72405581007/

"We are advanced, but we don't have firm commitments," O'Shea said. "I can tell you with certainty that an award of this nature will move the needle significantly in terms of (how) our debt providers and our equity investors look at our company. It's not only a large financial boost for the project, but it is a true endorsement."

Why can't Copperwood Resources Inc., obtain the necessary equity and debt financing from the marketplace? Is it because they are an inexperienced company that has never built and operated a metallic sulfide mine? What does the investor market know about Copperwood that is keeping them away?

The Michigan Strategic Fund shouldn't approve Copperwood's grant request. These funds could be used to correct existing contaminated sites or do other preventative maintenance items.

Thanks,

Dick Dragiewicz
obiobiobi@ameritech.net
847-924-9299

From:	cully@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of al swansen
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project
Date:	Friday, February 23, 2024 4:07:20 PM

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

As a regular tourist visitor to Michigan's UP, I strongly object to allowing this mine to go forward. Do not jeopardize the incredible natural scenery and pure natural resources of Michigan that are a draw to folks from all over the country. You will regret impacting the environment for short term gain!

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
mr al swansen
N4173 Fair Haven Ave Chili, WI 54420-8730
cully@schoolhousepress.com

From:	Lauren DiSandro
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Quentin Messer (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Concerned Constituent - Copperwood Mine Project - Strong Dissenting Public Opinion
Date:	Thursday, February 8, 2024 1:54:30 PM

Hello,

I am a life long resident of the midwest and have been recreating and spending money in Michigan many times a year. I am very concerned and strongly disagree with the copperwood mine project's attempt to gain public funding. The tailing dams, sulfide chemicals and aggressive construction will threaten and destroy our public lands as well as Lake Superior.

These lands and old growth forests must be preserved for our future generations.

- Are you aware of this petition with over 11,000 signatures opposing Copperwood's development? Contrary to what they have been told, **social license for this project is far from universal.**
- **The juncture of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior is one of the most spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the country.**
- **I PERSONALLY VISIT MANY TIMES A YEAR TO SPEND MONEY IN MICHIGAN AND WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO DO SO IF THIS DESTRUCTION OF PUBLIC LAND IS ALLOWED.**
- Why would Michigan fund a foreign company funded by foreign investors to then ship that copper out of Michigan. Why would Michigan subsidize a foreign enterprise? Review your own Feasibility Study
- If this project is a slam dunk why has Highland Copper spent over a decade scrambling to get funding together?
- Why did the Highland Copper CEO step down just a few months ago?
- Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history. Copper sulfide mines always contaminate and tailings dams are far from invincible.
- Inform them that, despite what they may have been told, copper is NOT a critical mineral and therefore there is no urgent need to fund this project.

Thank you for listening.
Kindly,
Lauren

From: Dante King
To: Dante King
Subject: Cooperwood grant is a definite not worthy of your support
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 5:44:17 PM

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund board members,

Greetings,

As a member of several boards myself, I recognize it is your fiduciary responsibility to serve the best interest or the entity that you represent. There is no way that supporting a $50 million grant for Cooperwood is in the best interest of anyone in the State of Michigan, certainly not the Porcupine Mountains or the jewel of Lake Superior.

- Are you aware of this petition with over 11,000 signatures opposing Copperwood's development? Contrary to what you have been told, **social license for this project is far from universal.**
- This is not "the middle of nowhere": **the juncture of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior is one of the most spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the country.**
- Highland Copper is a foreign company funded by foreign investors, and their own Feasibility Study (*P. 1-28; P. 19-13*) states that the copper will be shipped to Canada, Europe, or even Asia for processing— **does it make sense for Michigan to be using taxpayer dollars to subsidize a foreign enterprise?**
- If this project is such a slam dunk, **why haven't they been able to procure funding after over a decade of scrambling?**

- And why did their CEO step down **just a few months ago?**
- Outdoor recreation contributes **over $10 billion to Michigan's economy** annually; mining, **around $1 billion**. An operating mine would disrupt this thriving outdoor recreation area with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic.
- Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history. Copper sulfide mines always contaminate and tailings dams are far from invincible.
- Despite what they may have been told, copper is NOT a critical mineral and therefore there is no urgent need to fund this project.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dante King
313-443-2182
Born and raised in Michigan

From: Alec VanHorn
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Cooperwood Grant
Date: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:38:03 AM

Please do not grant Cooperwood the grant that is being considered for them.

They will destroy the industry involved with the porcupine mountains, they will poison the locals, and taint the groundwater as well as Lake Superior.

The blood will be on your hands.

From: Jillian Christensen
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copper Mine
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 9:49:47 AM

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund,

Please deny the potential copper mine in upper Michigan. The devastating effects this coppermine would have on the natural beauty the area has is heartbreaking it is even being considered. Further more, the run off into our Great Lake Superior would be a detriment to our local economy and resources. If something goes wrong, which it will based on other copper mines, highland will just declare bankruptcy and leave our tax payers in debt with ruined natural resources. Please look further into this company and what copper mining has done to other communities. We have a chance to say no. We have a chance to make the future brighter for Michiganders and lead the way protecting and securing Michigans natural beauty, natural resources, jobs, and prosperity. Please, please, please deny this grant and tell Highland No!

Regards,
Jillian Christensen

From: Nesli Karakus
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copper Mine
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 10:04:20 AM

When I heard about the possibility that a private company would be granted $50 million of public money to strip our natural resources of copper then leave toxic waste behind, I thought it was a joke or a movie plot, yet here we are. I hope Michigan doesn't sell out its people or public lands for money. We saw what happened in Flint and hope the wrong decision isn't made again. Please vote to oppose this effort to destroy our natural resources.

Best,
Nesli Karakus

From: Cindy Carter
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copper mining the Porkies
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 11:01:41 AM

You SOB's. I live in WI and frequent the UP often. NOT ANYMORE, I will take my tourism dollars to a state that is concerned about what they leave to the next 7 generations. You DO NOT CARE it is about MONEY not ENVIRONMENT. SHAME ON YOU YOU ARE ALL GOING TO BURN IN HELL FOR THIS. Cindy Carter Appleton, WI

From:	Nesli Karakus
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	kmatheny@freepress.com
Subject:	Copper Mining
Date:	Thursday, March 21, 2024 5:38:25 PM

I write to urge the Michigan Strategic Fund to decline a grant to the Canadian Firm SSR from mining the Porkies for copper for several reasons:

1) We saw with the FoxConn project and Keystone pipeline that private companies will talk up and promise “jobs” but take public money for their own benefit disregarding impact on local communities. Please do not let that happen in Michigan.

2) If the valuation of this grant is equal to the value of the company, who will pay for any problems like toxic waste or accidents should they happen? I have linked a recent disaster by a Canadian gold mining firm which caused the death of nine miners in Turkey.

3) Why would you risk the beautiful natural resources being laid to waste by foreign opportunists? As someone who loves visiting Michigan for hiking and camping, I can’t imagine why you would consider polluting your valuable natural assets not to mention destroying property value of those who live along Lake Superior.

4) If you have $50 million to invest, why not offer small business grants and microloans to those who live in the UP? Haven’t we seen that private companies aren’t interested in quality of life improvements but that it is up to us to bring good for all?

Thank you for your attention and hope you oppose the mine in UP.

Best,
Nesli Karakus



Workers missing as landslide buries gold mine in east Turkey
youtu.be

Sent from my iPhone

From: Mary Klein
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copper wood mine project.
Date: Thursday, March 21, 2024 11:46:34 AM

To whom it may concern,

Please protect the Porcupine Mountains and stop the Copper wood mine project. The Upper Peninsula is our greatest asset. I have lived in this beautiful state for my entire life and have enjoyed the Upper Peninsula on many vacations. Let's keep it beautiful for future generations.

Thank you, Mary Klein
Sent from my iPhone

From: Lisa Hendrickson
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copper
Date: Monday, February 5, 2024 3:32:44 PM

To whom it may concern,

Please reject the proposal from Highland Copper company to develop a copper operation in the Porkies! This is God‘s country, and not enough evidence to show that they will take care of this property.
Too close to our largest and cleanest Great Lake. Too many questions are unanswered.

Regards,
A concerned Yooper
Lisa Hendrickson, Ironwood.

From: Clara Schilder Manning
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperstone grant comment
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 9:12:20 AM

To the members of the Michigan Strategic Fund board:

My name is Clara Schilder Manning, and I am a college student from St. Paul, Minnesota. I would like to submit a comment regarding the proposed $50M Copperwood grant.

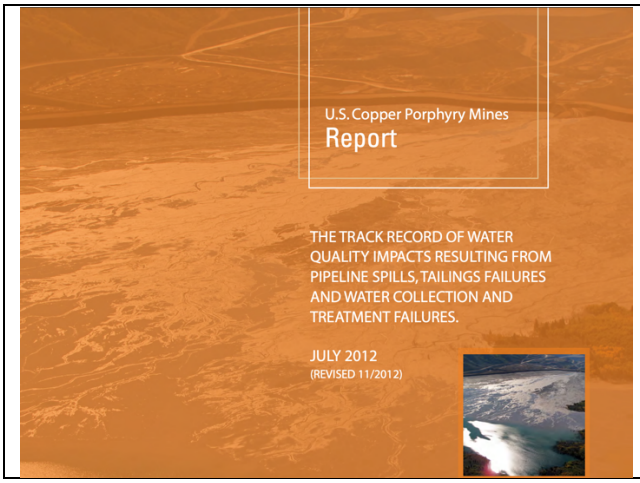
Every summer, my family and I go camping in the Porkies and I cherish every moment I get to spend there. There is something truly special about walking along the shore of Lake Superior and through an old growth forest, especially considering how rare it is for such places on this earth to still exist. I hope to someday be able to bring my own children there.

This is why I must voice my opposition to the grant to Copperwood. I ask you to please consider the long term and irreversible consequences my generation and the generations to come will have to live with. The risk of contamination to the surrounding wilderness is simply too high to justify the short term profits. Ultimately, this grant would primarily benefit Highland Copper, which is not a local company and I would argue not a stakeholder in this community. The clear stakeholders of the Porkies have strongly voiced their opposition to this proposal and I ask you to respect their concerns and consider the legacy you would like to leave.

Thank you for your consideration,
Clara

COPPER SULFIDE MINING

Contamination is not the exception; it's the rule.



In 2012, state and federal documents were reviewed for fourteen copper sulfide mines representing 89% of U.S. copper production in 2010 and found severe impacts to drinking water aquifers, contamination of farmland, contamination and loss of fish and wildlife and their habitat, and risks to public health.

RESULTS:

- At 13 of the 14 mines (92%), water collection and treatment systems have failed to control contaminated mine seepage, resulting in significant water quality impacts
- **All of the mines (100%)** experienced pipeline spills or other accidental releases
- To quote Dave Blouin of the Wisconsin Sierra Club: "These are some of the largest mining companies in the world working under American regulations designed to protect us, and yet **they all failed."**
- In some cases, water quality impacts were so severe that acid mine drainage at **the mine site will generate water pollution in perpetuity.**

Do you really want to fund such an operation not only right next door to the Porcupine Mountains — an ecologically unique old-growth forest, the largest of its kind remaining in the Midwest and the largest designated Wilderness Area in mainland Michigan — but also in unprecedented proximity to Lake Superior, 10% of the world's surface freshwater?

From:	AJ
To:	MEDC MSF Comments; LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Quentin Messer (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Copperwood < the Porkies
Date:	Saturday, February 3, 2024 12:15:57 AM

I'd like to remind the MEDC that the Porkies are not "the middle of nowhere": the juncture of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior is one of the most spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the country. Outdoor recreation contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually; mining, around $1 billion. An operating mine would disrupt this thriving outdoor recreation area with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic.

From:	ProtectThePorkies
To:	Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject:	Copperwood comment: Full list of petition signatures
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 11:10:44 AM

Hello,

As of today, our petition of opposition to the proposed Copperwood metallic sulfide mine has over 15,000 signatures— that's more than Gogebic County's entire population (13,361). At the bottom of this message I have included two documents: 1) the complete list of signatures; 2) more than 300 additional comments submitted by the petition signers.

Our analysis shows that 8 out of 10 signatures come from Michigan residents — the very folks whose tax revenue would be funding the grant. However, the remaining 2 out of 10 should not be overlooked, since these are the people who bring in much needed tourist revenue. Reminder that **outdoor recreation contributed over $12bn last year** to Michigan's economy, compared to just $1bn from mining.

But at a deeper level, we believe that Lake Superior and the Porcupine Mountains hold tremendous collective value, which is why you will see signatures not just from all over the country, but from all over the world. This is an area people have felt a strong connection to for generations, and they do not want to see it harmed. Once they see the 30+ million ton waste pile — which will be visible from both Copper Peak and the Lake of the Clouds Overlook — they will never forget it's there. Nobody should have the right to endanger Lake Superior and the Porcupine Mountains, not a few misinformed city councils in the Western UP, and especially not a failing foreign company with zero experience, who will ship the copper out of country and board up shop in a decade.

Thank you for your time.

Tom Grotewohl
www.ProtectThePorkies.com

Petition text: www.change.org/protecttheporkies

Signatures: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1UwVHTe6q5-ZupfNiY33TF_3zblv4sXFswwJAnDSe8ow/edit?usp=sharing

Comments: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/11ZDJn2i80W6Xw-oWqYckm5m8FFT5mhp0WRiFcVo6DrI/edit?usp=sharing

From: Seth Bernard
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood Grant Comment
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2024 8:53:32 AM

Hello friends,

Seth Bernard here offering a public comment on the Copperwood Mine project. I am going to try to add to the conversation by speaking from my heart and sharing some of my own story and perspective. Thanks in advance for your time reading and considering these comments.

As a professional musician, I have consistently traveled between both peninsulas for 25 years straight, connecting with thousands of individuals and communities, from Iron Mountain to Detroit, Kalamazoo to the Soo and everywhere inbetween. As the Founder and ED of Title Track (a state-wide 501c3 that supports Clean Water, Racial Equity, and Youth Empowerment), I have found wonderful partners in our state Government. I was invited to sit at the Governor's table for the signing of the education bill last summer, and have been out cross country skiing with Dave Lorenz. I'm supportive of our state's administration and current leadership. I also have great relations with Senator Peters. We are both big fans of Steely Dan:)

So with the work that I do, I have my ear to the ground and get to hear the diverse perspectives of a wide variety of Michiganders. It is clear from the rumblings I hear from where I stand that if you award this grant, there will be tens of thousands of Michiganders losing trust in the integrity of our institutions to make responsible decisions on our behalf, and a whole lot of young people trolling Pure Michigan. :(

Using public funds to support projects like this is an absolute repellent for fresh young talent and innovative entrepreneurs coming to our state, it scars our landscape, gravely threatens our waters, sows disillusionment and distrust in our institutions for entire generations and destroys the image and integrity of the Pure Michigan Campaign and Michiganders' involvement in it. Especially for young people. It preys on rural economic insecurity, but does not provide reciprocity in a long-term win-win solution. This is not what the Michigan Strategic Fund and it's board are tasked to do.

We need to make collusion between the state and extractive industries a thing of the past. It is unwise to use public funds to support companies that extract the resources and labor of Michiganders for a short period of time, reaping large profits and then moving on elsewhere, leaving behind a scarred landscape and communities without long-term job security. These folks gladhand their way in, selling it as prosperity, using deceptive language (i.e. calling toxic waste "tailings") and making promises that they truly cannot keep. It's literally a toxic pattern. This does not represent the values, vision, and future that the majority of Michiganders are actually working for. That is not where the future of economic development in our state lives.

To approve this grant request and green light this mettalic sulfide mine would be a reactive move based on short-term job scarcity and a false perception that this would be a wise long-term investment in the livelihoods and collective well being of the people of Gogebic County. A proactive solution requires longer-term vision. We're counting on you to make the right decision here. You are all visionaries and leaders! Use your vision.

Please don't pathologize or marginalized the opposition to this project as chicken little environmentalists. Please regard Michigan's incredible intergenerational environmental community as partners who have been absolutely central to the success of the Pure Michigan Campaign, as heroes who for generation after generation have stood up to protect our state's identity, which sometimes involves stopping extractive industries and fatcats who pillage for profits. I could name 50 Michigan-based organizations right now that could use these same funds to create hundreds of good paying long-term jobs, putting people to work building a better future for us for many generations to come. Please use these funds to support projects that truly do benefit communities, long-term. I have lots of ideas, in case you are curious!

Big picture - we need the MSF's help in building an economy that's built on restoration not extraction, full stop. We need your leadership and partnership at this time.

Thank you kindly, and keep up the good work!

For our future,
Seth Bernard

p.s. when I went to the MSF's website I thought, "I wonder who I might know on this board?", and sure enough there's my old pal Dan Meyering! Dan and I both grew up in rural Missaukee County and haven't been in touch for a long time. He's a real gem, always has been. So proud of you Dan!

From: Richard Dragiewicz
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Cc: Dragiewicz Dick
Subject: Copperwood Grant Request Comments
Date: Friday, February 23, 2024 4:47:44 PM

My comments on the Copperwood Grant Request essentially ask for the grant to be denied.

Please don't issue Copperwood Resources Inc (Company) the requested $50,000,000 from SSRP plus the additional $5,000,000 from MDOT. Why doesn't the Company generate the necessary equity and financing for their proposed project from the private investor marketplace? What do these investors know about the proposed Copperwood mine development that isn't being shared with us? The private investor market must have good reasons to stay away.

Deny the Company's request.

Here are some reasons and facts to support denying the Company's request.

Concerns with the information contained in the January 30, 2024 MEDC Memorandum (Memo)

--[if !supportLists]-->1. <!--[endif]-->Copper is not a critical mineral according to the 2023 Secretary of Interior report. Memo p 49

--[if !supportLists]-->2. <!--[endif]-->Company is really asking for two grants. A $50,000,000 grant from SSRP and a $5,000,000 grant from MDOT. See Memo p 51 & p 52. The total is 13% of the projected cost.

--[if !supportLists]-->3. <!--[endif]-->Company says they've been meeting with community leaders. Why haven't they met with the general public and tourists, since this is a major tourist area? This action means they don't have the necessary Social License for the Copperwood project that the public doesn't want.

--[if !supportLists]-->4. <!--[endif]-->Company says their employee talent pool will come from the soon to be closed Eagle Mine. Memo p. 53. The Company won't be creating new employment it will just relocates employees from Eagle to Copperwood. With this action how can they say new jobs will be created? Sounds like creative double talk. Will there really be an increase in area employment if Copperwood is allowed to be built? How many jobs?

--[if !supportLists]-->5. <!--[endif]-->The mining industry is moving to automated processes that reduce the number of employees they hire. Does Copperwood guarantee the level of projected employment? Is the requested grant conditioned on hiring levels?

--[if !supportLists]-->6. <!--[endif]-->Michigan's Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) is supposed to monitor the work at the proposed Copperwood mine. Where will EGLE get the staff and money needed to support this work? Does their staff have hands on mining knowledge and experience for this task?

--[if !supportLists]-->7. <!--[endif]-->On Memo p. 50 Copperwood says $145,000,000 of infrastructure work will benefit the site. Did they talk with users of this area? Outdoor enthusiasts don't want this proposed construction, they want peace and quiet, not noise from blasting, milling, 24 hour lighting, etc. They come to the Porkies so they can enjoy nature. And, what about the animal and aquatic life that will be disturbed?

--[if !supportLists]-->8. <!--[endif]-->Highland Copper Company's (Highland) 2023 Feasibility Study Update on pages 1.4, 1.5, 10.1. shows there have been more than 15 attempts to open a copper mine on this site since 1953, plus Highland's numerous recent attempts. None of them developed a mine, probably due to a lack of investors equity/financing for inexperienced mining companies. Was the lack of interest a result of inadequate minerals on site? Cost to extract the minerals? Other issues? Maybe the investor market got tired of inexperienced companies continually searching for the necessary equity/financing on a less than desirable project?

--[if !supportLists]-->9. <!--[endif]-->Speaking of sharing accurate information, a 2019 contested case in Michigan's Office of Administrative Hearings, Docket No. 18-0113058, was about the issuance of a Wetlands Permit to Aquila Resources Inc (Aquila) for its proposed Back Forty metallic sulfide mine. Testimony by representatives from Michigan's Water Resources Division (WRD) factually contradicted testimony by Aquila's representatives from Foth, et al, on the wetlands issues. The WRD representatives pointed out numerous times that Aquila's representatives knew the answers that were needed to support the Back Forty, so they created formulas and reports to support the desired results and ignored the facts. Judge Pulter issued a decision on January 4, 2021 in favor of the Petitioners (Tom Boerner, Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin, and the Coalition to Save the Menominee River). The testimony in this case makes me wonder what Highland's reports and permit applications really say? This concern also relates to the lack of private investors that probably really understand the mining proposal for the Copperwood project.

--[if !supportLists]-->10. <!--[endif]-->Is the lack of investor dollars due to Highland's lack of mining experience?

--[if !supportLists]-->11. <!--[endif]-->Financial Assurance (FA) is addressed in Highland's 2023 Feasibility Study Update. Essentially it says that the necessary FA undisclosed amounts will be provided. Highland also states the FA amounts can be negotiated downward. Am concerned that the FA amounts won't be enough to solve the environmental problems created at the mine site. Reasons for this thought is that recently there have been three major tailings dam failures. Mount Polley, British Columbia in 2014 that left residents with a $1,200,000,000 bill for follow up work. In 2015 the Samarco tailings dam at Bento Rodrigues Brazil collapsed. Two international mining companies Vale and BHP, partners on this mine, are obligated to spend $9,700,000,000 on the follow up work. In 2019 the Vale tailings dam at Brumadinho Brazil collapsed. Vale, the mining company, is obligated to fund $7,000,000,000 for follow up work. These events clearly suggest that the unstated FA amounts will be inadequate and need to be substantially increased and kept in place forever, just like the tailings dam will be there forever. Fortunately, Vale and BHP have the assets to

cover these costs. Highland doesn't have anywhere near enough money to solve any environmental issues it will create. Will Highland have enough money to clean up the pollution that will flow into Lake Superior? Probably not.

--[if !supportLists]-->12. <!--[endif]-->The River Alliance of Wisconsin produced a short video on the hazards of metallic sulfide mining. Here's the link to it. https://us01.z.antigena.com/l/CZNO9bokzcw1RxCsNuMJAEgy17RCsKwyAycl7G6PlihQ0xBhQ4eOu8a8ol8aOw3j4RyuV5-6CXgvuWP9x4DdGWMN~hcqF7BTNABwXqaJscSZOzXWgatxb-vKZcAI3h9ymZrygU3gc3QZZN4TySueDqNeUZX-~X5zJoxKpPKYq7LjSRf7~KaEdmFzqIdnrlSM9hFZnwG8dkY2 . Be sure to watch it, since it summarizes the problems associated with metallic sulfide mines.

Denying Copperwood Resources Inc.'s grant request is necessary to protect Lake Superior and the surrounding area from the pollution this proposed project would produce. This geographic area needs to stay natural so we can have peace and quiet.

Thank you,

Dick Dragiewicz

Thanks,

Dick Dragiewicz
obiobiobi@ameritech.net
847-924-9299

From:	Dan McKinley
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Copperwood grant would be a terrible mistake that would risk the legacy of our wilderness for
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 9:52:52 PM

Friends and stewards of the Porcupine Mountain wilderness:
My brothers and I have been blessed by our time in this sublime wilderness since our first camping/fishing trip in 1976. My greatest wish is that the same wilderness welcomes our descendants 7 generations hence.
Whatever short-term benefits you may be considering for the production of copper are so minuscule compared to the value of this wilderness (and its economic and job-creating power) that I cannot understand why you are even considering a grant. However, I assume you see your duty as being open-minded to the potential benefits of Copperwood--but the potential dangers, when brought into focus, would have to compel reasonable leaders to make the right decision--for now and for the next 7 generations.
DO THE RIGHT THING!
Thank you!

Dan McKinley
414.467.2911 (cell)
www.linkedin.com/in/DanMcKinley

From: Bork TI
To: MEDC MSF Comments; LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Quentin Messer (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject: Copperwood Grant, Don"t Give Them The Money
Date: Friday, February 2, 2024 8:05:26 PM

- Despoiling this area by granting this money to Copperwood and the grant's implied acceptance and recommendation of the project is a critical mistake you can avoid.
- Contrary to what you have been told, social license for this project is far from universal. As evidence There is a petition with over 11,000 signatures opposing Copperwood's development?
- My guess is that the members of the board are likely not familiar with this area this is not "the middle of nowhere": the juncture of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior is one of the most spectacular outdoor recreation

areas in the country. And, is visited by thousands every year as one of the few unspoiled natural areas in the country.

- Highland Copper is a foreign company funded by foreign investors, and their own Feasibility Study (*P. 1-28; P. 19-13*) states that the copper will be shipped to Canada, Europe, or even Asia for processing. Does it make sense for Michigan to be using taxpayer dollars to subsidize a foreign enterprise?

- If this project is such a slam dunk, and makes such fiscal sense, why haven't they been able to procure funding from the private sector after over a decade of scrambling to get it?

- Why did their CEO step down **just a few months ago**?

- Outdoor recreation contributes over $10 billion to

Michigan's economy annually; mining, only around $1 billion.

- An operating mine would disrupt this thriving outdoor recreation area with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic.
- Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history. Copper sulfide mines always contaminate and tailings dams are far from invincible.
- Despite what you may have been told, copper is NOT a critical mineral and therefore there is no urgent need to fund this project.
- In short, while they may be touting the economic benefits to the area as a reason to approve the grant, the fact of the impact to the natural area and tourism there should be a strong disincentive to approving it.

Please vote against approving the grant. George S. Hunt, Jr.
Son of George S. Hunt,
Professor of Wildlife Management,
U of MI and teaching staff at Camp Filibert Roth 16 miles West of Iron River 1959 - 1968.

--

"Of all tyrannies, a tyranny sincerely exercised for the good of its victims may be the most oppressive. It would be better to live under robber barons than under omnipotent moral busybodies. The robber baron's cruelty may sometimes sleep, his cupidity may at some point be satiated; but those who torment us for our own good will torment us without end for they do so with the approval of their own conscience."
C.S. Lewis

From: jfifer@gmail.com
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood Grant
Date: Thursday, February 1, 2024 7:02:22 AM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my extreme displeasure in hearing about the state actually paying to destroy part of the last untouched wilds of Michigan.
This is a short-sighted project designed for a tiny bump in EV production, IT IS NOT WORTH IT.
Batteries will change before the life cycle of this mine is complete, but the damage will remain forever.
I live near the stamp sands, I see every day what they are going to do to the lake.
Despite trying to alleviate our concerns, make no mistake, that is what they're going to do to the lake.

And you want to pay them for it.
Correction - You want us to pay for it.

Well, no.

They can go somewhere else, and if this goes through, you should too.

Joseph Fifer
jfifer@gmail.com <mailto:jfifer@gmail.com>

From: lillyanne bolt
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood Grant
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 11:09:17 AM

My name is Lillyanne Bolt, I am a resident of New York City, but I am also a resident of the Upper/Lower Peninsula of Michigan, and in addition to that, the planet we stand on.

I strongly oppose the grant to Copperwood!
The amount of money or jobs this project might rake in, is no match to the value of The Porcupine Mountains or the forests that are there currently.
“Creating about 380 well-paying jobs and generating significant direct, indirect, and induced economic benefits from increased spending in a region that has endured decades of industry closures.”
-https://www.highlandcopper.com/

There are many reasons for those industry closures. No matter how much money someone is paid for certain jobs, there are certain dangers and risks to life, no one wants to take. The health and well-being of others who explore the Porkies and also animal populations as well are important, if not more so in today’s climate.

It may seem selfish not to be in favor of 380 well-paying jobs. But, it is important to recognize, the state of the economy will always be changing. But to tear down a Nationwide recognized land in order to build another mine- simply goes against and shows the U.S. government that at the state level, we care more about money than our wildlife and nature preservation. THUS potential putting our national parks in DANGER.
The domino effect is real, and this grant does NOT have public approval or support from me.

From: rochelle dale
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood grant
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 8:11:38 AM

Dear MSF Board,

As a resident and taxpayer of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, I am writing to encourage you to deny the Copperwood $50 million grant proposal to create a copper mine near the Porcupine Mountain Wilderness State Park and Lake Superior.

While I understand the need for critical metals and minerals, I also know that Lake Superior, the largest and cleanest of all the Great Lakes, is Michigan's greatest natural resource. We cannot survive as a human race without clean water. The risk we would be taking with our water if this mine becomes a reality is simply not acceptable, especially considering that it is low grade ore deposit, only 1.45% pure. The 98.65% will become waste, stored on site, waiting forever to one day leak or leach the dangerous sulfides into the underground water and into Lake Superior.

Instead, let us use that money to invest in better and more efficient ways to recycle metals already in use. Let us use that money to educate people, to find ways to reduce energy consumption.

I live in a mining area, near the present-day Eagle nickel mine, and I have seen firsthand the negative impacts on the environment and the community. The land never returns to its former wilderness state. The roads become highways, wildlife corridors are divided, the night sky polluted by light, the silence polluted by the noise of trucks, mine venting systems, and explosions. Instead of a place for people to recreate, it becomes an industrial zone to avoid. This mine, operated by Lundin, also a foreign company, has tried to put money back into the community by funding economic feasibility studies for the small town of Big Bay so that they can prepare for the mine's future closure. This study showed that the future of Big Bay relies on outdoor recreation, or our natural environment. I am certain that communities in the vicinity of the Porkies share the same fate. However, for this to become the reality, we must preserve those resources: our clean water, cold water fisheries, the old growth forests, the wilderness, the dark skies at night, our wildlife. These are what Pure Michigan should stand for.

Sincerely,

Rochelle Dale
PO Box 13
Big Bay, MI 49808

From: Coty Coty
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood Mine
Date: Monday, February 26, 2024 10:36:13 PM

Hello,

I am a resident of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, Coty Sorby, who vehemently opposes this project. The last thing receiving tax payer grant money should be foreign companies focused on extraction for profit. As a politically active disabled veteran, I will not support this and will also vote against those who do. This is abhorrent and dangerous behavior that needs to stop. Thank you for your consideration.

From: Bradley Hildwein
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood Mine Grant opposition
Date: Thursday, February 1, 2024 11:13:16 AM

While I support the efforts to further develop independent industry in the UP, I am very concerned with the inevitable effects our landscape and wildlife will incur as a direct result of this mining development. Time and time again we see mining developments make promises to ensure minimal impact on the environment only for thise promises to go unrealized. I'm also not confident in the government's ability to keep these practices sufficiently in check.

The UP's largest resource is its vast expanse of unfettered wilderness. Our water, soil, and earth are unmatched in their beauty and bounty on a global scale. It is of the utmost importance that we extend our best efforts in protecting their preservation at all costs. A large scale mining project like Copperwood is undoubtedly incongruent with this pursuit, and, thus, it is ill fit to receive such funding.

Please consider the irreparable damage that our greatest resource will face if Copperwood is to receive this grant. It will remain a scar on our landscape and our history should it move forward.

From:	Alex Graeff
Cc:	MEDC MSF Comments; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants; sharpstik@aol.com; dhutcherson@mba1995.hbs.edu; dimitrius.hutcherson@att.net; dmhutch1@aol.com; dmhutch@aol.com; Amiee Evans (MEDC)
Subject:	Copperwood Mine project
Date:	Thursday, February 15, 2024 8:03:57 PM

I strongly oppose the $50 million grant for the Copperwood Mine project.

Backup up a bit - I strongly oppose any such environmental destruction for short-term economic gain. And to think that the state would fund such an effort is abhorrent.

To be a great state, Michigan must look toward the future. The future relies on having healthy ecosystems - places for people to enjoy and support their mental and physical health.

To destroy Michigan's (and beyond!) long-term environmental beauty and health for short term monetary gain for a select few individuals is actually insane.

It's time that our leaders (i.e. you) recognize that we must, as a society, put a stop to environmental destruction for economic gain. We already have to live with the legacies of environmental damage from mining and other resource extraction and manufacturing activities. These legacies are in our water, air, soil, and affect our physical health.

Further, many of us are dependent on our natural areas for our mental health. My personal experience is that I truly believe I would not be alive without the ability to go natural to places where I can escape the ever-present evidence of environmental destruction. The Porcupine Mountains are one such place I can do that - to think that I (and others) will have to view the tailings (forever) and hear the mining activity - an inability to escape - is saddening.

Please think about what you're supporting and what that leaves for the future. The future is very depressing for young people. For those of us that are only truly happy in nature, in truly natural places, the continued disregard for and destruction of our environment is devastating.

I'm asking that you please do what you can to change the future, change the way we view these projects and advocate for the protection and respect for our natural ecosystems.

Please consider the permanent effects of the Copperwood Mine project - it's impact on the health of our ecosystems and the physical and mental health of our people.

Please do not contribute to the Copperwood Mine project.

Sincerely,

Alex Graeff

From:	Eric Hansen
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Copperwood Mine proposal a disaster
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 1:38:13 PM

Hello Michigan Strategic Fund board members,

I am Eric Hansen, the author of Hiking Michigan's Upper Peninsula. I walked 900 miles researching that project.

That led to numerous well attended slide shows highlighting the U.P., and the dark shadow of metallic sulfide mine proposals. Many of those slide shows - in Detroit, Marquette, Milwaukee, Madison and other locations - were standing room only. Two of the shows had attendance of 300.

In addition, my Chicago Tribune op-ed on the U.P.'s iconic Coaster Brook Trout - and the threat of metallic sulfide mine proposals, earned a first prize for newspaper environmental and conservation writing from the Outdoor Writer's Association of America. I have also highlighted the natural attractions of the U.P. in numerous public radio interviews.

The U.P. has a regional fan club, and its magnetic arc stretches from Cleveland to Minneapolis. Ernest Hemingway found rejuvenation there and many Midwestern folks view it as their spiritual homeland.

Public financing of the Copperwood Mine proposal does not make sense.

Metallic Sulfide Mines always leak and to put one on the shore of Lake Superior, next to and under the iconic Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, is extremely ill-advised.

The vast size of the repetitional damage that would occur is only matched by the massive pollution that would also take place.

Why turn one of the U.P.'s legendary landscapes (and shorelines) into a West Virginia like land of sorrow?

Why turn what is unique and magnificent into an eyesore of orange tinted water pollution and a scarred landscape?

Deny the proposal to finance the Copperwood Mine proposal.

Future generations will thank you.

Sincerely,

Eric Hansen
ehansen@wi.rr.com
2934 N. Prospect Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53211

Eric Hansen

From:	Jake Ring
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	ron@euclidindustries.com; ronbeebe49@aol.com; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Copperwood Mine Questions
Date:	Friday, February 2, 2024 11:06:33 AM

Hello,

I wanted to reach out to voice my strong opposition to the proposed Copperwood Mine near Wakefield, MI. I am a resident of nearby Ironwood, MI and spend a lot of my time in and around the area of the mine and Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park. I would encourage you to not support this mine. As a former Water Resources Management Specialist for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, I am very concerned about the work Copperwood has already done to combine 5 creeks into a ditch that is only designed for up to 100 year flooding events. Since a greater than 100 year event could happen any year, I am very concerned that large-scale environmental damage will happen if a large rain event occurs. This all flows to and reaches Lake Superior and the cost of such damage far outweighs the benefit. In addition to this, the fact that mining operations could impact the water table underneath a designated wilderness area is appalling. What makes the mine even more appalling is that the Porkies is a sacred place to Anishinaabe people. All of this damage comes at an even greater social cost. Please help us keep Lake Superior and the Porkies clean and free from these massive risks and dangers. I truly wonder who gets sued when the eventual mistakes and failures happen? When this mine, the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior ever, has these inevitable failures and environmentally damaging events, who will come asking you questions about this? You've now been shown how dangerous this is and how much opposition there is, if that failure occurs you now hold that responsibility. Do the right thing now and prevent this mine from ever happening. Finally, I would like to offer to take you on a guided hike through the Porkies and show you myself why this place is so important. If you actually spent time here you would see for yourself and I'd love to show you why I love this place, I think you'd be able to understand.

Thank you,

Jake Ring
(920)860-6127
Instagram: @river_darter

From: Sara Smith
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood Mine, No!
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 8:49:46 AM

Hello,
I am writing in deep opposition to having a 50 million dollar grant approved for the Copperwood Mine. Mining is incredibly toxic and bad for the environment. Do not allow the mining company come in and destroy Michigan!
Sincerely,
Sara Smith
Sent from my iPhone

From: Mary Cooper
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood Mine
Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 12:54:12 PM

Hello, I am a frequent visitor to Michigan, and especially the UP. My grandfather sailed ore boats for over 50 yrs and was a captain for much of that. My mother was born in the Soo, and retired to Trout Lake. Much of my childhood was spent in the UP and even now as an adult who loves the outdoors, I frequent the UP often. Absolutely stunning wilderness and pristine land/water. When I need to get away, I head north. I always have.
I am reaching out today with grave concerns regarding the proposed Copperwood mine project. The potential ecological harm stemming from industrial activities is expected to lead to consequences such as noise and light pollution. However, the mine's location presents a more significant concern – the risk of permanent and irreversible damage to the environment that cannot be overlooked. It is crucial to emphasize that the risks associated with the proposed mine far outweigh any perceived benefits. Is the board aware that method of mining proposed includes creating "tailings ponds" which fill with toxic heady metals and always--ALWAYS--leak? This isn't copper mining of the good old days, this type of mining leads to toxic heavy metals leaching in the water, and in this case would lead directly to Lake Superior.
As a outdoor enthusiast and someone with huge concerns over the future sources of clean water, I feel this mine, in this location, is an egregious example of ignoring the potential of permanent and irrevocable damage to the beautiful UP and our shared Lake Superior, and these risks cannot be ignored.

More study is needed. According to the citizen action group "Protect the Porkies" over 11,000 people have signed a petition against this mine and that number is growing. I urge you to reconsider and grants towards funding this project; it is an exceptionally ill-advised idea.

Thank you very much for your consideration, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

-Mary Cooper

From: Tom Grotewohl
Bcc: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood Mine: a disaster waiting to happen
Date: Friday, February 2, 2024 8:45:41 AM

Before investing in this atrocity — which will utterly transform one of the most cherished outdoor recreation areas in Michigan — it's crucial to educate yourselves on the very real technical risks of Highland Copper's plans:

https://youtu.be/cz8t1im34t4

This short video summarizes the most pressing issues.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Tom Grotewohl
Resident of Wakefield Township, Upper Peninsula

From: Teresa Schmidt
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood mine: Opposition
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 11:37:08 AM

I am a resident of Wisconsin but live within an hour's drive of the Copperwood site and am a frequent traveler to upper Michigan. I **strongly oppose** the Copperwood mine and encourage you to reject funding this potentially disastrous project.

The Porcupine Mountains and Lake Superior are natural treasures with few comparables anywhere in the world. This mine has the potential to damage one of the world's largest sources of freshwater, and is being proposed by a company with almost no experience in this area.

Not only is this project a potential environmental disaster, it isn't really even economically feasible! The project has struggled to find investors and the proposed infusion of tax dollars would almost double the company's cash reserves. How can the public trust that this company has the resources to complete and clean up the project when they can't even find investors to start it?

Please reject funding the Copperwood project.

Teresa Schmidt
teresaschmidt1@gmail.com - (715)208-0257

From: Betsy Pekuri
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood mine
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 10:52:33 AM

PLEASE, PLEASE don’t pass this ludicrous copper mine! IT IS IN MY BACKYARD! I have lived inside the Porkies for 68 years…one of the very few year around residents.
Betsy Audette Pekuri
Sent from my iPad

From:	kaye hiebel
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Copperwood Mine
Date:	Monday, March 4, 2024 8:04:39 AM

Dear MSF Board Members:
I am a lifelong Michigander and Upper Peninsula resident. I'm writing today to urge you to DENY the $50 million grant to Highland Copper for the Copperwood Mine by voting NO on the grant at the MSF board meeting. This risky investment is a terrible decision for the State of Michigan to make, for environmental as well as economic reasons.

Instability of Highland Copper and Copperwood
If Copperwood is as lucrative as Highland Copper claims, then where are all the investors, and where's the company's stability? After more than a decade of planning, HighlandCopper'smarket cap has stagnated, and they still have only 10% of the necessary capital to begin construction. The State of Michigan should not be bailing out a failing Canadian company.Additionally, just a few months ago, Highland Copper's CEO stepped down with no explanation.And he's not alone; Highland Copper has had 4 CEOs in the past decade. If this project is so risky that it can't keep investors or employees, it is too risky for the State of Michigan to endorse.Highland Copper also has a low likelihood of keeping the Copperwood project. In July 2023, they sold 66% of their shares of the White Pine North Mine (also in the western U.P.) to another Canadian company for $30M, Kinterra Capital, thus making Kinterra the majority shareholder.It's likely Highland Copper would also jump at the opportunity to sell Copperwood to the next deep-pocketed "partner" to come along. Highland Copper cannot be trusted to secure investments, keep a CEO, or even hold on to ownership of their mining prospects; why should they be trusted with $50 million of Michigan taxpayer money?

There is nothing Pure Michigan about this proposal.
The Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) is organized through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). Also administered by MEDC is the Pure Michigan campaign, which aims to highlight Michigan's intact wilderness, beauty and "unspoiled nature". These two projects stand in direct opposition to one another when you consider the Copperwood's proximity to Lake Superior, Porcupine Mountains State Park, and the North Country National Scenic Trail.Copperwood plans to mine directly underneath the Porcupine Mountains, a park with significant portions of designated wilderness areas which was recently identified as the most beautiful state park in the United States. Lake Superior is the largest, coldest, cleanest, and wildest of the Great Lakes and holds Isle Royale National Park and Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. The tailings pond is planned to be located a stone's throw away from the North Country Trail, which
was recently incorporated into the National Park Service as a National Scenic Trail. Placing a mine, especially with such a large tailings pond, at the juncture of these three national recreation hotspots could prove highly disruptive to outdoor recreationists, through the introduction of light pollution, noise pollution, underground blasting and heavy industrial traffic.This would present a huge problem to the Outdoor Recreation industry in Michigan, which brings in an estimated $10 billion each year in the state compared to mining's $1 billion.

If there ever was a time to say no, this is it. Please consider that the risks outweigh the benefits.

Sincerely,
Kaye Hiebel,
Marquette, Michigan

From: Luise Bolleber
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood mine
Date: Saturday, March 9, 2024 8:00:37 AM

I'm urging stakeholders to reject the proposed $50 million grant to the proposed Copperwood mine in the U.P. This is delicate and pristine area that must not be fowled by mining activity, which would ruin the area forever. It's simply not worth sacrificing our beautiful and ecologically critical land to a foreign company. Any jobs this might create is not a good enough reason to go forward with this plan. Please do not sell out our beautiful state in the name of progress. If we oppose Line 5, we should also be opposing this mine. Let’s do the right thing and just say no.

From: ac5398
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood mine
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 12:25:08 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

As a Michigan resident, I oppose the Copperwood mine. The benefits do not outweigh the costs. The tourism industry is more significant for Michiganders than a mine, not to mention the environmental impact.

Thank you
Molly Leonard
331 Marlin Ave
Royal Oak MI 48067

From: Theresa Curtin
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood mine
Date: Thursday, March 21, 2024 9:58:46 AM

I believe that using taxpayer money to subsidize or support in anyway the Copperwood Mine is against the interests of Michigan. This mine would destroy a part of the UP and after they mine it nothing would be left but toxic un repairable waste and a population of unemployed people[horizontal slum]. The history of mining in this state is one of greed and destruction leaving a toxic mess for others to clean up after the profits have been siphoned off. The UP is for tourism, hunting, forestry and camping - this mine is counter to these interests and should be prohibited form occurring. The taxpayer will be watching and any government support of this mine in any way will bring about a backlash against this State government. cjm

From: Tom Wiensch
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: Copperwood Mine
Date: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 9:30:32 PM

Hello,

This message is for the Michigan Strategic Fund Board. As a U.P. Landowner, I applaud the Board's decision to not grant the funding request for the Copperwood Mine. This mine should never be developed. 3500 batteries and eleven years of jobs, followed by a bust does not warrant a perpetual tailings pond of acid and heavy metals virtually on the shore of the last, best Great Lake.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Thomas Wiensch

From: Jack Cairy
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood Mines
Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 2:24:54 PM

Michigan Strategic Fund board members,

I am writing this email in regards to the $50 million grant in consideration for the Copperwood Mine project. I strongly suggest not authorizing a grant for Copperwood.

The Copperwood Mine will directly endanger thriving flora and fauna in the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness region and Lake Superior. The sulfide mine will be the closest to the Lake in history and will certainly contaminate the surrounding environment to some degree. This area is home to a booming outdoor recreation business, and I personally have had the pleasure of seeing families come from across the nation to vacation, hike, swim, and play in the area. Light and noise pollution from the mine will discourage such tourism.

Copper is not a critical resource either. The projected output of the mine will not be significant and has been said to supply materials for only a mere 3,500 electric vehicle batteries. An online petition against Copperwood has garnered 11,000 signatures. Public support says that this mine is not wanted in the region.

Thank you for your consideration.

From:	Brandon Smith
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Copperwood Project Public Comment
Date:	Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:46:38 AM
Attachments:	JOBS.pdf coppersulfidemining.pdf outdoorrecreation.pdf freudenberg-study.pdf

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Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Members:

I am submitting this comment and the supporting materials attached below in opposition of the Copperwood Project and in opposition of any grant funding toward this project. The environmentally unsafe mining operations, short-term economic gain, and infringement on the 1842 Treaty Territory of the Anishinaabe deem this proposed project an environmental, economic, and cultural disaster if it were to be approved.

Lake Superior contains 10% of Earth's surface freshwater. It is a vital resource for drinking water, fisheries, recreation, and wildlife habitat, including a major migration stopover site for several species of migratory birds. The Copperwood Project is the closest metallic sulfide mine to Lake Superior in the history of that region. Numerous failures of similar mining operations and their perpetual water contamination provide sufficient support that the Copperwood Project and its proximity to Lake Superior is too much of a risk for contamination of freshwater resources and ecosystems (supporting document attached below). Additionally, the Copperwood Project would only supply jobs in Gogebic County for 10-14 years. This is extremely short-term economic gain to justify perpetually contaminating Lake Superior and surrounding pristine natural resources and wildlife habitat. Fourteen years worth of jobs for less than a few hundred U.P. residents is not worth contaminating the drinking water for the next several generations of U.P. residents. It would be much wiser to protect the Porcupine Mountains and the surrounding areas, as outdoor recreation and tourism can support a sustainable economy long-term for several generations to come (supporting documents attached below). Finally, the proposed Copperwood Project falls within the 1842 Treaty Territory of the Anishinaabe. The Anishinaabe Peoples have the right to clean water, clean fish, and intact ecosystems to hunt, gather, and practice ceremony. The high likelihood of the Copperwood Project mining operations perpetually contaminating the surrounding watershed and ecosystems would infringe upon these treaty rights.

With this supporting evidence, I hope you will consider not the short-term small economic gain of the state of Michigan, but of the future generations of children and families who rely on clean drinking water from Lake Superior and surrounding waterways. I hope you will consider the critical wildlife habitat that the Porcupine Mountains and surrounding areas are. I hope you will consider the Indigenous Peoples who first lived in this area and still live in this area with rights to harvest from and live on this land, without the perpetual pollution of a metallic sulfide mine. I hope you will consider the facts of all the past failures of mines in the northern Midwest and the costly pollution and economic devastation that is still negatively affecting the water, people, and wildlife.

Thank you for considering these facts.
Brandon Smith

From:	Stan Willenbring
To:	MEDC MSF Comments; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Copperwood project
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 8:00:54 PM

To Michigan Strategic Fund board:
Please decline the plan to fund a grant for Highland Copper (a foreign company) to create the Copperwood project mine in the environmentally sensitive and economically valuable Porcupine Mountains.
I am an avid outdoorsman who enjoys visiting the pristine habitats of Michigan's Porcupine range. If the Copperwood project defiles the Porcupine experience, I would be one of many who would stop vacationing there.
Please be wise and choose the permanent value of nature and tourism. Once it is gone, it is gone forever.
- Dr. Stan Willenbring
509 Granville Ave
Clifton Forge, VA 24422
540-915-3135

From: Caden Reed
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood Project: NO
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 7:16:34 AM

Good morning to you all.

I write this requesting that you **do not** vote in favor of the Copperwood $50 Million grant.

Why continue to disrupt and take away from our natural world and resources, especially in an area still so pristine and wondrous. It specifically gets under my skin as I have yet to make it to the Porcupine Mountains (as an Upper Peninsula resident) and the idea that the first time and the rest of the time I and my future family will visit that area, it will have a large-scale wasteful mining operation.

I understand resources are necessary but there has to be another option that doesn't risk our freshwater, ruin our old growth forests, and tamper with the pristine beauty that lies in the forests of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

As a resident of Marquette, Michigan - I urge you all to say no and pay attention to the short term gain of a mining project that produces a minimal amount of product and an extreme amount of waste. Clean water, soil & air are being lost - and you have a chance to make a decision that preserves it for our grandchildren and their grandchildren.

Respectfully & hopeful.

~Caden A. Reed
Founder/President: Superior Healing Initiative

From: Kevin Sweere
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Copperwood
Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 4:20:20 PM

Hello,

The proposed copper mine in the UP is a disaster in the expensive making.

Even a cursory look at previous failures and what's going in now shows huge similarities. Digging into the details doesn't make it any better.

Please help cancel, not fund, Copperwood.

- Kevin's iPhone, 937.901.1322

From: deertailscientific@gmail.com
To: Gretchen.Whitmer@michigan.gov; MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: MSF Grant Sought by Highland Copper Company
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:19:09 AM
Attachments: Copperwood_DTS_3.18.2024_.pdf

Hello Governor Whitmer and MSF Board Members:

I am aware that you will soon be considering approval of the MSF grant sought by Highland Copper Company for their Copperwood project in the Upper Peninsula.

As the Chair of Deer Tail Scientific (Duluth, MN)[1], I am very familiar with the track record of the primary environmental consultant hired by Highland Copper to oversee the Copperwood project. The consultant, Foth (Green Bay, WI), served in a similar capacity at Wisconsin's Flambeau Mine, a project I've been following closely for the past 25 years.

Attached please find information related to Foth's performance at Flambeau that I hope will help to inform your decision.

Thank you,
Laura Gauger

Laura J. Gauger, Chair
Deer Tail Scientific
Duluth, MN
wordpress.com

[1] Deer Tail Scientific is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization founded in 2017. As stated in its bylaws: *The mission of Deer Tail Scientific is to educate the public, government officials and tribal sovereign nations with fact-based information on: (1) the permitting, development, reclamation, environmental performance and economics of Wisconsin's Flambeau Mine; and (2) how the Flambeau Mine compares to other mines (closed, currently operating or proposed) in the Great Lakes region and beyond.*

Virus-free.www.avast.com

Deer Tail Scientific[1]
Duluth, Minnesota
deertailscientific.wordpress.com

Date: March 18, 2024	
From: Laura Gauger, Chair, Deer Tail Scientific, 231 E. Superior St. #1409, Duluth, MN 55802	
RE: MSF grant sought by Highland Copper Company for Copperwood project	
To: Governor Gretchen Whitmer Gretchen.Whitmer@michigan.gov	
MSF Board Members:	
Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Chair, MEDC	msfcomments@michigan.org ; messerq@michigan.org
Dr. Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Executive Director, URC	msfcomments@michigan.org ; britanycaine@urcmich.org
Susan Corbin, Director, LEO	msfcomments@michigan.org ; LEO-DirectorOffice@Michigan.gov
Wesley Eklund, CEO, Eklund Holdings	msfcomments@michigan.org
Rachael Eubanks, State Treasurer	msfcomments@michigan.org ; EubanksR@michigan.gov
Dimitrius Hutcherson, EVP, First Independence Bank	msfcomments@michigan.org
Dan Meyering, CEO, Trillium Investments	msfcomments@michigan.org ; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com
Leon Richardson, Founder, Pres. & CEO, Chemico	msfcomments@michigan.org
Charles Rothstein, Founding Partner, Beringea, LLC	msfcomments@michigan.org
Susan Tellier, President, JetCo Packaging Solutions	msfcomments@michigan.org ; sue@jetcofederal.com
Randy Thelen, President & CEO, The Right Place, Inc.	msfcomments@michigan.org ; randy.thelen@rightplace.org
Cindy L. Warner, Founder, 360ofme	msfcomments@michigan.org
Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E., Director, MDOT	msfcomments@michigan.org ; WieferichB@michigan.gov

Hello Governor Whitmer and MSF Board Members,

I am writing to provide you with information that may prove helpful in deciding whether or not to approve the $50 million MSF grant sought by Highland Copper Company for their Copperwood project.

As the Chair of Deer Tail Scientific (Duluth, MN)[1], I am very familiar with the track record of the primary environmental consultant hired by Highland Copper to oversee the Copperwood project. The consultant, Foth (Green Bay, WI), served in a similar capacity at Wisconsin's Flambeau Mine, a project I've been following closely for the past 25 years.

[1] **Deer Tail Scientific** is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization founded in 2017. As stated in its bylaws: *The mission of Deer Tail Scientific is to educate the public, government officials and tribal sovereign nations with fact-based information on: (1) the permitting, development, reclamation, environmental performance and economics of Wisconsin's Flambeau Mine; and (2) how the Flambeau Mine compares to other mines (closed, currently operating or proposed) in the Great Lakes region and beyond.*

The Flambeau Mine was a state-of-the-art open pit copper mine that operated on the banks of the Flambeau River near Ladysmith, Wisconsin in the mid-1990s and has since been reclaimed[2]. It was owned by Rio Tinto/Kennecott and operated by their subsidiary, Flambeau Mining Company (FMC). Foth, as the lead environmental consultant for the project, was involved in the permitting, development and reclamation of the mine and continues to oversee various remediation activities at the project site to the present day.

When promoting new mining projects in the Great Lakes region, Foth officials have pointed to Flambeau as "an exemplary project, demonstrating that economic growth can coexist with stringent environmental regulations." Others, however, beg to differ.

Foth's inability to prevent or successfully contain surface and groundwater pollution problems at the reclaimed Flambeau Mine project site is well documented (examples below). As a result, there is legitimate concern over what might happen to Lake Superior if the Copperwood project moves forward and Foth, as was the case at Flambeau, is unable to prevent or successfully contain emergent pollution.

Before you review the following examples of how Foth "got it wrong" at Flambeau, please turn to the following page for a chart that compares key characteristics of the Flambeau and Copperwood projects (Table 1). In particular, please note the following:

- The Flambeau Mine (181-acre footprint) was much smaller than the huge mine proposed at Copperwood (2100-acre footprint);

- There is no tailings dam at the Flambeau project site. All of the Flambeau ore was shipped by rail to Canada for processing, so that's where the nastiest by-products of the mine operation (i.e., the tailings) were generated and disposed. Copperwood, on the other hand, would generate an estimated 29 million tons of tailings that Highland Copper plans to store in a 320-acre tailings dam reaching a height of 130 feet.

I think you will agree that the Copperwood project, which abuts Lake Superior and the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, is one that needs to be ***done right***. Yet, as documented below, the consultant that Highland Copper is relying on to manage the project (Foth) demonstrably ***got it wrong*** at a much smaller and less-complicated mine that utilized modern technologies (Flambeau).

[2] In addition to copper, the Flambeau Mine produced gold, silver and a small amount of zinc. It was operational for 4 years (1993-97).

Table 1.
Flambeau Mine Key Characteristics Compared to Copperwood Proposal

	Flambeau Mine (Operational 1993-97) [a] Wisconsin: Flambeau River	Copperwood Project (as proposed in 2018) [b] Michigan: Lake Superior and Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park
Life of Mine (yr)	4	10-14
Footprint (acres)	181	~2100 acres on the surface[c] (including a 320-acre tailings dam) ~ 1050 acres underground
Distance to River, Lake or Public Lands (ft)	140 ft from Flambeau River	The above-ground boundary of the project abuts Lake Superior shoreline and the western edge of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park; Eventual tunneling beneath the lake and park is anticipated.
Method	32-acre Open Pit Max Depth = 225 ft	Underground Room and Pillar Max Depth = 900 ft
Ore (tons)	1.9 million	25.7 million
Metals	Copper, Gold, Silver, Zinc	Copper, Silver
Wetlands Destroyed	8 acres	57.5 acres of wetlands and 3.1 lineal miles of creeks
Additional Wetlands Actually or Potentially Impacted	11 acres	3.3 acres (within project site) 13 acres (adjacent to project site)
Sulfide Waste Rock (tons)	8.6 million	"very little" [d]
Tailings (Tons)	**0** [e]	29 million (Tailings Dam will cover 320 acres and have a max height of about 130 ft) [f]
Primary Environmental Consultant	Foth (Green Bay, WI)	Foth (Green Bay, WI)
Owner	Kennecott / Rio Tinto	Highland Copper Company (preceded by Orvana)

[a] Data Sources: Final Environmental Impact Statement for Flambeau Mining Co. Copper Mine, Wisconsin DNR, 1990; 1997 Backfilling Plan for Stockpiled Type II Material, Flambeau Mining Company / Foth & Van Dyke, March 1997; and Surface Water Quality Assessment of the Flambeau Mine Site, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, April 2012.

[b] Data Sources: Feasibility Study Update – Copperwood Project, G Mining Services, April 2023; Mining Permit Application Amendment - Copperwood, Vol-I and Vol-II, Highland Copper Company / Foth, March 2018; Feasibility Study of the Copperwood Project, K D Engineering, March 2012; Mining Permit Application – Copperwood, Orvana, Sep 2011; and Fact Sheet: Copperwood Mine project in relation to Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park – Gogebic County, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, January 2024.

[c] Footprint estimate of 2100 acres was calculated manually from Figure 2-1 *in:* Mining Permit Application Amendment - Copperwood, Vol-I, Highland Copper Company / Foth, March 2018 [NB: The footprint acreage was not disclosed by Foth in the MPA amendment's text]. According to Copperwood's 2023 *Feasibility Study Update,* "The project will significantly change the area within its footprint by disturbing and constructing infrastructure and impervious surfaces."

[d] According to Copperwood's 2023 *Feasibility Study Update,* "Waste rock management needs are minimal at the site. Except for the box cut and removal of an existing waste rock pile on the north side of the facility, mining will generate very little waste rock. Any waste rock excavated during the box cut will be stored in the ore stockpile building, disposed in the Tailings Dam Facility, or otherwise managed and disposed of according to waste management regulations" [NB: The company has not defined what is meant by "very little" waste rock].

[e] Flambeau ore was shipped by rail to Canada for processing, so there is no tailings dam at Flambeau.

[f] Tailings Dam height of approximately 130 feet was calculated manually from Figure 5-6 *in:* Mining Permit Application Amendment - Copperwood, Vol-I, Highland Copper Company / Foth, March 2018 [NB: The height of the tailings dam was not disclosed by Foth in the MPA amendment's text].

Here, then, are just a few examples of how Foth "got it wrong" at Flambeau, bringing into question the advisability of awarding the MSF grant under consideration to Highland Copper for a much larger and more-complicated project overseen by the same consultant:

- Hydrogeological modeling developed by Foth for the Flambeau project proved to be flawed.

  When FMC was seeking its permits to mine, one of Foth's duties was to develop a groundwater model for the project that would, among other things, predict the concentrations of various contaminants expected in groundwaters exiting the backfilled mine pit and entering the nearby Flambeau River.

  As noted in a 2019 outside review of the Flambeau project that was authored by hydrogeologist Robert E. Moran (Michael-Moran Associates, Golden, CO)[3], Foth predicted relatively low concentrations of copper (14 ppb), iron (320 ppb) and manganese (550 ppb) in the waters exiting the backfilled mine pit. Now that actual levels of contaminants are being measured in the wells at Flambeau, individual wells within the backfilled pit have registered median dissolved concentrations as high as the following (Moran, 2019):

  - Copper = 503 ppb (35 times higher than predicted by Foth)
  - Iron = 14,000 ppb (43 times higher than predicted by Foth)
  - Manganese = 33,500 ppb (60 times higher than predicted by Foth)

  It is also noteworthy that Foth offered *no predictions at all* for the concentrations of **ARSENIC** that might be expected in wells at the project site. The public health enforcement standard for arsenic in drinking water is 10 ppb, and, prior to mining, wells across the Flambeau project site registered concentrations of less than 5 ppb (i.e., the toxin was undetectable). That is no longer the case.

  Now that the Flambeau mine pit has been backfilled with waste rock and sludge from the mining operation, individual wells within the backfilled pit have registered arsenic concentrations as high as 83 ppb (8.3 times the public health standard). Arsenic levels in wells located outside the pit and within 140 feet of the Flambeau River have gone as high as 32 ppb (3.2 times the public health standard).

  Despite the above, Foth continues to refer to Flambeau as an "exemplary project."

- The waste disposal program designed and implemented by Foth to avert groundwater contamination problems at the Flambeau Mine project site failed to prevent significant degradation of groundwater quality.

  Foth's answer to protecting groundwater reserves at the Flambeau Mine project site from contamination was to add limestone to the mine's waste rock as it was being backfilled into the mine pit. Unfortunately, the elaborate backfilling plan developed by Foth, which entailed mixing about 30,000 tons of limestone with the mining waste, failed to achieve the goal. As noted above, wells both within and outside of the pit are registering elevated concentrations of arsenic and other contaminants like manganese[4].

  Despite the above, Foth continues to refer to the mine as an "exemplary project."

[3] Dr. Robert Moran's professional resumé includes more than 45 years of domestic and international experience in conducting and managing water quality, geochemical and hydrogeologic work for private investors, industrial clients, tribal and citizens groups, NGO's, law firms, and governmental agencies at all levels. His complete resumé can be viewed online *at:* https://remwater.org/.

[4] The public health enforcement standard for manganese in drinking water is 300 ppb. Elevated concentrations have been associated with causing Parkinson's-like nerve damage.

- Stormwater management systems designed and constructed by Foth to handle polluted runoff from the Flambeau Mine project site failed to prevent the impairment of a nearby Flambeau River tributary.

  Over the past 25 years, Foth has designed and implemented six different work plans at Flambeau to deal with contaminated stormwater runoff from the project's industrial outlot that has polluted a nearby Flambeau River tributary. The reason there have been so many different work plans over the years is because none of them have succeeded in reducing copper concentrations in the tributary to a safe level.

  Copper concentrations as high as 77 ppb were measured in the Flambeau River tributary in 2008, compared to the legal limit of 3 ppb for chronic exposure. Citizens eventually succeeded in getting the tributary added to the EPA's list of Impaired Waters in 2012 due to ongoing elevated copper levels. As of 2024, the tributary remains impaired.

  Despite the above, Foth continues to refer to Flambeau as an "exemplary project."

- Environmental monitoring plans designed by Foth for the Flambeau project have been characterized by some as "Don't Ask. Don't Tell."

  FMC continues to claim in annual submissions to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources that *"the Flambeau River remains fully protected and Flambeau remains in full compliance with its permit standards."* Please, however, consider the following:

  - Foth's monitoring plans for the Flambeau project contain no provisions for any biological or surface water quality testing in the stretch of the Flambeau River immediately adjacent to the backfilled pit where, according to their own modeling, contaminated groundwaters from the pit are entering the river through fractured bedrock. Foth isn't even testing the river water for arsenic, which we now know is present in elevated concentrations in several wells within 140 feet of the river.

  - Foth's monitoring plans for the Flambeau project contain no provisions for testing the groundwater for uranium, nickel, cobalt or aluminum even though all four metals were known to be present in Flambeau waste rock, now crushed and in the backfilled pit.

  - Foth's monitoring plans for the Flambeau project call for all groundwater samples collected for analysis to be filtered before running them in the lab. This, of course, removes some if not most of the contaminants, thereby lowering the reported concentrations. It is also problematic because most families using private wells or springs and all farms, livestock, wildlife, fish and vegetation, etc. use and consume unfiltered water.

  - The Flambeau River is only about 5 feet deep in the vicinity of the 225-foot deep backfilled mine pit. Yet, Foth's monitoring plans include no provisions for testing groundwater quality on the west side of the Flambeau River (opposite side from pit) to determine if the plume of groundwater contamination emanating from the backfilled pit and headed in that direction has extended beyond the river to properties on the other side.

  Despite all of the above, Foth continues to refer to Flambeau as an "exemplary project."

- Foth's forthrightness with the public has been brought into question.

  Perhaps this point can best be made by way of an example. Consider the following:

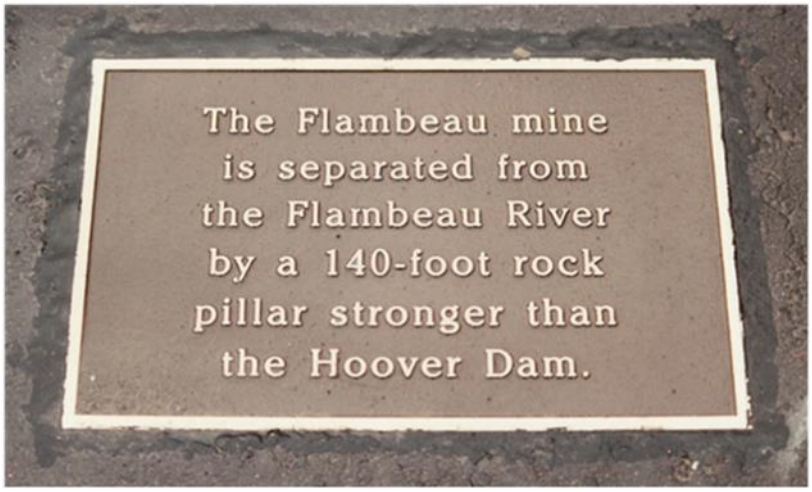
  When citizens voiced concerns during the Flambeau Mine permitting process about what might happen to groundwaters beyond Flambeau's project boundary (which abuts the Flambeau River), Foth distributed a memo in which they stated the following:

  "The river is in the way. It is clearly impossible, then, for any activities at the mine, on one side of the river, to affect any water wells on the other side of the river" (Foth, 1988).

  Years later, when Dr. Robert E. Moran conducted his aforementioned review of historical and modern Flambeau Mine documents, he commented on Foth's memo, characterizing it as "groundwater foolishness." In particular, he noted the following:

  "The Flambeau River is only about 5 feet deep in the vicinity of the 225-foot deep mine pit" [and] "the *overall hydrogeological relationships suggest that the deeper groundwaters may be migrating under the river sediments via fractures and faults"* (Moran, 2019).

  He also noted that Foth had clearly stated in the 1989 *Mining Permit Application* for the Flambeau project that the bedrock between the backfilled mine pit and Flambeau River was "fractured" and that contaminated groundwater leaving the reclaimed mine pit would "flow directly into the bed of the Flambeau River." Yet, the public was told the following by virtue of a plaque displayed at the project site during mine operations in the mid-1990s:

  Dr. Moran, who examined not only the above issues related to groundwater flow at the Flambeau project site but a host of other important issues addressed by Foth during the permitting process, concluded the following:

  "The narrative 'predictions' made by FMC's main Wisconsin consultant in the various permit-related and Annual Reports appear to be largely naïve geochemically and hydrogeologically. … Such statements are most useful for obtaining permits, less so for generating quantitatively-reliable predictions."

In summary, the Copperwood proposal, which abuts Lake Superior and the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, is one that needs to be ***done right***. Yet, Highland Copper is relying on a consultant to manage the project (Foth) that demonstrably ***failed to get it right*** at a much smaller and less-complicated mine (Flambeau).

Would the Copperwood project be a good use of MSF funds? I hope the above information will help to inform your decision.

Thank you,



Laura Gauger, Chair
Deer Tail Scientific

References:

Moran, Dr. Robert E., May 2019 (posthumous). Flambeau Mine: Water Contamination and Selective "Alternative Facts", 116 pg.
Foth, June 1988. The Effect of the Flambeau River as a Hydraulic Barrier to Groundwater Underflow, 4 pg.

From:	Brooke Tharp
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	DENY the $50 million grant to Highland Copper for the Copperwood Mine
Date:	Wednesday, February 28, 2024 4:00:40 PM

Dear MSF Board Members:

I am a lifelong Michigander and Upper Peninsula resident. I'm writing today to urge you to DENY the $50 million grant to Highland Copper for the Copperwood Mine by voting NO on the grant at the MSF board meeting. This risky investment is a terrible decision for the State of Michigan to make, for environmental as well as economic reasons.

Lack of Economic Benefit for Michigan Residents and U.S. Citizens

Highland Copper, a Canadian "junior mining" company, touts the number of jobs created by the Copperwood Mine as a huge boost for the local and state economy. However, many of the best-paying jobs won't go to Michiganders. Although the Upper Peninsula will be the frontlines of extraction, Highland says the copper-concentrate will then be shipped off to Ontario, Quebec, or even Europe or Asia for further processing.

Michigan should not be financing a foreign company who outsources so much of its labor. Copperwood is actually more likely to negatively impact the local economy in the long-term. A study done by Dr. William Freudenburg of UW-Madison and UC-Santa Barbara analyzes the quantitative impacts of mines on nonmetropolitan areas in the U.S. and shows that only 29% of mines led to a positive economic outcome for rural communities. Half of those cases came from before 1982, and the majority of them came from the western U.S. The study concludes by saying, "there is surprisingly little evidence that mining will bring about economic good times, while there is a good deal of evidence for expecting just the opposite." Should Michigan be paying to perpetuate an industry which is more likely to impoverish this area in the long term than enrich it?

Instability of Highland Copper and Copperwood

If Copperwood is as lucrative as Highland Copper claims, then where are all the investors, and where's the company's stability? After more than a decade of planning, Highland Copper's market cap has stagnated, and they still have only 10% of the necessary capital to begin construction. The State of Michigan should not be bailing out a failing Canadian company.

Additionally, just a few months ago, Highland Copper's CEO stepped down with no explanation. And he's not alone; Highland Copper has had 4 CEOs in the past decade. If this project is so risky that it can't keep investors or employees, it is too risky for the State of Michigan to endorse.

Highland Copper also has a low likelihood of keeping the Copperwood project. In July 2023, they sold 66% of their shares of the White Pine North Mine (also in the western U.P.) to another Canadian company for $30M, Kinterra Capital, thus making Kinterra the majority shareholder. It's likely Highland Copper would also jump at the opportunity to sell Copperwood to the next deep-pocketed "partner" to come along. Highland Copper cannot be trusted to secure investments, keep a CEO, or even hold on to ownership of their mining prospects; why should they be trusted with $50 million of Michigan taxpayer money?

Thank you for taking the time to carefully consider my comments. Please, vote NO to DENY Highland Copper's request for a $50 million investment from the State of Michigan. The future of the Lake Superior shoreline and outdoor recreation viability of the Upper Peninsula is critically important to me and my community. I urge you to be on the right side of history and do what is within your power as an MSF board member to prevent these potentially catastrophic impacts to the Porcupine

Mountains and Lake Superior watershed.

Respectfully,

Brooke Tharp

1402 Woodland Ave. Marquette MI 49855

--
Brooke Tharp, LLBSW, MSW
She/Her/Ella

From: Nesli Karakus
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Disappointment in copper mine decision
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 12:10:44 PM

I am writing to express my disappointment that you are granting a Canadian company $50 million to extract copper from pristine lands in Michigan. People live in and visit Michigan for a variety of reasons but its natural beauty is among the top. For years places like Interlochen and other areas offered a natural oasis yet for the promise of money from an inexperienced mining company you offer up taxpayer money to extract natural minerals that make up the ecosystem. Should that area become toxic as a result, each of your names and faces will forever be associated with the reason that occurred.



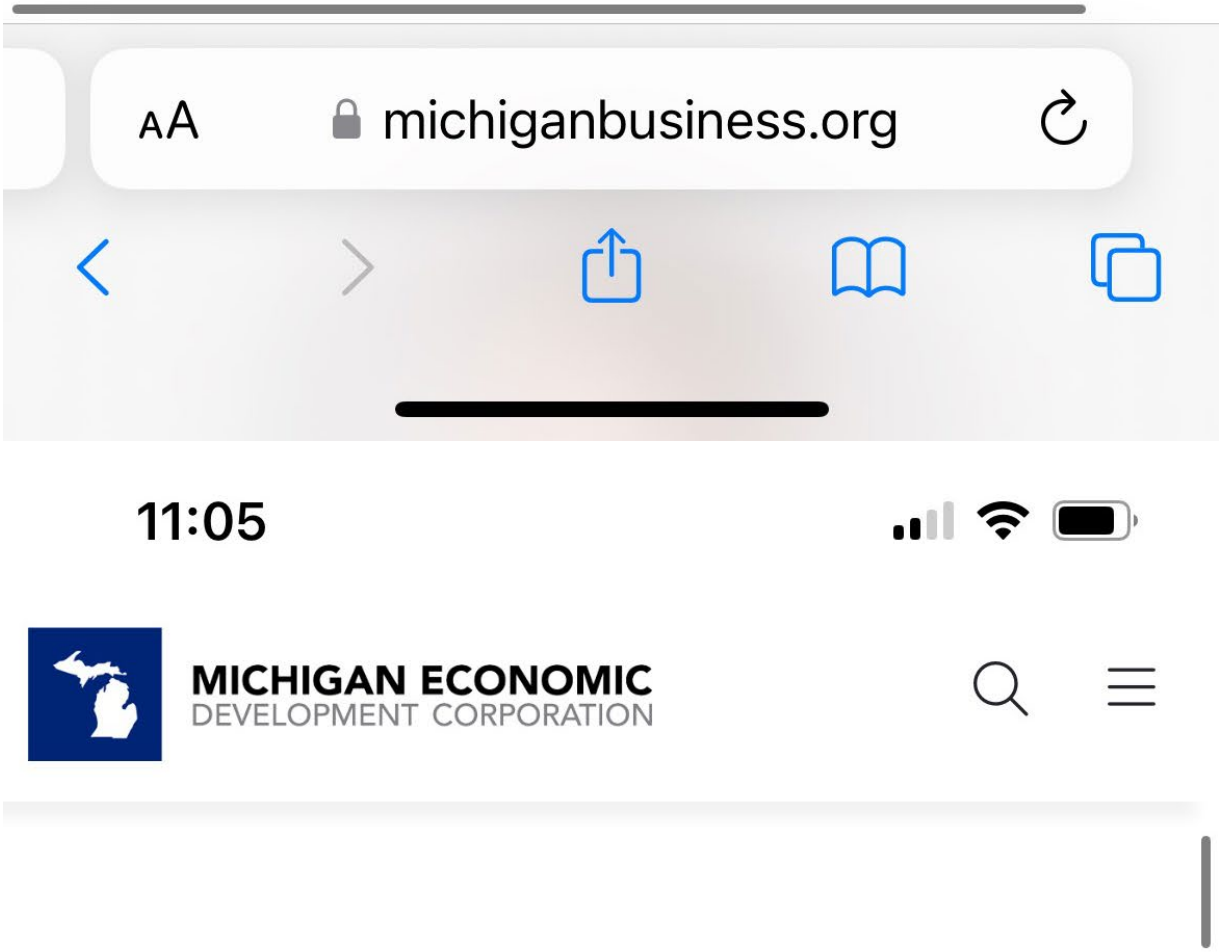
MSF Board Members





Quentin L. Messer, Jr.

Chair, Chief Executive & Economic Competitiveness Officer , Michigan Economic Development Corporation

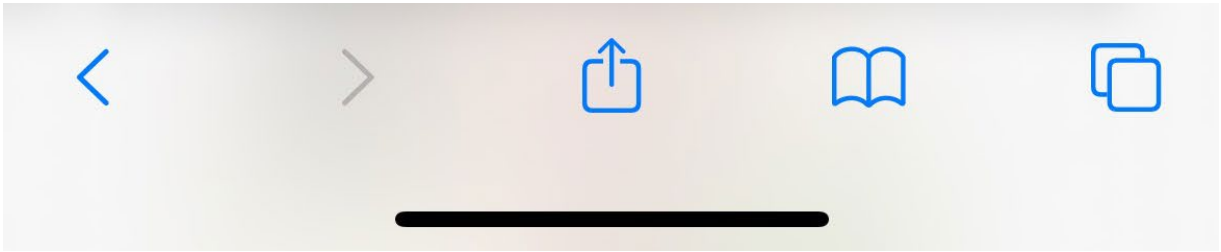




Dr. Britany L. Affolter-Caine

Executive Director, Michigan's University Research Corridor

AA michiganbusiness.org



11:05

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



Susan Corbin

Director, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO)


michiganbusiness.org

From:	portia
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	DO NOT FUND the Highland Copper Mine!!!
Date:	Saturday, February 24, 2024 3:30:07 PM
Attachments:	cleanup.pdf coppersulfidemining.pdf freudenberg-study.pdf

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Hello,

I am writing to add my public comment to the upcoming meeting on Tues 2/27 to discuss the funding of the Highland Copper mine project.

PLEASE DO NOT FUND THIS MINE!
Do not give them the grant!

I recently purchased 17 acres of land in the local area because of the beautiful wild landscape, with plans to create an ecotourism and nature immersion business this summer - that will be viable for many years to come and bring people from all over the world into the region.
This mine project will disrupt my ability to provide my customers with a pristine nature sanctuary!

I have been researching the economics of this project and IT IS CLEARLY A BAD INVESTMENT!
Please see attached documents.

I do not want my tax dollars to go to fund a sulfide (battery acid) WASTE project that will only line the pockets of foreign investors and do nothing to support the local economy. Not to mention risk poisoning Lake Superior, which is 10% of the world's fresh water.

I strongly urge you NOT to give them this grant - and instead support businesses that **protect Lake Superior and foster eco friendly economics** that the UP is known for! This is the way of the future!

Thank you,
~Portia Richardson

From:	Madison Moore
Cc:	MEDC MSF Comments; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	DO NOT give Highland Copper the 50 million dollar grant!
Date:	Thursday, February 15, 2024 11:01:34 PM

Hello, and a good day to you all at the Michigan Strategic Fund Board. I'm writing to give my input about the decision on whether to give Highland Copper the 50 million dollar grant:

You shouldn't give it to them.

You should save that money for a project that's deserving of it, not to a company that'll just pollute the Great Lake Superior; I'm hearing more and more stories about people moving to Michigan due to water crises. Funding this project will only ruin the clean waters that are leading people here! And what would stop Highland from digging for copper underneath the Porcupine Mountains? The Porkies was made a state park to protect its pristine 35,000 acre old-growth forests. Giving Highland the opportunity to mine here will defeat the purpose of making the Mountains a park! It would also drive down recreation, a big money-maker. Sound, light, and aforementioned water pollution make for a poor experience when you're trying to connect with nature. People see this and will have second thoughts on visiting. I know I wouldn't want to visit a park that's lying about its pristine nature; how many others think this same way? How many more would be surprised, even disappointed, to see this development near both the Porkies *and* Lake Superior?

This project may boost our economy now, but what happens once that copper is depleted? It's not like we can put more in there! That flow of money will be gone, and we're left with an environment that's in ruins, a polluted Superior, and a tattered state park. How will we fix all that? Would the 'profits' from this mine cover the costs of restoring everything? Why not save money now instead of scrambling in the future to raise funds rectifying these disasters? Why not invest this 50 million into a more sustainable long-term industry, like outdoor recreation? Instead of losing their jobs to a depleted mine, these hypothetical miners would instead hold lasting careers and ultimately drive interest in the area.

I hope these points are enough to sway you all into withholding the grant. Don't ruin our beautiful Upper Peninsula and Lake Superior for this unsustainable, short-term industry. This project may sound good on paper, but history repeats itself; company comes to make a quick buck and *high-tails* it outta there, leaving the locals with nothing good.

- Madison Moore

From:	Madison Moore
Cc:	MEDC MSF Comments; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
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- Madison Moore

From: Steve Duede
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Don’t pollute Lake Superior
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 3:18:34 PM

I object to the mining being proposed near the Porcupine mountains and Lake Superior. Please no tax money for mining in such a pristine area!
Sent from my iPhone

From:	Tzintzun Aguilar-Izzo
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Don"t approve the $50M grant for the Copperwood Mine
Date:	Tuesday, February 27, 2024 7:52:13 AM

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Committee,

My name is Tzintzun Aguilar-Izzo, and I am writing to you all to recommend that you don't approve the $50M grant for the Copperwood Mine. The inexperienced Canadian company, Highland Copper Inc. <https://www.highlandcopper.com/copperwood-project> , shouldn't have the right or the ability to threaten Michigan's air, land and water, as well as (due to the proposed mine's proximity to Lake Superior) the entire Great Lakes Basin.

Highland Copper Inc. wants to drill under the Presque Isle River to seize minerals from directly beneath Porcupine Mountains State Park, the largest tract of mixed old growth forest remaining in the Midwest. Copperwood's ore grade is estimated at only 1.5%, meaning that nearly 99% of mined material will be stored as 50+ million tons of heavy-metal laden waste rock on topography that slopes towards Lake Superior. The data show <https://www.reuters.com/graphics/MINING-TAILINGS1/0100B4S72K1/index.html> that more than a third of tailings dams are at high risk of causing catastrophic damage to nearby communities if they crumble, and there are already multiple instances of serious failures. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/283321865_The_Risk_Public_Liability_Economics_of_Tailings_Facility_Failures> Highland Copper Inc. inexperiece doesn't bode well on this front, for in their preparations alone, Highland Copper has already been fined <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDNR/bulletins/1d2b659> for violating permits and degrading wetlands.

For the good of all Michigan Residents, I urge you to not grant the sum of $50M to a company with zero experience opening and operating a mine.

The health of Michigan's residents and environment deserves better.

With much respect,

Tzintzun Aguilar-Izzo

<http://www.avg.com/email-signature?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=webmail> Virus-free.www.avg.com <http://www.avg.com/email-signature?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=webmail>

From:	Tzintzun Aguilar-Izzo
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Don"t approve the $50M Grant to the inexperienced Highland Copper Inc.
Date:	Tuesday, February 27, 2024 8:00:39 AM

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Committee,

My name is Tzintzun Aguilar-Izzo, and I am writing to you all to recommend that you don't approve the $50M grant for the Copperwood Mine. The inexperienced Canadian company, Highland Copper Inc. <https://www.highlandcopper.com/copperwood-project> , shouldn't have the right or the ability to threaten Michigan's air, land and water, as well as (due to the proposed mine's proximity to Lake Superior) the entire Great Lakes Basin.

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The health of Michigan's residents and environment deserves better.

With much respect,

Tzintzun Aguilar-Izzo

<http://www.avg.com/email-signature?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=webmail> Virus-free.www.avg.com <http://www.avg.com/email-signature?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=webmail>

From: Carly Rusch
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Don"t fund Copperwood
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 11:52:16 AM

To whom it may concern,

I have lived in Ironwood for nearly a decade now and I can tell you first hand that the area is still recovering from the horrors of the Mining done generations ago. The area is scarred with the bones of mines. Mysterious sink holes appear in streets where no one was supposed to be digging mine shafts, yet the shafts are there. Small areas of the city still cave or sink in. Mine lakes and sink areas mar the landscape. Even cursory research into the history of the iron mines of Gogebic County reveals a steady occurrence of mine related death and accidents. The history of the U.P. is that of extractive exploitation. First the Indigenous people were victims of this Euro-American enterprise conducted on large scale, but, eventually everyone in the area became victims to the seemingly insatiable lust for the minerals and lumber of the Upper Peninsula. The soil and water are still contaminated from the mining activities done generations ago.
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/324084718_Mining_legacy_across_a_wetland_landscape_High_mercury_in_Upper_Peninsula_Michigan_rivers_lakes_and_fish

To think that another mine is the answer to the decades of damage done to the landscape, the water, the soil and the people is absolutely ludicrous. The amount of work that would be brought to the area is minuscule, if hardly worth mentioning. The danger to our natural resources is far too high to risk such paltry return of investment. From what I understand, the Copperwood company doesn't even have experience actually running a mine-which is absolutely terrifying and unacceptable.

Furthermore, the weather is too unpredictable now. "Once in a lifetime" storms are a regular occurrence. This is something that we all have to accept and we must plan accordingly.

To say that this would be a foolish investment is a grave understatement. We must protect Lake Superior and our other natural resources from anymore contamination from irresponsible mining. Are we really willing to risk the well being of our environment and our people so a handful of people can get rich? This project has the potential of becoming yet another tragic natural disaster.

From Save The Wild UP:

- Copperwood Mine plans to pull water from Lake Superior for industrial use, destroy streams and wetlands, and radically alter the hydrology of the site.
- Mining impacts (airborne pollutants, soils and waters contaminated with heavy metals) will degrade the natural habitat of the Porcupine Mountains, especially the Presque Isle Scenic Area and the Presque Isle Rustic Campground. Because the Copperwood Mine would be developed adjacent to the west end of the Porkies, it threatens the park's wild and scenic values, including dark skies, clean waters, quiet environment, and a diverse ecological habitat supporting old-growth forests and predators. Several popular waterfalls are located in this area, including Manabezho Falls, Manido Falls and Nawadaha Falls.

- Highland Copper talks about developing a MINING DISTRICT in this area, encompassing lands on both ends of the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, including the "White Pine North" project at the historic White Pine mine and mill site, 21 miles east of the Copperwood project. The White Pine site could potentially be used for milling ore and the permanent storage of environmentally hazardous mine waste. The White Pine site includes enormous historic tailings basins and contaminated brownfields; the tailings basins are so large they can be seen from space. The White Pine project is stalled, due to liability and financing concerns.
- Highland Copper's interest in redeveloping the White Pine Mine site raises legacy contamination concerns. The site included an ore-refining smelter with a 500′ tall stack; new research shows that mercury emissions from White Pine Smelter contaminated a wide swath of the Upper Peninsula. *See: Kerfoot, W. Charles et al. Mining legacy across a wetland landscape: High mercury in Upper Peninsula (Michigan) rivers, lakes, and fish. Full article available*. Mercury emissions from the White Pine Smelter were approximately "640 kg per year" (1411 pounds). New mining activities in this area risk contributing new contamination, on top of legacy mine contamination.

Source:
https://savethewildup.org/copperwood-mine-facts/

Sent with Proton Mail secure email.

From: Barb Ostaszewski
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Environmental pollution
Date: Saturday, March 23, 2024 10:03:33 AM

The proposed mining near Lake Superior would cause harm to our pristine waters. It is bad enough that we are still fighting against Line 5 at Mackinaw. I am glad to have found out about this and although I live down state I travel to this area often and do not support the mining especially from a company that does not care about the consequences. Sincerely, Barb Ostaszewski

Sent from my iPad

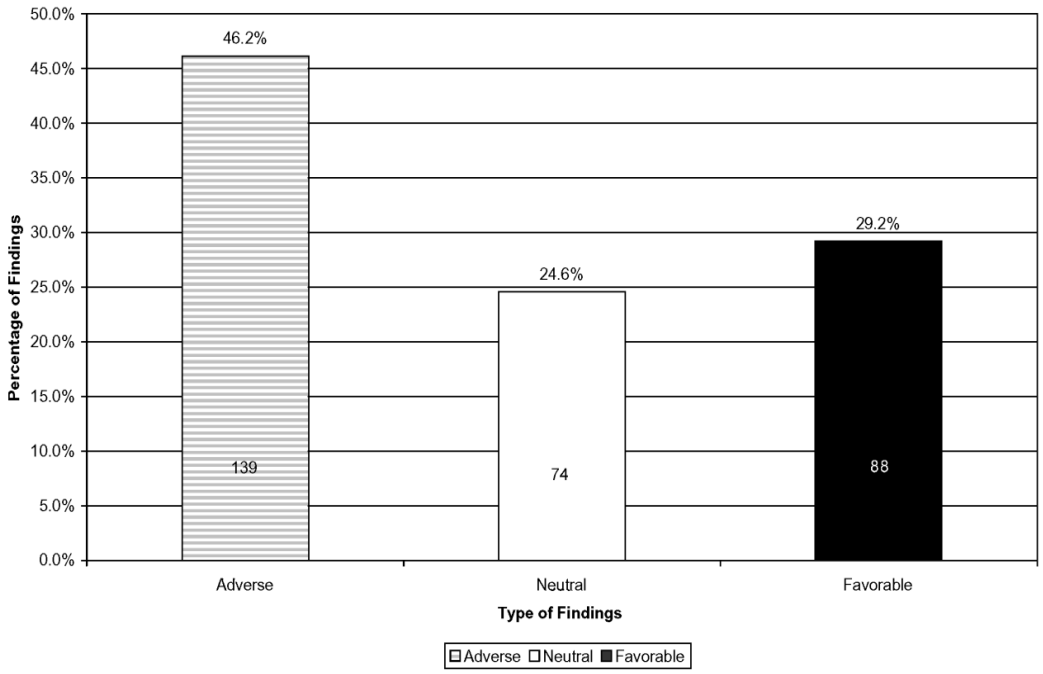
FREUDENBURG STUDY:

For rural communities, metal mining far more likely to lead to negative economic outcomes

Mining the Data: Analyzing the Economic Implications of Mining for Nonmetropolitan Regions

William R. Freudenburg, ***University of Wisconsin–Madison and University of California–Santa Barbara***
Lisa J. Wilson, ***Watershed Research and Training Center***

Extractive industries such as logging and mining are generally expected to bring significant economic benefits to rural regions, but a growing number of findings have now challenged that common expectation. Still, it is not clear whether the findings of less-than-desirable economic outcomes are isolated or representative. In this article, we assemble literally all of the relevant quantitative findings on mining that we have been able to identify in published and/or technical literature from the United States. In the interest of rigor, we limit the assessment to cases in which strictly nonmetropolitan mining regions are compared against other nonmetropolitan regions and/or against those regions' own experiences over time. Overall, 301 findings meet the criteria for inclusion. Contrary to the long-established assumptions, but consistent with more recent critiques, roughly half of all published findings indicate negative economic outcomes in mining communities, with the remaining findings being split roughly evenly between favorable and neutral/indeterminate ones. Positive findings are more likely to be associated with incomes than with poverty or (especially) unemployment rates, and they are more likely to come from the western United States, where much of the mining involves relatively large, new coal strip mines. Over half of all positive findings come from the years prior to 1982. In virtually all other categories, the plurality or majority of findings have been negative. When the patterns of findings are subjected to one-sample means tests, the only way to produce a significantly positive outcome is by combining all neutral/indeterminate findings with the positive ones, while focusing exclusively on incomes; by contrast, in the case of poverty or unemployment rates—as well as for the overall body of findings—the results are consistently and significantly negative, whether the neutral/indeterminate findings are combined with negative ones or omitted from the equations altogether. Until or unless future studies produce dramatically different findings, there appears to be no scientific basis for accepting the widespread, "obvious" assumption that mining will lead to economic improvement.



relevant quotes:

- The areas of the United States that have the highest levels of long-term poverty tend to be those very places that were once the site of thriving extractive industries.

- Mining communities' economic problems tend to become increasingly pronounced over time, exacerbated by the volatility of commodity prices, the potential for a cost-price squeeze, and the problem of *flickering* (i.e. the periodic shutting down of extractive operations as prices fluctuate above and below the costs of operation).

- The Rural Sociological Society's Task Force on Rural Poverty ultimately identified resource extraction not as an antidote to poverty, but as a cause or correlate. They found resource extraction to have a "systematic relationship" with "the impoverishment of rural people."

concluding sentence:

“To the extent to which past experience is to be our guide, there is surprisingly little evidence that mining will bring about economic good times, while there is a good deal of evidence for expecting just the opposite.”

From:	MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To:	Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject:	FW: *Opposition to Copperwood Mine*
Date:	Tuesday, February 6, 2024 3:41:54 PM

From: M. Kopacz <kopaczma@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 2:33 PM
To: messerg@michigan.org; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; leo-directoroffice@michigan.gov; leo-comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; mistatetreasurer@michigan.gov; eubandsr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson <dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com>; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants <ContractsAndGrants@michigan.org>
Subject: *Opposition to Copperwood Mine*

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund board members and to whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my extreme opposition to the $50 million grant you are considering giving to the Copperwood Mine project and to encourage you NOT to grant them this money and this endorsement.

Some crucial things I would like for you to consider are the following:

1. To start, are you aware of the petition that, as of this moment, has 11,606 signatures? The message is out there and people feel very passionately about our state lands and waters. We want to protect what is left. 11,000 is more than the populations of the closest three towns to this planned mine -- **the social acceptance or license for this project is FAR from universal.**

2. This area is also not the "middle of nowhere". **This area is one of the most visited and treasured by outdoor recreationists, nature lovers and enthusiasts -- it is a KEY and CHERISHED destination for Michiganders, and not only!** People come from all over to visit this gorgeous area! You have the trifecta of popular nature sites -- **the North Country Trail, the Porcupine Mountains, AND Lake Superior.** Michiganders are nature-loving people at the core and it certainly shows when **outdoor recreation, annually, contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy!** Mining, on the other hand, around $1 billion... Operating a mine would destroy this area -- **it would epically disrupt this thriving outdoor recreation area with noise and light pollution, subterranean blasting, heavy industrial traffic, and it would be the CLOSEST sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history (these mines ALWAYS contaminate waters and the tailing dams are NOT invincible).** I cannot say this enough, this area is NOT in "the middle of nowhere."

3. And how can all this destruction be worth it when copper is NOT a critical mineral? There is no urgent need for this mineral -- **copper is not scarce.** It is 100% recyclable, and a majority of it still remains in the ground for this reason. In fact, **the United States exports nearly ten times as much copper as it imports** and is **the #1 exporter of scrap copper in the world.** And so it's understandable why, despite extreme pressure from the industry, copper was just recently **denied an upgrade of status to "critical mineral"** by the U.S. Geological Society.

Copper is useful, of course, with a wide array of uses and applications in semiconductor technology. **But the extraction of copper endangers other resources which are far scarcer and of far greater value.**

Finally, a quote from the Detroit News article -- **"Throughout its life, the Copperwood Mine would produce enough copper to supply 3,500 electric vehicle batteries." ...** Really? Is that it?? Are 3,500 electric vehicle batteries worth endangering Lake Superior, the largest freshwater body of water on Earth? Is it worth taking away our right as Michiganders... Americans... human beings... to enjoy the peace of the remaining bits of our natural lands and waters?

3,500 electric vehicle batteries isn't even enough for the population of Ironwood.

There is so much more that can be said, but I'll finish there. I appreciate you taking the time to read this and to consider those points. **I, respectfully, urge you NOT to grant the Copperwood project this $50 million.**

Sincerely,
Maggie Kopacz

From: MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: FW: Alger County Michigan resident–please do not support the Copperwood development
Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 8:40:57 AM

From: Ariana Maki <ariana.maki@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 11, 2024 4:10 AM
To: Quentin Messer (MEDC) <messerq@michigan.org>; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson <dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com>; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants <ContractsAndGrants@michigan.org>
Subject: Alger County Michigan resident–please do not support the Copperwood development

Dear Members of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board and Affiliates,

I am a fifth-generation resident of Alger County, and am writing to urge the Board to reject outright a $50 million grant to the Copperwood project, and to not fund the project in any capacity.

The proposed site is in the center of some of the state's most important natural resources: the Porcupine Mountains, Lake Superior, and the North Country Trail. Combined, these locations fuel our local economies through tourist dollars. Statewide, outdoor recreation generates $10 billion for Michigan annually; mining contributes 1/10th of that. Tourists will not want to visit areas adjacent to an open mine, subjecting themselves to the associated noise and light pollution, not to mention the heavy industrial traffic. Local residents would be forced to bear the same conditions and the same effects, many of whom would in turn experience negative impacts on their tourism-facing small businesses.

Further, there has never been a copper sulfide mine that hasn't leached or contaminated the environment. Copperwood's proposed site is adjacent to Lake Superior, which holds 10% of the world's fresh water. Is this truly the best place to situate a mine that is guaranteed to adversely affect the environment?

Copper is not currently considered a critical mineral, and the projected *lifetime* output of the Copperwood mine would produce just 3,500 electric vehicle batteries. Paltry, to say the least. Is that really worth the potential costs?

I appreciate your time in reading this email, and urge you to take its points to heart. Please don't risk our homes, communities, businesses, and environment. Surely an alternate site can be identified within our great state that isn't adjacent to critical natural resources.

Sincerely,
Ariana

From: MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: FW: Community opposition to Copperwood Mine project
Date: Friday, February 2, 2024 8:46:44 AM

#4

-----Original Message-----
From: Melissa Arrowsmith <melissa.arrowsmith1@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 2:47 PM
Subject: Community opposition to Copperwood Mine project

I am aware that you are currently considering a $50 million grant for the Copperwood project. As a resident of Michigan's pristine Upper Peninsula, I am just one of many community members who are opposed and appalled that this would even be under consideration. As the "Michigan Strategic Fund", you must think strategically about our future. Therefore, I urge you to prioritize the safety and health of our communities, and protect the precious natural areas and freshwater resources that surround us in the U.P. The mine would sit at the juncture of the Porcupine Mountains, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior: one of the most spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the country. Is it really worth endangering the largest freshwater lake on Earth, as well as the right of humans to enjoy a moment of peace in one of the last pristine regions of the Midwest, all for the sake of a mere 3,500 EV batteries? There has never been a metallic sulfide mine which did not contaminate water. Why would we put Michigan's freshwater - our biggest asset - in danger? This project is a step in the wrong direction, and to continue with it shows we have not learned from our past mistakes.

To summarize, as a resident of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, I am strongly opposed to the Copperwood project and do not think it should receive a single cent of public grant money. Let us instead use that pool of grant money toward a purpose that is actually a priority for Michiganders and the future of our beautiful state.

Thank you very much for considering my comment.

Sincerely,
Melissa Arrowsmith
Marquette, Michigan resident

From: MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: FW: Copperwood Mine Project
Date: Monday, February 5, 2024 8:48:57 AM

From: Nancy Uschold <nuschold@proton.me>
Sent: Saturday, February 3, 2024 4:20 PM
To: britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@Michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants <ContractsAndGrants@michigan.org>; Quentin Messer (MEDC) <messerq@michigan.org>
Subject: Copperwood Mine Project

To the Michigan Economics Development Corporation:

I understand you are considering a $50 million grant to the Copperwood Mine. As a resident of Michigan's Upper Peninsula and an avid lover of the outdoors I urge against this move. I am opposed to the Copperwood Mine, and thus any investment in it for the following reasons. Did you know:

1. It's location is in the middle of an outdoor recreation mecca – bordering (literally) the North Country Trail (NCT) and the Porcupine Mountains State Park (the Porkies).
2. The NCT (recently receiving National Park Unit Status – which will expand the resources and reach this gem provides.
3. The entrance to the Porkies will be a 15 second drive from the mine. It is that close.
4. The Porkies is the largest Michigan State Park and popular with visitors from MI and beyond. It has the largest old growth forest in the midwest. And the plan is to extract minerals from DIRECTLY UNDER the park!
5. Already hundreds of acres of secondary forest have been clear cut – and the mine isn't even approved! This creates an increased risk of forest fires.
6. Economically speaking, outdoor recreation contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually; mining, around $1 billion. I suggest a $50 million for tourism is a better return on investment and will not have the limited life of a mine. If, instead, an operating mine is in this location the thriving outdoor recreation area will be filled with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic. A

lose lose for hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreation.

7. Copper Sulfide mines (which Copperwood would be) ALWAYS contaminate with acid mine drainage and tailings dams have a high failure rate.
8. The mine is very close to Lake Superior and tributaries. Does contaminating the source of 10% of the WORLD's freshwater make economic sense?
9. The mine will draw water from Lake Superior (already warming at an alarming rate) and impact the hydrology of the entire area.
10. The rock in question has a teeny bit of copper and the vast majority of the mining project is WASTE. Since copper is recyclable, I wonder is a landfill would yield a greater percent of copper to "mine" – and at least the rest is already waste!
11. Copper is not considered a critical mineral. It is recyclable and the US is a new EXPORTER of copper.
12. The Copperwood Mine will produce enough copper for 3500 Electric vehicles. That is a staggeringly small return on a $50 million dollar investment.
13. More than 11,000 people have signed a petition in opposing the mine.

Please join us in protecting Pure Michigan Woods and Water!

Sincerely,

Nancy Uschold

Sent with Proton Mail secure email.

From: MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: FW: DO NOT SUPPORT Copperwood and consider Buffalo Reef
Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 8:48:18 AM

-----Original Message-----
From: Andrew kemp <inkinbloom@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 10, 2024 9:38 AM
To: Quentin Messer (MEDC) <messerq@michigan.org>; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson <dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com>; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants <ContractsAndGrants@michigan.org>
Subject: DO NOT SUPPORT Copperwood and consider Buffalo Reef

Greetings Michiganders,

I do hope that you are all Michiganders and respect our natural resources as our greatest asset. We must protect our forests and fresh water from plunder.

Please be aware as you consider the notion of financially supporting further destruction of our beautiful forests and shoreline with the proposed Copperwood mine, a company with no track record for handling such a massive project, that we are right now trying to figure out how to clean up messes left by previous mining operations.

I speak of the Buffalo Reef disaster. In case you are not aware of this ongoing disaster I will include a link to some information that should weigh heavily in your decision. Over 2000 acres of stamping sands have decimated the shoreline and are migrating into Lake Superior. The state is considering a 2 billion dollar clean up and the company is, of course, long gone. We ask ourselves how it is possible that we find ourselves in this situation. The answer lies in decisions like the one that you are poised to make about this future and current natural disaster we call Copperwood. Please be informed as you consider what you are doing to our great state.

Task force seeks input on cleanup of mining waste that threatens Lake Superior's Buffalo Reef <https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2024/02/04/buffalo-reef-task-force-lake-superior-reef-mining-waste-cleanup/72439930007/>

<https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2024/02/04/buffalo-reef-task-force-lake-superior-reef-mining-waste-cleanup/72439930007/>

Task force seeks input on cleanup of mining waste that threatens Lake Su...

Estimated at more than $2B, state, federal and tribal groups look at options for cleaning up stamp sands that th...

Thank you for your time,

From: MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: FW: DO NOT Support Copperwood Mine
Date: Thursday, February 1, 2024 12:32:09 PM

FYI,
Karen

From: Arboretum Detroit <treetroit@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 10:38 AM
To: Quentin Messer (MEDC) <messerq@michigan.org>; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson <dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com>; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants <ContractsAndGrants@michigan.org>
Subject: DO NOT Support Copperwood Mine

Michigan Strategic Fund board members,

Please do not offer support in any way for the Copperwood mine project that is destroying wilderness and threatening Lake Superior at the edges of Michigan's most beautiful and popular recreation area: Porcupine Mountains State Park. It is incomprehensible that this plunder and destruction of our natural resources would be permitted let alone funded. Please understand the significance of the old growth forests and fresh water that you are threatening before you make your decision. Of course if you have been to Lake Superior or the Porcupine Mountains you would never consider offering support for mining so close to this forest and shoreline. Please visit immediately and recognize the grandeur that you would be trading away for the profits of a Canadian mining company with no track record, no safety record, not even the funds to make this massive destruction happen. OMG. I am really trying to understand how we can live in a world where this is possible.

I urge you to vote NO on any support of this mining project. I have been there and seen first hand the destruction that has already wiped out forest and wetlands. Think about the cost to Michigan's recreation if not the cost to the environment. If you are truly a Michigander you would never consider supporting such a project, only how to fight it.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Birch
--

help us help trees help us
Arboretum Detroit
@arbdetroit
arbdetroit.org

From: MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: FW: Don"t approve the $50M Grant to the inexperienced Highland Copper Inc.
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 3:28:58 PM

-----Original Message-----
From: Tzintzun Aguilar-Izzo <tzintzunaguilar@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 8:00 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments <msfcomments@michigan.org>
Subject: Don't approve the $50M Grant to the inexperienced Highland Copper Inc.

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Committee,

My name is Tzintzun Aguilar-Izzo, and I am writing to you all to recommend that you don't approve the $50M grant for the Copperwood Mine. The inexperienced Canadian company, Highland Copper Inc. <https://www.highlandcopper.com/copperwood-project> , shouldn't have the right or the ability to threaten Michigan's air, land and water, as well as (due to the proposed mine's proximity to Lake Superior) the entire Great Lakes Basin.

Highland Copper Inc. wants to drill under the Presque Isle River to seize minerals from directly beneath Porcupine Mountains State Park, the largest tract of mixed old growth forest remaining in the Midwest. Copperwood's ore grade is estimated at only 1.5%, meaning that nearly 99% of mined material will be stored as 50+ million tons of heavy-metal laden waste rock on topography that slopes towards Lake Superior. The data show <https://www.reuters.com/graphics/MINING-TAILINGS1/0100B4S72K1/index.html> that more than a third of tailings dams are at high risk of causing catastrophic damage to nearby communities if they crumble, and there are already multiple instances of serious failures. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/283321865_The_Risk_Public_Liability_Economics_of_Tailings_Facility_Failures>

Highland Copper Inc. inexperiece doesn't bode well on this front, for in their preparations alone, Highland Copper has already been fined <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDNR/bulletins/1d2b659> for violating permits and degrading wetlands.

For the good of all Michigan Residents, I urge you to not grant the sum of $50M to a company with zero experience opening and operating a mine.

The health of Michigan's residents and environment deserves better.

With much respect,

Tzintzun Aguilar-Izzo

<http://www.avg.com/email-signature?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=webmail> Virus-free.www.avg.com <http://www.avg.com/email-signature?

utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=webmail>

From:	MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To:	Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject:	FW: Don"t fund Copperwood project
Date:	Monday, February 5, 2024 11:30:31 AM

From: Anne Steinberg <asteinberg@wi.rr.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 10:57 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments <msfcomments@michigan.org>
Subject: Don't fund Copperwood project

I strongly urge you to not fund the Copperwood mining project.

Over the years I've spent many wonderful days hiking and camping in the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness. The old growth forest, rushing streams and Lake Superior are amazing places that bring thousands of people to the area each year. In addition, Lake Superior's waters are an invaluable planetary resource of fresh water.

This is about the worst place I can imagine for a sulfide mine. Copper sulfide mines have always contaminated and there are no guarantees that tailing dams will protect Lake Superior.

Future generations will thank you.

Anne Steinberg
2934 N. Prospect Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53211

From:	MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To:	Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject:	FW: MEDC Financing Mining?
Date:	Wednesday, January 31, 2024 7:53:59 PM

#6

From: eric rempala <eroutdoors@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 11:25 AM
To: eric rempala <eroutdoors@hotmail.com>
Cc: Quentin Messer (MEDC) <messerq@michigan.org>; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@Michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants <ContractsAndGrants@michigan.org>
Subject: MEDC Financing Mining?

Michigan Strategic Fund Board,

I am sharing my comments below to the MEDC with your board, hoping for a more sustainable future for the Eastern U.P.

I am a Nothern Wisconsin resident and frequent visitor of the Porcupine Mountain's. Visits which include stops in Ironwood, Bessemer, and Black River Harbor. I stand with the Protect the Porkies group in opposing Metallic Sulfide Mining along Porcupine Mountain State Park on the shores of Lake Superior.
As a member of a local environmental group in Wisconsin, I have extensive knowledge of what this type of mining brings to a community. I find it appalling that an institution such MEDC which has apparently failed the UP in bringing in sustainable non-extraction jobs, is now considering financing the polluting boom and eventual BUST cycle that has devastated this area economically for years.
I hope your organization find's a more intelligent way of supporting this community with sustainable economic development.

Thank you
Eric Rempala
Irma WI 54442

From:	MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To:	Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject:	FW: MSF and Copperwood
Date:	Wednesday, January 31, 2024 7:53:20 PM

#3

From: Nichole Keway Biber <nicholebiber@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 2:33 PM
To: Quentin Messer (MEDC) <messerq@michigan.org>; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson <dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com>; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants <ContractsAndGrants@michigan.org>
Subject: MSF and Copperwood

I strongly urge that the Michigan Strategic Fund should NOT be funding the environmentally irresponsible, and likely devastating, Copperwood project. Mining this area would be a tragic blot on a beautiful place of intact ecology that draws many people to enjoy the peace and comfort of the natural world. To scar the land with a large scale industrial project so near the juncture of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior is almost farcical in the short-sighted negligence such a project would represent. The burgeoning "renewables" market is on the verge of being co-opted as another Gold Rush for the extractive economics that have brought us all to the brink of ecological collapse, per the willingness to sacrifice natural places for the sake of limited short-term profit. Enough is enough! How about Michigan strategizing for a livable future of clean water and rebounded biodiversity? Responsible stewardship of lands, water, people, and places can only come to fruition if we rightly value and preserve the few natural areas remaining. Reject funding and greenlighting the treacherous Copperwood mining project - it is unnecessary and a betrayal of our collective responsibilities to Posterity.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nichole Keway Biber
Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa, tribal citizen

From:	MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To:	Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject:	FW: NO NO NO to public grants and money to Copperwood Mine
Date:	Wednesday, January 31, 2024 7:54:20 PM

#7

From: Dena Haskins <kdejaehaskins@att.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 10:29 AM
To: Quentin Messer (MEDC) <messerq@michigan.org>; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@Michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants <ContractsAndGrants@michigan.org>
Subject: NO NO NO to public grants and money to Copperwood Mine

Please do not approve the grant, our water is priceless! The upper peninsula is priceless.

Please do NOT approve this!

From: MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: FW: Please do NOT fund Copperwood
Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 8:48:27 AM

-----Original Message-----
From: Kinga Osz-Kemp <kingaokemp@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 10, 2024 9:30 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments <msfcomments@michigan.org>; Quentin Messer (MEDC) <messerq@michigan.org>; LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC) <davenportn3@michigan.org>; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson <dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com>; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants <ContractsAndGrants@michigan.org>; sharpstik@aol.com
Subject: Please do NOT fund Copperwood

To the Board of the Michigan Strategic Fund,

I am a concerned Michigan resident,
asking you to consider the Copperwood mine.

This mine is NOT contributing to climate solutions. It is a green washed attempt at meager profits at the cost of endangering and compromising a thriving rare and priceless ecosystem that is closely connected to our drinking water, our fresh air and sanity.

Surely there are better ways to make profit, other than creating ecological disaster to unearth toxic sulfate laden rock that contains 1% copper!
Back in the day these mines turned up 99% copper, and copper is recyclable!!!

Right now there is a $2 billion effort by the Buffalo Reef Taskforce to clean up 2200 acres on Lake Superior as a result of mining. And where is the mining company and everyone who allowed this terrible pollution to happen? Are they on to the next project that threatens and destroys our wilderness?

There is a wealth of information on numbers and facts about this operation that's available to the public, so MIchigan's people are watching.

I am asking you NOT to support this mine.

Sincerely,
Kinga Osz-Kemp

From: MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: FW: Please oppose the Copperwood Mine
Date: Friday, February 2, 2024 8:46:02 AM

Hi Natalie - this is 1 of 4 from the inbox this morning.

Karen

-----Original Message-----
From: Tiffany Rune Cuthrell <tiffedumonde@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 9:15 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments <msfcomments@michigan.org>
Cc: ron@euclidindustries.com; ronbeebe49@aol.com; Quentin Messer (MEDC) <messerq@michigan.org>; LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC) <davenportn3@michigan.org>; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson <dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com>; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants <ContractsAndGrants@michigan.org>; gretchen.whitmer@michigan.gov
Subject: Please oppose the Copperwood Mine

Dear Board Members and friends,

I am wholeheartedly urging you to please not support the grant for Copperwood Mine. I am a resident of the upper peninsula and am worried about this possibility.

The mine would be a significant light, noise and chemical polluter that would be a severe detriment to the peaceful life of the UP, as well as to the thriving tourism that contributes billions to our state economy annually. By contrast, only 25% of mines lead to long-term economic benefit.
Folks here in the upper peninsula literally live and die by the local tourism industry. Travelers come from around the world to gaze at the stars, hike pristine trails and see our breathtaking Great Lakes.
Instead, travelers and residents would be shaken from their moments of peace by subterranean blasts, industrial traffic, other noise and light pollution. The beautiful night sky would be overcome.
Michigan cannot afford to jeopardize this for a dangerous and short-term project for a non-critical material.

Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior that has ever existed. The lake shared between the US and Canada needs to be protected, not polluted.
Our Great Lakes and delicate ecosystems need to be guarded from development like this.

Please understand that 11,000 people have already signed a petition against this grant moving forward. Michigan residents do not want Highland Copper (a foreign company) ravaging these beautiful lakes and lands in the name of profit.
Additionally, the copper would be transported to Canada for processing, which would mean a large chunk of the highest paying jobs would go to workers outside of Michigan, and outside of the US.

I am urging you to please not allow Copperwood Mine to move forward.
Thank you for making the right decision for Michigan residents, travelers and our beautiful planet as a whole.

Thank you for your time.

All the very best,

Rune Cuthrell
Manistique, Michigan

From: MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: FW: Public Comment on Investment in the Highland Copperwood Mine
Date: Monday, February 5, 2024 8:48:00 AM

-----Original Message-----
From: Sophie Owen <smowen@mtu.edu>
Sent: Sunday, February 4, 2024 1:58 PM
Subject: Public Comment on Investment in the Highland Copperwood Mine

Hello,

I am writing a public comment on the potential for the MSF to award a $50 million grant to the Highland Copperwood Mine project in the western Upper Peninsula. I am strongly opposed to this potential grant and believe that it is not a sound investment for Michigan.

First a bit of background about myself. I have lived in Houghton, MI for the past 5 years and have spent a majority of my life making trips to the Porcupine Mountains and UP to enjoy snowmobiling, hiking, camping, and many other recreational activities. Mining has been an important part of UP's economic history, but has left many communities reeling and in financial instability from the boom/bust nature of the work. The Copperwood mine is a short term project that does not provide any long benefits to the local community. What efforts is Highland Copper making to enrich the local communities, besides making vague promises of infrastructure development? There are multiple studies indicating that an exceedingly small fraction of mines will ever lead to meaningful economic revitalization. The study, "Mining the Data: Analyzing the Economic Implications of Mining for Nonmetropolitan Regions", specifically found that only 25% of mines lead to long-term economic benefit for communities, with half of those coming from before 1982, and most of those being new coal strip mines out West. Don't the citizens of Michigan and Gogebic County deserve a more sound investment in their long term well-being? Michigan taxpayer money (mine included) could be better served on revitalizing local hospitals, schools, and outdoor recreational areas like the Porkies and the North Country Trail.

In addition to the limited economic benefits, there is strong public disapproval of this project. Over 11,000 people have signed a petition calling to stop the Copperwood Mine. Michigan has a legacy of strong connection to the outdoors and it is one of the most unique and defining characteristics of our state. Our great lakes are a spectacular natural wonder and are unlike anything found elsewhere in the world. Lake Superior is the largest freshwater lake in the world by surface area spanning nearly 32,000 square miles! Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history. Copper sulfide mines always contaminate <https://earthworks.org/issues/copper-sulfide-mining/> and tailings dams are far from invincible <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bRsKgLaVMXw> . Is this something that the MSF would like to invest in - a project that comes with the potential to pollute the largest freshwater lake in the world?

Lastly, HC's market cap is only $43 million — well short of the $390 million in startup capital required — MSF would be investing in a company that likely will be taken over by a larger partner at some point before the mine is up and running. This grant would be more than what they own in stock! The CEO of Highland Copper has also recently stepped down, indicating instability within the inner workings of the company.

Residents of Michigan are known for their grit, tenacity, and innovation in times of uncertainty. I urge you, as a member of the MSF and Michigander, to consider the above arguments when reviewing this grant proposal. Please do not approve a $50 million grant to Highland Copper for this Copperwood Mine. I thank you for your time and appreciate your consideration and commitment to representing the desires of the citizens of Michigan.

Sincerely,

Sophia Owen

From: MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: FW: Say NO to proposed $50 M grant for the Copperwood Project
Date: Friday, February 16, 2024 11:46:55 AM

-----Original Message-----
From: Carrie Plummer <carrieplummer@ymail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 10:41 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments <msfcomments@michigan.org>; Quentin Messer (MEDC) <messerq@michigan.org>; LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC) <davenportn3@michigan.org>; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@Michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants <ContractsAndGrants@michigan.org>; sharpstik@aol.com; dhutcherson@mba1995.hbs.edu; dimitrius.hutcherson@att.net; dmhutch1@aol.com; dmhutch@aol.com; Amiee Evans (MEDC) <evansa3@michigan.org>
Cc: Carrie Plummer <carrieplummer@ymail.com>
Subject: re: Say NO to proposed $50 M grant for the Copperwood Project

Dear The Michigan Strategic Fund Board Members Et al,

The Michigan Strategic Fund is currently considering a $50 million grant for the Copperwood project. I vehemently oppose this grant. We must protect the Porcupine Mountains that, according to a recent study conducted by Travel Lens (a travel website), has been recognized as the “most beautiful state park in the nation." Copper mining should not be allowed in this pristine area, let alone the state of Michigan gifting a $50 million grant to the mining company, Highland Copper. Ecotourism has also proven to be a major economic driver in this area. There is no financial need for mining in this area. We need to protect the Porkies from environmental degradation and destruction, which will also have a long-term negative impact for decades to come. It makes no sense to do this. It would be a reckless decision to make. Please say NO to this proposed grant money. The Porcupine Mountains is the epitome of Pure Michigan and we must protect this sacred place from copper mining, which will destroy the land, pollute our sky, earth, and water, along with the immense amount of noise pollution that comes with mining. People come to the Porcupine Mountains to experience peace, environmental purity, biodiversity, and a beautiful night sky- not a reckless war against nature. Such a place exemplifies freedom, tranquility, and sacredness. No place for mining. Please say NO to this proposed grant money.

Thank you for yout time,
Carrie Plummer

Michigan Resident
906-869-8193

From:	MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To:	Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject:	FW: Urgent Opposition to Grant Allocation for Highland Copper"s Copperwood Development: Environmental and Community Concerns
Date:	Friday, February 2, 2024 2:47:25 PM

Please see below.

From: Kirk Kershaw <kershaw8706@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:12 PM
To: Quentin Messer (MEDC) <messerq@michigan.org>; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson <dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com>; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; beringea@beringea.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants <ContractsAndGrants@michigan.org>
Subject: Urgent Opposition to Grant Allocation for Highland Copper's Copperwood Development: Environmental and Community Concerns

Dear Members of the Michigan Strategic Fund Committee,

I am writing to you today on behalf of the thousands of concerned citizens who oppose the proposed Copperwood development project, spearheaded by Highland Copper. It has come to my attention that there is a possibility of allocating funds or grants to support this endeavor, and I must express our strong opposition to such a decision.

First and foremost, I want to bring to your attention the overwhelming opposition to Copperwood's development. A petition (https://us01.z.antigena.com/l/9UpfLclq3660BVqs7Hpgjbxhct56yBlJe61VZfuAOo1uTZZNSse7Byd84wSWm-zraOh2Nx7Jg0RMyIlFSN48V62-VuNM3eUIwziWVAGSdEKBl9rYNlVSPDDXHmMz8-JJ6TH1CoVFlhBF0t9kyYRdhL4xcT~lNngp49hV1CXNXB-kMTpkXmO2cD8ofK) opposing Copperwood's development has garnered over 11,000 signatures, a number that surpasses the combined populations of the closest three towns to the mine: Wakefield, Bessemer, and Ironwood. This clearly indicates that the social license for this project is far from universal.

Moreover, I must emphasize that the juncture of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior is one of the most spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the country. This area is not "the middle of nowhere" as some might perceive it. Outdoor recreation contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually, far surpassing the economic contribution of mining, which stands at around $1 billion. The operation of a mine in this area would disrupt the thriving outdoor recreation industry with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic.

Furthermore, Highland Copper's track record raises serious environmental concerns. Their operations have contributed significantly to air pollution levels, water contamination, and soil degradation, as evidenced by recent pollution statistics. Allocating funds or grants to Highland Copper would not only condone their harmful practices but also undermine the efforts of those striving for a cleaner, healthier Michigan.

Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history. As history has shown, copper sulfide mines always contaminate, and tailings dams are far from invincible. The potential environmental impact on Lake Superior, the largest freshwater lake on Earth, cannot be understated.

It is crucial to correct any misconceptions about the urgency of funding this project. Contrary to claims, copper is not a critical mineral, and there is no urgent need to fund this project.

Lastly, I must address the assertion that the Copperwood Mine would produce enough copper to supply 3,500 electric vehicle batteries. Is it truly worth endangering the largest freshwater lake on Earth and infringing upon the right of humans to enjoy a moment of peace in one of the last pristine regions of the Midwest for the sake of a mere 3,500 EV batteries? This is an unacceptable trade-off, especially considering it's not even enough for a small town like Ironwood.

In conclusion, I urge you to carefully consider the concerns raised by the community and the significant environmental and economic implications of supporting Highland Copper's Copperwood development project. Let us prioritize the preservation of our natural resources and the well-being of our citizens over short-term gains.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Kirk Sharrow - Concerned Michigan Resident

616 498-5952

From: MEDC ContractsAndGrants
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: FW: Urgent Opposition to Grant Allocation
Date: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:47:56 PM

-----Original Message-----
From: Corbin Bartsch <corbin@cbarts.net>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:03 PM
Subject: Urgent Opposition to Grant Allocation

Dear Members of the Michigan Strategic Fund Committee,

I am writing to you today on behalf of the thousands of concerned citizens who oppose the proposed Copperwood development project, spearheaded by Highland Copper. It has come to my attention that there is a possibility of allocating funds or grants to support this endeavor, and I must express my strong opposition to such a decision.

I want to bring to your attention the overwhelming opposition to Copperwood's development. A petition opposing Copperwood's development has garnered over 11,000 signatures, a number that surpasses the combined populations of the closest three towns to the mine: Wakefield, Bessemer, and Ironwood. This clearly indicates that the social license for this project is far from universal.

I must emphasize that the juncture of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior is one of the most spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the country. This area is not "the middle of nowhere" as some might perceive it. Outdoor recreation contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually, far surpassing the economic contribution of mining, which stands at around $1 billion. The operation of a mine in this area would disrupt the thriving outdoor recreation industry with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic.

Furthermore, Highland Copper's track record raises serious environmental concerns. Their operations have contributed significantly to air pollution levels, water contamination, and soil degradation, as evidenced by recent pollution statistics. Allocating funds or grants to Highland Copper would not only condone their harmful practices but also undermine the efforts of those striving for a cleaner, healthier Michigan.

Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history. Copper sulfide mines always contaminate, and tailings dams are far from invincible. The potential environmental impact on Lake Superior, the largest freshwater lake on Earth, cannot be understated.

In conclusion, I urge you to carefully consider the concerns raised by the community and the significant environmental and economic implications of supporting the Copperwood development project. Let us prioritize the preservation of our natural resources and the well-being of our citizens over short-term gains.

Thank you, as members of the public government, for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Corbin Bartsch
corbin@cbarts.net

+1 616-262-4546

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 10:34 AM
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: FW: Copperwood Mine Project

From: Geri Hawley <glhawley1@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2024 3:47 PM
To: Quentin Messer (MEDC) <messerq@michigan.org>; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson <dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com>; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; beringea@beringea.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants <ContractsAndGrants@michigan.org>
Subject: Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Sirs,
I am writing this letter in opposition to the proposed Copperwood Mine project And the $50M grant money that Copperwood is requesting from the state Of Michigan.
Are you aware that a petition has been signed by over 11,000 people who oppose the project? "Social License" for this project is FAR from universal!
Also, are you aware that outdoor recreation in this area contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy whereas mining would contribute only $1billion. An operating mine would disrupt the outdoor rec business with noise and light pollution from blasting, and heavy industrial traffic. Worse yet, Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history. Copper sulfide mines ALWAYS POLLUTE and tailings dams are far from invincible!! Copper IS NOT a critical mineral so there is no need to provide urgent funds for this mine.

"*Throughout its life, the Copperwood Mine would produce enough copper to supply 3,500 electric vehicle batteries*" — I'm sorry, but... are you serious? Is it really worth endangering the largest freshwater lake on Earth, as well as the right of humans to enjoy a moment of peace in one of the last pristine regions of the Midwest, all for the sake of a mere 3,500 EV batteries? That's not even enough for a small town like Ironwood!

PLEASE reconsider any thoughts of support that you had for this project. MANY of the residents of this area are NOT in favor of it!!

With deepest concerns,
Geri Hawley

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 8:49 AM
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: FW: Protect The Porkies

Good morning Natalie - please see below.

Karen

-----Original Message-----
From: Jessica Singleton <singl1jm@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 8:00 PM
Cc: wilforde@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants <ContractsAndGrants@michigan.org>; wieferichb@michigan.gov; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; crothstein@gmail.com; crothstein@beringea.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com; eubanksr@michigan.gov; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; Quentin Messer (MEDC) <messerq@michigan.org>; MEDC MSF Comments <msfcomments@michigan.org>; LockwoodA@michigan.gov
Subject: Protect The Porkies

Hello, I'm writing on behalf of the spectacular Porcupine Mountains and ask you to assist in keeping that area and all areas around the Porkies free from mining. As an avid hiker, naturalist, and educator it truly breaks my heart that the fate of the Porkies are in jeopardy. Below I'm sharing a piece of information from the petition that I found interesting about the economic impact of outdoor recreation on our state. I can only imagine how much the Porkies contribute to that wonderful amount.

"Outdoor recreation contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually; mining, around $1 billion. An operating mine would disrupt this thriving outdoor recreation area with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic."

Thank you for your time.

Jessica Singleton
Nature Loving Yooper

From: Steve
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Fwd: $50 million grant request by Highland Copper Inc.
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 10:03:41 AM

Good morning,

I submitted these comments on February 12 to the four Michigan Strategic Fund Board members listed below, but just became aware of the full board email address this morning, and wanted to make sure everyone got them. Sorry for the cross-postings, and thank you for your consideration.

Steven C. Garske
PO Box 4
N9588 Hwy M-64
Marenisco, MI 49947-0004

-------- Forwarded Message --------
Subject: $50 million grant request by Highland Copper Inc.
Date: Mon, 12 Feb 2024 19:45:11 -0600
From: Steve <asimina@alphacomm.net> <mailto:asimina@alphacomm.net>
To: dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com <mailto:dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com> , tmeyering@gmail.com <mailto:tmeyering@gmail.com> , crothstein@beringea.com <mailto:crothstein@beringea.com> , crothstein@gmail.com <mailto:crothstein@gmail.com> , info@thechemicogroup.com <mailto:info@thechemicogroup.com> , lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com <mailto:lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com> , dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com <mailto:dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com> , dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com <mailto:dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com>

Greetings,

I am submitting these comments regarding the $50 million grant the Michigan Strategic Fund Board is considering for Highland Copper Inc., based in Longueuil, Québec. I appreciate this opportunity to provide input into this process, and hope you will DENY Highland's request.

Steven C. Garske
PO Box 4
Marenisco, MI 49947-0004

From: Richard Sloat
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Fwd: Highland Copper Proposed Grant
Date: Thursday, February 22, 2024 3:57:29 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> February 21, 2024
>
> Greetings Michigan Strategic Fund Board Members:
>
> I understand Highland Copper requested a $50 million Strategic Readiness Program grant.
>
> Granting this request would not be a strategic investment for the State of Michigan or Ontonagon County.
>
> Ms. Schwab stated in a Detroit News article:
>
> > The Copperwood Mine would employ approximately 380 people at annual wages between $80,000 and $120,000, said Vicki Schwab, managing director of MEDC's Upper Peninsula region. That's a huge increase over the median household income of $38,000, she said, and would "transform" an area that is suffering from job losses, dwindling population, aging communities and low school enrollment
>
> Ms. Schwab makes some of these claims with no data to back her words. Below is a link to information that will debunk statements made by Ms. Schwab and the mining industry of the benefits to a community.
>
> I can imagine all of you are very busy but I would encourage you to activate this link https://us01.z.antigena.com/l/obzBIJOlZpBfnWVkdXkjI9s4W_rwBeRuI6nLtXmowzamFwVTm~yNuo-gj5F8buCABgS33WdfTjiOyTiS-HIEQfAnJugWiKUM5VSBegpjihju7vEYmUEiT5UJ-rfWSJ7RLm4L5qrPPud9reYqZWj~OMjUyUQIxBrZw5UevByMeZ9BxKpnrJRXPU-22wVJ8BidlDiNZKif~IlspJ2bNutHdF3kM8Iea8-3-iOyrNyER53UZezi1gDEXT34oCaciQa4fhV and review the graphs and tables. There are 7 graphs, 7 tables and one figure in the 38 pages. All information compiled is a result the exhaustive work authoring The Buzzards Have Landed! – The Real Story of the Flambeau Mine, Roscoe Churchill and Laura (Furtman) Gauger, Deer Tail Press, 2007. Reading the entirety will give a person a better understanding though.
>
> According to the latest figures from the United States Census Bureau, 18.2% of people 18 years and younger live in poverty in Ontonagon County. After reviewing the above link information, it seems almost inevitable child poverty will increase which nobody would want together with other documentation which indicated a mine for Rusk County, Wisconsin was not beneficial for the economy.
>
> In addition, this link https://us01.z.antigena.com/l/aPcaoXEQy8vi3yaQ6JSfBxPpdz7lC8IVKQ7PnTctsfufhsHsXpuHqoBswrZV4bQUnU9Rt-JLM~ZThWxLDNT3ZXcqFUcrnBAhzYIzvtZVvl5hryu499DQyfoqEijo-f3CQTo5DbKA-VaoM1MToEKwzNgXZqQm9LskOlTc7Z5LBf7EGR1PR_ms_43CIth9bJAuNLSJcK7__ provides information on a small copper-sulfide mine on the banks of the Flambeau River near Ladysmith, Wisconsin and the economic adverse effect on the community and most importantly the environmental track record of the mine.
>
> Thank you for your time and consideration not to distribute the 50-million-dollar grant.
>
> Sincerely,

From: ProtectThePorkies
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Fwd: Opposition to Copperwood grant
Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 12:37:32 PM

Hello,

It would be extremely unwise for any proud Michigan resident to support the Copperwood Mine, or to grant it even one dollar of funding, for the following reasons:

1. Firstly, it is understandable that you may not be familiar with the area due to its remote location. However, this is not the middle of nowhere. **The Mine site is at the juncture of Lake Superior, Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, and the North Country Trail**. This is among the most spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the entire country, and the presence of an operating mine would prove greatly disruptive through the introduction of **noise pollution, light pollution, heavy industrial traffic**, and **subterranean blasting**— none of which requires permitting through EGLE.

2. Contrary to what Highland Copper claims, **social license is far from universal**: there is currently a petition with **over 11,000 signatures** calling for the immediate halting of the project— that's more than the populations of the closest four towns combined, and far more than the couple dozen city council members responsible for Highland Copper's so-called "resolutions of support." Please read the petition for a full elaboration on the arguments against Copperwood.

3. This would be **the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history.** Given that the ore grade is at best 1.5%, nearly **99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper,** but sulfide-bearing, heavy metal-laden waste, comprising some 50 million tons in total, to be stored on-site, forever, on topography sloping towards sloping towards Lake Superior. **As we come to live on a hotter, drier planet, Lake Superior represents the most important resource not just in Michigan, but on the entire continent, and we must do everything we can to protect its integrity.** Tailings dam ruptures are a very real threat, and the evidence shows that, despite technological advances, they are actually increasing in frequency. For a full elaboration of the technical concerns regarding Highland Copper's plans (or lack thereof), we present you with this short video.

4. Outdoor recreation brings in over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually; mining contributes less than 10% of that total. **Does it make sense for a boom-and-bust operation like Copperwood to endanger strong-and-sustained outdoor recreation by jeopardizing the experience of pristine nature which is its foundation?**

   Copperwood would be a 15-second drive from the Porcupine Mountains entrance sign: the Porkies are **the most beloved State Park in Michigan**; it was recently ranked as "the most spectacular State Park in America"; its borders hold **the largest designated Wilderness Area in mainland Michigan**, as well as the largest mixed old-growth forest remaining in the Midwest.

   Copperwood would furthermore be **a literal stone's throw from the North Country**

Trail. Recently incorporated into the National Parks Service, the NCT is the longest of all national hiking trails and is a cornerstone of North Woods natural heritage.

In the summer of 2023, the sound of preconstruction activities carried all the way to the Presque Isle Scenic Area, and it was deafening along the North Country Trail. An operating sulfide mine with rock-grinding, non-stop trucking, exhaust and conveyance systems, subterranean blasting, and more, is unlikely to be an improvement.

With no source of artificial lighting within a five mile radius, the Presque Isle Campground allows for a pristine view of both the starry skies and the northern lights. Unfortunately, mining is a 24-hour operation, and Copperwood would be lit up like a casino all night long. **Do you really want to fund the obliteration of the night skies, among the scarcest resources in the 21st century?**

Regardless of how one feels about the larger discussion on the mining industry, any sane person will by now be asking: **does this really seem like a good place for a mine?**

5. Contrary to what you may have been told in presentations, **copper is NOT a critical mineral.** Its upgrade of status was rejected by the U.S. Geological Survey. It was later approved for *critical MATERIAL status*— this is a different, far less important designation. "Critical mineral" refers to the needs of the current supply chain, whereas "critical material" is based on speculative modelling of future conditions.

   The USA exports ten times as much copper as it imports. There is no urgent need for new mines, which is why it is not a critical mineral.

6. **On the topic of jobs...** Firstly, Copperwood's projected job count decreases every year. The current tally is likely for the sake of wooing State grants and is not based in reality. For comparison, *Eagle Mine in Marquette County employs fewer than 100 individuals.*

   You are encouraged to familiarize yourself with this study, the most comprehensive ever conducted on the economic impacts of mining, which found that only 25% of mines actually lead to long-term economic benefit for communities, with half of those positive outcomes coming from before 1982, specifically from large coal strip mines out West. **So it is a very small sliver of mines that actually revitalize the economy in any meaningful way.**

   Most importantly, any short-term economic growth in the area must be weighed against the long-term detriment to the already existing outdoor recreation economy: long after the mine boards up shop, the tailings disposal facility will tower over the landscape: 244 football fields in area, 20 feet taller than the Statue of Liberty.

7. Finally, it should not be overlooked that Highland Copper is a **foreign company with ZERO experience** without the budget for the necessary environmental precautions, who has already been fined for violating permits and degrading wetlands. Their CEO recently stepped down, and their interim CEO is their former Chief Financial Officier — a man who knows a lot about money but perhaps not so much about environmental

precautions. **It would not be wise to invest in such a volatile, inexperienced, foreign company which already has a negative track record.**

Rather than provide grants to a 10-year, boom-and-bust operation, please consider reserving your resources for local enterprises which do not jeopardize cherished outdoor recreation areas or pose threats to the largest, cleanest, and wildest of the Great Lakes.

Thank you for your consideration of these points. Before making a decision on the Copperwood grant, it is crucial that you familiarize yourself with very pressing concerns regarding the threat of the waste containment facility to Lake Superior. For a full discussion of our arguments, please see this presentation.

Have a nice day,
Chris Vaughn

www.ProtectThePorkies.com

From: Tom Grotewohl
To: MEDC MSF Comments; LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Quentin Messer (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject: FYI, the $5M CW road improvement grant is for a road already improved
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2024 1:01:26 PM

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https://us01.z.antigena.com/l/IZuISlzYLEC0ssx_S9Y6SjeTt2HJfMLFUH6e9NbmMeWDp1kvNvodUBpjJqL5tiKJquIlOQ2DoK56lltOFsWV4Z0AH-1TkpkE1Gd8n5iBC839RS3lkVo8HYPqOKM9btj-Wc5zCDsB3YpysF8b~F3AmjDbIdSOazri3GOipOxFSg60d3W8b47D-G7r3z7HWJsBEj_2yRfL1GDLsecxEZIsUTzVawJC4svHjfqnE8OQXRRb-UcC-TyTZQYT3gaSKKFPY7oNninMSdyH1D-_ctBQD8

In 2018, they received a $5M grant to upgrade Co Rd 519 into a Class A year-round road; **that is its current status.** I live on Co Rd 519, and I know for a fact you can drive it every day of the year, all the way to the end.

There's no polite way to put it: **you have been LIED to about the road improvements.** They're asking $5M to turn a Class A road into a Class A road. You oughtta fire whoever wrote that document.

From: John Coleman
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Cc: Jonathan Gilbert; Ann McCammon Soltis; Esteban Chiriboga; Dawn White; Scott Cardiff; Evelyn Ravindran
Subject: GLIFWC comment on Copperwood Resources Inc. application
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 10:59:07 AM

To: Michigan Strategic Fund Board
From: John Coleman, Environmental Section Leader, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission

re: Copperwood Resources, Inc.: A resolution to approve a Strategic Site Readiness Program grant in the amount of up to $50,000,000

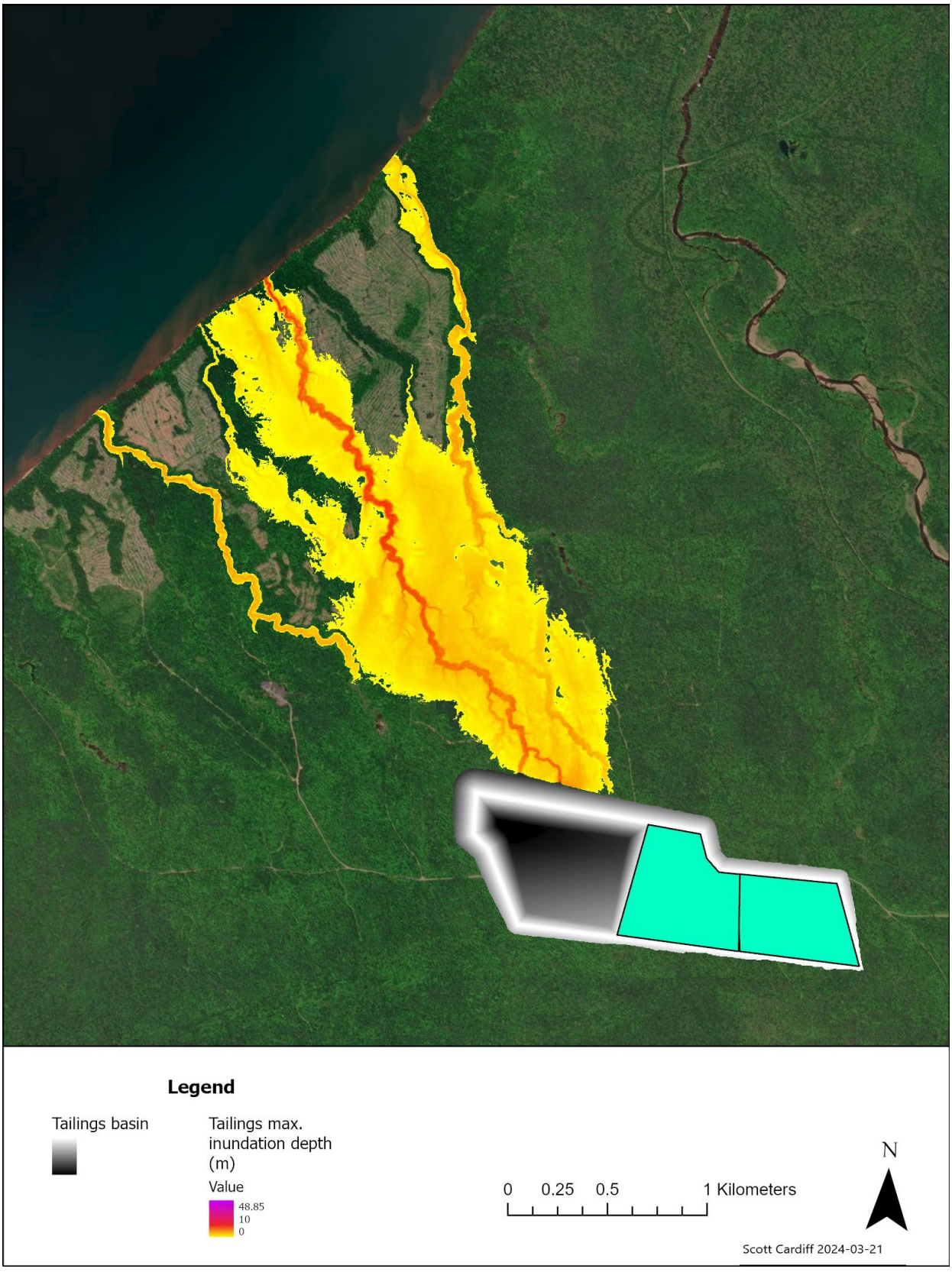
I am writing to express our concern about the design and implementation of the Copperwood Mine project.

The Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) is an intertribal agency exercising delegated authority from 11 federally recognized Ojibwe (or Chippewa) tribes in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota. Those tribes have reserved hunting, fishing, and gathering rights in territories ceded in various treaties with the United States. GLIFWC's mission is to assist its member tribes in the conservation and management of natural resources and to protect habitats and ecosystems that support those resources.

GLIFWC staff have been reviewing this project since 2010 and have submitted comments to Michigan EGLE on multiple occasions. Our primary concerns focus on the development of the underground mine within a few feet of Lake Superior and the long-term stability of the proposed tailings basin.
Based on preliminary hydrostatic modeling of the post-mining reflooded mine we anticipate that the unidentified and un-plugged historical exploration boreholes would be conduits for mine flood water to escape into Lake Superior. We have also raised concerns about the stability of the proposed tailings basin, particularly since no final design has been submitted. Our recent modeling of tailings flow, should the west portion of the basin breech, (Figure below) indicates that tailings and tailings basin waters would flood 3 watereways and quickly (within minutes) enter Lake Superior.

We have concluded that this mine, as currently proposed, is a substantial risk to local waterways and to Lake Superior. Thank you for considering our concerns.
Sincerely,

John Coleman



John Coleman, Environmental Section Leader
Madison Office of the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission
550 Babcock Drive, Room B102
Madison, WI 53706
608-263-2873(w) or 715-209-1616(c)
jcoleman@glifwc.org

From:	Lynne Miller
To:	MEDC MSF Comments; LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Quentin Messer (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@Michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan corbin; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael eubanks; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; dimitrius hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy thelen; cindy warner; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Gogebic County Copper Mining
Date:	Friday, February 2, 2024 6:46:38 PM

Greetings. As copper mining is being considered on private land in the US by Canada, I express concern that although

the mining will occur on private land, the waste produced will impact the beautiful Porcupine Park and Lake Superior.

Why is Michigan's $50,000,000 taxpayer money being considered to be given to outsiders to come in and pollute our

natural treasures? Jobs are needed but not at the risk of destruction of clean water and land. Please don't give my hard
earned money to outsiders to pollute our beautiful park and Lake Superior. Over 11,000 individuals have signed the

petition.
I am concerned about Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (TENORM) defined as, "Naturally occurring radioactive materials that have been concentrated or exposed to the accessible environment as a result of human activities such as manufacturing, mineral extraction, or water processing." "Technologically enhanced"
means that the radiological, physical, and chemical properties of the radioactive material have been concentrated or further
altered by having been processed, or beneficiated, or disturbed in a way that increases the potential for human and/or environmental exposures.

Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) is defined as, "Materials which may contain any of the

radionuclides or radioactive elements as they occur in nature, such as radium
<https://www.epa.gov/radiation/radionuclide-basics-radium> , uranium
<https://www.epa.gov/radiation/radionuclide-basics-uranium> , thorium
<https://www.epa.gov/radiation/radionuclide-basics-thorium> , potassium, and their radioactive

, such as radium and radon, that are undisturbed as a result of human activities." I would prefer if Michigan would spend the 50 million on jobs that

don't endanger the land they live on and the water they drink.

At least 23 million people around the world live on flood-plains contaminated by potentially harmful concentrations of toxic waste from metal-mining activity, according to a study.

UK scientists mapped the world's 22,609 active and 159,735 abandoned metal mines and calculated the extent of pollution from them.

Chemicals can leach from mining operations into soil and waterways. The researchers say future mines have to be planned "very carefully".

This is particularly critical as the demand surges for metals that will support battery technology and electrification,

including lithium and copper, says Prof Mark Macklin from the University of Lincoln, who led the research. (Published in the journal Science)

"We've known about this for a long time," he told BBC News. "What's alarming for me is the legacy - [pollution from abandoned mines] is still affecting millions of people."

The findings, published in the journal Science, <http://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.adg6704> build on the team's previous studies of exactly how pollution from mining activity moves and accumulates in the environment.

Please avoid long term pollution by not approving copper mining on private land that will pollute the environment including Lake Superior and Porcupine Mountains.

I appreciate your work. I hope short term rewards won't lead decision makers to ignore future environmental impacts on land, water, people, animals and future people who can't make their voices heard because they don't yet exist.

Sincerely,

Lynne Miller

From: Theresa Curtin
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: grant for copperwood
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2024 8:44:04 AM

My name is Theresa Curtin and I strongly oppose the grant to Copperwood. With over 14,000 signatures opposing this mining project, it is far to divisive to receive grant money. Furthermore, the grant is supposed to stimulate economic revitalization and copper mining rarely achieves that end according to Harvard Economics Professor, James Stock.

Theresa Curtin

From: JoEllen Rudolph
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Grant to Highland for Copperwood Miine
Date: Monday, February 26, 2024 12:49:05 AM

I am very much against the MSF using taxpayer money to fund a $50 million grant to Highland for seed money for infrastructure for the Copperwood Mine.
This mine is not economically feasible. The price of copper and other green economy metals has gone down. The demand for EVs has decreased. The cost of clean-up for site contamination has grossly increased. Insurance rates for contamination and structure- failure caused contamination have also greatly increased.

Outdoor recreation in Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula is Michigan's biggest year round tourist industry. Outdoor recreation brings in $12.36 Billion dollars a year. Mining brings in less than $1 Billion dollars a year. The Copperwood mine is expected to be mined for only 10 years. Outdoor recreation is non- ending.
The ore to be mined is only 1.45% copper. The other 98.5% is toxic waste tailings that will be stored on site forever.The 323 acre toxic tailings facility and
retention dam structure will be only 500 feet from the Porcupine Mountain State Park section of the 4800 mile long North Country Trail (NCT) which just received Federal recognition and now is managed by the National Park Service. The waste containment facility will cover an equivalent of 244 football fields and be 20 feet taller than the Statue of Liberty.The lights, noise, underground blasting, truck traffic, dust and exhaust pollution will make hiking the NCT worse than walking beside city traffic.The mine may even extend to within 100 feet of Lake Superior shoreline increasing the likelihood of toxic runoff into the lake.

The Porcupine Mountains
State Park was recently ranked by Yelp and Trip Advisor as the most beautiful state park in the USA. This mine will undoubtedly negatively impact hiking, camping, canoeing. kayaking, backcountry recreation, and scenic views within the park. And those are only the immediate
impacts of the mine.
The potential for contamination by toxic mine tailings retention bank failure, toxic waste seepage and toxic sediment and water runoff into Lake Superior
are immense. The company that calculated the projected risk of failure used old data and did not consider recent "100 year" rainstorms in 2016 and 2018 which caused massive flooding and destruction in that area of the UP. A reputable mining company in Brazil spent $15 million in damages after a tailings soil dam broke. A company in British Columbia spent $1.2 Billion to clean up seepage and Michigan is currently facing an estimated $2 Billion in an effort to remove mining stamp sand from a major fish spawning reef off the Keweenaw Peninsula.

Highland also has no track record of actually building nor operating a mine. It owns the land, for now. Financial records show the company has made money by apparently playing the minerals market. It currently owns no operating mine and has very few investors. That appears to be why its Board wants the MSF to ante up $50 Million of Michiganders' hard earned taxpayer money.
The costs and risk factors definitely outweigh any potential economic value of this short term mine.I don't play poker nor the stock market but even I recognize this is a bad deal.

If the MSF wants to fund economic development in this area,some foresighted local residents have suggested funding to develop the Black River Harbor and Presque Isle. That would add complementary recreational opportunities near the state park.
Thank you,
JoEllen Rudolph
Petoskey,MI

From: candrews@up.net
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Highland Copper Grant Comments
Date: Monday, February 26, 2024 3:08:17 PM

Strategic Fund Board Comments
February 26, 2024

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Board regarding your decision whether or not to support Highland Copper's Copperwood Mine project with a fifty-million-dollar grant. I commend the members who have expressed concern over the release of funds to a company with questionable ability to attract capital investment despite the financial expertise of its board members.

As a nearly lifelong resident and former Planning Commission member in Baraga County, I urge you to withhold this grant for the following reasons:

- Highland state that they have community support. It has been my experience that "outside" developers often engage in private "negotiations" with select local officials while avoiding or delaying public meetings where all voices can be heard.
- Companies under absentee ownership often appeal their taxes to the Tax Tribunal in Lansing to reduce local taxes that support schools, hospitals and infrastructure. Examples include Big Box Stores in Marquette and TRAXYS, a former owner of the L'Anse Warden Power Plant. This happened after TRAXYS received over 11 million dollars to retrofit a shuttered coal plant that had been converted to a stand-by Natural Gas Plant. Unfortunately, CCI is currently delinquent on their taxes in Marquette County.
- Developers may sell their projects to a new company unwilling to adhere to the promises of the original owner. An example of this is the new Industrial Solar Facility in Sands Township that got out of paying school taxes.

- When companies file bankruptcy, the State of Michigan and local communities are often left with legacy toxic brownfield sites. Examples include the Buffalo Reef EPA Superfund Site and Torch Lake Area of Concern.
- Boom and bust jobs do not contribute to rural economic stability.
- The purported economic gains of a short-term mining operation in the Porqupine Mountain State Park and adjacent lands pale in comparison to the value of the ecosystem services this undisturbed area provides to global health. This priceless value includes clean air, clean water, biodiversity, carbon sequestration and pollination.
- The fact that over 98% (thirty million tons) of the mined ore will be left in an exposed toxic sludge pond in close proximity to Lake Superior is an unacceptable risk.
- Just like a natural pond, a tailings pond becomes a living organism subject to sudden snow melts and unpredictable rain events like the “Father’s Day Flood” in Houghton in 2018.

Please consider the real risks the proposed Copperwood Mine poses to The Porqupine Mountain Wilderness State Park, Lake Superior and the surrounding area when making your decision on whether or not to subsidize it to the tune of fifty million dollars.

“In the end, our society will be defined not only by what we create, but what we refuse to destroy.” John Sawshill (1936-2000)

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Andrews
Baraga Township

From:	Stephanie Bell
To:	MEDC ContractsAndGrants; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC MSF Comments; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@Michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov
Subject:	I beg you to save the Porcupine Mountains from mining!
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 12:45:29 PM

Please don't allow the Copperwood Mine to destroy the pristine old growth stands this park contains with its noise pollution, light pollution, air pollution and heinous subterranean blasts. Our Earth is on the brink and this will only add to the horror. How many wild creatures will this mine send fleeing to their deaths? How many people will be harmed if this park is allowed to be razed?

Might I hear from you soon that this beautiful land and the many creatures who inhabit it will be protected from the ravages of ecological exploitation? Profit should stop coming before the sanctity of life. ALL of our lives depend upon this. Yours and mine! Your children's and grandchildren's. All of us.

Best,

Stephanie C. Bell

From:	Marty E.
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	I oppose the grant to Copperwood Mine
Date:	Thursday, March 21, 2024 3:19:54 PM
Attachments:	favicon.ico

Good Afternoon,

I am opposed to the $50 Million grant to Highland Copper for construction of the Copperwood Mine.

The environmental risk to Lake Superior & the Porcupine Mountain Wilderness isn't worth the limited yield of resources that can be extracted from such a mine, nor are the very politically overpromised/underdelivered job opportunities for locals.

Furthermore, by Highland's own admission, their tailings dam proposal only allows for once-in-100-year storms, not for once-in-1000 year events, which we have had at least 2 of in the last 10 years - which notably destroyed the nearby Saxon Harbor, as well as the lakewalk at Canal Park/Park Point in Duluth, MN.

We simply don't need a disaster like this one on Lake Superior:



7 years later, 2 engineers face discipline for actions that led to B.C. mine disaster | CBC News
cbc.ca

And here is a chronology of similar disasters all over the world, from 1961 - the present day:

Chronology of major tailings dam failures
wise-uranium.org

We don't need to risk this happening on Lake Superior, particularly on the State of Michigan's watch, much less with a $50 Million grant.

Thank you.

Marty Erspamer
Besssmer, MI

http://www.martye.net

Sent from my iBrain

From:	Marty E.
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
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Date:	Thursday, March 21, 2024 3:19:54 PM
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Thank you.

Marty Erspamer
Besssmer, MI

http://www.martye.net

Sent from my iBrain

From: Trey DactLe
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: I staunchly oppose the grant to copperwood
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 11:59:40 AM

Hello,
My name is TaraH Redington, I am a resident & home owner in Gogebic county.
I am very upset that a grant to find a project such as Copperwood is even being considered given it's location (near Lake Superior which holds 10% of the earths fresh water) and the likely risk for it to lead to catastrophic consequences in the future for not only the local region but the entire country.

Tailing dams are not meant to be free draining after the facility closure, & the amount of tailing dam failures that have already occurred is very alarming. The chance of tailing dam failures is greatly increased in areas with potential for flood (with how much snow the area gets each year we usually have flooding every year in Gogebic county).
Tailing Dam failure would have significant Financial & environmental consequences inevitably leading to very expensive clean up costs.
For example: the Tailing Dam failure at Los Frailes near Spain back in 1998 lead to spending over $225 Million dollars to clean up at Donana National Park.

If the copperwood mine woud fail Michigan would have to explain to WI, MN & Canada how they destroyed Lake Superior & wild life people depend on for food.

As a resident, I can tell you we are just starting to appeal more to tourists (that is where the money is) people have been coming to visit from all over the world to ski our mountains & enjoy the peace & quiet of Nature & the Beautiful Trails through wilderness leading to clean waterfalls that pour into clear fresh water Lake Superior. If we contaminate our water they will stop visiting (I have friends from other states concerned their vacation spot will be ruined with mine traffic & light pollution). It will have negative effects all over the UP as MI has the most fresh water coastline of any U.S. state.

Investing in the copperwood mine is a Huge mistake & very risky in the long run to not only the investors but potentially the world.
Thank you for your time & attention to this matter. Please make the right choice. Do Not invest in copperwood mine.

Concerned resident.
TaraH Redington

From:	Amber Geller
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	I URGE YOU TO DENY THE COPPERMINE PROPOSAL
Date:	Tuesday, March 26, 2024 10:49:42 AM

Hello, I am Speaking from Mqt Mi. I am a mother, business owner, and land steward in the UP. However, Me and my family live up the 550, in Big Bay, outside of the Eagle Mine. That existing mine does not benefit me and my family. The area's natural resources provided for me and my family, my friends. For the people of the porkies, the ecology, and future generations, I am not in support of this project. And I am wondering how we could make this choice for the ones who come after us?

But, you are the decision makers here. You are the ones deciding the fate of my community. I appreciate your time, your attention and I urge you to deny the funding for this project to protect our communities and waterways. These waterways are not born polluted, they are managed into that. What are we in dedication to here today? What will our legacies be? How does this conduct teach our children about interconnection? Community? Responsible behavior? Care for all?

Have you walked this lakeshore? I am taking this meeting at the base of Sugarloaf Mtn, a major tourist destination that runs along the North Country trail, the same trail that runs adjacent to this proposed project. I wonder, Have you been here? Have you seen what I am seeing? If you love this state so much, why informs you to consider risking destroying it? nearly all of what comes out of the ground from this proposed project will be stored as on-site waste, forever, in a Tailings Disposal Facility measuring 244 football fields in area and 171 feet in height — 20 feet taller than the Statue of Liberty. What inheritance is that? What will we tell our children when they ask us why we created this mess? 30+ million tons of toxic waste, rerouted creeks and streams, explosives, sewage lagoons.Who are the wise ones fighting for those who cannot yet speak but will be directly impacted? An articulate woman just spoke stating that these tailings can exist for 2500-10,00 years. Can you think on that scale?

Why would we risk our children's health? Have we forgotten we sit in the richest waterway on the planet? why would we risk that? What is that of clean water? My 3 year old will tell you - Water is the first medicine, it is from the mother's water world that we are born. Without water, we have nothing. Actually, literally, not metaphorically. I am a mother here asking who on this board is considering our future generations and for all living organisms in this community. Water is a precious resource, creating a toxic site by an inexperienced company in the name of 400 jobs is the true definition of insanity. I oppose the development of Copperwood mine.

I am hearing support for the project under the veil of job creation. I am hearing these promises of 400 jobs. 400 families gain economic employment for all future generations to live with the consequences of environmental burden? For now the company plans to mine up to 100ft from the lakeshore, but have expressed interest in mining beneath the Lake itself if permits can be acquired What is 400 jobs in the face of 26 MILLION employed? Coastal areas represent strong economic and ecological engines in the Great Lakes, why would we risk that? What is that of clean water? And I am wondering how we could make this choice for the ones who come behind us? Someone previous mentioned SUSTAINING livelihood. How could we sustain life without water? I see no way. Deny the proposal for this project, listen to the wise one within you. We trust you to do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Amber Joy

From: Trevor Hobbs
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: In Opposition to funding Highland Copper
Date: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 9:18:19 AM

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund caretakers,

I'm writing to express my opposition to the use of the Michigan Strategic Fund to help Highland Copper secure enough capital to develop the proposed mine. The culture of the mining industry as a whole in this country is in need of a major overhaul to redeem the public trust. Too often mining companies need tax support to open, and relinquish their cleanup responsibilities and the financial burden falls again on tax payers. We (you!) can help change that culture by having the courage to call this out publicly, stop subsidizing companies that de-emphasize our public health, and send a clear message that private development at this scale needs to rely on private funding. It would be a better use of those funds to invest in programs and people that help feed those in need.

Thank you,

Trevor Hobbs
3909 Clements Rd
Brethren, MI

231-944-8859

JOBS: A REALITY CHECK

1) In 2018 Highland Copper projected 250 mining jobs at Copperwood; now they're saying 380— **where did all those new jobs come from?**

2018 PROJECTION	2023 PROJECTION
TV6 *Published: Mar. 16, 2018 at 5:44 PM CDT* **Highland Copper Company Inc.'s Copperwood Project hopes to bring copper mining to area** Once the facility is fully functional, Highland Copper Company says an additional 250 mining jobs will be created, and they hope this is only beginning of copper mines in the area.	380 IN THE UPPER PENINSULA NEW JOBS HIGHLAND Copper Company Inc.

2) It's easy to tweak a model for a non-existent mine and arrive at more flattering outcomes, but what does reality suggest? Eagle Mine in Marquette County also projected around 250 mining jobs while they were making the pitch, but now it seems they employ fewer than 100. Might Copperwood follow the same pattern of over-promise and under-deliver?

EAGLE MINE PROJECTIONS IN 2011

Michigan Public npr

Upper Peninsula nickel-copper mine moves ahead

Michigan Public | By Rebecca Williams
Published November 29, 2011 at 10:17 AM EST

Daryl Wilcox is the Powell Township Supervisor. The company's estimating there will be about 240 mining jobs available. They say the jobs will last seven or eight years. Wilcox says he knows a lot of people who are planning to apply for those jobs.

EAGLE MINE TODAY

ZIPPIA THE CAREER EXPERT

Industry	Mining & Metals
Revenue	$57.6M
Headquarters	Champion, MI
Employees	93

3) Eagle Mine arrives at a higher number of around 400 employees by including non-mining jobs at Humbolt Mill. But Highland Copper will be exporting copper for processing, so **many of the best-paying jobs won't go to Michiganders or even Americans:**

19.2.1 Copper Concentrate

The copper concentrate produced from Copperwood will require downstream smelting and refining to produce marketable copper and silver metal. Several smelters could receive concentrate with the nearby candidates being the Horne smelter located in Noranda, Quebec or the copper smelter in Sudbury, Ontario. Other alternatives include seaborne export to Asia or Europe. Concentrate transportation charges will be a function of the final destination and will be a combination of trucking, rail and possibly maritime freight.

From HC's 2023 Feasibility Study

Should Michigan be the principle financier for this enterprise when so much of the job creation will take place abroad?

From:	Marissa Galan
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Lake Michigan is Under Threat- You Can Stop It!
Date:	Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:28:31 PM

Hello,

I am writing to comment on my family and our incredible sadness and inability to understand why a toxic mining operation would be granted access to pollute a valuable and precious resource of wilderness in the Porkies.

The state is entertaining, once again, corporations profits above the planet and population, but the public is not supporting this move. The amount of discourse over this threat of destruction far outcries the potential economic benefit. At such a time in the history of the planet, where it is clear as a wide open blue sky that protection of wild places and fresh water is our only hope. The ripple effect from this project will build a snowball effect of global warming. And for what? A blip of economic benefit? The total economic value of outdoor industry in MI is 10 times what will be gained from Copperwood.

There have been many supporting facts as to why this project is not worth the taxpayer money. A few are as follows:

> **Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which represents 10% of the world's surface freshwater.** This company map clearly shows that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. For now they plan to mine up to 100ft from the coast, but if permits allow, the company likely will seek to mine beneath the lake itself.
> Whatever the case, this much is certain: over 50+ million tons of toxic mine waste would be stored in the closest sulfide tailings facility to Lake Superior in history. The facility would be erected at the juncture of streams rerouted into unstable 90-degree angles, and on topography sloping towards Lake Superior, less than two miles downstream. Tailings dams are not invincible and evidence shows the risk of rupture is actually increasing, specifically due to low-ore grade operations like Copperwood creating unwieldy quantities of waste. But even assuming the dam holds, all copper sulfide mines contaminate. Without entering into a debate on whether Highland Copper should have the right to endanger the largest, wildest, and cleanest of the Great Lakes, one might ask: should Michigan be helping them?

Copper is not even a critical mineral. In fact, it was recently rejected an upgrade of status by the U.S. Geological Survey. Makes sense, considering the US exports ten times as much raw copper as it imports. Given the risks to ecology, outdoor recreation, and the economy, why fund the extraction of a mineral deemed to be of secondary importance by the highest authority in the land?

Spend $50 million to fund a copper mine today, pay billions to clean it up tomorrow. You don't have to look far for examples: copper mining in the Keweenaw Peninsula resulted in 200 million tons of waste being dumped into Torch Lake, earning it the title of an EPA Superfund Site.
And a news story from just last week details a $2 billion dollar effort to clean up copper mine waste from Buffalo Reef along the Lake Superior shoreline. The pattern is clear. What remains to be seen is, will we learn from history, or won't we?
Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people.

Highland Copper has been touting the “social license” of the Copperwood project, citing as proof their “resolutions of support” received from Bessemer City Council, Ironwood City Council, and others. But each of these councils consists of five or six individuals, so all these “resolutions of support” represent no more than a few dozen votes. Meanwhile, the petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures, which is more than the populations of Wakefield, Bessemer, and Ironwood combined. How’s that social license looking now?

There are so many more valid reasons to reflect this project. The financial are blaring and evidently not supporting the case, likewise the values and ethical reasons should be enough on their own.

Thank you,
Marissa Galan
Minnesota, 55412

From:	Sam Curley
To:	MEDC MSF Comments; ron@euclidindustries.com; ronbeebe49@aol.com; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Message concerning The Copperwood Mine.
Date:	Wednesday, January 31, 2024 10:30:54 PM

This message is concerning the funding of Highland Copper's Copperwood project located in Porcupine Mountains National Park. This land is one of the most beautiful recreational areas in the country and is home to many endangered species as well as the largest stand of old growth Hemlock in the U.S. Not only that but the health of Lake Superior, the world's largest source of freshwater, is put at significant risk. Sulfide mines have a really bad history of polluting and causing permanent damage, this is not a good idea. Over 11,000 people have already voiced their opinion against the project in a petition.
I am urging you to please do whatever is in your power to oppose the funding of the Copperwood project for the good of the state and the people.

Your Adventure Starts Nearby.

February 20, 2024

Michigan Strategic Fund Board,

The North Country Trail Association appreciates the opportunity to comment and provide information in regards to the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCNST) and its proximity to the proposed Copperwood Mine Project.

The NCNST was authorized by Congress in 1980 under the National Trails System Act to create a world-class hiking trail highlighting the scenic, historic, cultural and ecological wonders of America's northern heartlands. The NCNST travels over 4,800 miles from North Dakota to Vermont, with over 1,170 miles of the Trail located in Michigan. Over 1,100 of those Michigan miles are also part of the Michigan Department of Natural Resource's Iron Belle Trail (hiking portion). As defined by the National Park Service, the nature and purposes of the NCNST is to "provide a non-motorized trail offering world-class walking and hiking experiences within a protected trailway and landscape through the northern heartlands of America."

The proposed Copperwood Mine would be located directly north of the NCNST as the route primarily follows an abandoned gated road located within a 466' wide strip of land owned by the Ottawa National Forest. This is from County Road 519 west to the National Forest property boundary east of Black River Harbor. The Tailings Disposal Facility would be located within 500' of the NCNST and would most certainly alter the viewshed from the Trail. The proposed west and east stream relocations have the potential to have an effect on the current stream crossings that the Trail encounters. Users of the Trail currently have to traverse up and down multiple gullies as the culverts have been washed out from high water events.

The North Country Trail Association relies on a trail-wide coalition of volunteers and partners to meet our mission of developing, maintain, protecting, and promoting the NCNST as a premier hiking path across the northern tier of the United States. Permanently protecting the Trail itself and corridor is vital to help meet our mission. We trust that your Board will account for all the facts prior to making an informed decision on whether to fund the Copperwood Mine Project grant.

Sincerely,

Kenny Wawsczyk
North Country Trail Association
Regional Trail Coordinator, MI

From:	Glenn Kowalske
To:	MEDC MSF Comments; Quentin Messer (MEDC)
Cc:	Thomas Albert (sentalbert@senate.michigan.gov); Sarah Lightner (SarahLightner@house.mi.gov); Wieferich, Brad (MDOT); bnoble@detroitnews.com; jhinkley@thealpenanews.com; jennifer.kiel@farmprogress.com; aanews@mlive.com; ajpitchure@sbgtv.com; Anna.Clark@propublica.org; austin.gergens@michigannewssource.com; benjamin.klayman@thomsonreuters.com; carolyn.muyskens@law360.com; cmauger@detroitnews.com; david.horak@woodtv.com; dboucher@freepress.com; Dwyatt@medianewsgroup.com; eleblanc@detroitnews.com; eebner21@gmail.com; fred@j-adgraphics.com; gsteele@battlecreekenquirer.com; Hope@mackinac.org; jerry.malec@mwcradio.com; jessi.l.phillips@wmich.edu; jhendler@j-adgraphics.com; jhoard@medianewsgroup.com; jlareau@freepress.com; Khall@detroitnews.com; ktamborrino@politico.com; ben.kesling@wsj.com; Lisa@mirsnews.com; marjorie@creativeonion.me; mgallow@michfb.com; neal.boudette@nytimes.com; newsroom@detroitnews.com; newsroom@thealpenanews.com; reportit@woodtv.com; pgardner@bridgemi.com; rwhite@mlive.com; seth@j-adgraphics.com; stauferaerial@gmail.com; Tim.aeppel@thomsonreuters.com; wxmi-news@fox17online.com; eric@starkmanapproved.com
Subject:	Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting - Tuesday, March 26, 2024
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 9:38:58 PM
Importance:	High

This seems like a last minute change to 9AM from 10AM, since 3PM today….. What was the reason? Why was it a last minute change?

https://www.michiganbusiness.org/495875/globalassets/documents/msf-board/meeting-agendas/march-2024-msf-agenda_web-upload.pdf

Also, you should change the time on the attached Agenda to avoid further confusion and concern. I surely hope this is not a means for the MSF to dodge resident participation and comment?

Please copy all Board Members on my email.

Please advise,
Glenn Kowalske, P.E.
Marshall Township

From: Sally
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Mining
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 11:09:41 AM

Dear Sir or Madam,
Stop the mining companies in their tracts. Tell them to focus on proactive measures of researching for new methods of extracting minerals. The old fashioned ways of sulfide Ming will pollute the lake and there are no second chances. Our lives depend on this. Everything from aquatic life, vegetation. And our drinking water. Stop mining in its tracts. We can do better than this for the sake of our planet.
Sally Draze
Kayaknsal@gmail.com
715-733-4954
N 7454 Menominee River Drive
Porterfield, WI
Sent from my iPhone

From:	Don Weber
To:	MEDC MSF Comments; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Mining/subsidies
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 3:57:05 PM

STOP, wasting my money on stupid. QUIT, doing stupid. Unless you people in all of your grand knowledge can guarantee for centuries to come that no harm comes ,,, leave it.

If my money has to be used for others to make bank and I struggle to survive, they don't need it. Subsidies shouldn't exist. If a business can't stand on its own, it shouldn't exist.

How many of you have crap next to your property? Probably none, but we'll push it on others.

Sent from my iPhone

Michigan Strategic Fund Board
300 N Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

February 26, 2024

Joint comments from Sierra Club Michigan and Wisconsin State Chapters re: Copperwood Resources Inc. application for a Strategic Site Readiness Program (SSRP) grant.

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) Board members,

The Michigan and Wisconsin Chapters of the Sierra Club wish to submit these comments based on our shared concern for Lake Superior, the habitat and land base that it depends on for clean water and for the use of scarce taxpayer money proposed to be used by the state of Michigan to support a controversial and damaging mine proposal.

The Sierra Club urges you to reject the Copperwood Resources Inc. (CR) application for a SSRP grant. The mine proposal by CR is currently incomplete and not fully permitted which exposes the risk that it may not be feasible. CR's inability to attract the required investment to complete financing for the proposal casts doubts on its viability as this application to the Fund for infrastructure development demonstrates. CR is a "junior miner" with no experience mining anything anywhere and has already sold a controlling interest in its other holding (White Pine North). Junior mining companies are often formed only to develop potential mines to a limited extent with an ultimate goal of selling or merging with larger miners with actual experience. This means that CR may or may not be the ultimate developer should the proposal actually gain final approvals.

The uncertainties related to financing and an incomplete proposal is contrasted by the statement in the approval recommendation by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) that it has reviewed CR's finances and "confirmed the Company's ability to fund the project." (January 30, 2024 Memorandum to the MSF from MEDC). We question whether this statement is accurate given the stated need for up to $425,000,000 in capital investment for the proposal. CR's owner (Highland Copper) is currently capitalized at just under $41,000,000 (US) which demonstrates that it is in need of significant additional capitalization and well beyond what is required – even if this application is approved.

CR is not fully permitted for operations to date. CR has not submitted final engineering and design plans for its Dam Safety Permit – the most important and challenging design feature of the mine proposal. This feature includes the "Tailings Disposal Facility" (TDF) that is initially proposed to hold 30 million tons of metallic sulfide mining wastes safely in perpetuity. The mining wastes would constitute more than 98% of the material excavated and that will include metals of concern such as copper, lead, mercury and others that are toxic to aquatic life. The TDF must remain stable forever given its upstream location near Lake Superior. Any unplanned release of wastewater from the mine, processing facilities or the TDF risk contamination of surface waters and Lake Superior itself. The lack of an approved Dam Safety Permit for such an

important design feature creates additional uncertainty as its approval is not a foregone or automatic conclusion in the permitting process.

Highland Copper CEO Barry O'Shea has stated that approval of the grant would constitute a "true endorsement" of the proposal which could help HC gain the required financing for the proposal. This statement underscores the shaky nature of HC's financial position and ability to finance the proposal. We must point out that approval of this application will fuel the public's perception that the MSF has it's "thumb on the scale" in favor of an incomplete, controversial and damaging mine proposal. We believe it is inappropriate to approve this grant prior to the proposal gaining state permit approvals. Approval of the grant risks putting pressure on state regulators to approve permits to help ensure state money is not wasted. The Copperwood proposal should be required to demonstrate it has a viable and safe proposal that can comply with Michigan law – something it has not done to date.

We also question the wisdom of approving such a significant grant for infrastructure development at the proposed mine site given the mining industry's inherent boom and bust cycle. Copperwood is only projected for an 11-year operating life. Metal prices are notoriously volatile and prone to down cycles that make profitable mining on small margins difficult to sustain. This can and does lead to short and long-term closures that affect workforces. Suggestions that infrastructure for this operation (power lines, cell towers etc.) will benefit the area long-term are dubious at best given the very rural character of the area and unlikelihood of attracting new long-term residents. More importantly the boom and bust cycle ensures that local governments will be responsible for the care and maintenance of any leftover infrastructure. This can be very costly and ultimately harmful for local communities.

The rural character, lack of industrial development and recreation opportunities of this area are what attract new residents. This proposal risks disrupting those quality of life elements forever while only generating short-term jobs and wealth generation for shareholders. Mining proposals simply cannot and do not create new long-term employment opportunities and economic growth. Each proposal is inherently unsustainable as it depends on finite resource extraction. Investment in long-term and sustainable industry such as tourism, logging, recreation and more is a wiser course for the MSF.

For all these reasons we urge the Board of the Michigan Strategic Fund to reject the Copperwood Resources Inc. grant application. On behalf of our more than 18,000 Wisconsin members and 150,000 Michigan members, we thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Elayne Coleman, Executive Director
Sierra Club – Michigan Chapter

Elizabeth Ward, Executive Director
Sierra Club – Wisconsin Chapter

From: Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments for Michigan Strategic Fund regarding proposed Copperwood Mine grant
Date: Monday, February 26, 2024 5:03:24 PM

Dear MSF board members,
Please find the attached document containing our arguments against providing a $50 million grant to Highland Copper for the Copperwood Mine in Gogebic County. We submit our comments as a Word document because we have included references that the board may wish to consult. Thank you for your attention. We hope you will weigh the input of the public carefully before making this decision, whose importance for the future of the State of Michigan can hardly be exaggerated.
Sincerely,
Brian Noell
Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve
Big Bay, Michigan

Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve comments for Michigan Strategic Fund regarding proposed Copperwood Mine grant

I write on behalf of the board, staff, and 231 members of the Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve, a land and water stewardship organization in Big Bay, Marquette County, Michigan. We encourage you to reject the proposed grant of $50 million to Canadian-owned Highland Copper in connection with their Copperwood mining project, located adjacent to Porcupine Mountain Wilderness State Park and Lake Superior itself.

First, although the Michigan Economic Development Corporation has presented this grant to MSF for consideration, we would like to point out that it is inconsistent with MEDC's Pure Michigan campaign, whose emphasis on outdoor recreation is resulting in increased tourism throughout the state and is having a meaningful economic effect in our communities. The soundness of Michigan's investment is clear to see. MEDC's own statistics show that outdoor recreation pumped $12.36 billion into the economy in 2022, while mining contributed less than $1 billion.

The Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve has witnessed firsthand the results of this shifting emphasis, as the number of visitors to our properties increases year by year in response to public awareness. Hotels, campgrounds, and restaurants in nearby Big Bay and Marquette are full to overflowing throughout the summer season. Big Bay is remaking itself as the life of the neighboring Eagle Mine ebbs and it looks toward a future sustained by outdoor recreation rather than resource extraction, while Marquette has largely completed its post-industrial makeover and is reaping the benefits both in increased investment and the influx of new residents.

It seems clear that future economic prosperity in the Upper Peninsula lies with enhancing tourism, not subsidizing the extractive model that has kept the region poor for so long. Indeed, Porcupine Mountain Wilderness State Park is a potential cornerstone of economic regeneration in the Western UP. In a 2022 study by Travel Lens, which analyzed visitor reviews on Yelp and Trip Advisor, it was ranked the most beautiful state park in the country.[1] Moreover, Google searches inquiring about the park have spiked following implementation of Governor Whitmer's Building Michigan Together Plan, which has made a significant investment in park infrastructure.

The development of Copperwood would reverse these gains in the Porkies. There would be increased noise pollution from subterranean blasting and trucking, light pollution from mine operations and grid expansion, not to mention the creation of a massive tailings facility 500 feet from the iconic North Country Trail and visible from scenic overlooks in the area. Subsidizing mining operations taking place on the border of and even beneath state park property would belie MEDC and the governor's commitment to Michigan's bourgeoning tourist economy, which, in the Upper Peninsula, depends on the natural beauty and ecological integrity of wild lands.

[1] https://www.cbsnews.com/detroit/news/michigans-porcupine-mountain-ranked-as-most-beautiful-state-park-in-us/

The most catastrophic potential result of investment in Copperwood would be the fouling of our state's most precious natural resource, Lake Superior. The grade of the ore in this deposit is very low, meaning 98% of the extracted material will be waste that, once the saleable content is shipped to Canada or elsewhere beyond our borders for processing, will need to be contained forever on site. The mine will be located on terrain that slopes to the lake, with the richest ore closest to the shore. The company plans to mine within 100 feet of the water's edge, and, if regulation didn't prevent it, could even drill beneath the lake itself.

The mine's tailings facility, also on the slope descending to the lake, will purportedly withstand a 100-year storm, but as the effects of climate change intensify, such events become more and more frequent. Indeed, Gogebic County, where Copperwood would be located, had a1000-year storm event in 2016[2] as well as another of similar magnitude in 2018.[3]

Catastrophic tailings dam failures are not uncommon and have been increasing in frequency, especially in facilities like the one proposed at Copperwood, containing material from low-grade ore extraction.[4] One look at the 2019 Brumadinho disaster in Brazil should alert MSF board members to the dangers inherent in this sort of waste storage, however thorough the precautions taken to prevent breaches.[5]

Even assuming the tailings facility remains sound during the life of the mine, once the projected 11-year extraction period ends and the company departs, Michigan taxpayers will be responsible for preventing the release of the accumulated waste into Lake Superior. In the long run, this $50 million investment will not be subsidizing job creation, it will be burdening Michiganders with decaying infrastructure and the expense of maintaining it. To underwrite this mining project, whatever the short-term benefits, will saddle the state forever with vast quantities of toxic material perched precariously above a lake containing 10% of the world's supply of fresh water.

The economics of mining as well as the questionable standing of Highland Copper itself provide additional reasons for MSF to refrain from subsidizing Copperwood. The proposed $50 million grant amounts to more than the company's present $41 million valuation. CEO Barry O'Shea has said publicly that MSF's infusion is necessary in leveraging the debt required to raise the $391 million needed to bring the project to fruition. If this grant is approved, Michigan taxpayers, unbeknownst to themselves, would be underwriting a venture that is speculative at best, which Highland Copper admits will not come to pass unless it receives a state subsidy.

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[2] https://gogebiccountyroadcommission.org/2016-storm-damage

[3] https://www.michiganpublic.org/environment-science/2018-06-28/record-breaking-rain-behind-u-p-floods-is-something-we-can-expect-more-of

[4] https://earthworks.org/assets/uploads/2018/12/44-Bowker-Chambers.-2015.-Risk-Public-Liability-Economics-of-Tailings-Storage-Facility-Failures.pdf

[5] https://news.mongabay.com/2024/02/scientists-now-know-how-the-brumadinho-dam-disaster-happened-and-the-lessons-to-learn/

There is reason to believe that the company, like other minor players in the mining world, might use the momentum obtained from the grant to sell the rights to Copperwood, as they did when they offloaded 66% of neighboring White Pine North to another Canadian company, Kinterra. In such a case, the state's investment will enrich executives and shareholders without infusing a dime into the local economy.

Mining is a boom-and-bust industry, and research suggests that it encourages poverty rather than relieves it due to the "flickering effect," where production ebbs and flows in accordance with market prices for ore. In such a scenario, workers and local businesses fail to get ahead while profits go mainly to investors.[6] Moreover, mining costs have skyrocketed because of inflation and supply chain pressures,[7] resulting in difficulties even for established players like BHP[8], and in the Upper Peninsula, Cleveland Cliffs.[9] Considering the volatilities presently troubling the industry and the dubious record of mining as a local economic engine, Highland Copper, which has no on-the-ground experience, seems like a poor bet. Instead, the Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve encourages MSF to act consistently with the investments the state already is making under Governor Whitmer, enhancing the tourist economy and with it the communities that are increasingly banking their future on it.

Sincerely,

Brian Noell

Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve

[6] https://www.malheurco.org/wp-content/uploads/Departments/Planning/Documents/Calico/Attachment-B_Freudenberg-and-Wilson-Mining-The-Data.pdf

[7] https://www.wsj.com/finance/commodities-futures/another-worrisome-inflation-indicator-surging-mining-costs-3ea7bfbf and https://www.costmine.com/2024/01/10/mining-industry-beware-inflation-is-eroding-project-economicsrapidly/

[8] https://www.reuters.com/markets/commodities/bhp-group-warns-25-bln-non-cash-charge-nickel-operations-2024-02-14/

[9] https://www.co.marquette.mi.us/newsdetail_T3_R511.php

From:	deertailscientific@gmail.com
To:	Gretchen.Whitmer@michigan.gov; MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	MSF Grant Sought by Highland Copper Company
Date:	Monday, March 18, 2024 11:19:09 AM
Attachments:	Copperwood_DTS_3.18.2024_.pdf

Hello Governor Whitmer and MSF Board Members:

I am aware that you will soon be considering approval of the MSF grant sought by Highland Copper Company for their Copperwood project in the Upper Peninsula.

As the Chair of Deer Tail Scientific (Duluth, MN)[1], I am very familiar with the track record of the primary environmental consultant hired by Highland Copper to oversee the Copperwood project. The consultant, Foth (Green Bay, WI), served in a similar capacity at Wisconsin's Flambeau Mine, a project I've been following closely for the past 25 years.

Attached please find information related to Foth's performance at Flambeau that I hope will help to inform your decision.

Thank you,
Laura Gauger

Laura J. Gauger, Chair
Deer Tail Scientific
Duluth, MN
wordpress.com

[1] Deer Tail Scientific is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization founded in 2017. As stated in its bylaws: *The mission of Deer Tail Scientific is to educate the public, government officials and tribal sovereign nations with fact-based information on: (1) the permitting, development, reclamation, environmental performance and economics of Wisconsin's Flambeau Mine; and (2) how the Flambeau Mine compares to other mines (closed, currently operating or proposed) in the Great Lakes region and beyond.*

Virus-free.www.avast.com

From: ProtectThePorkies
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: MSF Meeting Follow-up
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 12:58:07 PM

Hello,

Thank you for hosting the meeting today. The 30+ individuals who spoke up regarding the Copperwood Mine were not part of an organization, and each chose to speak independently on behalf of themselves, or on behalf of their own groups.

If the MSF would like to learn the full story behind Copperwood outside of the generous but restrictive 3-minute time limit, you may contact the founder of ProtectThePorkies at this address. Other options would be the Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition (upec@upenvironment.org) and Citizens For Superior (contactcscls@gmail.com). Allowing for a longer-form presentation would likely reduce the number of comments submitted at the next board meeting.

Thank you for your time,
Tom Grotewohl

P.S. I am told there were some disruptions of the meeting following the public comment period. We have no knowledge of these individuals, and we hope the disruption is not conflated with our concerns in any way, either in the minds of the board members or in the media.

February 26, 2024

Michigan Strategic Fund
300 N. Washington Sq.
Lansing, MI 48913
msfcomments@michigan.org

Re: Public Comment on Highland Copper's request for a $50 million Strategic Site Readiness Program grant.

Dear MSF Board members and Staff,

We oppose this grant request because, contrary to claims by its proponents, using State (taxpayer) money to fund Highland's expansion of its non-ferrous hard rock ore mining in the UP would be fiscally irresponsible, lead to costly and harmful burdens on our economy, and would only exacerbate adverse public health and safety effects of heavy metal accumulation in Michigan's freshwater fish which are consumed by our fellow citizens.

Economic Burden of "Boom & Bust"

The recent *Michigan's Mining Future Committee Final Report-05/21/2021* aptly described mining as a " 'boom and bust' industry"….which…. "creates job loss, increased unemployment filings and has a negative impact on the economy within the surrounding communities."(p. 9, 10)

As an example of this negative economic phenomenon, the Committee cited to the *Empire* mine operated Cleveland-Cliffs Co. in the UP's Marquette County, noting that when the "bust" occurred in 2016 with the mine closing, there was a considerable loss of the work force population which left the State.(p. 9, 10)

Making matters worse in the long term are the extreme burdens imposed on Federal and State tax revenues expended in dealing with abandoned mines. For example, the Government Accounting Office (GAO) in its March 2020 report, *Abandoned Hard Rock Mines*, found that in only a ten year period (2008-2017), it cost the Federal Government **$2.9 billion** and State Governments **$2.8 billion** to just begin to address the social safety and environmental hazards of abandoned mines; and estimated that to complete this reclamation work, it would cost $billions more in future funding. (p. 2, 32, 63).

Thus, it seems quite probable that any short-term economic gain by taxpayer subsidies to Highland will be more than exceeded and offset by the economic downturn from eventual mine closure and the decades long cost of mine reclamation.

And as contemporary experience with a similar UP mining conglomerate, Cleveland-Cliffs, demonstrates, one cannot assume that Highland will be a "good neighbor" and meet any agreed upon or even minimal statutory requirements to pay a fair share.

Just this past week, the Marquette Mining Journal and the Detroit News reported that since 2018, two years after closing its Empire mine, Cleveland-Cliffs(which earned $22 billion last year) has refused to pay $50 million in delinquent State taxes, that it has misrepresented the value of its mine to the Michigan Tax Authority, that it has cost Marquette County $1million to litigate to recover this tax money, and that as a result of the Company's refusal to pay taxes, essential government services in the County were drastically curtailed.

After a public shaming of Cleveland in the press by County officials this week, there was a reported settlement. Details of the $ amount of the settlement were not released, but notably an impacted Township official reported that the mining company CEO resorted to threats of layoffs and closure in an adjacent mine if the affected communities did not agree to the settlement.

As County Administrator, Scott Erbisch, aptly stated "*Cleveland-Cliffs only cares about their shareholders' interests.*" If a USA mining company treats Michigan residents this way, can we really expect any better from a foreign Canadian owned conglomerate? Probably not! But we certainly should not be gifting $50,000000 to them.

Public Health and Safety

It is accepted governmental policy and settled science that non-ferrous hard rock mines "contribute to degradation of the environment and present short- and long-term risks to human health"….and…. "release hazardous substances such as arsenic, lead, and mercury." GAO report-gao.govproducts/gao-20-238 (p. 6).

The toxic sulfide ore mining legacy of mercury poisoning of UP waters and wildlife is solidly established in research published by Dr. W. Charles Kerfoot of Michigan Tech., "*Mining legacy across a wetland landscape: high mercury in Upper Peninsula (Michigan)lakes and fish*" Jnl Environ.Sci: Processes Impacts, 2018, 20,708, finding that the legacy of sulfide ore mining accounts for 63% of the total release of the heavy metal, mercury, into the Lake Superior watershed; and that, alarmingly, there is a multi-decade lag (20-40 yrs.) in the contamination cycle due to the ecological/chemical conversion of mercury into its poisonous and bioavailable form, methyl-mercury. The major factor in this process is the abundance of wetlands in the UP (29% of UP is wetlands).

The MTU scientists note that sulfide/sulfate ore residue interacts with organic material and bacteria in the natural environment to produce methyl mercury which is carried by wetlands into streams, rivers, lakes entering the food chain of game fish**,** large/small-mouth bass, pike, walleyes and muskies; and high mercury levels persist in fish near mining sites decades after operations stop, do not decrease, but in fact continue to increase by a factor of 1 to 2%. And although Mercury poisoning elsewhere in Michigan has decreased in recent years, it is actually increasing in the waters and lakes of the UP due to the effects of sulfide ore mining; and the scientists conclude that mercury poisoning poses a serious risk to human health!

One only needs to consult the current DNR "Eat Safe Fish Guides" to see the widespread contamination of our Michigan fish species. And a more recent MTU report shows that Indigenous tribal communities who rely on fish for food are disproportionately adversely impacted by this health risk. See Michigan Tech News: *The Big Picture of Great Lakes Mercury Pollution* which cites to research by the Royal Society of Chemistry's article, in the journal *Environmental Science: Processes & Impacts* (DOI) 10.1039/c7em00547d)

<u>Conclusion</u>
For all of the above reasons, we submit that awarding the proposed $50 million grant for a perceived short-term economic gain, will result in long-term economic harm and serious adverse environmental and public health impacts to the citizens of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.
Please deny the grant request.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dennis A. Ferraro

The mission of **Citizens for a Safe & Clean Lake Superior** is to protect and improve the precious environmental resource of the coastal habitat, shoreline and fresh water of Lake Superior and its watershed in Marquette County, to oppose individual, corporate or governmental action which may jeopardize that resource, and to encourage community action to preserve the quality of life provided by this Lake Superior Coastline environment for generations to come.
CSCLS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax-deductible, as permitted by law.

CITIZENS FOR A SAFE & CLEAN
LAKE SUPERIOR

Citizens for a Safe & Clean Lake Superior
(CSCLS)
Dennis A. Ferraro, President
P.O. Box 83
Marquette, MI 49855
dajferraro@gmail.com
H (906) 345-0018

To Administrators of the MSF Grant:

I appreciate the opportunity to weigh in on the advisability of approving a MSF $50M grant to the Copperwood mining project. I urge the members of the committee to reject the grant applied for by Highland Copper because, under deeper scrutiny, the project does not meet the requirements of the grant and its operation has the risk of undermining the existing economic infrastructure in the region.

When I carefully read the grant application, I see that those projects eligible for funding are "**designed to provide grants, loans and other economic assistance to businesses for highly competitive projects that create jobs and/or provide investment toward a net-positive return to Michigan".**

Given the nature and the risks associated with sulfide mining, the notion that a mining project sited in this region of the UP could result a **"net-positive" return** is highly suspect. The costs of trying to restore the habitat, the waterways, and the land itself from environmental contamination caused by mining operations would far exceed any economic benefit the region could receive. Since Michigan legislators have yet to pass laws which would hold the companies who conduct extractive operations liable for leaks or other forms of pollution, taxpayers would be on the hook for funding clean-ups and residents would suffer health risks from the exposure to contaminants. Rather than be a "net-positive" return, a questionable project like the Copperwood mine would economically leave the region in the red for a significant number of years.

Secondly, the terms of the grant stipulates that they **are intended to create long-lasting economic development** and should be at **near-term cash before they are given.**

According to its prospectus, Highland Copper plans the Copperwood mine to operate for eleven years and then will begin remediation, though the tailing disposal facility would remain in existence as a permanent structure. A mining operation that would be active for eleven years would not lead to the growth of other businesses in the region; those employed would lose their positions when the mine ended. Moreover, given the technical expertise required to operate mining equipment, it's highly unlikely that many local residents would have the training to get those jobs. Instead, outside trained workers would likely be imported into the region for the life of the mine, leaving when the mine closes.

While Highland Copper hopes to attract more investors to fund the mining operation, banking on the endorsement of this board through the MSF grant, the provisions of the grant specify that adequate operating funds are supposed to be already in place.

Thirdly, the intent of the program is to create **economic diversification in the region and promote a resilient business environment.**

The effect of siting a sulfide mine in this region would not promote a resilient business environment, but instead would undermine the existing economic drivers based in recreation, organic farming, and fishing. The "externalities" that accompany mining operations include

noise, light pollution, increased trucking, blasting, and a lessening of the quality of life for all residents and wildlife in addition to the risk of environmental contamination. The profit generated by recreation activities is the basis of the region and it depends on the wilderness and the gift of silence as part of its appeal. A mining operation is incompatible with the existing economic base and could undermine it significantly, putting other businesses in peril.

Finally, the location of the conservation areas and the impact on them if a sulfide mine were located within the region needs to be taken into account.

Porcupine Mountains is considered a wilderness area, one of the most beautiful parks in the United States. The mining site would border the North Trail, just made part of the National Park system. While these regions have special protection, the mining operations would take place outside of their jurisdiction, yet close enough that they would be at risk from impact of the mine.

While legally, extractive operations could take place that close to a protected area, board members are in a position to see the entire “big picture” and really think about the fit of a mine in the vicinity of a wilderness area and see its incompatibility.

Rather, I would urge board members to think more imaginatively about the types of developments that would enhance the existing resources of the area and build on those strengths rather than undermining them. This idea falls in line with the global effort to not only expand the number of “protected places”, but keep in mind the need to expand their boundaries to lessen the impact of industries beyond their jurisdictions.

Thank you for your time.

Paula Mohan
1025 Jenifer St.
Madison, WI 53703

Sources:

https://www.michiganbusiness.org/4add23/globalassets/documents/reports/fact-sheets/mbdp-guidelines.pdf

https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/interactive/2024/can-we-save-nature-with-crazy-shapes/

From:	Mike LaBo
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	My Gogebic County Family are opposed to Copperwood
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 5:11:50 PM

To whom it may concern

I am writing this email to express my extreme opposition to the Copperwood mining project next to the porcupine mountain State Park. The porcupine mountains and our natural resources in the upper peninsula are valuable in ways that cannot be quantified or qualified. This project risks too much natural beauty and disruption to our lives and well-being here to be seen as a benefit

My family and I oppose this project entirely. We are deep To the idea of a $50 million grant to bring a foreign company to mine copper right next to the porcupine mountains and Lake superior. Please consider the costs of yet another destructive, exploitative boom with a very predictable bust. Short term gains leave people here in the western peninsula with long-term problems.

Thank you.

Michael LaBo and family
N11101 Vanderhagen Rd.
Ironwood, MI 49938

From: jeanemmo@aol.com
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: No Copperwood mine
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 12:58:41 PM

I am retiring to Ironwood, and I own a house there. I oppose the mine, as it destroys the beauty and ecological interest of the Upper Peninsula.

From: Brian Moore
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: No drilling!
Date: Thursday, March 21, 2024 4:13:17 PM

Absolutely NO drilling anywhere near the Porcupine Mtns.,especially near Porcupine Mtn state park!!!!!

From: Brian Moore
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: No drilling!
Date: Thursday, March 21, 2024 4:13:17 PM

Absolutely NO drilling anywhere near the Porcupine Mtns.,especially near Porcupine Mtn state park!!!!!

From: Alba Lawrence
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: No mine funding!
Date: Sunday, February 25, 2024 2:24:42 PM

Please do not destroy our beautiful backyard, we love the porkies and want no part of this mine. Will fight tooth and nail against it! Location is horrible, mining type is horrible, profits will not be worth the fight and cleanup costs.

From: Sorkin, Suzanne
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: No mining in the Porkies
Date: Monday, March 11, 2024 8:22:41 AM

I am writing to express my opposition to Copperwood, a foreign company, opening a metallic sulfide mine where the Porcupine State Park meets Lake Superior and the North Country trail. This should not be allowed and certainly should not be backed by a $50 million grant in Michigan taxpayer funds.

The mine may bring a short-lived economic boom to the area but as people who have annually gone to this location for the hiking and pristine wilderness, my husband and I are horrified. There will be long-term negative environmental impacts. Tourism will suffer in a big way.

I urge the Michigan Strategic Fund to drop support for this mine.
Sincerely,
Suzanne Sorkin
Traverse City
Photo below of Lake Superior sunset near proposed mine location:



From: Celeste
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: NO to Copper sulfide mine
Date: Saturday, February 24, 2024 10:42:53 AM

Please don’t allow mining that close to one of the Great Lakes. That area is also teeming with wildlife, which are further and further encroached upon by human residential areas and activities. If we don’t protect what we still have, soon we will have nothing left.
Thank you!

From: Ben or Dr. Chris Seguin
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: No to Copperwood
Date: Thursday, March 21, 2024 11:56:14 PM

I am opposed to any tax dollars going to development of any mine bordering the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, especially the one being proposed. It is shortsighted and dangerous to have such a toxic mine so close to Lake Superior. The revenue from tourist and recreation travel is much more important than gains from mining, especially when a foreign company is involved.
Thank you for considering my opinions. Sincerely,
Ben Seguin
Ann Arbor
Sent from an undisclosed location

From: tschollaart
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: NO to mining in the Porkies
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 1:32:38 PM

Please do not move forward with this plan To allow Mining that will totally decimate this beautiful part of our state. The inexperience of this company and the disaster that will occur to the natural world is not worth it.

Please do the right thing and do not move forward!

Tammy Schollaart

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From:	Sue Jennings
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	No to Proposed Copperwood Mine, Lake Superior
Date:	Saturday, March 9, 2024 10:20:03 AM

Dear MSF Board Members,

I am a native and resident of Michigan, with a degree in natural resource management from the University of Michigan. I am writing you to express my opposition to the mine, particularly a public, taxpayer funded grant to enable them to operate the mine.

This particular region of the proposed mine site is a highly sensitive natural resources, which includes the North Country National Scenic Trail and the Porcupine Mountains State Park, which represents the largest tracts of old growth forests in the midwest, recognized as one of the most beautiful state parks in America, and is visited by thousands of recreationists annually contributing significantly to the local economy. Notably, outdoor recreation contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually. An operating mine would disrupt this thriving outdoor recreation area with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic.

Importantly, the proposed mine site is adjacent to Lake Superior, Lake Superior represents a full 10% of the world's surface freshwater. There has *never* been a metallic sulfide mine which did not contaminate local water. The Chopperwood Mine would erect a tailings disposal facility holding 50+ million tons of heavy-metal laden waste-rock on topography sloping towards Lake Superior. Even if the tailings dam holds, acid mine drainage is a certainty: sulfides will combine with water and air to create sulfuric acid —which then steeps over waste-rock and river sediment to leach heavy metals into the environment. Having worked at Big South Fork National Recreation Area in TN/KY (A National Park Service Unit) as the Chief,Resource Management Division, I have first hand knowledge of the negative, irreparable biological impacts of acid mine drainage (AMD), which kills **all** aquatic life. I have seen the tributaries to the Big South Fork of the Cumberland river that are devoid of aquatic life because of acid mine drainage that seeped into the system. The costs/difficulties to "clean-up" and remediate AMD impacted sites is exorbitantly costly AND rarely successful. Lake Superior and the surrounding land resources are priceless and far too valuable to risk such a long-term, essentially permanent impact.

From an economic standpoint, this project does not make sense. According to Harvard Economics Professor James Stock, "In 89% of cases copper mining ends up being a negative for jobs and a negative for incomes." https://scholar.harvard.edu/files/stock/files/1-s2.0-s0921800919309954-main.pdf (and is in part why a copper/nickel mine in Minnesota's Iron Range near Lake Superior was denied by the state of MN.

In addition to the negative impacts to water resources, the proposed mine would result in:

1. Heavy Metal Dust a pollutant which would be carried miles away, resulting in impacts to human health and wildlife resources (particularly fisheries and

terrestrial mammals);

2. Noise Pollution: twice-daily subterranean blasts are known to disrupt the reproductive cycles of aquatic life as well as disrupting enjoyment of solitude and **natural sounds** which hikers, campers and other recreationist to the area enjoy (and are a proven mental health benefit);
3. Direct and indirect impacts to native wildlife (noise, light pollution), including endangered species.

I urge you to *protect Lake Superior, the priceless natural and recreational resources of Michigan's Upper Peninsula-- the juncture of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior is one of the most spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the country*--and thus request that you do not fund this project.

Respectfully,

Sue Jennings
19317 Beechridge Dr
Lake Ann, MI 49650

From: Karen Grotewohl
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: NO to the $50M grant!
Date: Friday, March 22, 2024 10:25:34 AM

To All Members of the MSF,

I strongly urge you to vote NO to granting $50 Million dollars of taxpayer money to the Copperwood mine in Gogebic county on Tuesday.

I am one of those "outsiders" who have visited this area as a tourist, enjoying the pristine wilderness and unspoiled glory of Lake Superior. I have spent money at the small businesses in the area and visited the Porcupine Mountain State park. We fell in love with the area and finally purchased a cabin and property in the area, with plans to live there, and rent it as a wilderness vacation destination.

Michigan does not know what it has here! The outdoor tourist industry is the real economic boon here. That 50M grant money could go a long way to boosting that tourist industry by funding a good hospital in the area and supporting the small businesses. A copper sulfide mine, and all of the traffic, light pollution, noise, and potential for disastrous environmental consequences, would only spoil it all!

Vote NO on Tuesday,
Best regards,
Karen Grotewohl
Kansas City
Wakefield, Michigan

.

From:	Mark Lavengood
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	No to the copper mining project in the UP
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 1:24:41 PM

Friends, thank you for taking my email. Please do not allocate our tax payer money to fund this environmental monstrosity.

Boom and bust operations that leave our labor market in the dust and our land and communities polluted and toxic is NOT wise ever at all, and should not be a use of our hard earned money that is taken for tax purposes.

This should be obvious to all in a position of power they were elected into to protect and serve the people.

Thank you for ear. We all hope you make the right decision in banning this proposed operation and not funding it.

best,

Mark Lavengood
Entertainment Director, Smiling Acres Music Festival
Collaborative Artist, Founder of Bear Mark Productions
616.485.6855
VISIT MY WEBSITE | PATREON | SPOTIFY | FACEBOOK |
APPLE MUSIC | YOUTUBE | INSTAGRAM
"Mark Lavengood is a great songwriter and a master on the dobro." - Billy Strings
smilingacresfestival.com
marklavengood.com
musicwithmark.com
earthworkmusic.com
bearmarkproductions.com

From: Lisa Brisley
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: OPPOSE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT GRANT
Date: Monday, February 26, 2024 4:28:12 PM

Date: February 26, 2024

Subject: Oppose $50 million grant for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Members,

We are writing to urge you to oppose the $50 Million grant or any investment in the Copperwood Mine Project whose location is planned for the Upper Peninsula of Michigan's pristine old-growth Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, the North County Trail, and Lake Superior shoreline area which would cause long-term harmful impacts on the environment and the health and well-being of local communities by releasing toxic chemicals that will pollute the land, air, and water with Lake Superior providing the largest supply of fresh water. The Copperwood Mine Project will permanently devastate this nationally recognized "gold-standard" outdoor recreational area. Michigan's outdoor recreation industry has a significant impact on the state's economy which contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually. An operating copper mine would destroy this thriving outdoor recreation area and the surrounding communities.

For those MSF Board Members who have not visited this magnificent state and national, natural treasure, you need to know that Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park features 60,000 acres of old-growth forest, roaring waterfalls, Lake Superior shoreline, rivers, trails, and ridges. The park's incomparable vistas make it Michigan's largest and most popular state park that has earned national outdoor recreational status that is equivalent to Minnesota's Boundary Waters Wilderness which was recently saved from a sulfide-ore Copper Mining Project by the smart and swift action of the Biden-Harris Administration and Interior Secretary Deb Haaland who in 2023 signed a 20-year ban on mining in the Boundary Waters' <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-protects-boundary-waters-area-watershed> Rainy River Watershed, the ancestral home of the Ojibwe people and a landscape rich with wildlife habitat and cherished outdoor recreation areas.

Click on links to read articles:
Boundary Waters officially safe from mining for next 20 years | The Wilderness Society
<https://us01.z.antigena.com/l/oG5UCZFKWu16Ow-1PXYYV2WO2zH7r4d-Ofx73xCvVrFvO4wwybaFZ5oVakyBMDr9gLYByR_1bBZK5d2gAHudzAiFV72HLTud2uNQj8uRmWIAnPYeTYebDo-iY5hFAFTfzFY0oXFkVKViZ7ugwxhP0TcwG3qfwp2O5wKN8MLP~382SQ-fV5TzJUCiCZ105wUYn-H-Amzkootmi-ib0ppuQNhBVOsOoynJo0daq7bnW4R1_gzpIVhNpDu8e-dyLBaMKg9QCygC98nimApmbcSPG7J8f_vPpempZA0MqDf~BCoXvQv-ZBXRFWU2ehEJ52z1iTb9aOR~C7cDQP8tsycvCqO_SJRNc8wty3DTjRks-KI>

Biden Administration Bans Mining in Boundary Waters Wilderness - The New York Times (nytimes.com)
<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/26/climate/mining-ban-boundary-waters-copper.html>

SULFIDE- ORE COPPER MINING'S Negative Impacts on the Environment and Local Communities:

Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history.

Water Pollution- Copper mining contaminates water sources with heavy metals and chemicals used in the extraction process which makes drinking water unsafe for human consumption and aquatic ecosystems.

Deforestation - Mining operations clear-cut large areas of land, leading to deforestation and habitat loss for local wildlife. The mining industry clear-cuts massive areas of land for its operations and generates high amounts of air and water pollution that contaminate surrounding environments.

Human Health - Exposure to copper dust and pollutants harms the health of nearby residents, leading to respiratory illness and other serious health problems.

Loss of Habitat- Copper mining activities destroy native, natural habitats for wildlife, flora, and fauna. It has a devastating impact on biodiversity which supports all life, including human life.

Land Degradation- The excavation of copper ore disrupts the landscape, causing soil erosion and negatively impacting and altering natural ecosystems.

Air Pollution- Dust and emissions from mining operations contribute to unhealthy air pollution in surrounding areas.

Acid Mine Drainage- When sulfide minerals in copper ore are exposed to air and water, they create acidic run-off that harms water quality and aquatic life. In some cases, water quality impacts are so severe that acid mine drainage will generate water pollution in perpetuity.

PLEASE OPPOSE and DENY this $50 Million grant and any investment in the Copperwood Mine Project and follow the Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland's example and take seriously your and our obligation as American citizens to steward public lands and waters on behalf of all Americans, and protect the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park and Lake Superior now and forever.

“The Department of the Interior takes seriously our obligations to steward public lands and waters on behalf of all Americans. Protecting a place like Boundary Waters is key to supporting the health of the watershed and its surrounding wildlife, upholding our Tribal trust and treaty responsibilities, and boosting the local recreation economy,” said Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland. “With an eye toward protecting this special place for future generations, I have made this decision using the best-available science and extensive public input.”

Kind regards,
Susan and Lisa Plummer

From:	Lisa Brisley
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	OPPOSE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT GRANT
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 11:53:17 AM

Date: March 24, 2024
Subject: Oppose Copperwood Mine Project Grant
Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Members,
We are writing to urge you to oppose the $50 Million grant or any investment in the Copperwood Mine Project whose location is planned for the Upper Peninsula of Michigan's pristine old-growth Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, the North County Trail, and Lake Superior shoreline area which would cause long-term harmful impacts on the environment and human health and well-being of local communities and visitors by releasing toxic chemicals that will pollute the land, air, and water with Lake Superior providing the largest supply of fresh water. The Copperwood Mine Project will permanently devastate this nationally recognized "gold-standard" outdoor recreation area. Michigan's outdoor recreation industry has a significant impact on the local and state's economy which contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually. An operating copper mine would destroy this thriving outdoor recreation area and its economic industry, along with the quality of life of the surrounding communities.
For those MSF Board Members who have not visited this magnificent state and national, natural treasure, you need to know that Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park is Michigan's largest state park that features 60,000 acres of old-growth forest, roaring waterfalls, Lake Superior shoreline, rivers, trails, and ridges. The park's pristine water, wilderness trails, natural beauty, and iconic vistas make Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park one of the most popular state parks that has earned "gold standard" national outdoor recreation status that is equivalent to Minnesota's Boundary Waters Wilderness which was recently saved from a sulfide-ore Copper Mining Project by the smart and swift action of the Biden-Harris Administration and Interior Secretary Deb Haaland who in 2023 signed a 20-year ban on mining in the Boundary Waters' Rainy River Watershed, the ancestral home of the Ojibwe people and a landscape rich with wildlife habitat and cherished outdoor recreation areas.
Click on links to read articles:
Boundary Waters officially safe from mining for next 20 years | The Wilderness Society
Biden Administration Bans Mining in Boundary Waters Wilderness - The New York Times (nytimes.com)
SULFIDE- ORE COPPER MINING'S Negative Impacts on the Environment and Communities.
Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history.
Harmful Health Impacts and Water and Air Pollution- Copper mining contaminates water sources with heavy metals and chemicals used in the extraction process which makes drinking water unsafe for human consumption and aquatic ecosystems. Exposure to copper dust and emissions pollutants from mining operations contributes to unhealthy air which harms human health leading to respiratory illness and other serious health problems, and harms wildlife and the environment.
Negative Impacts on the Local and State Economy - Mining only creates

economic gains for companies, not local communities. Local communities must bear the cost of environmental degradation and the harmful impacts on human health while the economic gains are exported to the owners and stockholders of mining companies. Michigan is a water state with more lakes and river miles than most other states and outdoor recreation industries are what will sustain Michigan into the future. Outdoor Recreation Industry dollars are breaking records in Michigan. This depends on clean, pristine water and wild areas preserved in their natural, pristine state. It would be tragic to pursue a mythic, polluting economy like sulfide-ore copper mining that would ruin Michigan's most sustainable and powerful economic engine ~ "gold standard" outdoor recreation industry.

Deforestation - Mining operations clear-cut large areas of land, leading to deforestation and habitat loss for local wildlife. The mining industry clear-cuts massive areas of land for its operations and generates high amounts of air and water pollution that contaminate surrounding environments.

Loss of Habitat- Copper mining activities destroy native, natural habitats for wildlife, flora, and fauna. It has a devastating impact on biodiversity which supports all life, including human life.

Land Degradation- The excavation of copper ore disrupts the landscape, causing soil erosion and negatively impacting and altering natural ecosystems.

Acid Mine Drainage- When sulfide minerals in copper ore are exposed to air and water, they create acidic run-off that harms water quality and aquatic life. In some cases, water quality impacts are so severe that acid mine drainage **will generate water pollution in perpetuity.**

PLEASE OPPOSE and DENY this $50 Million grant and any investment in the Copperwood Mine Project and follow the U.S. Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland's example and take seriously your and our obligation as American citizens to steward public lands and waters on behalf of all Americans, and **protect the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park and Lake Superior now and forever.**

“The Department of the Interior takes seriously our obligations to steward public lands and waters on behalf of all Americans. Protecting a place like Boundary Waters is key to supporting the health of the watershed and its surrounding wildlife, upholding our Tribal trust and treaty responsibilities, and boosting the local recreation economy,” said ***Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland****. “With an eye toward protecting this special place for future generations, I have made this decision using the best-available science and extensive public input.”*

Kind regards,
Lisa Brisley Plummer and Susan Plummer

From:	Brooke Tharp
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Oppose Copperwood Mine
Date:	Tuesday, March 26, 2024 10:48:05 AM

Hello!

I registered to give public comment at today's meeting but was not able to speak because allotted time ran out.

Here is my message:

My name is Brooke Tharp and I am a resident of Marquette MI. I oppose the 50 million dollar grant for the Copperwood mine. There's lots of talk about how this will boost the economy. However, The copper-concentrate from the proposed mine will be shipped out of country for, so many of the best-paying jobs won't go to Michiganders, nor even to Americans. Mining jobs are not sustainable jobs.

Please consider that this mine may harm the upper peninsula's status as a tourist destination, further harming the UP and Michigan's economy. Lake Superior represents 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The proposed Copperwood Mine would also be immediately adjacent to the North Country Trail — the longest of all national hiking trails — and Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, recently ranked as the most beautiful State Park in the country.

The potential for destruction of our freshwater source it too great. This is a FOREIGN company, so most of the money from the natural resources would be leaving the country.

Thank you for your consideration,

Brooke Tharp

From:	Mr. Buck Cunningham, Cunningham"s Ugottawanna Martial Arts
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	OPPOSED to michigan strategic fund
Date:	Saturday, March 23, 2024 10:21:27 PM

My name is Robert E. Cunningham. I am an Illinois resident and a frequent visitor to the North Country Trail National Hiking Trail in the Porcupine Mountains THIS is a closer-to-the-truth picture of what THEY (biden sycophants on down to the wind companies and lessees) are planning on doing to the Porcupine Mountains and other distinctive areas of OUR Country. I wish to state my strong opposition to the Michigan Strategic Fund and any mining in, near or around LAKE SUPERIOR. The most accurately descriptive word that comes to my mind (as a 35 year career Professional Wildlife Biologist) is RAPE of the land. It is an aggressive ASSAULT that will have destructive impacts and will leave permanent scars (with repeated assaults for killing any restorative vegetation). What wildlife that isn't DIRECTLY KILLED (bats, eagles and other birds) will be displaced by the loss of habitat or will move away from the area because of the known (and yet to be discovered) negative effects of the detectable noise and undetectable vibrations from the uselessly spinning blades. There are also known and yet to be revealed deleterious health effects from these obnoxious monsters upon human beings and farm animals. People are NOT FIGHTING against these things as aggressively as they should be. Keep in mind that china is continuing to build coal-fired power plants today to ensure THEIR country has a nation-strengthening and reliable power supply. No one is protesting THAT as WE THE PEOPLE continue to ALLOW those behind COPPER MINING or wind turbines to MAKE OBSOLETE the very lyrics to "America the Beautiful" !

From: Thomas Fazica
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Opposed to the grant for copper mining.
Date: Friday, February 2, 2024 8:46:19 AM

Keep Michigan green.

Get Outlook for Android

From: Anne Steinberg
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Opposing grant to Copperwood mine
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2024 4:27:54 PM

I urge you to not give any taxpayer revenue to the Copperwood mine project. I very much oppose this metallic sulfide mine being built so close to Lake Superior and the Porcupine Mountains and North Country Trail.

I have made many trips to the Porkies to hike, camp and country ski. It is a very special place for many of us who live nearby in the Midwest (and even farther) for the old growth forest and for the clean water — the many rivers and Lake Superior. And for the peace and quiet. With the foresight of many generations of people living in Michigan, this area has been preserved from timber harvests and from pollution. The efforts to save the Porkies during World War II was led by Aldo Leopold and others who saw the value of the area and preserved it as a State Wilderness. Much effort has also gone into the sections of the North Country trail nearby.

This mine is not a good investment. I don't see how this mine project will lead to economic revitalization in the area. Instead, the current economy is largely based on tourism which is not compatible with a large scale mine. The economy would be better revitalized by more investment in tourism infrastructure than putting industrial infrastructure and activity in the rural area. . Moreover, the community could very easily be left with enormous costs if — or more realistically, when — the Tailings Disposal Facility leaks into the watershed and even Lake Superior. The facility will be storing waste forever — even when the mining company is long gone.

There has never been such a mine that didn't contaminate water and this is no place for a metallic sulfide mine.

Thank you for taking my comment.

Anne Steinberg
2934 N. Prospect Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53211

From:	Kristin Van Vliet
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Opposition of proposed grant to Copperwood Mine in Michigan's Upper Peninsula
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 10:06:48 AM

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to document my opposition to the taxpayer funded grant to the inexperienced copper mining company, Highland Copper, for their Copperwood mining project in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.
The type of mine and ore it will extract pose too much risk to the surrounding ecosystem compared to the economic reward of this type of mine. The mine's proximity is precariously close to the precious resource of Lake Superior. If anything goes wrong with the Tailings Disposal Facility, contamination of 10% of the world's fresh surface water inevitable.
The proposed metallic sulfide mine is also steps away from the North Country Trail and the Porcupine Mountains State Park. Ecotourism and outdoor recreation is a much more profitable, long lasting, and ecologically sound industry in which to invest this strategic funding. Both ecotourism and outdoor recreation provide sustained economic benefits and sustain the fragile ecosystems, drawing many people to the area supporting other businesses at the same time. Unlike mining, which extracts the meager resources, endangering workers health and the environment in the process, and leaves when the resource is exhausted.
In conclusion, I strongly oppose the Copperwood mining project proposed to be located squarely in the 1842 Treaty Territory of the Anishinaabe/Ojibwe people. All metallic sulfide mines contaminate the environment, and this one in particular poses too much risk to the inhabitants and ecosystem compared to the proposed economic reward. These lands are sacred to the Native people living there, and integral to their subsistence and survival. The precious resources of fresh water, old growth forests, and pristine lands for outdoor recreation are far more valuable than a hazardous mine extracting poor quality metallic sulfides.

Sincerely,
Kristin Van Vliet
Dexter, MI 48130

From:	Ava Sehoyan
To:	MEDC MSF Comments; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants; sharpstik@aol.com
Subject:	Opposition of the Copperwood Mining Project
Date:	Friday, February 9, 2024 3:46:18 PM

Hello,

I am a student currently living in Marquette and studying Environmental Policy and Sustainability at Northern Michigan University. It has come to my attention that the Michigan Strategic Fund is considering a grant for the Copperwood Mining Project. This grant absolutely cannot pass, for the sake of our economy, environment, and people of the U.P. Local support from the community opposes the implementation of this grant, and there is currently a circulating petition with more than 11,000 signatures. That number is greater than the populations of the towns (Wakefield, Bessemer, Ironwood) closest to the mines combined. Contrary to popular belief, this area is not "the middle of nowhere". This area, including the Porcupine Mountains, Lake Superior, and the North Country Trail, is one of the most popular and spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the country. Annually, Michigan's economy makes over $10 billion from the contributions of outdoor recreation. Mining contributes about $1 billion annually, in comparison. The implementation of an operating mine in this area would disrupt this thriving area with noise and light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic. Additionally, Copperwood Mine would be the closest copper sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history. Copper sulfide mines are known to consistently contaminate and tailings dams are not invincible. Copper is not a critical mineral, and there is no urgent need to fund such a project. Additionally, Highland Copper is a foreign company, largely funded by foreign investors, and much of the jobs involved in processing the copper are set to be based in Canada, meaning the highest-paying jobs will be given to foreigners.

Please consider how the economic impacts of this project are not as prosperous as they seem, and please listen to the voices of the people who actually live and work in this area. I urge you to oppose this grant, and protect our wilderness and outdoor recreation economy.

Sincerely,

Ava Sehoyan

From:	Sarah Zollweg
Cc:	MEDC MSF Comments; ron@euclidindustries.com; ronbeebe49@aol.com; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Opposition statement to Copperwood grant
Date:	Friday, February 2, 2024 4:15:28 PM

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund board members,

I'm writing regarding the potential $50M grant for the Copperwood project. I very STRONGLY OPPOSE this grant for several reasons.

First, there is strong opposition among locals and beyond to this project -- there is currently a change.org petition with over 11,000 signatures opposing.

Second, this project risks major damage (pollution, noise, industrial traffic) to a heavily used and dearly loved recreation area, which is also a major economic driver in the area. This mine would also be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history, and these mines are high contaminants -- we can't risk the recreational impact as well as the health of those who get water supply from and recreate in the lake. As a nurse, and after seeing the harm caused by contaminated water in Flint, I am extremely concerned about the health effects of locals and visitors.

Third, this project is not likely to be economically positive for Michigan -- Highland Copper is a foreign company, funded by foreign investors, and with most high-paying jobs going to people out of not only MI, but outside the U.S. There are also warning signs of instability -- they haven't been able to get funding after more than 10 years of efforts, and their CEO recently stepped down . The project also is only going to run for 11 years, and there's a tendency for metal mines to open and close repeatedly, which puts Michigan workers in a precarious situation. There have also been studies showing that few (<25%) of these mines actually contribute to long-term economic benefit in communities.

Given the lack of support and approval of this project, the enormous potential for damage to an important recreation area (including Lake Superior), and the low potential for economic benefit, this $50M grant would be much better spent elsewhere. Not only is this project not likely to be of benefit, but the high potential for harm is great.

Thank you so very much for considering my input,
Sarah Zollweg, PhD, RN

From:	shystr e
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	OPPOSITION to $50 Million Grant for Highland Copper Mine Project, Bessemer, Michigan
Date:	Friday, February 2, 2024 8:04:40 PM

Hello!

Please consider this a message urging a "NO" decision on Highland Copper's request for a $50 million grant from the State of Michigan Strategic Fund to develop a huge copper mine complex just up-slope from Lake Superior, and immediately adjacent to MIchigan's gem, the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park.

The small amount of copper that might be successfully extracted from the site, is far outweighed by the dangers of environmental damage to Lake Superior, the largest clean body of fresh water on the planet. In short, the water is worth more than the copper to be extracted.

The biggest concern is with HIghland Copper's plan for a 323-acre waste containment facility erected **on topography sloping towards Lake Superior.**

Western Lake Superior has experienced, in the last decade, several massive storms placed in the ONCE IN A THOUSAND YEARS category. The HIghland Copper waste containment facility is situated where several streams have been re-routed. THIS HAS NOT BEEN A GOOD STRATEGY in the Western Lake Superior region in recent years. Massive summer storms have devastated projects where streams have been re-routed, and the catastrophic flash flooding finds the water following its old paths, disregarding the re-routing plans of humans.

One example is the July 11, 2016 destruction of the Saxon Harbor Marina (less than 20 miles west of the HIghland Copper site) in Iron County, Wisconsin. The Saxon Harbor Marina had re-routed Oronto Creek and Parker Creek to flow together into Lake Superior east of the basin, which was used for the docks and ramps for the marina. But on July 11, 2016, massive flooding found the creeks flowing back into the Saxon Harbor basin, destroying the docks and pushing dozens of boats out into Lake Superior. A local firefighter died. The Marina was a total loss, requiring a complete re-build at a cost of $14 million. https://apnews.com/general-news-ba400419a6e2443f99a3a6a0956db386

Recent storms have also destroyed, more than once, the Lake-walk complex at Duluth, Minnesota, also in Western Lake Superior. After destruction twice (in ONCE-in-a-thousand-year storms) the Duluth Lake-walk has been re-constructed for a third time.

The Highland Copper plan for relocating streams in the footprint of its 323-acre waste containment facility is suspect. Its plans also rely optimistically on encountering only ONCE-in-a-HUNDRED-years storms. But as noted above, the Western Lake Superior region has encountered a number of ONCE-in-a-THOUSAND-year storms in the last decade, with much destruction as a result. The Highland Copper waste containment plan is inadequate and not capable of withstanding the storms we now see in Western Lake Superior on a regular basis.

Highland Copper is a Canadian company, without long-term commitment to our region. Their plans for re-routing streams for their waste containment facility located up-slope from Lake Superior, put the drinking water of Lake Superior (and indeed, of the entire Great Lakes system) at risk.

This is not a project worthy of investment of taxpayer dollars by the State of Michigan Strategic Fund.

Thank you.

~Paul M. Erspamer

From:	shystr e
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	OPPOSITION to $50 Million Grant for Highland Copper Mine Project, Bessemer, Michigan
Date:	Tuesday, March 26, 2024 4:25:27 AM

Hello!

Please consider this a message urging a "NO" decision on Highland Copper's request for a $50 million grant from the State of Michigan Strategic Fund to develop a huge copper mine complex just up-slope from Lake Superior, and immediately adjacent to MIchigan's gem, the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park.

The small amount of copper that might be successfully extracted from the site, is far outweighed by the dangers of environmental damage to Lake Superior, the largest clean body of fresh water on the planet. In short, the water is worth more than the copper to be extracted.

A. The biggest concern is with HIghland Copper's plan for a 323-acre waste containment facility erected **on topography sloping towards Lake Superior.**

Western Lake Superior has experienced, in the last decade, several massive storms placed in the ONCE IN A THOUSAND YEARS category. The HIghland Copper waste containment facility (a.k.a. Tailings Pond) is situated where several streams have been re-routed. THIS HAS NOT BEEN A GOOD STRATEGY in the Western Lake Superior region in recent years. Massive summer storms have devastated projects where streams have been re-routed, and the catastrophic flash flooding finds the water following its old paths, disregarding the re-routing plans of humans.

One example is the July 11, 2016 destruction of the Saxon Harbor Marina (less than 20 miles west of the HIghland Copper site) in Iron County, Wisconsin. The Saxon Harbor Marina had re-routed Oronto Creek and Parker Creek to flow together into Lake Superior east of the basin, which was used for the docks and ramps for the marina. But on July 11, 2016, massive flooding found the creeks flowing back into the Saxon Harbor basin, destroying the docks and pushing dozens of boats out into Lake Superior. A local firefighter died. The Marina was a total loss, requiring a complete re-build at a cost of $14 million. https://apnews.com/general-news-ba400419a6e2443f99a3a6a0956db386

Recent storms have also destroyed, more than once, the Lake-walk complex at Duluth, Minnesota, also in Western Lake Superior. After destruction twice (in ONCE-in-a-thousand-year storms) the Duluth Lake-walk has now been re-constructed for a third time.

The Highland Copper plan for relocating streams in the footprint of its 323-acre waste containment facility is suspect. Its plans also rely optimistically on encountering only ONCE-in-a-HUNDRED-years storms. But as noted above, the Western Lake Superior region has encountered a number of ONCE-in-a-THOUSAND-year storms in the last decade, with much destruction as a result. The Highland Copper waste containment plan is inadequate and not capable of withstanding the storms we now see in Western Lake Superior on a regular basis.

B. The second major concern is that Highland Copper apparently intends to mine copper at the site for a period of 10-12 years. Unfortunately, this brief period of hoped-for benefits to the local economy does not justify the very great likelihood of long-term need for governmental intervention when (as is often the case with sulfide mining) there are discharges of acidic mine waste from the site in decades or centuries to come. For example, copper mining near Hubbell and Lake Linden, Michigan in Houghton County in the Upper Peninsula ended in the first half of the Twentieth Century. However, even now, a century later, Torch Lake (just south of Lake Linden) remains a "SUPERFUND" site with active cleanup operations overseen by the Federal EPA. Torch Lake itself is highly acidic and largely unable to support life, showing the long-term duration of mine waste contamination. The mining companies who created the mess in Torch Lake are long gone from the scene, of course, leaving taxpayers to fund the cleanup.

Highland Copper is a Canadian company, without long-term commitment to our region. Their plans for re-routing streams for their waste containment facility located up-slope from Lake Superior, put the drinking water of Lake Superior (and indeed, of the entire Great Lakes system) at risk.

Because of the short duration of expected benefits, and the substantial likelihood of environmental damage, I ask you to join me in concluding this is not a project appropriate for investment of taxpayer dollars by the State of Michigan Strategic Fund.

Thank you.

~Paul M. Erspamer

From: Jared Hautamaki
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Opposition to Copperwood Grant
Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 8:59:56 PM

As a UP farmer and former EPA enforcement attorney that worked in Superfund mining cases...just no. The environment and recreational value of the land undisturbed is greater than any mineral extraction could fund in reclamation and remediation. Please do not fund this desecration.

From:	Eleanor bolich
To:	MEDC MSF Comments; ron@euclidindustries.com; ronbeebe49@aol.com; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Opposition to Copperwood Mine Grant
Date:	Thursday, February 1, 2024 5:25:29 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to encourage you to oppose the granting of 50 million dollars to the proposed Highland's Copperwood Mine project. I am a lifelong yooper and my livelihood is dependent on tourism to this beautiful area of our state like many members of my community, Ironwood, Michigan.

The proposed mine will impact visitors to the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, a large draw for tourists to our area. The mine will be situated directly outside the west entrance to the park creating noise and light pollution that will impact one of the largest campgrounds in the park and tourists' ability to enjoy the iconic Presqu'ile River and its many waterfalls. While the impact of this is difficult to quantify, I know personally that my employer's business would suffer along with many other area businesses.

I hope you can see the senselessness in providing such a significant amount of money to a Canadian company to aid in building a mine that has the potential to negatively impact the local economy in such a significant manner. I sincerely hope that the tax dollars of hard working Michiganders will not be spent in such a foolish manner.

Thank you for reading,

Eleanor Bolich

241 E. Michigan Ave.
Ironwood, MI 49938
(906)364-1969
eleanorlouisebolich@gmail.com <mailto:eleanorlouisebolich@gmail.com>

From: Bryan Smigielski
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Opposition to Copperwood Mine
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2024 8:04:15 PM

My name is Bryan smigielski, I'm a resident of Detroit Michigan, am a yearly visitor to the Porcupine wilderness area and I strongly oppose the grant to the Copperwood Mine because, having backpacked the entirety of the 2600 mile pacific crest trail and most major trails in the Michigan region, I know that there is truly nothing else that compares to the unique experience of the porcupine mountains. It is absolutely unthinkable to imagine coming face to face with such a massive industrial presence right in the middle of a globally unique nature excursion.

The purpose of my comment is simply that we need to be absolutely clear that any talk of net economic gain for the region is predicated on arbitrarily picking a narrow timescale to make our assessments -- even if we aren't considering the risk of catastrophic failure.
We're all here to talk about inserting a massive industrial presence at the heart of one of the most famous and pristine natural areas in the country. We know that this proposed mining project will be absolutely unproductive after a single a decade of extractive profiteering-- and yet will continue to tarnish the Porcupine wilderness area upon which the current regional economy is based--with a gargantuan, risky, tailings dam waste facility visible from the famous Lake of the clouds overlook, * forever*.

The massive waste facility that this project will leave behind after its short, extractive 11 year period of operation, will require ongoing state monitoring and maintenance forever, that is, for the rest of time.
• Over time, tailings dams deteriorate due to factors like erosion, seismic or extreme weather events, and aging. To be clear, deterioration is not a potential risk, it is an absolute tendency.
• Rehabilitating and repairing these structures is essential to prevent failures and environmental disasters.
• The cost of rehabilitating non-federal dams in the United States is estimated at $60.70 billion2 -- not even including the extreme costs of catastrophic failures.
This means that any attempt at framing 11 years of extractive mining as economically advantageous, against a literal eternity of taxpayer funded risk monitoring and costly maintenance amidst statically worsening weather events, and a permanent detriment to the area's sustainable recreation industry, is clearly and irrefutably delusional.

Please think beyond short term profits,

Sincerely,
Bryan Smigielski

From:	K Barnes
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Opposition to funding extended mining that will destroy natural wildlife and ecosystems
Date:	Monday, February 26, 2024 5:33:08 PM

I am adamantly opposed to the expansion of mining that will destroy natural habitats and wildlife such as beaver dams, forests, wetlands, mountains etc.
Mi UP mining has already destroyed large areas and some owe taxes they should pay on.
Existing mines are not used up and just because it's easier for them to strip mine new areas doesn't make it right.
"In the Wilderness is the Preservation of the World"
Let's use what we have, recycle and reduce consumption.
There's no excuse for habitat destruction. I'm opposed to giving the Tilden mine money for land that should be preserved for posterity not destroyed for short term profit for a few.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Barnes,

Don't Waste Michigan-Sherwood Chapter
&
Greenwoods Art Wildlife Sanctuary
PO Box 26
Sherwood, Mi 49089

"In the wilderness is the preservation of the world"
My Fine Art:
kathrynbarnes.com <https://us01.z.antigena.com/l/9U-rwbumV3K1pZqJ55x3ABGixh6rofqANZCDCP9bgHENZKgu2yJSWV~GcBT1EPMidCPdxIbj0PigIGmOb4YIwfrfajeh4m3v4NoNXbtCC~Heax-QjQo4qSSjNe6SYYTa~o4ETnKKDglew-F9wX7Y7iuJUCH2gno~t7HZgTrgS97OSIooMyoc-M8~66>

From:	paula mohan
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Opposition to funding the Copperwood mining project
Date:	Monday, February 26, 2024 11:27:47 PM
Attachments:	MSFadministrators-Copperwoodgrant.pdf

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my comments on the decision of the board to approve a MSF grant to Highland Copper.

My comments are attached via pdf in order to keep the formatting intact.

Cordially,
Paula Mohan

From:	Jacob Skwirsk
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	ron@euclidindustries.com; ronbeebe49@aol.com; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Opposition to Highland Copper copper mine grant
Date:	Saturday, February 3, 2024 8:01:40 PM

To whom it concerns,

I am writing to give my opinion on the $50 million Copperwood mining project grant. I strongly oppose this grant receiving endorsement from the state as it will not protect our natural wilderness that many Michiganders, including myself, visit throughout the year and will be a burden on Michigan's economy.

This project will without a doubt lead to contamination of the area and is not an economically important decision for the state of Michigan. Without outdoor recreation, which contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually (whereas mining is $1 billion), the Michigan economy would take a huge hit, especially for those who depend on tourism for income. An operating mine would disrupt this thriving outdoor recreation area with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic. In addition, Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history. Copper sulfide mines always contaminate and tailings dams are far from invincible.

Environmental impacts aside, this will only hurt Michigan economically. Highland Copped is a foreign company with primarily foreign investors. According to a feasibility study conducted by Highland Copper, copper will be transported to Canada for processing, meaning most if not all of the highest-paying jobs will go to foreigners. This is also a risky investment; The company only has a market cap of $43 million — well short of the $390 million in startup capital required — MSF would be investing in a company that likely will be taken over by a larger partner at some point before the mine is up and running.

Even if this mine was owned and operated by a Michigan based company, no long-term benefits would come from the project. A study conducted at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and University of California-Santa Barabara showed only 25% of mines have a long-standing economical impact. Amongst those that did have a positive outcome, half came from before 1982 and most were coal strip mines out West. Michiganders are extremely unlikely to benefit from this in their local communities.

Finally, Highland Copper no doubt touted their "resolutions of support" gathered from area town halls. Keep in mind, those resolutions were agreed upon by no more than two or three dozen people. Meanwhile, there is a petition with over 11,000 signatures opposing the mine.

Please consider these points and ensure that Highland Copper will not construct a mine in Michigan's pristine nature.

Best,

Jacob Skwirsk *(he/him/his)*
MS Robotics
BS Computer Science
University of Michigan
skwirskj@umich.edu

From: Anita Lockabey
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Opposition to the Copperwood Grant
Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 12:53:51 PM

I respectfully request that you DO NOT AWARD THE PROPOSED GRANT TO COPPERWOOD.

The mine site is right next door to the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, ranked last year as the MOST BEAUTIFUL STATE PARK IN AMERICA. Many of the influences from Copperwood, such as light pollution, noise pollution, subterranean blasting, and industrial traffic, will radiate beyond private property lines and risk negatively impacting not just the ecosystem, but also the experience of human visitors like myself, many of whom come here specifically to escape hectic city life.

Outdoor recreation contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually. An operating mine would disrupt this thriving outdoor recreation area with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic.

I am greatly alarmed by the construction of a 323-acre tailings disposal facility, the closest in history to Lake Superior. Tailings dams are far from invincible, and I worry about the future of Lake Superior, the largest, wildest, and cleanest of the Great Lakes, representing 10% of the world's surface freshwater.

In addition, on a very personal note, I was born and raised near Detroit, and we vacationed every summer in the Porcupine Mountains. When I was 12, my parents moved us all to California. I had never wanted to leave my beloved Michigan, especially the Porkies, and after becoming widowed and retiring, I was fortunate enough to move back to the home of my heart and soul. It took 56 years, but I made it January 12, 2023!! The past 12 months, I have spent uncountable hours hiking in the Porkies, most frequently at Presque Isle (adjacent to the proposed mine site), and I was absolutely devastated to learn of the Cooperwood project.

For these reasons and more, Copperwood cannot be allowed to move forward and endanger the health of the Lake and of the environment, and the right of humans to enjoy a moment of peace in nature. Please do NOT provide the Copperwood project with any grant money whatsoever.

Sincerely,

Anita Lockabey
Ontonagon resident and avid Porcupine Mountains hiker

From: Josh Kieser
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Opposition to the Copperwood Mining Project
Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 4:11:08 PM

Dear MI Strategic Fund Board Members & To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing to express strong opposition to the Copperwood Mining Project in the western Upper Peninsula, which is currently being considered for a $50 million grant.

Such mining directly pollutes air, land, and water. Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history. Copper sulfide mines always contaminate <https://earthworks.org/issues/copper-sulfide-mining/#:~:text=A%20peer%2Dreviewed%20study%20of,and%20risks%20to%20public%20health> . The Copperwood Project is slated to take place at the juncture of the UP's highest-value natural settings: the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior. This is one of the most spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the country. An operating mine would disrupt this high-value outdoor recreation area with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic. Mining is a boom and bust economy, while the Outdoor Recreation economy is sustainable and strong.

Copper is NOT a critical mineral <https://www.eenews.net/articles/usgs-rejects-push-to-make-copper-a-critical-mineral/> and copper mining it is not an urgent need. The Copperwood project supposedly would produce only enough copper to supply 3500 EV Batteries... On the other hand, refer to this petition with over 11,000 signatures <http://www.change.org/ProtectThePorkies> . 11,000 people is more than the populations of the closest three towns to the proposed Mine combined (Wakefield, Bessemer, and Ironwood), while 3500 EV batteries wouldn't even be enough to supply the town of Ironwood.

Funding new low-grade copper mining in the Lake Superior watershed would be an affront to common sense and decency. The UP is one of the last unspoiled areas in the nation and Lake Superior makes up 10% of the world's surface freshwater. As our planet becomes hotter and drier and many American cities must ship in water from hundreds of miles away, we must do everything we can to protect the integrity of the largest freshwater lake on Earth.

For all these reasons and more, I and many others strongly oppose the funding and development of the Copperwood Mining Project. Thank you for your consideration.

- Josh Kieser -
Michigan Resident

Any gains from mining must be weighed against risks to outdoor recreation

1) The well-known travel publication Fodor's is advising readers not to travel to the Lake Superior region in 2024, specifically citing environmental issues negatively impacting Indigenous resources.



Indigenous people began inhabiting the boreal forests surrounding Lake Superior approximately 8,500 to 10,000 years ago. The Ojibwe, who call themselves Anishinaabe, came from the East Coast to the Great Lakes in the 1400s, subsisting on game, wild rice, and fish. Fish remains a staple, but it is threatened by pollutants. Fish consumption advisories in the Great Lakes began in 1971, and continue to undermine Indigenous health economies, traditions, and cultures. In 2021, Wisconsin issued an advisory recommending against consuming more than one rainbow smelt during the spring. Fish around the spiritual homeland of the Ojibwe on Madeline Island in Wisconsin were found with elevated levels of PFAS (per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances), human-made "forever chemicals" linked to cancer, a result of mining and manufacturing. Michigan and Minnesota followed up with similar advisories.

"For a lot of Native nations that live either on Lake Superior or in close proximity to it, fish has been the backbone of not only tribal economies but ways of life for a long time. These continual advisories have the potential to be really devastating," says Katrina Phillips, a citizen of the Red Cliff Band of the Lake Superior Ojibwe and Associate Professor of History at Macalester College. "In so many instances, First Nations are the people that bear the brunt of environmental degradation." The Red Cliff reservation sits on the lake's southern coastline and is a fishing community at its core.

As the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history, Copperwood would pose a tremendous new threat against Indigenous treaty resources in Wisconsin and Michigan, and it is unlikely to improve the region's travel appeal in the eyes of publications like Fodor's.

2) Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10x as much to Michigan's economy as mining does.

OUTDOOR RECREATION	MINING
MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION **Outdoor economy hits new high in Michigan; diverse industry demonstrates growth and resilience** Kathleen Achtenberg — Monday, November 27, 2023 Michigan's outdoor recreation economy continues to soar, according to 2022 economic data just released by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). Overall, outdoor recreation has a powerful and positive economic impact on the U.S. economy, and the outdoor recreation economy in Michigan grew an impressive 11.8 percent from 2021 to 2022. This year's report shows that outdoor recreation provided $12.36 billion in value added for Michigan in 2022, and supported nearly 119,000 jobs in a wide range of occupations and skills, including design and manufacturing, retail sales, and hospitality.	Bridge MICHIGAN — March 6, 2023 We have been a mining state for more than 125 years, with production totaling about $50 billion since the mid-1990s. The National Mining Association reports that mining supports approximately 9,000 direct jobs in Michigan and 17,000 indirect and induced jobs. Mining contributes roughly $1 billion to the state's GDP annually.

At the juncture of Lake Superior, Porcupine Mountains State Park, and the North Country Trail, Copperwood would introduce noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting and heavy industrial traffic into the heart of one of the most beloved outdoor recreation areas in the Midwest. Additionally, the waste containment facility, measuring 244 football fields in area and 20 feet taller than the Statue of Liberty in height, would be visible from multiple scenic overlooks, including Copper Peak and Lake of the Clouds.

Why fund a short-lived boom-and-bust operation which could undermine strong-and-sustained outdoor recreation by disrupting the experience of pristine nature that is its foundation? And how exactly is this in keeping with the MEDC's "Pure Michigan" campaign?

From:	Jeff Tenza
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Please block mining near Porcupine Mountains
Date:	Tuesday, February 27, 2024 7:50:06 AM

Hello,

While it may seem like we need to mine every resource as fast as possible, by destroying our natural resources in the process we are actually shooting ourselves in the foot. We don't need all the products we buy. We need clean water.

Halt mining anywhere near Lake Superior until we can figure out a cleaner way to do it!

Thank you for protecting our homeland Michigan.

Jeff

From: Jane Fitkin
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Please Deny Highland Copper"s Request For Funding
Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 4:09:56 PM

Hello,

I am a resident of Marquette, MI and a lifelong Michigander. I am contacting you today to urge you and the Michigan Strategic Fund Board to deny Highland Copper and the Copperwood Mine project's request for a $50 million grant for the following reasons:

1. Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history, placing a heavy threat to the cleanest, coldest, and largest of the Great Lakes. Copper sulfide mines always contaminate, and the dam around the tailings pond, which will sit on a slope with tributaries leading directly to the Lake, is susceptible to failure.

2. The chosen location for the Copperwood Mine is not "the middle of nowhere", as many believe. Rather, it sits at the juncture of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior, some of the most spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the country.

3. There is a petition circulating <https://www.change.org/p/protect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine?utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=custom_url&recruited_by_id=a6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0> in opposition to the Mine project that currently has over 11,000 signatures. 11,000 is greater than the populations of the closest three towns to the Mine combined (Wakefield, Bessemer, and Ironwood). Contrary to what you have been told, social license for this project is far from universal.

4. Outdoor recreation contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually; mining, around $1 billion. An operating mine would disrupt this thriving outdoor recreation area with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic. Current construction for the Mine is visible from the North Country trail, the nation's newest designated National Scenic Trail. There's nothing scenic about a Mine and its associated tailings pond.

5. Copper's designation as a critical mineral is political play, as copper is truly NOT a critical mineral <https://www.eenews.net/articles/usgs-rejects-push-to-make-copper-a-critical-mineral/> due to the high ability to mitigate any supply chain disruptions through "domestic capacity, trade with reliable partners, and significant secondary capacity." Therefore, there is no urgent need to fund this project.

6. The Detroit News article published on January 30 about the consideration of this grant states that over the life of the Copperwood Mine, it would produce enough copper to supply 3,500 EV batteries. This is a horribly small output to consider endangering the health of the Earth's largest freshwater lake, which millions of people rely on for clean drinking water. For scale, consider the town of Ironwood, which is 25 miles from the proposed Mine site and has a population of roughly 5,000. Over the lifetime of the Mine, it would barely produce enough batteries to supply the small town with EVs. This drop in the bucket is not worth a $50 million investment.

I appreciate you taking the time to read my comments and would like to reiterate the need to DENY Highland Copper's grant request. Thank you also to those MSF Board Members who have expressed doubts about the funding; it would have been tragic to see $50 million of public money go to a mining interest without public knowledge. The health of Lake Superior, and really all of our Great Lakes as Lake Superior flows into the rest, depends on your decision to DENY the grant.

Regards,

Jane Fitkin
Director of Outreach
jane@citizensforsuperior.org <mailto:jane@citizensforsuperior.org>
Pronouns: she/they

Citizens for a Safe & Clean Lake Superior
P.O. Box 83
Marquette, MI 49855

<https://us01.z.antigena.com/l/EixLVcDQZwwo6dQvIUencpO1ExP9FOlewOziEao0kkeXFNeEH-cfIx0tAO-VPSkRfOGEYWDxxOFyEfI4kFEFkWWJNtH9M9NJgOLQXe4COMxJ2Yvui-R4KAdsHwJFwQAfKAJdm1NwD7xLsFHDgCyuwznpM8BjPORpQAPlWfX0Ou0q0RK5HrSgi~sA>

From:	Ezra Riley
To:	MEDC MSF Comments; ron@euclidindustries.com; ronbeebe49@aol.com; LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Quentin Messer (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Please Do Not Support Copperwood
Date:	Thursday, February 1, 2024 1:46:39 PM

Hello,
I am writing in my strongest opposition to MEDC supporting the proposed Copperwood mining project. I own a small parcel of land in Gogebic County and I am strongly invested in the continued development of the area. Creating a sulfide mine right next to Lake Superior is not the way to support the region! There is absolutely not wide public buy-in for this project, as is clear by a petition on change.org that has over 11,000 signatures opposing the mine. That's more than the population of the three closest communities and over 75% of the population of all of Gogebic County.
The mine site would not only be right next to Lake Superior, our largest source of fresh water, it would also adjoin the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness and the North Country Trail, putting at great risk all of these fantastic recreation areas. It's worth pointing out that annually Michigan makes over $10 billion from recreational activities and only $1 billion in mining. The placement of this mine would risk the current recreation and tourist dollars in the areas and contribute very little in the long run to the local economy.
Please do not support this ill thought out short term endeavor that will provide very little benefit and brings so much risk to our future.

Thank you,

Ezra Riley

Virus-free.www.avast.com

From: Joe C.
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Please no copper mine
Date: Friday, March 22, 2024 10:49:49 AM

To whom it may concern

I am writing to oppose the permitting of a copper mine in the porcupine mountains. The ecological destruction that will occur far out ways any financial benefit to the state, which is minimal in the first place. We can not in good faith continue to put profits in front of common sense and preservation of natural resources. Please do not allow this mind to happen.

Thank you for your time

Joe Chamberlin
Portage,MI

From: Joe C.
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Please no copper mine
Date: Friday, March 22, 2024 10:49:49 AM

To whom it may concern

I am writing to oppose the permitting of a copper mine in the porcupine mountains. The ecological destruction that will occur far out ways any financial benefit to the state, which is minimal in the first place. We can not in good faith continue to put profits in front of common sense and preservation of natural resources. Please do not allow this mind to happen.

Thank you for your time

Joe Chamberlin
Portage,MI

From:	Chris Hinze
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Please OPPOSE Canadain Highland Copper project
Date:	Tuesday, February 6, 2024 9:30:58 PM

Dear Members of the MSF Board,

Thank you all for your service to the State of Michigan.

I am writing with a request that you OPPOSE the proposed Strategic Site Readiness Program grant for $50,000,000 for Canadian company, Highland Copper.

Canada's Highland Copper is proposing a copper sulfide mine immediately adjacent to Michigan's Porcupine Mountain Wilderness State Park and the North Country National Scenic Trail. The mine is also located within the Lake Superior watershed.

Unfortunately, copper sulfide mining has a terrible track record in terms of pollution. The proposed mine by Canadian Highland Copper will pollute Michiagn's environment and will cause irreparable harm to the forests, lakes, rivers, streams, and local inhabitants of the area.

According to this recent MEDC article, outdoor recreation contributes over $10 billion dollars and over 100,000 jobs to Michigan's economy. A large copper sulfide mine near one of Michigan's most popular outdoor recreation areas will certainly cause harm to our State's economy by reducing the quality of outdoor recreation in this area.

Please tell Canadian Highland Copper that Michigan values protecting our natural resources and a strong Michigan economy over the profits of a Canadian copper company. Please say NO THANKS to Highland Copper.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chris Hinze
Traverse City, MI

From:	Taylor Landeryou
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Please Oppose Copperwood Grant
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 1:55:37 PM

As a lifelong resident of Michigan and a current inhabitant of the Upper Peninsula, I am writing to ask that you deny the Copperwood project grant.
Firstly, this is a large grant (half a billion) for a project that will only last 11 years. This study on the economic impact of mining shows that only 25% of mines lead to long-term economic benefit for communities; therefore, it is unlikely that this grant would create any meaningful economic revitalization.

However, what is certain and will be long-lasting, is the devastating impacts to our natural resources. In addition to the priceless ecosystem services they provide, this area (the juncture of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior) is one of the most spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the country. Outdoor recreation contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually. Operating a mine would disrupt this thriving outdoor recreation area with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic, in addition to contamination of our precious waterways. Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history and poses tremendous detriment to this magnificent body of water.

Please oppose the grant for Highland Copper.

Sincerely,
Taylor

From:	Tiffany Rune Cuthrell
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	ron@euclidindustries.com; ronbeebe49@aol.com; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants; gretchen.whitmer@michigan.gov
Subject:	Please oppose the Copperwood Mine
Date:	Thursday, February 1, 2024 9:15:12 PM

Dear Board Members and friends,

I am wholeheartedly urging you to please not support the grant for Copperwood Mine. I am a resident of the upper peninsula and am worried about this possibility.

The mine would be a significant light, noise and chemical polluter that would be a severe detriment to the peaceful life of the UP, as well as to the thriving tourism that contributes billions to our state economy annually. By contrast, only 25% of mines lead to long-term economic benefit.
Folks here in the upper peninsula literally live and die by the local tourism industry. Travelers come from around the world to gaze at the stars, hike pristine trails and see our breathtaking Great Lakes.
Instead, travelers and residents would be shaken from their moments of peace by subterranean blasts, industrial traffic, other noise and light pollution. The beautiful night sky would be overcome.
Michigan cannot afford to jeopardize this for a dangerous and short-term project for a non-critical material.

Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior that has ever existed. The lake shared between the US and Canada needs to be protected, not polluted.
Our Great Lakes and delicate ecosystems need to be guarded from development like this.

Please understand that 11,000 people have already signed a petition against this grant moving forward. Michigan residents do not want Highland Copper (a foreign company) ravaging these beautiful lakes and lands in the name of profit.
Additionally, the copper would be transported to Canada for processing, which would mean a large chunk of the highest paying jobs would go to workers outside of Michigan, and outside of the US.

I am urging you to please not allow Copperwood Mine to move forward.
Thank you for making the right decision for Michigan residents, travelers and our beautiful planet as a whole.

Thank you for your time.

All the very best,

Rune Cuthrell
Manistique, Michigan

From:	robin
To:	MEDC MSF Comments; LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Quentin Messer (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Please protect Michigan and Lake superior from mining
Date:	Friday, February 2, 2024 5:49:33 PM

To whom it may concern,

Please protect the Porkies from dangerous mining. Copper is not a critical mineral. Many areas in Michigan were polluted with copper mining in the past and are still contaminated today. Lake Superior holds 10% of the world's freshwater and should be protected at all costs. Also outdoor recreation brings Michigan 10 billion dollars every year. Mining only brings about 1 billion annually. I am concerned that foreign corporations will not care about our resources because they do not live here. Please protect the state and water for future generations. Water is life.

Sincerely,
Robin Roach

From:	Marty E.
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	Quentin Messer (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Please reject Highland Copper's Grant request
Date:	Wednesday, January 31, 2024 12:49:36 PM

Good Morning,

As a citizen of Gogebic County, and a small business owner, I implore you to reject Highland Copper's grant request.

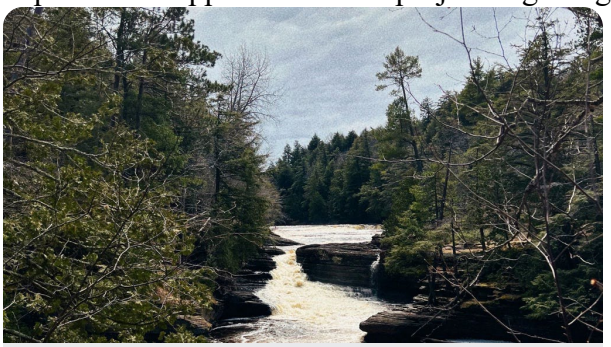
My business depends on the pristine Porcupine Wilderness State Park, as well as Lake Superior.

The environmental impacts of such a project simply aren't worth the risks to the local environment and the lake. For example - with "once in a century" weather events happening more and more frequently, that tailings dam doesn't seem trustworthy. Do you really want to risk having Lake Superior irreparably contaminated on your watch?

I think that the amount of jobs that this project would bring to the area is overstated.

I presume you're aware of the economic impact for the state of recreation and tourism. Why would you put that at risk for 3500 EV batteries?

A petition in opposition to the project is getting toward 12,000 signatures:



Sign the Petition
change.org

This website explains why better than I can:



Protect the Porkies
protecttheporkies.com

We don’t need an inexperienced Canadian mining company ruining this pristine area, then taking their profits back to Canada in ten years, leaving us with the mess.

Marty Erspamer
Bessemer, MI

Sent from my iBrain

From:	jason howes
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	PLEASE STOP COPPERWOOD MINE!!!
Date:	Wednesday, March 27, 2024 4:01:48 PM

Hi,

My name is Jason Howes. I am a Michigan resident and I currently live between Big Bay and Marquette here in the upper Peninsula. I am an educator and small business owner. I have had the opportunity to live all over the world. But it is the freshwater, and natural wilderness of the UP that has drawn me back to this part of the state.

I am writing to you to express my ***strong opposition*** for the Copperwood and White Pine mining proposals near the Porcupine Wilderness area in the western UP.

I'm listening to the public comments from this morning's meeting. Many people in support of the mine argue that it will "create high paying jobs" and boost the economy of the area.

After the Egle Mine went in here next to Big Bay, we have seen no new businesses move to the area. Not a single new business. Most of the jobs are NOT local jobs. These mining companies are huge multinational companies and the "jobs" they create are usually filled by people out of state or out of the country. These companies are literally extracting billions of dollars from the area, and the majority of the money IS NOT STAYING LOCALLY!

Furthermore, the mine is going to be in operation for at most 10 years. This is not the "long term" investment that we need in the Upper Peninsula.

Since the mine went in here in Big Bay, large mining trucks drive down County Road 550 every 7 minutes. The dark sky west of Big Bay is now glowing with light pollution from the mine. The headwaters of the Salmon Trout River (the last river on the south shore of Lake Superior with native coaster brook trout) continue to be at risk.

Our freshwater, our forests, our wilderness, our lakes and our streams: These are our most precious and valuable natural resources. The UP has some of the last protected wilderness in the state. And I would argue, that is a big reason people travel to the UP.

DO NOT USE $50 MILLION IN PUBLIC TAX DOLLARS TO FUND A MINE THAT HAS THE POTENTIAL TO DESTROY PORCUPINE WILDERNESS AND THE SURROUNDING FRESH WATER!!

THESE RESOURCES ARE IRREPLACEABLE!!!

Jason Howes

--
Jason O Howes

From:	Terry Grace
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Porcupine Mountains
Date:	Monday, March 11, 2024 7:12:59 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

The Porkies are the premier Wilderness in the Midwest. Hiking through stands of old growth forests in the Pokies has been one of the joys of my life! The idea of giving $50 million of tax payer money to subsidize the destruction of that environment is incomprehensible! Expand the Park, not desecrate it.

Terry Grace
Watersmeet Township

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

From: Mike Bradley
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Porkies mining
Date: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:54:34 PM

Please don't allow this. The risk is not worth it.
Mike

From: Lisa Hendrickson
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Porkies
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 2:37:48 PM

Please do not vote for a grant for a copper mine in the Porkies. I'm from Ironwood, live in southeast Wisconsin and own a small blueberry farm in Ironwood on the lake. This would seriously endanger Lake Superior - its wildlife, waters and recreational opportunities.
Thank you
Lisa Hendrickson
True North Berry Farm

From: Hawley, Dan
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Preserve the ECONOMY and BEAUTY of the UP!!
Date: Monday, February 26, 2024 8:36:52 PM

To whom it may concern,

Please reject the "grant" to the Copperwood Mine! This hazardous project threatens everything wonderful about the UP. The pristine wilderness is very reason we and many others chose to come up and enjoy the area. We spend money, invest in property and support local businesses!!

All our friends and family who do the same (invest in the local community and enjoy the outdoors), feel the same! Outdoor activities and tourism are powerful economic drivers.

Providing financial assistance to an organization which negatively impacts the very nature of what the UP is, would be an imprudent and potentially disastrous decision…both economically and environmentally. Please reject the project.

Respectfully,

Dan Hawley, CPWA®
Managing Director
Senior Investment Consultant

Private Wealth Management
1539 W. Market St.
Mequon, WI, 53092
Direct: 262-240-3521
Toll Free: 800-711-6132
Dhawley@rwbaird.com www.HawleyWealthManagement.com
Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated does not accept buy, sell or other transaction orders by e-mail, or any instructions by e-mail that require a signature. This e-mail message, and any attachment(s), is not an offer, or solicitation of an offer, to buy or sell any security or other product. Unless otherwise specifically indicated, information contained in this communication is not an official confirmation of any transaction or an official statement of Baird. The information provided is subject to change without notice. This e-mail may contain privileged or confidential information or may otherwise be protected by law, rule or regulation. Any use, copying or distribution of the information contained in this e-mail by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender, and delete the material from any computer on which it exists. Baird, in accordance with applicable law, reserves the right to monitor, review and retain all electronic communications, including e-mails, traveling through its networks and systems. E-mail transmissions cannot be guaranteed to be secure, timely or error-free. Baird therefore recommends that you do not send any sensitive information such as account or personal identification numbers by e-mail.

Please click here <https://us01.z.antigena.com/l/lrnSdyOi6GDEsWAVDW-AeP8l09-tXiRrubkCxTX_SkVFu5i~cX_CVpn7rWk1SX_kCwVN7SXaOkinCHfjEAdGMsmnww4yBEFpQD4r7cj0s2_CILPddThh2GlETO-0q_ynQ7iwindivHZg5decFaBgg5soKVl_YKSDmguF565mIXUvWkmGx0qNJ2UGwAJAzmUSSjlW0m9R9nw592I0HYHJ6~hw07anWce~nFara7KEO1zlbh for important information about any client reports you receive.

From:	Patricia Hammel
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Proposed grant to Copperwood mining project in the Upper Peninsula
Date:	Sunday, March 24, 2024 8:02:49 PM

I live in northeastern Wisconsin and enjoy camping, hiking and visiting the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, specifically the area in the western side of Porcupine Mountains State Park and Little Girls' Point north of Ironwood.

It seems like if the Copperwood mining project was so economically productive they would not need a big grant from the State of Michigan to lure investors and do the work to obtain permits and construct the project.

It's too close to Lake Superior to risk sulfide mine waste in the greatest lake of them all. The Porcupine Mountains are unique in the upper Midwest, where I have lived all of my life.

I would stop visiting the Presque Isle area if there was a big tailings dam next to it.

Patricia K. Hammel
809 N Hogan Street
Antigo WI 54409
pkhammel@yahoo.com
(608) 279-4136 cell

From: Thaisa Rantanen
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Proposed Mine Near The Porcupine Mountains
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 9:50:39 PM

I'm writing to ask that you not approve this mine near our beloved Porcupine Mountains. This is one of the jewels in the crown of natural treasures in the world. And it houses some of the last remaining old growth forests in North America... not to mention it's close proximity to our beautiful Lake Superior. There are some things that are worth more than money and this is one of them, please don't ruin it with a mine and all the horror of environmental destruction that it will inevitably bring to these natural wonders.
Sincerely,
Thaisa Rantanen, Concerned Michigan Resident

From:	Troy Fishler
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Protect the Porkies, Protect Lake Superior— Stop the Copperwood Mine!!!
Date:	Monday, February 26, 2024 12:36:34 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I adamantly oppose this proposed mining project for Michigan's Upper Peninsula. If this mine happens it will only provide jobs for ten years, and will only produce enough copper for 3500 e-car batteries. It will leave a tailings pile right near lake superior and right on the west edge of the porkies forever. The company has already diverted and filled in streams despite not having enough investors to mine. Stop this proposes mine from happening!!

Troy Fishler

From:	Richard Dragiewicz
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	Dragiewicz Dick
Subject:	Protect the Porkies...Deny the Copperwood Grant Request
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 11:10:21 AM

Hello Members of the Michigan Strategic Fund,

Am writing to ask you to deny the $50,000,000 Copperwood Grant Request. There are many reasons to deny it.

Copperwood's Feasibility Study shows the many times mining companies attempted to develop this site. They all failed. Why? Did Copperwood's CEO, Barry O'Shea tell you why? It's probably the same reasons the mining investor market doesn't want to put any money into this project. It'll be a failure. Look at all the money Copperwood has spent and it doesn't have anything.

Speaking of money, Copperwood is asking the State of Michigan to GIVE them $50,000,000. If they can't obtain money from the investor market there must be good reasons. These same good reasons say you should DENY their grant request. Do you know why the investor market won't provide equity/debt to Copperwood? Did you ask them?

Why would you want to be known as the creators of a NEW Michigan Superfund site? Michigan already has 64 Superfund sites. Remember that Copperwood's ore excavation will only produce 1.45% minerals…and it will produce 98.55% contaminated WASTE. This waste will be stored on site FOREVER. Forever is a long time. Who is going to manage and maintain this 300 acre site? Who will pay for its maintenance? Will you be paying for the clean up that will be necessary? Probably not.

Lake Superior is a tremendous water resource that we all need. We don't need Barry O'Shea to make money by damaging/destroying Lake Superior's clean water.

Shut this project down and Protect the Porkies…this is more important than Barry O'Shea's checkbook.

Am asking you to deny the Copperwood Grant Request.

Thanks,

Dick Dragiewicz
Michigan Tourist from Illinois
obiobiobi@ameritech.net
847-924-9299

From:	Kayla Slavey
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Protect the Porkies
Date:	Wednesday, January 31, 2024 5:25:33 PM

Good afternoon,

I am writing after hearing the disturbing & disappointing news that the Copperwood project is being considered for a grant. As a Michigan resident & tax payer, I strongly oppose this move. Aside from a resident & tax payer, I am also an advocate for protecting our natural spaces, so many of which have been disrupted and mangled by human intervention. The mine poses a significant risk to the local wildlife as well as local residents and it is all of our duty as stewards of this land to protect it from further debasing. I urge you to not fund this project, to consider deeply the effects that this project can have on local wildlife, and to respect your duties to the public.

Thank you.
Kayla Slavey,
Life long Michigan resident & Michigan lover

From: Annalise Povolo
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Protect the Porkies
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2024 8:54:32 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express my vehement opposition to the proposed $50 million grant to allow Highland Copper to use our tax dollars to benefit a Canadian company. The risk to our natural resources is too severe for the minimal benefit to Michigan workers.

Please do not set this precedent.

Sincerely,
Annalise Povolo
Traverse City, MI

From: Jenifer Pruim
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Protect the Porkies
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 11:10:23 AM

Dear Decision Maker,

I very recently heard of the proposed grant for the Copperwood Mine next to the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park. For me, this immediately struck a chord because another pristine place with clean water and undisturbed nature that I love, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in Minnesota, recently went through a similar plight of a proposed copper and nickel mine adjacent to the protected land. During that time, I read about copper mines and I learned that they always pollute. And now I have learned there is a similar mine proposed in my home state near the Porcupine Mountains. Such a treasure of natural beauty as the Porcupine Mountains as well as the clean Lake Superior waters are not at all the place to put a copper mine that will have a containment facility 244 football fields in area and that history shows always pollutes.

While we do need copper, I stress that our state and the world as a whole needs to seriously look at the sites where we choose to expose the land and waters to toxic waste. We need to protect areas like the Porcupine Mountains and Lake Superior. Instead of offering a 50 million dollar grant to a mining project next to one of Michigan's treasured forests and waters, I recommend that governments choose sites with less risk to waters and treasured land with pristine old growth forests. Instead of offering 50 million dollars to a copper mine, governments should begin to incentivize recycling copper so that it becomes cheaper to recycle copper than to mine it.

The cost to the Porcupine Mountains and Lake Superior are far too great to allow mining here. There would be a great and lasting impact of toxic material in the area, not to mention the noise pollution, light pollution, containment facility eyesore and heavy machinery traffic which would greatly impact the experience of those going to the Porcupine Mountains to find solace, beauty, and splendor in one of the states few undisturbed places.

The result of the people rising up to advocate for protection of the Boundary Waters in Minnesota finally succeeded when in 2023 a Federal Law was passed protecting the area from mining for 20 years because "some places are simply too special to mine. It is our obligation to ensure these valuable lands and waters remain intact for generations to come." - Betty McCollum, 4th district Representative, Minnesota.

I strongly urge and deeply hope that the State of Michigan will recognize the value and importance of protecting the Porcupine Mountains and that it will, like the Boundary Waters of Minnesota, be safe from the toxic, risky and forever changed impact of a copper mine next door. As a taxpayer, I am appalled that our government would possibly give a grant to a mining company to mine so close to such a treasure. I desire that instead of a grant, the State of Michigan protects the area. Protecting the Porcupine Mountains is the wise decision for now and generations to come environmentally, economically, aesthetically, and recreationally.

Please listen to all the opinions and comments and read the statistics and data about copper mines shared by my fellow protectors and consider greatly the questions raised and the

irreversible impact of a copper mine.

Sincerely,

Jenifer Pruim
Grand Rapids, MI

From:	Jessica Singleton
Cc:	wilforde@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants; wieferichb@michigan.gov; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; crothstein@gmail.com; crothstein@beringea.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com; eubanksr@michigan.gov; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; Quentin Messer (MEDC); MEDC MSF Comments; LockwoodA@michigan.gov
Subject:	Protect The Porkies
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 8:00:11 PM

Hello, I'm writing on behalf of the spectacular Porcupine Mountains and ask you to assist in keeping that area and all areas around the Porkies free from mining. As an avid hiker, naturalist, and educator it truly breaks my heart that the fate of the Porkies are in jeopardy. Below I'm sharing a piece of information from the petition that I found interesting about the economic impact of outdoor recreation on our state. I can only imagine how much the Porkies contribute to that wonderful amount.

"Outdoor recreation contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually; mining, around $1 billion. An operating mine would disrupt this thriving outdoor recreation area with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic."

Thank you for your time.

Jessica Singleton
Nature Loving Yooper

From: Shaina Levee
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Protect the Porkies
Date: Thursday, March 21, 2024 12:17:44 PM

Please no industry in the mountains. I am very much against this proposition. The ecosystem is delicate and there is too much destruction on Earth. We need to preserve our mountains.

Shaina Levee

From: T Mo
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Protect the Porkies
Date: Thursday, March 21, 2024 5:24:26 PM

As a northern border states & great lakes lover .... who looks forward to & spends tourist time & money, please protect the Porcupine Mtns from mining & any degradation. Thanks
Sent from my iPhone

From:	Taylor Cassidy
To:	miag@michigan.gov; MEDC MSF Comments; rachelhood@house.mi.gov; senhuizenga@senate.michigan.gov
Subject:	Protect the Porkies
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 11:23:09 AM

Dear decision maker,

I am utterly repulsed hearing the news that there is a 50 million dollar grant proposal to build a copper mine in such close proximity to Lake Superior. 30+ million tons of toxic waste sloping towards our Great Lake is absolutely ridiculous. I do not want my tax dollars funding this. Copper mines are known to ALWAYS pollute. It's not a matter of if it's a matter of when.

Do we have no respect for our environment and our state? The largest freshwater lake on earth is at risk due to what? Capitalism? I'm disgusted.

Do the right thing and deny this from happening.

Taylor Cassidy
Grand Rapids, MI

From:	Patrick Booth
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Protecting the Porkies and our beloved Lake Superior
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 11:09:10 AM

To whom it may concern.

The beauty and wonder of Michigan's Upper Peninsula is at risk of a devastating new mining location. This potential $50 million grant could be better used to bolster hard hit economies during this past year's slow winter, help maintain and revitalize our parks and forests, rivers, and streams, lakeshore and communities to help combat a growing population and growing tourism base.
To rip and tear, and ravage our natural landscape for a short term money fall is incredibly disrespectful to our planet, and to the people and animals who live here.
Please reconsider the impact this potential mining operation will have on our beloved north coast.

Patrick Booth (he/him)
saxophonist. composer. educator
Conn-Selmer Artist-Clinician
Cusack Music Effects Pedals endorser
REMIC Microphones Artist

-The ability to seek possibilities;
there is nothing more special than that-Wadada Leo Smith

From:	Gene Champagne
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Public Comment Copperwood Project
Date:	Monday, February 26, 2024 8:02:46 PM
Attachments:	MSF_Public Comment_2-27-24.pdf

Please find my comments below and attached.

February 26, 2024

To: Michigan Strategic Fund Board

I would much rather be giving public comment at your February 27, 2024 meeting, however I am the precinct chairman for my township for the Michigan Presidential Primary and will not be able to comment live.

My comments are in regard to the potential 50 million dollar grant that the board is considering for Highland Copper's mining project in the western Upper Peninsula. As an Upper Peninsula resident and a Michigan taxpayer I have great concerns for the use of taxpayer dollars for such a risky project, owned by a foreign company, that has failed to attract enough investors over the last ten years to move forward.

The money would be better spent supporting emergent industries. Mining is not an emergent industry, especially in the Upper peninsula where copper and iron reserves have been mined for over 170 years. The western UP would benefit more with this type of funding to support broadband, digital businesses, and digital security training programs that could be easily offered programming at Gogebic Community College. These types of investment would be far reaching and provide a skilled work force for a much in demand emerging industry, provide long-term jobs and economic stability to a region that has faced generational poverty fueled by the boom and bust cycles of mining.

While the reasons for being unattractive to private investors may be multi-faceted, the main probable reason that pops up in my mind is the very real risks associated with this project. The proposed mining project sits between two wild rivers that flow into Lake Superior and border the Porcupine Mountain State Park, Michigan's largest park and wilderness area. This type of mining is inherently risky and becomes insanely risky when located near bodies of surface or underground water.

Of course other risk actors may have driven private investment away also, such as track record, financial reserves, potential lawsuits and the list could go on. The main reason for my comments is that tax payer monies should not be spent to prop up a risky project by a foreign company that will have a short term economic impact. The money amount discussed for this project would be better spent in the community strengthening emergent industries in alternative energy, cyber security, and digital start ups that will pay good wages and offer skills training for those industries.

Respectfully,

Gene Champagne Big Bay, MI 49808

From: Mike McGrath
To: MIDC_MSF Comments
Subject: Public Comment for 2-27-24
Date: Monday, February 26, 2024 3:54:55 PM

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board,

I oppose the funding of Highland Copper's proposed Copperwood Mine in the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park. One reason is that the copper grade is only about 1.5%. Why should Michigan fund a foreign company that expects to only produce mineral scraps? Why is it that Highland Copper and similar companies, such as Polymet in Minnesota, are interested in mining for scraps rather than recycling? The U.S. is recycling 33% of its copper compared to Europe's rate of 66%. Furthermore, recycling copper uses 85% less energy than recycling, which means that powering a recycling plant is much cheaper than powering a mine. There is no reason for Michigan to fund Highland Copper's proposed mine when there are 1.1 trillion pounds of copper above ground waiting to be recycled.

A second reason for my opposition is simply that the Porcupine Mountains are home to many beautiful and important plants and animals including the endangered wood turtle. Turtles are very important indicators of a healthy environment, they transport seeds, their eggs are important food for other animals, they keep the soil healthy, and more. It would be a shame for Michigan to contribute to the development of the Porcupine Mountains and the decline of vulnerable organisms such as the wood turtle, which would not only indicate a decline in the health of the environment, but also a decline in the health of humanity inside and outside the Great Lakes region.

Thank you for your consideration,
Michael McGrath

Supplemental Materials:
https://ua01.z.antigena.com/l/wh-tIkbUioNIzK8mcFztal5cunjHwyZrfVulx5KhpzBRNvUcjJkGo3YITr8ACfBBHRHW9fuUNQN1kZhF2HfOqytKXpyf5RPyS Y_cMhcnMMQrLiAU8R-8mVJyqcDgZO87T_jcuT5_kTajvMqtNAqJn4sMPN_EmrInOYee7ptetF--rmeE4jArBtpEvpdZp4e6xlibmuZJ-ua-rOLVR-_7nhdUsHKU-XMSGHXfiO98mcGLyJKVWnu-4SDPhqoBWWcl

https://ua01.z.antigena.com/l/CuR31Laqvyll837C1I5s9JuiBaBlyZeza7~_eD5wdSPduh4t0GlWlJvAs9IRrWGU~hIsAPZAeWUTqmxhTuWqcRSOzhYa4q9_Ijmvu4KMQZExdjKMJn1Amii3X~4-jDUg77TjL5p7DPvHv0WUL~sLQfM0Qno7mE2hFg_u7ly3HuGtVoRQ9VTBS9WORlrbtkM~wv4~77

https://www.fws.gov/species/wood-turtle-glyptemys-insculpta

mongabay.com
<https://ua01.z.antigena.com/l/CV_wrIBXtEBaE3mcIcwsQTlZTuR6HvcPOOCHHNwpKQsjzKU7gJ7Nun3IQyGUyR7f51GHMDXzoCuHMbopopsVIIcBiqxDzBbFdMCnoPeMa6bA7dF9GaWFd5c53R4o-ax_W1-4q6Pl5fLmvyowSTPcMFhcX9I3nPyTGOqgzy8ujV7Kd22Sk2wAMwxOB8xnVeDf5OZxYkwkWY2ArDtmMt4G711tCesU62mMp4ydhs8GfN1AWpWxMJ6gnf0zH65j8dTkqk2FHG6q3DQJf8fheJyujEZtZeVdTh>

From:	Jessica Ferris
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Public comment for Feb 27th MSF board meeting
Date:	Sunday, February 25, 2024 1:38:24 PM

Hello,

I have reviewed January 30th Meeting Notes and found the Copperwood Grant proposal, as submitted by Vicki Schwab and Erik Wilford, to be inaccurate on many points.

1) The grant request claims that "Copper was recently added as a critical mineral." — This is demonstrably false. In 2023 copper was denied an upgrade to "critical mineral status" by the US Geological Status, the highest authority in the land.

2) The request claims that, "Reconstruction of County Road 519 will allow year-round access to Porcupine Mountains State Park." — As someone who lives on County Road 519, I can tell you it is already a year-round road which is plowed after snowfall, and one can already drive all the way to the State Park. So they are citing a benefit which is already very much in place. What they are really seeking is a road which will endure heavy industrial mining traffic, deceptively framed in the name of the public good.

3) The request claims that "the community has met with great support and excitement." — False. Highland Copper met with local city councils, consisting of four or five members, at unadvertised meetings, completely unknown to the public. A great many locals DO NOT support this project, and there is an online petition with over 12,000 signatures opposing the mine — that's only 2,000 shy of the entire population of Gogebic County.

4) The request claims, "The project will result in significant job creation and capital investment revitalizing a blighted community." — It's very easy to paint a rosy picture when applying for funding, but what does reality suggest? A study titled, "Mining the Data: Analyzing the Economic Implications of Mining for Nonmetropolitan Regions," from the University of Madison, reviewed literally all of the relevant quantitative findings on mining and found that only 29% of cases resulted in meaningful economic benefit to the community, and half of those cases occurred before 1982.

5) The request correctly claims, "The economic decline of the region started with the closure of the White Pine Mine." — This is the nature of boom-and-bust operations and is not a point in favor of opening a new mine. Copperwood would run for only eleven years, and then any short-term growth would be followed by long-lasting decline.

6) The request claims, "The project would result in the creation of up to 380 new jobs." — This is asserted as a fact, but we all know how easy it is to tweak a model to arrive at different outcomes. How is it that, five years ago, Highland Copper projected 250 mining jobs, and today, just before applying for a State grant, that figure has conveniently shot up to 380? Please do not confuse models with truth.

7) The request states, "Copper concentrate will be transferred onto rail for shipment to the smelter." Is the MSF aware that the proposed smelters are in Canada, Europe, or Asia? So many of the best paying jobs will not go to Michiganders.

In the interest of brevity I will conclude my message now, but suffice it to say, the presence of these inaccuracies and half-truths in the grant request should immediately disqualify it for consideration.

Sincerely,
Jessica Ferris

From: Karen Grotewohl
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: public comment for February 27th board meeting
Date: Friday, February 23, 2024 11:52:47 AM

I truly hope that the board decides to forgo this plan to waste a huge money grant on a copper mine that will devastate the outdoor recreation economy in our community of Gogebic county. As a landowner with a lakeside cabin on Superior, I am dreading the effects of such a mine (which are already apparent with the increased truck traffic and grinding noises.) on my family's ability to make a living from our rental cabin in the future.

Please say NO WAY!
Thank you, Karen Grotewohl
Wakefield, Michigan

From: Sol Anzorena
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Public comment for February 27th MSF Board Meeting
Date: Sunday, February 18, 2024 4:51:31 PM

Copperwood would not be a copper mine at all, because copper will be only 1.5% of the extracted material. The remaining 98.5% will be mine waste, loaded with sulfides and heavy metals, comprising 30+ million tons in total, to be stored in unprecedented proximity to Lake Superior in something called a Tailings Disposal Facility. TDFs are far from invincible. Even in First World countries with strict environmental regulations there have been ruptures. Attached is an article on the Doñana Disaster in southern Spain, when a tailings dam ruptured and spilled 5 million tons of toxic waste into the Guadiamar River, then travelling 25 miles to contaminate one of the most important National Parks in Europe. Copperwood is right next door not just to Lake Superior, but also Porcupine Mountains State Park, the most beloved State Park in Michigan. The parallels are eerie. Cleanup of the Doñana Disaster cost over 240 million euros. So while you may be paying $50 million today to fund Copperwood, Michigan taxpayers may be paying far more in the future to clean up the mess.

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Do%C3%B1ana_disaster

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0048969798002903

From: Darren Aranofsky
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: public comment for MSF
Date: Sunday, February 25, 2024 4:19:15 PM

Hello,

I am a resident of a town near the mine site. I can tell you that despite what you may have heard from the mining company, there is far from universal support for this project. Any support largely comes from the oldest generation, which, let's be honest, may not be around for much longer. We know that, in a time of changing climate, folks from all over the country are moving to the Lake Superior region. As city centers like Marquette become crowded and unaffordable, people will move to less inhabited regions of the Upper Peninsula. Younger folks like myself are specifically seeking areas with pristine nature, far from contaminating operations. The grant proposal cites Gogebic County's median age as 49. Well, if you want to inspire a younger demographic to populate this area, start by not funding a metallic sulfide mine right next door to the most beautiful State Park in America.

The grant proposal says that the tailings disposal facility will remain on-site permanently, "but it won't be noticeable because it will be revegetated." This is inaccurate. The TDF is projected to be 171 feet high—that's 20 feet taller than the Statue of Liberty. It will tower over the landscape and be visible from Copper Peak, the North Country Trail, and the Lake of the Cloud Overlook. Regardless of whether they plant some bushes on top, folks will know forever what they are looking at, and it will ruin these incredible views.

There are so many downsides to this project — some of them quite alarming — but they are very complex and can't be communicated in a 3-minute public comment window. I urge you to set up a meeting with local opposition groups like ProtectThePorkies to hear their concerns in a longer format. People will not be content if you make a decision without fully hearing a perspective which is not motivated by profit.

Thanks,
Darren

From: Timothy Sallins
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Public Comment for the next board meeting
Date: Sunday, February 25, 2024 7:05:10 PM

Greetings,

A few thoughts to consider before voting on the grant to Copperwood:

1.
Highland Copper is not a mining company. They have ZERO on-paper experience operating a mine. They've owned the Copperwood site for 10 years and have not provided a single product or service; despite this, they have managed to pay the salaries of four CEOs and other executives. How is this possible? Because rather than mining copper, they mine investors. Their current CEO is their former Chief Financial Officer, so he knows how to make a pitch to earn capital. He has already stated this grant would be used as a State endorsement to woo private investors and take out debt— is this an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars?

2.
And why is it that, after ten years, the project still has less than 10% of the necessary start-up capital, and none of the financial assurance? Clearly the investors know something about the nature of the ore deposit which is not being expressed to the MSF. In fact, this deposit has been known for 70 years but no mining has been attempted— why?

3. I took a look at the grant request and found a few eyebrow-raising moments. Like this one: "An environmental assessment of the site has been completed and shows soil conditions are suitable for construction of the planned facility." Is the MSF aware that the environmental assessment uses another company's data from 12 years ago, when the area was experiencing drought conditions <https://us01.z.antigena.com/l/ES17KkGh2wVIi2a6FFhDOvkPPVOz9zaYKdQeSMKI5aScYjUd2mIRJ3FAA-m4DVnM6C9y7Or2snK_nOEzxYzGOy6Pp0jAjkAxI2c_R-WzkI~yL1lH_pRXis_Xge7pt_pE8lJiZzc0~H2vUIMBKx9a8Mr09OsYvTyeQoupHneJAidAu3wKafBuM49wSAukjFeSLhigoFyJfnbb48Ooo8LJVcRduKZpyd7nU_AxZ0KdD3l_rLKDZ86LSuTj> ? Since then the climate has experienced volatile changes, and we've seen an 8-inch increase in rainfall. Thus, their environmental assessment is obsolete and should be repeated before claiming "suitable construction conditions."

4. Also, the report says, "The project coincides with the end of mine life for Eagle Mine and Highland Copper plans to leverage the talent pool, construction, and logistics efficiencies associated with the only nickel mine in the U.S." Firstly, there is no assurance that Eagle Mine will close in 2027 as predicted, rather than expand to mine new deposits. Secondly, taking labor from another mine is lateral movement and is not the same as job creation.

In the end, this seems like far too suspect and divisive of a project for the State of Michigan to be funding. Thank you for your time.

Tim Sallins

From:	Abry Waters
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Public Comment on stopping Highland Copper
Date:	Monday, February 26, 2024 2:21:52 PM

Dear MSF Board Members:

I'm writing today as a lifelong Michigander, college student at NMU, and lover of Lake Superior to urge you to DENY the $50 million grant to Highland Copper for the Copperwood Mine by voting NO on the grant at the MSF board meeting. I recreate in this area and contribute to the tourism economy in Northern Michigan. This risky investment is a terrible decision for the State of Michigan to make, for environmental as well as economic reasons.

There is nothing "Pure Michigan" about a sulfide mine on the edge of the Porkies or on Lake Superior's shoreline.

The Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) is organized through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). Also administered by MEDC is the Pure Michigan campaign, which aims to highlight Michigan's intact wilderness, beauty and "unspoiled nature". These two projects stand in direct opposition to one another when you consider the Copperwood's proximity to Lake Superior, Porcupine Mountains State Park, and the North Country National Scenic Trail.

Copperwood plans to mine directly underneath the Porcupine Mountains, a park with significant portions of designated wilderness areas which was recently identified as the most beautiful state park in the United States. Lake Superior is the largest, coldest, *cleanest*, and wildest of the Great Lakes and holds Isle Royale National Park and Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. The tailings pond is planned to be located a stone's throw away from the North Country Trail, which was recently incorporated into the National Park Service as a National Scenic Trail. Placing a mine, especially with such a large tailings pond, at the juncture of these three national recreation hotspots could prove highly disruptive to outdoor recreationists, through the introduction of light pollution, noise pollution, underground blasting and heavy industrial traffic. This would present a huge problem to the Outdoor Recreation industry in Michigan, which brings in an estimated $10 billion each year in the state compared to mining's $1 billion.
In addition, Highland Copper has *zero* social license for this project. They've told you that they have resolutions of support for the Copperwood from local municipalities, but these resolutions aren't representative of the people who live or recreate in the area. Rather, they were passed at unadvertised meetings with 5 or 6 council members in attendance, amounting to a total of a few dozen votes of support. Highland Copper has not held any public meetings. Conversely, this Change.org petition opposing the mine project already has over 12,000 signatures – more than the populations of all the nearest towns combined.

Responsibility for the social condemnation of this risky project, as well as its high potential for catastrophic impacts to Lake Superior and the regional recreation industry, will fall on the initial catalyst for funding of this project. The MSF's $50 million grant will increase Highland Copper's market cap by over double in USD, and function as a state-level endorsement of the project; CEO Barry O'Shea has even pointed out that he wants to use this grant as a marketing tool: "I can tell you with certainty that an award of this nature will move the needle significantly in terms of (how) our debt providers and our equity investors look at our company. It's not only a large financial boost for the project, but it is a true endorsement." This poses a high level of risk for the MSF, MEDC and State of Michigan; don't put your own credibility on the line for a high-risk, low-return project from a foreign company.

These are just a few of the several examples as to why I'm submitting a comment against the $50 million dollar grant to Highland Copper. Thank you for taking the time to carefully consider my comments. Please, vote NO to DENY Highland Copper's request for a $50 million investment from the State of Michigan. The future of the Lake Superior shoreline and outdoor recreation viability of the Upper Peninsula is critically important to me and my community. I urge you to be on the right side of history and do what is within your power as an MSF board member to prevent these potentially catastrophic impacts to the Porcupine Mountains and Lake Superior watershed.

Respectfully,
Abry Waters

From:	Michael Wellman
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	Quentin Messer (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; beringea@beringea.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Public Comment Opposing Highland Copper Grant Request
Date:	Tuesday, February 27, 2024 11:13:41 AM

Michigan Strategic Fund
300 N. Washington Sq.
Lansing, MI 48913
msfcomments@michigan.org

Re: Public Comment on Highland Copper's request for a $50 million Strategic Site Readiness Program grant.

Dear MSF Board members and relevant parties,

My wife and I, both PhDs, oppose this grant request for Highland Copper.

In 2016, we returned to living in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan after a decade living out West. We chose the UP for its blend of proximity to family, an excellent place to start and raise our own family, and access to outdoor adventure and wild spaces. And like most of the younger folks moving here, we are part of the growing climate migration that recognizes the UP as a place of resilience for climate adaptation.

As someone who was born and raised in Flint, I understand the devastating impacts of industrialism, both from the toxicity and pollution that have destroyed the soils and river and from the social impacts of globalization and outsourcing. When General Motors closed my father's plant, he was shipped off to another state. splintering our family. Extractivism in all its forms, and especially mining, live and die by these volatile cycles of boom and bust, and Highland Copper will be no different.

As someone with a mechanical engineering degree who has worked at an active limestone mine, I understand the size and scale of industrial mining operations. I understand the energy consumption, the noise pollution, the light pollution, the near-constant round-the-clock operations. It's questionable at best why anyone would consider such an operation next our state's only "wilderness state park?" Surely, a wilderness state park, which is such a symbol for the state of Michigan, is the focus of so much of the "Pure Michigan" marketing campaign, and instills so much pride in so many Michiganders, is worth more than yet another mine with a projected lifetime of less than a decade? The two aren't compatible, and Michigan needs to decide how "Pure" is pure enough.

As someone with an MBA, I understand the economics. Any supposed financial gain is short-sighted, is based in boom-bust cycling, is accepting the fact that all new mining operations purposely overpromise profits and other benefits (one has to look no further than the way rallying cry "jobs, jobs, jobs" never material in the quantity or stability of jobs promised) while underselling costs and damages, and has to grapple with the capitalization of the gains and the socialization of the costs. We have to ask why we are allowing a foreign company to destroy one of our only mountain ranges, poison our largest great lake, and take the value of our resources out of our state. Who is benefiting here? Surely not Michiganders.

Also, as someone with an MBA, I understand that money, dollars, cents, profit, progress, and growth are the main (only?) factors that are being considered here. So even though I am also a PhD with expertise in the climate crisis, understand the accelerating unraveling of our social and ecological systems better than most, and recognize that it would be much wiser to invest this $50M in climate resilience jobs, I recognize concerns around an increasingly uncertain future for my children don't factor in here. It's curious how your decision-making doesn't prioritize your own children, grandchildren, and beings yet to be born. Something to ponder maybe?But, since I understand this comes down to economics, I'll leave you with this.

My work, as an integral ecologist working in sustainability and offering adventure-based counseling, ecotherapy, nature connection education, and land-based reskilling is part of the rapidly growing "Outdoor Recreation industry." **This industry is one of the fastest-growing sectors of the US economy, contributing over $1T in 2022, which is more than oil, gas, and mining combined**. Outdoor recreation has always been, and continues to be, an important economic driver of the Michigan economy. If we are being honest, this doesn't actually have to do with money, because if it did, we would humbly accept the facts that: 1) outdoor recreation is more valuable to the economy than

mining in terms of both dollars and livelihoods, 2) outdoor recreation and mining are incompatible, especially around prime recreation sites such as the Porkies, and 3) the wave of young people in the outdoor rec industry who are moving back to Michigan (like myself) are going to leave again if the state doesn't reconsider the trajectory of its investments.

My work is an economic asset to the State of Michigan, is part of the trend in a shift to a post-extractive economy, and is the future. If you are unable or unwilling to understand this, then you will lose people like myself who are already considering relocating to another State which is prioritizing outdoor recreation. It behooves all of us to let go of the past and re-orient ourselves to a rapidly changing future. And I encourage you to consider my case when considering the denial of this grant request.

Thank you.

--

Michael Lynn Wellman, PhD

From:	Jane Fitkin
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Public Comment RE: SSRP Grant Copperwood Mine
Date:	Monday, February 26, 2024 12:41:20 PM

Dear MSF Board Members:

I am a lifelong Michigander and Upper Peninsula resident. I'm writing today on behalf *Citizens for a Safe & Clean Lake Superior* to urge you to DENY the $50,000,000 SSRP Grant to Highland Copper for the Copperwood Mine by voting NO on the grant when discussed at the MSF board meeting. This risky investment is a terrible decision for the State of Michigan to make, for environmental as well as economic reasons. Reasons I will point out to you today include a lack of social license for the project; risk to the MSF in becoming the catalyst for future investments of a project with a high likelihood of catastrophic failure; and financial risk associated with the Tailings Disposal Facility.

Highland Copper has *zero* social license for this project. They've told you that they have resolutions of support for the Copperwood from local municipalities, but these resolutions aren't representative of the people who live or recreate in the area. Rather, they were passed at unadvertised meetings with 5 or 6 council members in attendance, amounting to a total of a few dozen votes of support. Highland Copper has not held any public meetings. Conversely, this Change.org petition opposing the mine project already has over 12,000 signatures – more than the populations of all the nearest towns combined.

Responsibility for the social condemnation of this risky project, as well as its high potential for catastrophic impacts to Lake Superior and the regional recreation industry, will fall on the initial catalyst for funding of this project. The MSF's $50 million grant will increase Highland Copper's market cap by over double in USD, and function as a state-level endorsement of the project; CEO Barry O'Shea has even pointed out that he wants to use this grant as a marketing tool: "I can tell you with certainty that an award of this nature will move the needle significantly in terms of (how) our debt providers and our equity investors look at our company. It's not only a large financial boost for the project, but it is a true endorsement." This poses a high level of risk for the MSF, MEDC and State of Michigan; don't put your own credibility on the line for a high-risk, low-return project from a foreign company.

The Copperwood Mine plans to be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior ever constructed. There has never been a sulfide mine that did not contaminate nearby waters. Sulfide mining is dangerous because the mining process pulls the mineral from a sulfide-rich ore body, producing sulfides as a byproduct. If exposed to air or water, sulfides create sulfuric acid, an extremely toxic chemical. Copperwood's

Copper ore grade is averaged at 1.5%. That means for every ton (2,000 lbs) of material extracted from the ground, at best 30 lbs will be copper, and 1,970 lbs will be heavy metal-laden waste rock that will need to be treated and stored on-site forever. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, heavy metal laden waste, requiring on-site storage, forever. Again, there has *never* been a sulfide mine that did not contaminate nearby waters.

Additionally, Copperwood's Tailings Disposal Facility design has a high risk of rupturing. Because of the mine's short anticipated lifespan, its infrastructure is only designed to withstand 100-year storm events, but the immediate area has seen two 1000-year storms in the past decade. If a rupture occurs, cleanup would likely be almost impossible due to the immediate impacts on Lake Superior, but efforts would cost billions. The risk of catastrophic ruptures is so high that insurance companies in the US and Canada have stopped providing coverage for tailings dams after 2019's deadly tailings dam failure in Brazil; those that still provide insurance have increased the costs by double or more. This sulfide mine's proximity to Lake Superior, which holds 10% of the world's surface freshwater and is the cleanest, coldest, and largest of the Great Lakes, poses an extreme risk to not only the lake environment, but the health and safety of Michiganders and others who rely on the Superior watershed for clean drinking water.

Thank you for taking the time to carefully consider my comments. Please, vote NO to DENY Highland Copper's request for a $50 million investment from the State of Michigan. The future of the Lake Superior shoreline and outdoor recreation viability of the Upper Peninsula is critically important to me and my community. I urge you to be on the right side of history and do what is within your power as an MSF board member to prevent these potentially catastrophic impacts to the Porcupine Mountains and Lake Superior watershed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Fitkin
Director, Citizens for a Safe & Clean Lake Superior
jane@citizensforsuperior.org
Pronouns: she/they
P.O. Box 83
Marquette, MI 49855



From:	Crystal Brown
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	Public Comment Regarding Highland Copper/Copperwood Mine Grant Request
Date:	Thursday, February 8, 2024 8:13:26 AM

Dear Members of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board and Other Concerned Parties;

I am writing this message to voice my opposition to the requested grant from Highland Copper for the proposed Copperwood Mine, located in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, bordering the Porcupine Mountain State Park and Lake Superior.

I am currently a resident of Green Bay, Wisconsin. I am a former alumni of Gogebic Community College in Ironwood, Michigan, and have plans to relocate as a resident to the region in the coming year. My past professional background is psychiatric mental health nursing and health care administration, and I am currently employed in public education, as well as a small business owner, who focuses on experiential environmental education, that focuses on relationships between people and nature, from a perspective of physical and mental wellness, in connection with ethnobotany, wild food, herbal medicine, and nature-based therapy.

I share this information, as it influences my decision making, as I look at the long-term health and wellness of individuals, communities, and the environment.

The proposal from this foreign-operated company, with foreign financial investors is not invested in the sustainable prosperity and wellness of the people in the region. It is estimated that this project might actively last for 11 years; however, the long term economic and environmental impacts of it are unknown for the generations to follow. Having lived for several years in “copper country,” I saw the aftermath of the economic collapse to a post-mine region. Boom and bust operations would result in further long-term decline and deflated esteem of the people in the region; many of whom are not adequately trained to be readily employable for the highly specified roles required in modern mining. The benefits of proposed jobs would not reside in the long-term community.

The potential failure of the proposed sulfide tailings pond at the mine site would have tremendous negative consequences for water quality, affecting not only the environment, but also the local residents from a health and economic perspective. What I’ve been reading is that the majority of sulfide operations have failures in their systems and lead to water pollution. The Lake Superior region and Porcupine Mountains are major sources of revenue when it comes to outdoor recreation, and with potential for further promotion and sustainable development. I’ve been sharing information with people in the Green Bay community who choose to recreate and spend dollars in that region, and they are horrified that this is being considered. The draw of the region is the beauty and wilderness, the preserved environment, the pristine waters. This proposed mine goes against it completely.

There are over 11,000 signatures of individuals voicing opposition to this mine. That number continues to grow as more people become informed about this proposal. With awareness, I believe there will be alternative ideas and proposals coming forth to the region, to help promote sustainable solutions to economic challenges that would promote overall health and wellness to the community.

I would urge the board to evaluate proposals looking through the lens of long-term health, wellness, and prosperity of the region. This mine does not hold those values or the best interest of the community to heart.

$50 million dollars of grant funding could go a long way to creating actual prosperous ways of living and thriving in the UP, that would bring healthy sustainable lifestyles to the people of that region, upholding their worth, as well as preserving the biotic integrity of the region. This mine is not that.

I welcome in engaging in further dialogue with any member of this board to share more of my perspective. I would welcome any opportunity to even share experiences of the beauty and wellness of this region with any of you able or willing to visit it, if it may influence your decision making.

I am grateful for your time in considering my message.

Sincerely,

Crystal L. Brown, BSN-RN

862 Hubbard Street

Green Bay, WI 54303

Owner, Bio-Regional Herbalist, Educator of Inspired North

www.inspirednorth.com

From:	bridgwater.j@yahoo.com
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Public comment related to MEDC loan consideration for Highland Copper
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 11:24:36 AM

Dear MEDC,

As a permanent resident of Gogebic County, who specifically moved and settled here because of the special nature of the land and water-- especially Porcupine Mountains and associated waters-- I urge you NOT to loan money to a foreign corporation set to cause major disruption to Michigan's number-one ranked outdoor tourism destination by building a mine on a hill that slopes into Lake Superior right next to Porcupine Mountains State park.

If MEDC would take that $50 million and invest it in area loans and micro-loans focused on building out an already established tourism economy, I am certain your/ Michigan's ROI would far outweigh anything you would get from a dangerous sulfide mine.

Sincerely,

Johnson Bridgwater
414 Silver Street
Ironwood, MI 49938
(405) 902-2288

From: Sol Anzorena
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Public Comment
Date: Friday, March 22, 2024 8:48:48 AM

My name is Sol Anzorena and I'm a Wakefield resident. I'm strongly in opposition of the proposed Highland Copper sulfide mine on county road 519. This mine would be disastrous for the environment, for the health of the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park and all the beings who inhabit it. Please don't give this grant to this Canadian project. We would appreciate it if you used that money and resources to protect more of our wild areas interested of directly using it to destroy our pristine forests and risk our precious Lake Superior.

Thank you,

Sol

From: Bri Knight
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Public Comment: Vote No to Highland Copper Grant
Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 3:59:08 PM

Dear MSF Board Members:

I am a Michigander and Upper Peninsula resident. I'm writing today to urge you to DENY the $50 million grant to Highland Copper for the Copperwood Mine by voting NO on the grant at the MSF board meeting. This risky investment is a terrible decision for the State of Michigan to make, for environmental as well as economic reasons.

Highland Copper, a Canadian "junior mining" company, touts the number of jobs created by the Copperwood Mine as a huge boost for the local and state economy. However, many of the best-paying jobs won't go to Michiganders. Although the Upper Peninsula will be the frontlines of extraction, Highland says the copper-concentrate will then be shipped off to Ontario, Quebec, or even Europe or Asia for further processing. Michigan should not be financing a foreign company who outsources so much of its labor.
Copperwood is actually more likely to negatively impact the local economy in the long-term. A study done by Dr. William Freudenburg of UW-Madison and UC-Santa Barbara analyzes the quantitative impacts of mines on nonmetropolitan areas in the U.S. and shows that only 29% of mines led to a positive economic outcome for rural communities. Half of those cases came from before 1982, and the majority of them came from the western U.S. The study concludes by saying, "there is surprisingly little evidence that mining will bring about economic good times, while there is a good deal of evidence for expecting just the opposite." Should Michigan be paying to perpetuate an industry which is more likely to impoverish this area in the long term than enrich it?

There is nothing "Pure Michigan" about a sulfide mine on the edge of Lake Superior.

The Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) is organized through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). Also administered by MEDC is the Pure Michigan campaign, which aims to highlight Michigan's intact wilderness, beauty and "unspoiled nature". These two projects stand in direct opposition to one another when you consider the Copperwood's proximity to Lake Superior, Porcupine Mountains State Park, and the North Country National Scenic Trail.

Copperwood plans to mine directly underneath the Porcupine Mountains, a park with significant portions of designated wilderness areas which was recently

identified as the most beautiful state park in the United States. Lake Superior is the largest, coldest, *cleanest*, and wildest of the Great Lakes and holds Isle Royale National Park and Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. The tailings pond is planned to be located a stone's throw away from the North Country Trail, which was recently incorporated into the National Park Service as a National Scenic Trail. Placing a mine, especially with such a large tailings pond, at the juncture of these three national recreation hotspots could prove highly disruptive to outdoor recreationists, through the introduction of light pollution, noise pollution, underground blasting and heavy industrial traffic. This would present a huge problem to the Outdoor Recreation industry in Michigan, which brings in an estimated $10 billion each year in the state compared to mining's $1 billion.

Lack of Social License/High level of responsibility for MSF as initial funder

Highland Copper has *zero* social license for this project. They've told you that they have resolutions of support for the Copperwood from local municipalities, but these resolutions aren't representative of the people who live or recreate in the area. Rather, they were passed at unadvertised meetings with 5 or 6 council members in attendance, amounting to a total of a few dozen votes of support. Highland Copper has not held any public meetings. Conversely, this Change.org petition opposing the mine project already has over 12,000 signatures – more than the populations of all the nearest towns combined.

Responsibility for the social condemnation of this risky project, as well as its high potential for catastrophic impacts to Lake Superior and the regional recreation industry, will fall on the initial catalyst for funding of this project. The MSF's $50 million grant will increase Highland Copper's market cap by over double in USD, and function as a state-level endorsement of the project; CEO Barry O'Shea has even pointed out that he wants to use this grant as a marketing tool: "I can tell you with certainty that an award of this nature will move the needle significantly in terms of (how) our debt providers and our equity investors look at our company. It's not only a large financial boost for the project, but it is a true endorsement." This poses a high level of risk for the MSF, MEDC and State of Michigan; don't put your own credibility on the line for a high-risk, low-return project from a foreign company.

Financial Risk of tailings dams

The Copperwood Mine plans to be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior ever constructed. There has never been a sulfide mine that did not contaminate nearby waters. Sulfide mining is dangerous because the mining process pulls the mineral from a sulfide-rich ore body, producing sulfides as a byproduct. If exposed to air or

water, sulfides create sulfuric acid, an extremely toxic chemical. Copperwood's Copper ore grade is averaged at 1.5%. That means for every ton (2,000 lbs) of material extracted from the ground, at best 30 lbs will be copper, and 1,970 lbs will be heavy metal-laden waste rock that will need to be treated and stored on-site forever. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, heavy metal laden waste, requiring on-site storage, forever. Again, there has *never* been a sulfide mine that did not contaminate nearby waters.

Additionally, Copperwood's tailings dam design has a high risk of rupturing. Because of the mine's short anticipated lifespan, its infrastructure is only designed to withstand 100-year storm events, but the immediate area has seen two 1000-year storms in the past decade. If a rupture occurs, cleanup would likely be almost impossible due to the immediate impacts on Lake Superior, but efforts would cost billions. The risk of catastrophic ruptures is so high that insurance companies in the US and Canada have stopped providing coverage for tailings dams after 2019's deadly tailings dam failure in Brazil; those that still provide insurance have increased the costs by double or more. This sulfide mine's proximity to Lake Superior, which holds 10% of the world's surface freshwater and is the cleanest, coldest, and largest of the Great Lakes, poses an extreme risk to not only the lake environment, but the health and safety of Michiganders and others who rely on the Superior watershed for clean drinking water.

Instability of Highland Copper and Copperwood

If Copperwood is as lucrative as Highland Copper claims, then where are all the investors, and where's the company's stability? After more than a decade of planning, Highland Copper's market cap has stagnated, and they still have only 10% of the necessary capital to begin construction. The State of Michigan should not be bailing out a failing Canadian company.Additionally, just a few months ago, Highland Copper's CEO stepped down with no explanation. And he's not alone; Highland Copper has had 4 CEOs in the past decade. If this project is so risky that it can't keep investors *or* employees, it is too risky for the State of Michigan to endorse.

Highland Copper also has a low likelihood of keeping the Copperwood project. In July 2023, they sold 66% of their shares of the White Pine North Mine (also in the western U.P.) to another Canadian company for $30M, Kinterra Capital, thus making Kinterra the majority shareholder. It's likely Highland Copper would also jump at the opportunity to sell Copperwood to the next deep-pocketed "partner" to come along. Highland Copper cannot be trusted to secure investments, keep a CEO, or even hold on to ownership of their mining prospects; why should they be trusted with $50 million of Michigan taxpayer money?

Thank you for taking the time to carefully consider my comments. Please, vote NO to DENY Highland Copper's request for a $50 million investment from the State of Michigan. The future of the Lake Superior shoreline and outdoor recreation viability of the Upper Peninsula is critically important to me and my community. I urge you to be on the right side of history and do what is within your power as an MSF board member to prevent these potentially catastrophic impacts to the Porcupine Mountains and Lake Superior watershed.

Respectfully,

Bri Knight
Pronouns: they/them
226 W Hewitt Ave
Marquette, MI 49855
briannaknight61@gmail.com

From:	Frank Schilder
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	public statement regarding Copperwood mining proposal
Date:	Wednesday, April 3, 2024 9:18:47 AM

Dear members of the Michigan Strategic Fund,

I address you today not merely as an individual, but as a steward of our shared environment and as an advocate for the prudent allocation of Michigan's financial resources. It has come to my attention that there exists a proposal to allocate a substantial sum of $50 million in taxpayer revenue towards the funding of the Copperwood metallic sulfide mine, an initiative spearheaded by a Canadian enterprise. I feel compelled to voice a strong opposition to this proposal, and I urge you to consider the ramifications of such an investment.

Firstly, it is of significant concern that the allocation of a substantial portion of Michigan's financial reserves is being considered to support a foreign entity. The essence of taxpayer funds is rooted in the collective contribution of our citizenry towards the betterment and advancement of the local community and infrastructure. Channeling these funds into an overseas corporation diverts resources away from the state's pressing needs and priorities, potentially compromising the economic welfare of Michigan's residents.

Secondly, and of equal importance, is the environmental jeopardy that this mining operation poses. The Copperwood project harbors the risk of contaminating the pristine waters of Lake Superior and the untouched natural beauty of the Porcupine Mountains. This area has been a sanctuary for countless families, including my own, for over a decade and a half. The thought of its landscapes being marred by pollution and industrialization is not only distressing but antithetical to our collective responsibility to preserve our natural heritage for future generations.

The potential long-term environmental repercussions of sulfide mining are well-documented and deeply concerning. The risk of acid mine drainage, with its capacity to devastate aquatic ecosystems, poses an unacceptable threat to the biodiversity and water quality of Lake Superior and its surroundings. Such an outcome would not only diminish the ecological and recreational value of these areas but could also incur substantial cleanup and remediation costs, further burdening the state's finances.

In conclusion, while economic development and job creation are laudable goals, they must not be pursued at the expense of environmental integrity and fiscal responsibility. I implore the Michigan Strategic Fund to rigorously evaluate the broader implications of funding the Copperwood metallic sulfide mine. Let us not forsake the natural treasures that define this beautiful area and the fiduciary duty we bear towards our constituents. I urge you to reject the allocation of taxpayer revenue to this project and to explore alternative avenues for sustainable development that align with the long-term interests of our community and environment.

Respectfully,

Frank Schilder
St Paul, MN

From: Gedicks, Al
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: public testimony on Copperwood grant
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 11:19:51 AM

PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF AL GEDICKS BEFORE THE

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND BOARD MEETING

ON FEBRUARY 27, 2024

My name is Al Gedicks and I am the executive secretary of the Wisconsin Resources Protection Council. My principal message is that the likelihood of a tailings dam failure at the proposed Copperwood mine is exceptionally high and poses a risk to the environment and tourist industry of Michigan as well as a financial risk to investors that could run into the billions of dollars for pollution cleanup.[1]

Let me explain why a $50 million investment in Copperwood is such a risky investment. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of the rock will be mine waste in the form of tailings. Tailings are the finely ground muddy or sandy mine wastes left behind after the valuable metals have been extracted from the ore. Over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste would be stored in a 323-acre tailings containment facility, higher than the Statue of Liberty, on land sloping towards Lake Superior, less than two miles downstream.

Unlike water-retaining dams made of concrete and steel, tailings dams are held back by walls of sand and silt. This results in a failure rate that, over the past century , was more than 100 times higher than that of reservoir and power dams, according to one estimate.[2]

Who would be responsible for responding to a tailings dam failure at the Copperwood mine? Michigan's Dam Safety Program (DSP) has primary responsibility. However, the Association of State Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO) recently concluded that "the DSP is extremely understaffed to perform the mission of dam safety. Michigan has not invested in safety of its dams for many decades."[3] If the Dam Safety Program was unprepared to respond to a hydropower dam failure like the Edenville dam collapse of May 2020, they certainly would not be prepared for a far worse tailings dam disaster. Even more important, Highland Copper has not shown any evidence of having informed local communities about what to do in the case of a tailings-related accident.

Copperwood has proposed the most expensive dam construction option.[4] It strains credibility that a company that only has 10% of the necessary capital for the mine would be able to finance the most expensive tailings dam design. Instead, they may choose the lowest cost option of an upstream design. This tailings dam design is also the most prone to failure. About 76% of the tailings dam failures worldwide are related to the upstream design.

Regardless of the design, the fact is that as mines grow bigger, they generate larger volumes of waste, stacked into higher tailings dams. "Our dams are among the highest-risk structures on Earth," says Andrew Robertson, a Vancouver-based consultant who has designed a number of very large tailings dams for mining companies.[5] The American International Group (AIG) has said it would no longer write any pollution liability coverage for global mining and tailings risks, in response to the recent Brazilian tailings disaster that killed over 270 people. [6]

"Despite many good intentions and investments in improved practices," says the United Nations Environment Program, "large storage facilities, built to contain mine tailings can leak or collapse. These incidents are even more probable due to climate change effects. When they occur, they can destroy entire communities and remain the biggest environmental disaster threat related to mining."[7]

In light of this evidence, does the Michigan Strategic Fund Board want to invest in the biggest environmental risk factor for a mining company that has no mining experience and every incentive to cut the costs of maintaining a safe tailings dam facility in perpetuity? A tailings dam failure next to Lake Superior would be a major political embarrassment and a public relations nightmare.

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[1] Melanie Burton, "BHP flags $5.7 billion impairments on Samarco dam failure, nickel operations," Reuters, February 15, 2024.

[2] Warren Cornwall, "A Damn Big Problem," Science, Vol. 369, Issue 6506, August 21, 2020.

[3] ASDSO Peer Review Report, September 2020, pp. iv-v.

[4] David M. Chambers, "Long-term Risk of Tailings Dam Failure," Alaska Park Science, Volume 13, Issue 2: Mineral and Energy Development. (https://www.nps.gov/articles/aps-v13-i2-c8.htm

[5] Paul Kiernan, "Mining Dams Grow to Colossal Heights, and So Do the Risks," Wall Street Journal, April 5, 2016.

[6] Suzanne Barlyn, "Pollution insurance costs to jump for U.S. tailings dams after Vale disaster," Reuters, January 21, 2020.

[7] United Nations Environment Program and GRID, Mine Tailings Storage: Safety Is No Accident, 2017, p. 4.(grida.no <https://us01.z.antigena.com/l/0sevfcBQwBa~IZd8AYXE16d2w0ZXIdaLUehg~w6P67eQCHe_R1A~Vwih51VmtiWnC2CDFVTIudjRp7g-Pbu69A_Xsl1KQNLIqGYT4aXOMJam2tXsYwbXlkvIKQSGGNwk7hM2lqIZZJylKayrNpiSmB1dmxgL7VOsoDEAjUHk_1PB8PhJFvsy~xtY77y9>

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From: goodrox@up.net
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: qualified comment _ Copperwood mine
Date: Saturday, February 24, 2024 3:08:14 PM

I would like to comment on the $50 M grant proposed for the Copperwood Mine.
I believe I'm qualified to comment because:

1) I have degrees in Geological Engineering from MTU,
2) I've worked in underground mines in Colorado, Zimbabwe, New Mexico and Canada;
3) I have reviewed the Copperwood mining permit application multiple times; and
4) I have written and submitted technical comments to the MDEQ (EGLE) as a result of these reviews.

There is substantial risk in this project. The tailings dump, the potential for subsidence, the close proximity to Lake Superior and other major risk factors indicate that this is NOT a good mining project for the state of Michigan to get involved with. This is NOT a good mine to showcase mining in Michigan. The State will be embarrassed to find they have created and endorsed a mine that is the source of major and persistent long term contamination.
I am not qualified to address the financial repercussions which could be huge.
Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Charles Brumleve

goodrox@up.net
906 362 9663

From: Theresa Owen
To: Theresa Owen
Subject: Questioning why the MSF would invest in Copperwood operations in Porcupine Mountains.
Date: Sunday, February 4, 2024 3:32:51 PM

Dear member of the Michigan Strategic Fund,

I have frequented the UP for years as a hiker, cross country skier and snowmobiler. Most recently, I hiked in the Porcupine Mountains with my daughter. What a majestic country with the forests and the Lake of the Clouds.

After reading in the news that the Michigan Strategic fund is considering an investment in the Copperwood Mining project very close to Lake Superior, I started looking into it more.

I found some unsettling information:

- This is one of the closest mines ever considered next to L. Superior: The Mine's entrance road is just a fifteen second drive <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3muN4MCjpMI> from Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, and a 30 Second drive from the historic North Country Hiking Trail. Please see the driving video v=3muN4MCjpMI <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3muN4MCjpMI> https://www.youtube.com/watch? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3muN4MCjpMI>

- A sulfide mine such as this is one of the dirtiest mines.

- Tailings Dams are fraught with a negative history. Large weather events can cause catastrophic loss of life when a tailings dam breaks, please see: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brumadinho_dam_disaster

Our state's beautiful Natural Resource Areas deserve to be protected. Please be a part of the solution, not the damage to our Upper Peninsula.

I am asking you to Not Approve the $50 Million Grant or any additional investment for the Copperwood Mine. Our tax dollars would be better spent to improve the Recreational Facilities across our State. Just a quick comparison shows that Outdoor Recreation accounts for $10 Billion in Revenues to the State, while Mining Operations $1 Billion. Source: https://www.michiganbusiness.org/news/2023/05/outdoor-recreation-industry/ <https://www.michiganbusiness.org/news/2023/05/outdoor-recreation-industry/> . I know which Industry I would invest in if I had the choice... Please make a Choice for Outdoor Recreation versus Mining for Michigan's Future!!

Thank you very much for taking the time to research this project.

Sincerely,

Theresa Owen

5261 N. Williams Rd

St. Johns, MI 48879

Theresa Owen

theresa@theowenfamily.name <mailto:theresa@theowenfamily.name>

From: Raymond Little
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 2:25:39 PM

When are we gonna learn our lesson? How much more destruction of the earth are we gonna do. Even in the heart of all these environmental struggles we face we continue to add more to the problem in the name of profit. The upper peninsula still has some natural beauty to it, something rare these days. Please do what is right and keep it that way. Please call me at 906 236 0502 to discuss further.

Raymond Little
Lost Dog Records
raymondjlittle@gmail.com
@thethirtiesband (instagram)
906-236-0502

From: Jaci Christenson
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Re: Automatic reply: Cancel the $50M to Copperwood
Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 10:47:33 AM



Protect the Porkies!

On Wed, Feb 28, 2024 at 9:42 AM MEDC MSF Comments <msfcomments@michigan.org> wrote:

> Your public comment has been received and will be shared with the Michigan Strategic Fund Board. Thank you for your interest in economic development and job creation here in Michigan.
>
> Please note, this is an auto-generated email response. Please do not reply to this message. Any additional inquiries can be directed to an MEDC representative using the following link: https://www.michiganbusiness.org/about-medc/contact-medc/

From:	Alex Graeff
Cc:	MEDC MSF Comments; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants; sharpstik@aol.com; dhutcherson@mba1995.hbs.edu; dimitrius.hutcherson@att.net; dmhutch1@aol.com; dmhutch@aol.com; Amiee Evans (MEDC)
Subject:	Re: Copperwood Mine project
Date:	Saturday, April 6, 2024 8:45:19 AM

Hi all,

I'd just like to say that your decision to provide the $50 million grant to Highland Copper was a sucky one.

You chose to give money to an ecologically destructive project with long-lasting environmental impacts, a legacy that will be left for many generations to come - all in the name of the "economy". Not only that, but a short-lived project with limited benefits to the economy of Michigan.

You could do a lot better with 50 million dollars.

What do people love about Michigan? A forever-altered landscape in one of the most beautiful parts of the state? Water pollution? Noise pollution? Light pollution? Looking at an ugly mine on their adventures to the wilderness? Maybe this is the Pure Michigan everyone is after?

Probably not.

You could have instead plugged your 50 million dollars into hiking trails, campgrounds, ecological restoration, parks - or myriad other ways to bolster the presence, availability, and access to the things that people love about Michigan - and that would have long-lasting, positive effects not only on the health of our ecosystems, but for our physical and mental health, and the long-term health of nature tourism.

But, you chose to give money to a massively destructive industry which will only have short-lived economic benefits (I won't even get into "good for the economy" propagandic nonsense).

Do better.

Sincerely,
Alex Graeff

On Thu, Feb 15, 2024 at 7:03 PM Alex Graeff <alex.graeff@gmail.com> wrote:

> I strongly oppose the $50 million grant for the Copperwood Mine project.
>
> Backup up a bit - I strongly oppose any such environmental destruction for short-term economic gain. And to think that the state would fund such an effort is abhorrent.
>
> To be a great state, Michigan must look toward the future. The future relies on having

healthy ecosystems - places for people to enjoy and support their mental and physical health.

To destroy Michigan's (and beyond!) long-term environmental beauty and health for short term monetary gain for a select few individuals is actually insane.

It's time that our leaders (i.e. you) recognize that we must, as a society, put a stop to environmental destruction for economic gain. We already have to live with the legacies of environmental damage from mining and other resource extraction and manufacturing activities. These legacies are in our water, air, soil, and affect our physical health.

Further, many of us are dependent on our natural areas for our mental health. My personal experience is that I truly believe I would not be alive without the ability to go natural to places where I can escape the ever-present evidence of environmental destruction. The Porcupine Mountains are one such place I can do that - to think that I (and others) will have to view the tailings (forever) and hear the mining activity - an inability to escape - is saddening.

Please think about what you're supporting and what that leaves for the future. The future is very depressing for young people. For those of us that are only truly happy in nature, in truly natural places, the continued disregard for and destruction of our environment is devastating.

I'm asking that you please do what you can to change the future, change the way we view these projects and advocate for the protection and respect for our natural ecosystems.

Please consider the permanent effects of the Copperwood Mine project - it's impact on the health of our ecosystems and the physical and mental health of our people.

Please do not contribute to the Copperwood Mine project.

Sincerely,

Alex Graeff

From: Anna Frankovitch
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: RE: COPPERWOOD
Date: Thursday, February 1, 2024 12:14:23 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am deeply concerned about the proposed Copperwood project. As a resident of a similar small rural county that just voted out a major industrial project, I see the state of Michigan has very little concern for it's resident that don't make a huge mark on it's map. This is not unpopulated land, this is the lives, health, and livelihood of thousands of small town folk, many of which happen to be in the agricultural industry. Such a large and environmentally impactful project would devastate not only the local economy as it stands, harming the people but not the corporation, but also also have negative impacts on the daily lives of those who live there. Traffic, crime increase, noise pollution, and more all have upward trends in rural areas where similar projects to use a significant amount of space to house a large scale corporate venture has taken place. I implore you to think of the people who call this area home, and put a stop to this harmful nonsense.

Anna Frankovitch

From:	Wieferich, Brad (MDOT)
To:	Tom Grotewohl; MEDC MSF Comments; Lockwood, Andrew J. (Treasury); Quentin Messer (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice; LEO-Comms; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer; Eubanks, Rachael (TREASURY); rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	RE: FYI, the $5M CW road improvement grant is for a road already improved
Date:	Thursday, March 28, 2024 6:54:46 AM

Good morning Mr. Grotewohl,

Thank you for reaching out with your concerns. Your email affords me the opportunity to clear up some very understandable confusion about our Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) grant.

The media story was correct in reporting the 2018 grant to the Gogebic County Road Commission for County Road 519 on behalf of the Copperwood mine development. However, after the road project was announced and before any funds were disbursed, it became clear that the mine development would be delayed. After a reasonable amount of time, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) rescinded the grant and recommended to the county that they reapply if and when the development was ready to move ahead. This is common practice to avoid tying up resources needed for more immediate projects. It is also a detail that is rarely captured in the press.

To date, the county has not reapplied. The road has not been improved, nor is it a Class A or "all-season" road. The "all-season" designation does not, as its name would imply, mean that the road is plowed and passable in the winter. It is a technical term that indicates a route that is not subject to reductions in legal truck axel weights that are typically applied in the spring when our Michigan freeze-thaw cycle in combination with heavy vehicles is hardest on the road.

I hope that explanation clears up the confusion. If you have any other questions about the TEDF or MDOT programs, please feel free to contact Mike Kapp, Administrator of the MDOT Office of Economic Development, at KappM@michigan.gov or 517-335-1069.

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Director, Michigan Department of Transportation

From: Tom Grotewohl <tom.grotewohl@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2024 1:01 PM
To: msfcomments@michigan.org; Lockwood, Andrew J. (Treasury) <LockwoodA@michigan.gov>; Quentin Messer (MEDC) <messerq@michigan.org>; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice <LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov>; LEO-Comms <LEO-Comms@michigan.gov>; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer <MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov>; Eubanks, Rachael (TREASURY) <EubanksR@michigan.gov>; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson <dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com>; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com;

info@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; Wieferich, Brad (MDOT) <WieferichB@michigan.gov>; Vicki Schwab (MEDC) <schwabv@michigan.org>; wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; contractsandgrants@michigan.org
Subject: FYI, the $5M CW road improvement grant is for a road already improved

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

https://www.uppermichiganssource.com/content/news/State-transportation-grants-to-support-355-jobs-in-the-Upper-Peninsula-474057783.html

In 2018, they received a $5M grant to upgrade Co Rd 519 into a Class A year-round road; **that is its current status.** I live on Co Rd 519, and I know for a fact you can drive it every day of the year, all the way to the end.

There's no polite way to put it: **you have been LIED to about the road improvements.** They're asking $5M to turn a Class A road into a Class A road. You oughtta fire whoever wrote that document.

From: Sol Anzorena
To: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: Re: Mine tailings dam rupture led to a $240M euro cleanup in Spain
Date: Monday, February 19, 2024 1:46:32 PM

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https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Do%C3%B1ana_disaster

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0048969798002903

On Mon, Feb 19, 2024 at 12:40 PM Sol Anzorena <anzorenasol@gmail.com> wrote:

> Copperwood would not be a copper mine at all, because copper will be only 1.5% of the extracted material. The remaining 98.5% will be mine waste, loaded with sulfides and heavy metals, comprising 30+ million tons in total, to be stored in unprecedented proximity to Lake Superior in something called a Tailings Disposal Facility. TDFs are far from invincible. Even in First World countries with strict environmental regulations there have been ruptures. Attached is an article on the Doñana Disaster in southern Spain, when a tailings dam ruptured and spilled 5 million tons of toxic waste into the Guadiamar River, then travelling 25 miles to contaminate one of the most important National Parks in Europe. Copperwood is right next door not just to Lake Superior, but also Porcupine Mountains State Park, the most beloved State Park in Michigan. The parallels are eerie. Cleanup of the Doñana Disaster cost over 240 million euros. So while you may be paying $50 million today to fund Copperwood, Michigan taxpayers may be paying far more in the future to clean up the mess.

From:	Nomad Guitar School
Bcc:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	Read the comments regarding the Copperwood Grant
Date:	Friday, February 2, 2024 8:46:54 AM

From the recent DetroitNews article.

You will see the reaction is universally negative. Believe it or not, folks don't want taxpayer money subsidizing resource extraction by a foreign company, right next door to the State's largest Wilderness Area.

From:	Noah Bauer
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	Dimitrius Hutcherson; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LockwoodA@michigan.gov; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; erikwilford@yahoo.com; eubanksr@michigan.gov; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; Quentin Messer (MEDC); rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; ron@euclidindustries.com; ronbeebe49@aol.com; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); sue@jetcofederal.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; wes@muskegoncc.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; wilforde@michigan.gov
Subject:	Regarding the Copperwood Mine
Date:	Friday, February 2, 2024 10:18:40 AM

Hello, I beseech you to fight the Copperwood Mine in any way you can and to not allow them any funding. The world has changed. Outdoor recreation nets Michigan 10 times the profit of mining, yet would be threatened direly by this proposed project. Lake Superior is the largest freshwater lake in the world. Contamination of the lake due to a sulfide mine (of the closest proximity to date) would threaten countless industries, communities, and species. A little bit of copper is not worth the colossal risk to the health and economic stability of the Great Lakes region. The Porcupine Mountains and North Country Trail are also beloved recreation outlets that need to be protected and preserved if we want to preserve the tourist economy in the Upper Peninsula.

Rising global temperatures (due to all of the negative environmental impacts being made around the world) have led to unreliable winters in the UP, costing winter sports businesses millions of dollars in profits. Now isn't the time to add another negative environment impact into the mix, especially one with such major consequences. With winter sports businesses projected to lose even more in the coming years, it's especially important that every effort be made to protect what we can of the outdoor recreation industry, since it's one of the foundations of the entire Upper Peninsula economy. We cannot afford to jeopardize Lake Superior, the Porcupine Mountains, or the North Country Trail. I implore you to deeply consider all of the repercussions to this proposed mine.

With urgency,

Noah Bauer

From:	Harrison Fry
To:	MEDC MSF Comments; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants; sharpstik@aol.com
Subject:	REJECT $50M grant to the Copperwood Mine
Date:	Thursday, February 8, 2024 11:12:28 AM

Risk our lake superior for foreign profit?
Despicable behavior to save our state's most beautiful lands.
Think about future generations.

From:	jfifer@gmail.com
To:	MEDC MSF Comments; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants; sharpstik@aol.com
Subject:	Reject Copperwood Mine
Date:	Thursday, February 8, 2024 7:30:50 AM

Good morning,

I am writing to express my concern and frustration about the Copperwood mine project.
You should have been made well aware by now of the public resentment towards the project as a whole, so I shouldn't need to rehash that, or post the petition you've undoubtedly seen.

A foreign corporation has no interest in our beautiful state, or the porkies, or the lake near it.
Or the people drinking from that lake.
Corporations happily destroy the land against the law and simply pay their insignificant fines and walk away, leaving the desecration to what would be left of the population. Keeping their lawyers paid has always mitigated any environmental disaster as far as they're concerned.

In fifteen years, they'll have their handful of batteries and those jobs will be gone, replaced by newly empty corporate housing, piles of tailings, barren uninhabitable land and a seriously resentful population.

If you insist on letting some foreign company rape the last untouched corner of our state, at least save this money for the inevitable cleanup.

Here is an actual look into the future, it's expensive.
https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/-/media/Project/Websites/dnr/Documents/Fisheries/BuffaloReef/03-Cost-2024JAN-Draft-Final.pdf?rev=859250c56ec144849658bd27376d6de8&hash=415032C6A1A083FE56E4D8AD3570C5DF

Finally, if they had the support they claim to, they wouldn't need you.
This is obviously already a failing project.

Regards
Joseph Fifer
jfifer@gmail.com

From: Karen Samelson
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Reject grant for Highland Copper
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:21:35 PM

To the Michigan Strategic Fund:

I urge you to reject a $50 million grant to Highland Copper for Copperwood.

Michigan has no business supporting a foreign company that is trying to mine copper, which is not classified as a critical mineral. The copper would be transported to Canada for processing, so many of the higher-paying jobs would be lost. And Highland Copper hasn't even built a mine before.

Yet it is Michigan and Wisconsin residents and wildlife that would pay the price. Tailings dam are known to fail — at a cost of lives as well as environmental damage, as in Brazil, where they have outlawed tailings dams.

This site would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history — 100 feet! Any pollution or failed tailings dam could pollute Lake Superior and the Great Lakes, a water source for millions of people.

"Pure" Michigan values its tourism and fishing industries, so siting a mine right next to Lake Superior, the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, and the North Country Trail makes absolutely no sense. "Pure" folly.

While I don't live in Michigan, Wisconsinites don't want this mine either, and I spend tourism dollars in the U.P. once or twice a year. I have visited the beautiful Porkies, camped in the nearby Trapp Hills and Sylvania Wildness. I've also vacationed near Munising and Marquette, based on their proximity to Lake Superior's clear water. Several times I've spent the money for a four-hour ferry crossing Lake Superior to the hidden gem that is Isle Royale National Park — whose waters also could be contaminated by a failed tailings dam or other leak.

Furthermore, there are issues of tribal sovereignty — this site is in ceded territory, where Anishanaabe peoples have a right to hunt, fish and forage, and it's also close to the Bad River reservation in Wisconsin, which also relies on Lake Superior.

Please reject this grant and invest it wisely in something that won't pollute our life-sustaining waters.

Sincerely,

Karen Samelson
Milwaukee

From:	Gabby Jonas
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Subject:	REJECT HIGH LAND COPPERS REQUEST
Date:	Saturday, February 17, 2024 6:32:38 PM

Are you aware of this petition with over 11,000 signatures opposing Copperwood's development? 11,000 is more than the populations of the closest three towns to the Mine combined (Wakefield, Bessemer, and Ironwood). This is not "the middle of nowhere": the juncture of Porcupine Mountains Wilder-ness, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior is one of the most spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the country. Outdoor recreation contributes over $10 billion to Michigan's economy annually; mining, around $1 billion. An operating mine would disrupt this thriving outdoor recreation area with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic. Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history. Copper sulfide mines always contaminate and tailings dams are far from invincible. Copper is NOT a critical mineral and therefore there is no urgent need to fund this project. "Throughout its life, the Copperwood Mine would produce enough copper to supply 3,500 electric vehicle batteries" - I'm sorry, but... are you serious? Is it really worth endangering the largest freshwater lake on Earth, as well as the right of humans to enjoy a moment of peace in one of the last pristine regions of the Midwest, all for the sake of a mere 3,500 EV batteries? That's not even enough EVs for the population of Ironwood…..

please reject this grant the people of the upper peninsula do not want this.

From: John Gillette
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Resident Opposition statement
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 9:49:19 AM

My name is John Gillette. I am a resident of Michigan and live in the Lake Superior watershed. In the interest of the future health of all residents in the watershed and ecological systems on which we all depend, I oppose any and all tax-payer based funding for the initiation and expansion of mining projects in the watershed. In brief, the short-term financial gain for the few people involved should not be funded by tax money, especially in exchange of the long-term negative impacts to the health of the environment on which we depend.As planned with such mining projects, the taxpayers pay the initial funding and then pay again for mitigating the harmful effects of the toxic lake left after the company has sold off the property and created another environmental catastrophe. Indeed without tax money this project is not financially feasible.

What other companies in our state could this $50 million help promote? No doubt there is a long list of companies and organizations that are helping preserve the environmental health and characteristics of the state and its watersheds that could benefit more from this $50 million, and for a longer time frame while creating more jobs

Michiganders do not need to sustain a 320 acre toxic lake as proposed by the Canadian-owned Highland Copper. We need to sustain the freshwater and lakes that we have currently. Please do not spend taxpayer money, as allocated by the Michigan Strategic Fund, on this project.

Thank you.

From: ANDREW DETTLING
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Say no to Copperwood mine grant
Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 9:02:14 PM

Hello, I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the Copperwood mine grant proposal. The area is far too important to the environment and tourism to spoil it with a mine. Putting a mine with tailing ponds next to Lake Superior is wreck less and a spill will most certainly occur at some point in time. It's not worth the risk for such a small amount of copper.

Andrew Dettling
Canton, MI

Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail for iPhone

From: Ron Mandler
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: SAY NO to Copperwood Mine
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 11:32:43 AM

My name is Ronald Mandler. I currently live in Southfield and am a lifelong resident of Michigan. I have traveled to the UP virtually every summer of my life beginning with family camping vacations as a child.

My wife and I hike in the Porcupine Mountains every August. Our favorite hikes are along the Presque Isle and Black Rivers. Copperwood Mine would threaten the biological diversity and natural beauty of both of these wilderness areas.

PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN!

Ronald P Mandler

From:	Bailey Ch.
To:	MEDC MSF Comments; ron@euclidindustries.com; ronbeebe49@aol.com; Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; Dimitrius Hutcherson; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	SAY NO TO THE COPPERWOOD PROJECT
Date:	Thursday, February 1, 2024 5:27:52 PM

Hello,

I am writing to urge the Michigan Strategic Fund to NOT consider the $50 million grant for the Copperwood project. The juncture of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior is one of the most spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the country. An operating mine would disrupt this thriving outdoor recreation area with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic. Please DO NOT ruin this important land with a dangerous mining project for a mineral that, per the USGS, is NOT critical.

Sincerely,

Bailey Chamberlain
Michigan Resident

From:	Dave Blouin
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	Pat Egan
Subject:	Sierra Club comments to MSF Bd re: Copperwood grant application
Date:	Monday, February 26, 2024 11:55:27 AM
Attachments:	MSF Board SC Copperwood grant comments.pdf

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund staff,

Please accept the attached comments from the Sierra Club to the MSF Board members regarding the Copperwood Resources Inc. application for a MSF grant. The comments are issued jointly by the Michigan and Wisconsin State Chapters of the Sierra Club.

Thank you,

Dave Blouin, Mining Committee Chair
Sierra Club - Wisconsin Chapter
608-220-4040
burroak15@gmail.com

From:	alicia manceau
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	Feedback@patagonia.com
Subject:	STOP MINING IN Michigan Michigan's Strategic Fund grant opposed comment
Date:	Wednesday, January 31, 2024 5:15:36 PM

I 100% disagree with any grant or state funding going to Highland Mining and or Copperwood Mining for the proposed mine in Ontonagon & Gogebic Counties as well as the entire state of Michigan.
This company will massively poison our land, waters, and air as well as kill millions of wildlife.
The entrance to the Porcupine Mountains, a Michigan State Park which includes the North Country Trail, the longest National Hiking Trail, will be **less than a quarter mile** from a **323-acre mine waste containment facility**, as well as **explosives plants, sewage lagoons, exhaust vents,** and more.

Protect the Porkies, protect Lake Superior, protect Michigan, protect the earth!



Protect the Porkies
protecttheporkies.com

~Alicia Manceau
989-708-0345

From:	timduda@aol.com
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	Quentin Messer (MEDC); LockwoodA@michigan.gov; Natalie Davenport (MEDC); britanyaffolter-caine@urcmich.org; LEO-DirectorOffice@Michigan.gov; LEO-Comms@michigan.gov; wes@muskegoncc.com; susan.corbin@michigan.gov; susanrcorbin@gmail.com; MIStateTreasurer@michigan.gov; eubanksr@michigan.gov; rachael.eubanks@gmail.com; dimitriushutcherson@firstindependence.com; dimitrius.hutcherson@gmail.com; dan@trilliumventuresmsv.com; tmeyering@gmail.com; info@thechemicogroup.com; lrichardson@thechemicogroup.com; crothstein@beringea.com; crothstein@gmail.com; sue@jetcofederal.com; randy.thelen@rightplace.org; cindy.warner@360ofme.com; cindylwarner1@gmail.com; wieferichb@michigan.gov; Vicki Schwab (MEDC); wilforde@michigan.gov; erikwilford@yahoo.com; MEDC ContractsAndGrants
Subject:	The Copperwood Project (Highland Copper) Porcupine Mtns (Michigan"s Upper Peninsula)
Date:	Monday, March 25, 2024 8:44:03 AM

Concerning the Michigan Strategic Fund grant for the Copperwood Project (Highland Copper) -- According to "Mining the Data- Analyzing the implications Conof mining" (U of W -Madison & U of C -Santa Barbara) only 25% of mines lead to long-term economic benefit for communities, with half of those coming from before 1982, and most of those being new coal strip mines out West; in other words, it is an exceedingly small fraction of mines which will lead to meaningful economic revitalization.
The study specifically cites the issue of “flickering“— the tendency for metal mines to close and re-open, again and again, as the price of a mineral fluctuates above and below the cost of operation; this creates much uncertainty in the lives of workers. Flickering is what has defined Copperwood’s entire nonexistence thus far: the flickering of funding, the flickering of proposed start-up dates, the flickering of CEOs. Highland Copper has stated again and again that, in addition to awaiting the necessary capital, they are awaiting a surge in the price of copper to make the project viable. But what happens if the price plunges after the mine begins operation? Obviously, this is not sound economic decision-making for the long term. Reject the grant proposal to Highland Copper for the Copperwood Project in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Thank you.

Timothy Edward Duda

From: Jessica Ferris
Subject: The truth about Highland Copper"s subcontractor Foth
Date: Monday, March 11, 2024 8:31:48 AM
Attachments: Screenshot 2024-03-06 at 9.09.27 AM.png
Screenshot 2024-03-06 at 9.11.25 AM.png
image003.png
image004.png

First thing to understand: Highland Copper is not a mining company; they do not have a single mine to their name, and for 15 years all they have done is mine investors. Their current CEO is their former Chief Financial Officer, all of his training is in finance, and he got his start in the airline food industry. In short, these guys know nothing about mining, so anything technical is subcontracted out; for example, **Foth Infrastructure** is in charge of "environmental permitting and social aspects" (see Feasibility Report, page 1-1).

Unfortunately, Foth has a very bad record. They were also in charge of the Flambeau Mine. Please examine the predicted contaminants in column 3, compared to the observed contaminants in column 5. They were off by an order of magnitude. (full document)

Contaminant	Flambeau baseline	Foth Prediction on levels	Foth Prediction on duration	Max levels reported to date by Flambeau Mining Company
Copper	**11 mcg/l**	**14 mcg/l**	>4,000 years	**810 mcg/l** **(58 X higher than Foth predicted)**
Iron	**50 mcg/l**	**320 mcg/l**	>4,000 years	**15,000 mcg/l** **(47 x higher than Foth predicted)**
Manganese	**230 mcg/l**	**550 mcg/l**	3,920 years	**42,000 mcg/l** **(76 x higher than Foth predicted)**
Sulfate	**5 mcg/l**	**1,360 mg/l** **1,100 mg/l** **832 mg/l**	0-8 years 8-132 years 132-2,850 years	**2,400 mg/l** **(2 x higher than Foth predicted)**

The Flambeau River tributary to this day is on the EPA's list of "impaired waters" due to unpredicted zinc and copper concentration. On another note, we also see the Flambeau Mine had no meaningful effect on the area's economy. Rusk County started out as #70 out of 72 WI counties, and that did not change for the duration of Flambeau's operation

Rusk County Rank out of 72 WI Counties	Per Capita Income	Unemployment Rate
1991	70	70
1992	69	71
1993	71	72
1994	71	72
1995	71	71
1996	70	70
1997	70	71
1998	70	63
1999	70	59

Foth was also running the show at Aquila Resources's Back Forty Mine. However in a 2019 contested case (Docket No. 18-0113058), testimony by Michigan's Water Resources Division factually contradicted Foth's statements on wetlands issues. The WRD representatives pointed out that Foth simply invented the formulas and reports necessary to fulfill permit requirements and ignored the facts. Judge Pulter issued a decision on January 4th, 2021, in favor of the Petitioners.

Below you will find a press release from just a few days ago showing that the Flambeau Mine site continues to exhibit greatly elevated arsenic levels over 20 years later — Foth was in charge then and they are in charge now, this time in unprecedented proximity to Lake Superior.

I strongly recommend that you DO NOT fund the Copperwood Mine; Highland Copper is grossly inexperienced, and those they are employing are experienced in a very bad fashion.

Thank you,
Jess Ferris

DTS
Deer Tail Scientific
Duluth, Minnesota
deertailscientific.wordpress.com

For Immediate Release, March 1, 2024

Contacts: Laura Gauger, Deer Tail Scientific (Duluth, MN); Tel: (218) 724-3004

Dr. David M. Chambers, Center for Science in Public Participation (Bozeman, MT); Tel: (406) 585-9854

Elevated Arsenic Detected in Wells at Reclaimed Flambeau Mine Site

- Wells within 140 feet of Flambeau River are Contaminated; State officials have taken no action

Groundwater quality testing at the reclaimed Flambeau Mine site south of Ladysmith has revealed high concentrations of arsenic in two wells located within 140 feet of the Flambeau River. Wisconsin's drinking water standard for arsenic is 10 parts per billion (ppb). Water samples collected from the wells in May 2023 and tested by Flambeau Mining Company (FMC) and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) show arsenic concentrations ranging from 15 to 24 ppb.

Before the Flambeau Mine was constructed in the early 1990s, arsenic concentrations of less than 5 ppb were reported in wells across the project site (i.e., the toxin was undetectable). That changed in 1999, shortly after the mine's waste water treatment plant (WWTP) was shut down and the unlined mine pit was backfilled with the sulfide-containing waste rock and WWTP sludge that had been generated during operations and stored on liners alongside the mine pit.

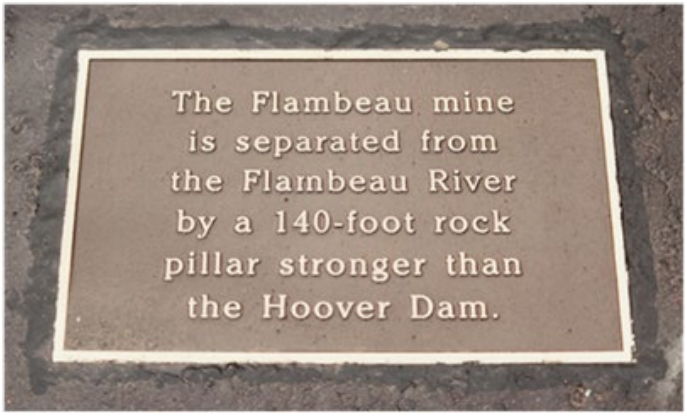
Arsenic concentrations ranging from 42 to 83 ppb were measured in the deepest wells within the backfilled Flambeau Mine pit in July 1999 and remain elevated to the present day (41 to 53 ppb in May 2023). Arsenic concentrations in the two wells mentioned at the outset, both located in a 140-foot-wide sliver of bedrock between the backfilled pit and Flambeau River, spiked in 1999 as well and have exceeded Wisconsin's 10 ppb drinking water standard on numerous occasions over the past two decades.

Other contaminants have also exceeded standards in a number of wells at the project site. Manganese, which is known to cause Parkinson's-like nerve damage at elevated concentrations, has gone as high as 42,000 ppb in a well within the backfilled Flambeau Mine pit, compared to the public health standard of 300 ppb.

According to information provided by FMC to the Wisconsin DNR, the contaminated water from the backfilled Flambeau Mine pit is on the move and entering the Flambeau River. As stated in the company's 1989 *Mine Permit Application:*

" … all of the groundwater flowing through the [high sulfur] waste rock in the reclaimed pit will exit the pit through the Precambrian rock in the river pillar and flow directly into the bed of the Flambeau River. Since this flow path is very short and occurs entirely within fractured crystalline rock, … the concentrations of [dissolved] constituents in the groundwater leaving the pit will be the same as the concentrations entering the river bed."

Longtime conservationist Laura Gauger claims that FMC and its parent company, Kennecott/Rio Tinto, misled the public regarding the likelihood of contaminated waters entering the Flambeau River from the backfilled mine pit and has backed up the claim with a photo of a plaque that FMC displayed at the mine site during operations in the mid-1990s.



Plaque displayed by FMC at the Flambeau Mine project site in the mid-1990s.

Gauger, who co-authored a book about the Flambeau Mine with Roscoe Churchill of Ladysmith in 2007, recounted the following story:

"During the 1989-90 permitting process for the Flambeau Mine, local citizens voiced concerns that groundwater polluted with heavy metals from the Flambeau Mine would get into the nearby Flambeau River. In response, FMC distributed a brochure claiming the bedrock between the mine pit and river would provide a barrier 'stronger than the Hoover Dam.' The company reiterated the claim on a plaque displayed at the project site in the mid-1990s."

She continued: *"Years later, a public records request unearthed a technical report that FMC had submitted to the Wisconsin DNR in 1989 as part of the permitting process – a report that concluded the rock between the pit and river was 'fractured' and that contaminated groundwater leaving the mine pit would 'flow directly into the bed of the Flambeau River.' The public had been duped."*

In light of the high concentrations of arsenic now being recorded in wells at the Flambeau Mine project site, concern has once again been raised by citizens for the health of the Flambeau River. The DNR-approved monitoring plan for the river, however, does not require FMC to report any biological or surface water sampling data for the section of the Flambeau River immediately adjacent to the backfilled mine pit where the contaminated groundwater is entering.

The closest surface water sampling site in the Flambeau River is about 500 feet downstream of the backfilled pit, and the closet biological sampling station, last sampled by FMC in 2011, is about 2,000 feet downstream. The test panel utilized by the company for surface water analysis is also limited. The only metals being tested are copper, iron, manganese and zinc. The DNR has not required FMC to test the river water for arsenic, sulfate or a variety of other substances known to be present in Flambeau waste rock such as uranium, aluminum, cobalt and nickel.

Nor has the DNR required FMC to drill any monitoring wells on the west side of the Flambeau River (opposite side from pit) to determine if the plume of groundwater contamination emanating from the backfilled pit and headed in that direction has extended beyond the river to properties on the other side.

A 1988 memo issued by Foth, FMC's primary environmental consultant, included the following statement that apparently was designed to rationalize the decision to drill no wells west of the river and quell public concern: *"The river is in the way. It is clearly impossible, then, for any activities at the mine, on one side of the river, to affect any water wells on the other side of the river."*

Foth's sweeping statement has been challenged by experts like Dr. Robert E. Moran (Michael-Moran Associates, Golden, CO), a seasoned hydrogeologist who reviewed FMC's monitoring program several years ago. He pointed out that the Flambeau River *"is only about 5 feet deep in the vicinity of the 225-foot deep mine pit"* and stated that *"the overall hydrogeological relationships … indicate*

significant volumes of pit groundwater may be flowing downgradient below the Flambeau River, in the deeper alluvial sediments and or bedrock."

Dr. Moran went on to advocate for wells being drilled and tested on the west side of the river *"to determine whether groundwaters west of the Flambeau River have been negatively impacted by FMC operations."* The same recommendation was made by Dr. David M. Chambers and Dr. Kendra Zamzow (Center for Science in Public Participation, Bozeman, MT) in a 2009 report that identified various surface and groundwater contamination issues at the reclaimed Flambeau Mine project site.

Center for Science in Public Participation : CSP2

FMC continues to claim in annual submissions to the Wisconsin DNR that *"the Flambeau River remains fully protected and Flambeau remains in full compliance with its permit standards."* But Gauger, who is concerned with FMC's failure to test for arsenic or any other contaminants in the stretch of the river alongside the mine pit or to drill any monitoring wells west of the river, has referred to FMC's test program as *"Don't Ask. Don't Tell."*

In light of the high concentrations of arsenic in groundwaters exiting the backfilled Flambeau Mine pit and entering the Flambeau River, citizens are hopeful that something can be done to protect the river and properties across the river from the pit. Thus far, however, the Wisconsin DNR has taken no action.

From: Sophia.Merman.84
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Tuesday meeting comments
Date: Sunday, February 25, 2024 2:33:09 PM

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund:

Before voting on the grant to the Copperwood Mine, please be aware that the infrastructure designs may be dangerously negligent. Because the mine will only run for 11 years, the company has designed infrastructure anticipating only 1-in-100 year storm events. This is despite the fact that there have been two 1-in-1000 year storm events in the immediate area in just the last eight years (1 <https://us01.z.antigena.com/l/BwjA9boMRca_NDX2FMMvWaQZHv-qCuC96qcUBytuY-1Io0etLwyhW5IYZdrAyEM6y6E_VOZAWVGADUSIwNrLLwnyad7COOeeoWWeMs~wfbHIzpYz4XMPFcpjUDDQeenuc8JtBEPjH2l7aIXHoDYRjQ68~GokLmvpD8XhpBlbp8b2zWmECmd9ru4F2fJiYkL7jAvKOTPdBgO0Dski> , 2 <https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=a691801792404b30&sxsrf=ACQVn09ZaGCclncRmYMHjiBVpU_EFXdXGA:1708888561145&q=1000+year+storm+houghton&tbm=nws&source=lnms&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwib-Zb9mceEAxXmnokEHSVLBuoQ0pQJegQIDhAB&biw=1161&bih=629&dpr=2.2>). Please examine that first link in particular, which shows the tremendous damage which can be caused by a single storm. Then consider this information with regards to their tailings disposal facility <https://img1.wsimg.com/isteam/ip/9cfe9c54-7e79-4b30-a586-009e37868ba9/wetlands.png/:/cr=t:0%25,l:0%25,w:100%25,h:100%25/rs=w:1023,cg:true> , which will hold 30+ million tons of toxic waste in unprecedented proximity to Lake Superior. The facility would be constructed at the juncture of streams which have been rerouted at unnatural and highly unstable angles <https://www.highlandcopper.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/23-11-08-news_image1_PNG.png.png> . Please imagine what would happen if another thousand-year storm hits and the rerouted streams swell unexpectedly, especially if combined with spring snowmelt. This could lead to disastrous erosion along the embankment of the waste facility, potentially resulting in a catastrophic contamination of Lake Superior, less than two miles downstream. We know that tailings facilities are not invincible <https://youtu.be/bRsKgLaVMXw> , with ruptures occurring even in First World countries at facilities following strict environmental regulations, and studies show that the serious and very serious failures are actually increasing in frequency <https://earthworks.org/assets/uploads/2018/12/44-Bowker-Chambers.-2015.-Risk-Public-Liability-Economics-of-Tailings-Storage-Facility-Failures.pdf> .

This is an inexperienced foreign company unfamiliar with the hydrology of the area, which has already been fined $25,000 <https://www.mlive.com/news/2018/01/mining_company_responsible_for.html> for failing to take snowmelt seriously and degrading wetlands without a permit. If there is a problem with the waste facility, either through slow seepage or a sudden rupture, the environmental remediation costs will be in the billions of dollars and certainly would lead to extreme political embarrassment for the State of Michigan.

Please consider investing in projects that do not put Lake Superior at risk, given that it is 10% of the planet's surface freshwater.

Sincerely,
Sophia Merman

Sent with Proton Mail <https://proton.me/> secure email.

From:	Corbin Bartsch
Subject:	Urgent Opposition to Grant Allocation
Date:	Tuesday, February 6, 2024 1:52:20 PM
Attachments:	signature.asc

Dear Members of the Michigan Strategic Fund Committee,

I am writing to you today on behalf of the thousands of concerned citizens who oppose the proposed Copperwood development project, spearheaded by Highland Copper. It has come to my attention that there is a possibility of allocating funds or grants to support this endeavor, and I must express my strong opposition to such a decision.

I want to bring to your attention the overwhelming opposition to Copperwood's development. A petition **opposing Copperwood's development has garnered over 11,000 signatures**, a number that **surpasses the combined populations of the closest three towns** to the mine: Wakefield, Bessemer, and Ironwood. This clearly indicates that the **social license for this project is far from universal.**

I must emphasize that the juncture of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness, the North Country Trail, and Lake Superior is **one of the most spectacular outdoor recreation areas in the country. This area is not "the middle of nowhere"** as some might perceive it. **Outdoor recreation contributes over $10 billion** to Michigan's economy annually, far surpassing the economic contribution of mining, which stands at around $1 billion. The operation of a mine in this area would disrupt the thriving outdoor recreation industry with noise pollution, light pollution, subterranean blasting, and heavy industrial traffic.

Furthermore, Highland Copper's track record raises serious environmental concerns. Their operations have contributed significantly to air pollution levels, water contamination, and soil degradation, as evidenced by recent pollution statistics. **Allocating funds or grants to Highland Copper would not only condone their harmful practices but also undermine the efforts of those striving for a cleaner, healthier Michigan.**

Copperwood would be the closest sulfide mine to Lake Superior in history. Copper sulfide mines always contaminate, and tailings dams are far from invincible. The potential environmental impact on Lake Superior, the largest freshwater lake on Earth, cannot be understated.

In conclusion, I urge you to carefully consider the concerns raised by the community and the significant environmental and economic implications of supporting the Copperwood development project. **Let us prioritize the preservation of our natural resources and the well-being of our citizens over short-term gains.**

Thank you, as members of the public government, for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Thank you,
Corbin Bartsch
corbin@cbarts.net
+1 616-262-4546

From:	Jan Corey Arnett
To:	MEDC MSF Comments
Cc:	"Patrick Hallfrisch"; "Glenn Kowalske"; "Hollister, Kathryn L"; april906outdoors@gmail.com
Subject:	YOU must stop the madness
Date:	Monday, February 26, 2024 10:23:02 AM

To the Members of the MSF,

I have watched you approve the raping, ruining, and forever poisoning of thousands of acres of productive, sustainable, climate-nurturing farmland in my county of residence, Calhoun County. I have watched Fund members sit silently and bobble-head approval for the abuse of millions and millions of dollars of our taxpayer money without even having visited the site you are choosing to destroy. I have seen you sit and ask nary one intelligent question and vote without knowing beyond a shadow of a doubt that the citizens of the area WANT and APPROVE and had a SAY in what is transpiring there. And, seen you vote without knowing beyond a shadow of a doubt that corporate con artists like Ford and others would "take care of the environment" as you put it so blandly. How can you in good conscience take such irreversible, undemocratic, and environmentally toxic action? How?

You must NOT approve any project that would in any way, alter the Porcupine Mountains and their environs. This mine is akin to declaring war on the Upper Peninsula and our Great Lakes which are already severely compromised. This water is fast becoming the WORLD's greatest treasure and this land, a vital means to our SURVIVAL. Stay out of the Upper Peninsula, not just in the Porcupines but elsewhere. YOU and your corporate cronies and corrupt practices are not welcome there.

Janice C. Arnett

Born in the Upper Peninsula and a property owner in the Upper Peninsula

RESOURCE PARTNERS

7 Bryant Park
New York, NY 10018

Michigan Strategic Fund
Attention: Board of Directors
300 N Washington St.
Lansing, MI 48913

February 5, 2024

Letter of Support Regarding Highland Copper Company Inc.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Orion Resource Partners (USA) LP, on behalf of one or more of its managed funds (collectively, "Orion"), is pleased to provide this letter of support for Highland Copper Company Inc. ("Highland Copper").

Orion is a mining focused investment fund, headquartered in the U.S., with approximately US$8 billion under management. Orion specializes in providing flexible and comprehensive capital solutions to base, bulk and precious metals mining companies globally. Orion was founded in 2013 by Oskar Lewnowski, Group CEO. Orion has a seasoned team of investment professionals with demonstrated capabilities in structuring debt, equity, streaming, offtake and royalty investments. Our investor base includes a variety of US pension plans and endowments.

Orion has been a supporter of Highland Copper since March 2017, when we completed an equity investment in the company. We have completed additional investments in Highland Copper in both June 2019 and August 2021. Orion currently owns approximately 28% of the common shares outstanding of Highland Copper.

We are excited about the potential of this business. Highland Copper's flagship asset, Copperwood, represents one of the few permitted copper projects that is shovel ready in the near term and is in a Tier 1 jurisdiction. We believe that Copperwood will help fulfill the United States' need for domestic sources of copper.

Responsible Investing is embedded in Orion's due diligence and portfolio management processes. Environmental, social and governance considerations are at the core of our values. This is demonstrated for instance by Orion being a signatory of the Principles for Responsible Investment.

We believe that Highland Copper has demonstrated an ability to operate respectfully regarding the environment and local Upper Peninsula communities. Orion would like for management, the board of directors and shareholders to remain focused on the strong environmental and community values that have been demonstrated to date.

Yours sincerely,



Jon Lamb
Managing Partner



February 5, 2024

VIA EMAIL

Michigan Strategic Fund Board Members
300 N. Washington Street
Lansing, MI 48913

To Board Members:

Condire Investors is a Dallas-based investment manager that focuses on fundamental, deep value investments in the broad resources sector and allied industries. The firm's primary focus is on commodity producers with an emphasis on precious metals, mining, energy and other niche segments that we believe are overlooked by most fundamental investors. Condire's limited partners are almost all US-based with 95% of our capital coming from US investors and 96% of our limited partners from the US. The vast majority of our capital comes from large US foundations, endowments and multi-family offices who have long-term investment objectives and time horizons.

Condire has been an investor in Highland Copper since 2012. Over the years, we have supported Highland Copper by participating in at least five private placements including leading several critical rounds of funding. Condire owns 16% of the common shares outstanding. Clearly, we have shown our commitment to Highland Copper and its Upper Peninsula projects.

Based on most respected forecasts, the world will soon have a serious copper supply deficit. Furthermore, North America today relies on copper sourced from other jurisdictions. We believe it is important for the US to increase its domestic copper supply to reduce dependence on other countries. With problems in non-North American jurisdictions (for example the shutdown of First Quantum's giant Cobre Panama copper mine in Panama), the value of having copper assets in a safe jurisdiction where the community embraces the project (like Highland Copper has in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan) continues to go up. Frankly, there are not many options for good copper projects in North America, especially ones that are fully permitted. The Copperwood project is almost uniquely positioned to supply domestic copper, especially to the critical auto industry.

Highland Copper has successfully advanced Copperwood to a shovel ready, fully permitted project. But as importantly, the company has focused on operating respectfully towards both the environment and the local communities. We believe this approach highlights Highland's good stewardship of Michigan's resources. As an underground mine, Copperwood also offers the advantage of a minimal footprint. Respecting the environment and offering local communities the opportunity for important, well-paying careers are two key tenants of Highland's mission. In addition, we are heartened to have a leading UP

resident as Chairman of the Board at Highland and another Board member who with long-time ties to the Upper Peninsula through his past work at the Eagle Mine.

With our large ownership stake, we hope to ensure that the ownership structure at Highland remains committed to the priorities of safely building and operating an underground copper mine, offering excellent employment opportunities for the communities around the mine, respecting the environment and putting in place a comprehensive closure and remediation plan.

Sincerely,

Brad Shisler
Partner and Managing Director

Highland Copper

February 5, 2024

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Members,

As a longtime resident of the Upper Peninsula, and the Chair of the Board of Highland Copper, I am writing this letter of support for the Copperwood project's proposed $50 million performance-based grant from the Strategic Site Readiness Program.

I am also the President and CEO of JM Longyear and have been for over 20 years. We are a privately held Marquette, Michigan-based asset management company that has been an investor and employer in the region for over 150 years. My expertise is in development and execution of long-term business strategies and operations, and I have been involved in mining and resource projects in Michigan and Minnesota. Additionally, I've served on the board of several organizations, for profit and non-profit.

As Chairman of the Board of Highland Copper since 2022, I would like to express my commitment to the oversight of our company and to ensuring that its ownership remains aligned with the core values that define our company. I have considerable experience raising capital for projects of this scale and am aware of the importance of maintaining ownership alignment with our company values throughout the project's lifecycle. Our values include a commitment to operate responsibly from a safety, community and environmental perspective, and to being a partner in Michigan's and the United States' transition to a lower carbon economy.

All Directors of Highland's Board, the majority of which are American residents, recognize our responsibility in evaluating and approving major strategic decisions, including new investment in the company, that have the potential to impact the ownership structure. Of note, Jon Cherry is a Board member of Highland Copper. Mr. Cherry's career includes over 20 years with Rio Tinto, where he worked in several positions, including General Manager, responsible for permitting and the initial development of the Eagle Mine in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. We have experience in and great respect for the Upper Peninsula.

I want to assure the MSF Board that as Chairman of the Highland Copper Board, I am fully committed to overseeing the successful execution of the proposed project. I have served on the MSF Board and do understand your fiduciary responsibility. The funds requested will be utilized judiciously, with a keen focus on achieving the outlined objectives and delivering tangible benefits. We view this grant as an opportunity to further contribute to the economic growth of the region and a lower carbon economy.

I appreciate your time and consideration of Highland Copper's grant request.

Sincerely,

Steve Hicks
Chairman of the Board, Highland Copper Company, Inc.

info@highlandcopper.com
+1-450-677-2455

Highland Copper Company Inc.
9160 Leduc Boulevard Quartier Dix30, Suite 410
Brossard, Quebec J4Y 0E3

RESOLUTION NO. 344

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WAKEFIELD, MICHIGAN, IN SUPPORT OF THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT DEVELOPED BY THE HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Council Member Shirkey and supported by Council Member Heikkila.

WHEREAS, the City of Wakefield supports the development of safe, modern, and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wakefield acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wakefield recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

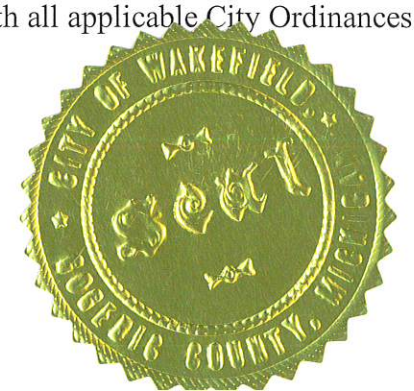
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Wakefield, Michigan supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

AYES: Council Members Shirkey, Libertoski, Zeckovich, White, and Heikkila
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

This resolution declared adopted this 13 day of November 2023.

State of Michigan)
)
County of Gogebic)

I, Susan Ahonen, City Clerk of the City of Wakefield, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 344 was duly adopted by the Wakefield City Council at a type of meeting held in the Wakefield Municipal Building in the City of Wakefield, Michigan on the 13 day of November 2023, and that the meeting to approve this resolution was held in compliance with all applicable City Ordinances and regulations.



Susan Ahonen

Susan Ahonen, City Clerk

RESOLUTION # 2023-11-15-01

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT
BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN

WHEREAS: the local cities and townships in Gogebic County have a long and traditional history of supporting the iron and copper mining ventures on the Gogebic Range;

WHEREAS: the Watersmeet Township Board recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop in environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Watersmeet Township Board fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project, located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan

Motion for this resolution was made by Mike Rogers, supported by Julie Mathiesen

RESOLUTION ROLL CALL VOTES:

YEAS: Mike Rogers, Julie Mathiesen
Yvonne Clark, John Oliver
,

NAYS: Ø

ABSENT: Paul Kemppainen

I, Julie Mathiesen, clerk of the Township of Watersmeet, do hereby certify that the above resolution was adopted at the regular meeting of the Watersmeet Township Board held on November 15, 2023.

JULIE MATHIESEN, Township Clerk

Iron County Community Credit Union
"Everything we do, we do for You"

IRON COUNTY COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

5702 W. U.S. Hwy. 2
Hurley, Wisconsin 54534
Phone: (715) 561-2842

4989N Hwy. 51
Mercer, Wisconsin 54547
Phone: (715) 476-2231

Fax: (715) 561-3364
www.ironcccu.com

02/08/2024

An Open Letter to the Members of the Michigan Strategic Fund:

RE: Highland Copper/Copperwood Project

Please let this letter serve as our support and commitment to Highland Copper as they strive to bring a new mine to our area.

As the President of Iron County Community Credit Union, I see firsthand, the economic impact of businesses opening and closing and can attest to the need for this project to come to fruition. Our Credit Union is based in Hurley, Iron County, Wisconsin. Although not in the "backyard" of the proposed mining area, I'm certain the positive growth will far outweigh the challenges being presented by those against this opportunity and will have far-reaching effects, not only in Gogebic County but neighboring counties as well.

The Credit Union stands committed to providing financial services for the influx of workers expected to be employed. We specialize in assisting our members in financial literacy, above and beyond the regular financial services, and are excited to provide these services to help attract and retain employees for Highland Copper. The service can and does go a long way in helping residents focus less on their financial worries and focus more on their families and jobs.

From our vantage point, this is a win for the community and hopefully a huge win for Highland Copper, the neighboring counties and municipalities and ultimately the State. Our support will continue, and we stand ready to assist in any way possible, during the planning stages and during the entire execution stage of their plan.

Sincerely,

Mark Marczak, CCUFC, NMLS# 1638867

President/CEO

Iron County Community Credit Union

715-561-2842/m.marczak@ironcccu.com

February 12, 2024

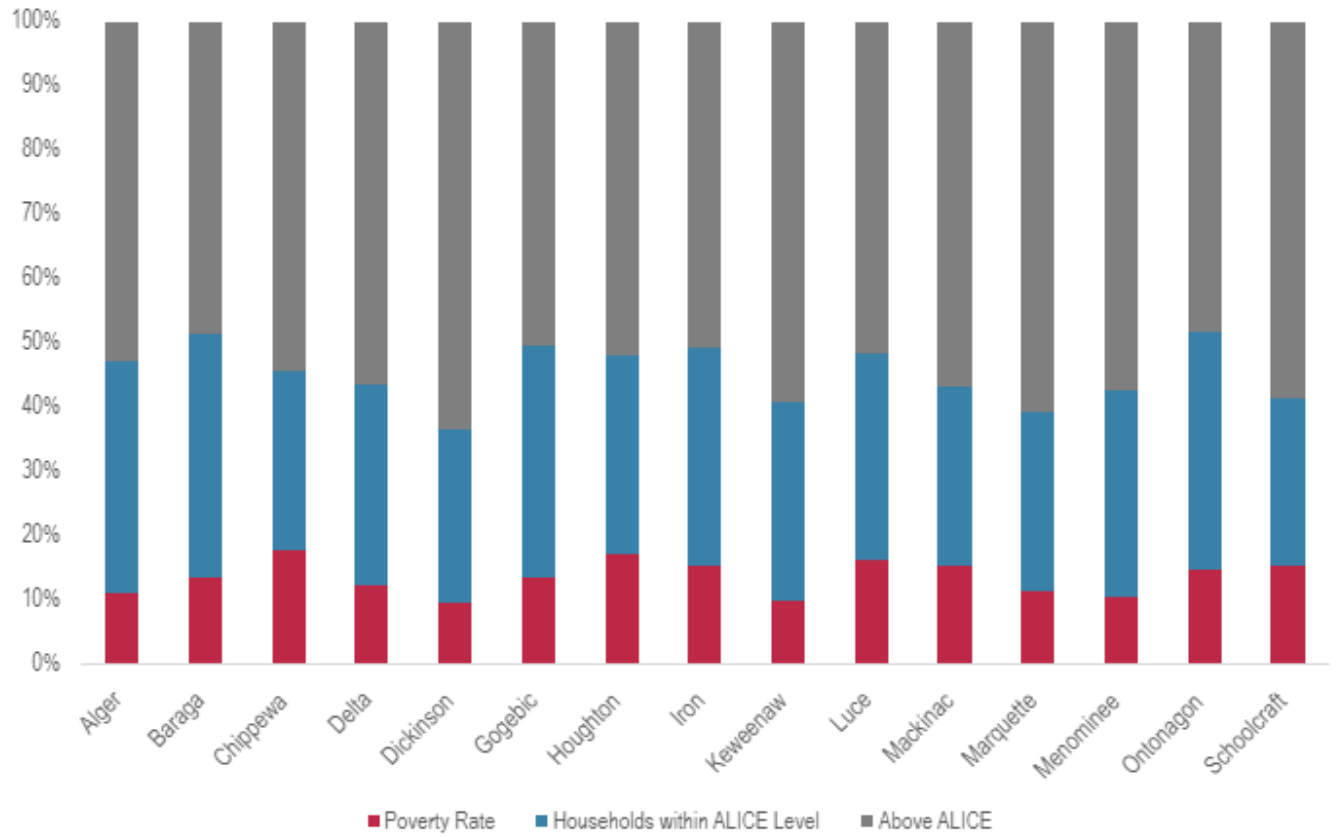
Matt Casby, Director
Michigan Strategic Fund

Dear Mr. Casby and the Michigan Strategic Fund members,

We are writing to express our support for the Copperwood Mine Project by the Highland Copper Company. Our board oversees the work of Upper Peninsula Michigan Works, which covers 15 counties and more than 16,000 square miles, which is about one-third of the state's landmass. The UP is home to 3% of the state's population. Large businesses are few, and many residents must drive a considerable distance to work. The Copperwood Mine Project will provide family-sustaining jobs to many workers. Good jobs are sorely needed in the UP, and as Michigan moves to position itself as a leader in sustainable energy for our country, the resources produced in this mine are critical.

UP poverty rates and the ALICE (asset limited, income constrained, employed) population numbers are significant, so we must take full advantage of opportunities that make sense for our people.

U.P. Poverty Rate and ALICE Population Breakdown by County



Mining is a part of who we are in the U.P. Copper mining by Native Americans dates to around 3,000 B.C. and iron mining exploded in 1845. The UP is element rich, and that is something we are proud of. Yoopers have "SISU," (Finnish for grit and determination) and you can be certain that our workers will ensure the project's success, and that it will catalyze prosperity and hope in surrounding communities. The project will attract a myriad of new businesses where only a few exist. Please be a valuable part of the solution to provide opportunity and economic growth to the Western UP and help set in motion the first of many exciting prospects.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Carl Nykanen, Chair
Upper Peninsula Michigan Works! Local Elected Officials Board

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

Subject: FW: Copperwood Project/Strategic Fund

From: Daniel Hongisto <dano3649@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 7:49 AM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Subject: Copperwood Project/Strategic Fund

Mr. Casby,
My name is Dan Hongisto and I live near Ishpeming in the Upper Peninsula. I made my living in the mining and construction industries and because of my experience felt compelled to reach out to you to urge the Michigan Strategic Fund to approve the $50 million grant for the Copperwood Mine Project in Gogebic County. This $50 million is money that would be recovered from the financial benefits this project would provide.

I am originally from the small town of Wakefield in Gogebic County and still have a lot of family and friends living there. Because of the limited career opportunities, I decided to leave Wakefield a few years after graduating high school and moved to the Marquette area in 1978 to work in the iron mines. The "opposition" to the Copperwood Project references mining as being a cyclical industry. I will be the first to admit that it can be just that. That is why it takes tough, resilient, hard working people to be in the industry and to extract minerals necessary for everyday use and for the material things that are taken for granted. The people of the Upper Peninsula are the type of people that welcome these sorts of jobs and the challenges of hard work.

I speak of my own experiences so that I can relate firsthand what my experience in the industry has been like. One of the "negative" points that the "opposition" references is the short lifespan of the Copperwood Project. Maybe so, but I feel that, like the Eagle Mine Project in Marquette County, the lifespan would get extended as the need for copper grows and exploratory drilling finds more copper that it would be feasible to mine. My experience with a "short-term" job was working at the Ropes Gold Mine north of Ishpeming in the 1980's, an underground mine that was probably the most enjoyable and interesting place I have ever worked. My employment there lasted over six years, enabled us to purchase our home, and gave me the underground mining and supervisory experience that ultimately helped me land a job with MSHA, the Mine Safety and Health Administration, a division of the U.S. Department of Labor. The agencies mission and concern are the health and safety of all people working in our country's mines. I spent 20 years working for MSHA as a Safety and Health Inspector all over Michigan, northern Indiana, northern Illinois, and the majority of Wisconsin. As an inspector I met and worked with so many hard working, responsible people in the mining industry, both men and women, including laborers stacking stone in dimension stone quarries, equipment operators, drillers, blasters, environmentalists, union officers and safety representatives, mine managers, and the list goes on. All of us had one common goal, to provide for our loved ones and to go home safe and sound to our families at the end of the day.

I also spent over 6 years working for A. Lindberg and Sons Inc from Ishpeming, one of the larger construction companies in our area. A good amount of that time was spent at the local iron mines operated by Cleveland Cliffs. Most people don't comprehend the spinoff effects of mining such as the work that it provides for the local construction companies and trades. The construction of new mines obviously has a major effect on the local economy, from the construction jobs themselves to the vendors that supply the needed materials, the boost to local restaurants, hotels, gas stations, grocery stores and countless other spinoff effects. Let us not overlook that when considering these opportunities.

One of the most notable bits of misinformation published by an opposition group referenced the Eagle Mine Project when discussing the number of projected jobs at the Copperwood Project. They said that the Eagle Mine also claimed they would have hundreds of jobs at their mine but, in reality, only have 80 employees. I know a lot of people that work there, make good money, and love their jobs. I knew the 80 number was blatant and intentional misinformation. So, I called the Eagle Mine Information Center and questioned the number of people they employ. I found out that they employ 459 people between the mine and the processing facility. A far cry from 80. Of the 459 employees, 86%, or 395, were drawn from the local workforce. This is a reputable, transparent mining company that has been great for Marquette County and surrounding area, exactly the opposite of what the anti-mining people predicted. During my time with MSHA I grew to respect this company, what they represent, their transparency, and can only imagine the frustrations of dealing with the misinformed public. I can only hope that the people of Gogebic County are afforded the opportunity Marquette County was. I am retired now but find myself wishing I were younger and able to get in on the ground floor of a new mine like Copperwood, to live the excitement firsthand, and to watch it grow.

As far as the environmental aspect of the Copperwood, I don't know a single person that doesn't cherish Lake Superior. Call me naive or whatever, but I put my faith and trust in the people that get educated in the field, are reputable, and are overseen by government agencies that also are stewards of the environment. Sure, there are some bad actors out there. I would love to see any mine taken to task when they don't follow the environmental regulations they are expected to

adhere to, just as MSHA does with the safety and health regulations. Until then, they deserve a chance. And, speaking of environmental issues with mining, let us not forget all the construction and mining industry people that would be working during the reclamation of the mine site in the future. The way I see it, a lot of work for a lot of years.

My father worked in mining, construction, law enforcement and other jobs until he got a job with the State of Michigan, Department of Corrections, at Camp Ojibway, just a half hour commute from our home in Wakefield. He was a work camp supervisor there when it was still minimum security. It is where he retired from. He and my mother raised me and my 4 siblings in Wakefield. He made a good living there, one of the best jobs in the area. Then in late 2018 the State of Michigan closed that prison, a loss of over 200 full time jobs and 18 million dollars in benefits and payroll annually. As you can imagine, a major blow to the west end of the Upper Peninsula. Some were fortunate enough to be able to retire, others were forced to leave the area or commute to other correctional facilities across the U.P., while a handful of them terminated their employment with the state and took lesser paying jobs in order to stay in the area they call home.

It is my hope that you will accept my personal experiences and opinions and realize that they are factual, not like the Protect the Porkies propaganda that chooses to use condescending, ignorant, sarcasm when addressing the public in their videos and trying to make people feel stupid if they don't agree with them. Also, as you are probably aware, some of the driving forces against the new mine are not even local residents, but people that have moved to our area and are now trying to dictate how we should live. They do not understand, or don't care, that mining and logging is what brought our ancestors here in the first place. I feel that the minimal amount of opposition to the project, in itself, speaks volumes.

On behalf of my ancestors and the vast majority of the citizens of the Upper Peninsula, thank you for your time and efforts when considering this grant.

Please share this with all of the fund members so you can all hear it from someone that has lived it.
Michigan needs the Copperwood Project!

Respectfully yours,
Daniel Hongisto
Mine Safety and Health Inspector, retired
Ishpeming, MI
(906) 458-3365 (cell)
(906) 486-6145 (home)

City of Ironwood
213 S. Marquette St.
Ironwood, MI 49938

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Phone: (906) 932-5050
Fax: (906) 932-5745
www.cityofironwood.org

Date: February 7, 2024

Michigan Strategic Fund
Attn. Matt Casby and the MSF Board

Dear Mr. Casby and the Michigan Strategic Fund Board,

The City of Ironwood and the Gogebic Range has seen 100 years of declining population, but over the past decade, and even more recently in post COVID, Ironwood has sparked new life. We have seen more people visiting our community and enjoying the abundance of outdoor recreation opportunity and exceptional natural beauty. Our downtown has added some new businesses and with the help of the MSF has activated outdoor community space with the development of the Ironwood Downtown City Square. But the momentum is still fragile and the region as whole is still seeing our youth leave the community to seek employment opportunities outside the state. This low snow winter has shown how fragile our economy is and how reliant we are on tourism.

What our region desperately needs are good paying jobs from a stable year-round employer. Highland Copper and the Copperwood Project will create this much needed opportunity. Not only will the community benefit from the direct jobs created by the project, but there will be the supportive industry that will benefit as well. Creating small business opportunities and the ability to attract additional industry. This is the key to building a sustainable economy in our region.

Our community understands the value of the outdoor environment and what it means to our economy, our physical and mental health, and the responsibility we have as Yoopers to care for and protect our wilderness spaces. In this situation both are possible. We have seen responsible mining in the Eagle Mine Project in Marquette County and a commitment from Highland to do the same. With your help we can create economic stability and a thriving wilderness environment in the Gogebic Range.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide this letter of support for the Copperwood Project and thank you for considering support of this transformative project in the Western UP.

Sincerely,

Paul Anderson, P.E., City Manager / City Engineer
City of Ironwood, Michigan

Attached: Resolution of Support by the Ironwood City Commission

This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider, Employer and Housing Employer/Lender

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

February 9, 2024

Matthew Casby, Manager and Assistant Director

Michigan Strategic Fund

Re: Letter of Support- Highland Copper

Dear Members of the Michigan Strategic Fund,

Forward Wakefield, a non-profit economic development organization comprised of local community minded volunteers, would like to offer our support to Highland Copper as they are being considered for a $50 million dollar grant from the Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) to build and operate the Copperwood Mine Project.

Our group was formed in the late 1990's after the White Pine Mine closed. It has been our mission since that time to bring back economic development and prosperity to Wakefield and Wakefield Township. One of our successes was leveraging tax incentives from the State of Michigan in the form of a "renaissance zone" to build a speculative building for a potential business. One of those businesses located in the industrial park in Wakefield Township is now known as Westfall Technik, a mold maker for plastic injection molding companies. Other successes over the years have been hard to come by. However, we believe that the approval by the MSF of the investment into Copperwood has the potential to offer a new renaissance both in mining and the economies of the City of Wakefield and Gogebic County.

Another recent success our group experienced involved selling a 3-acre parcel on the shores of Sunday Lake in Wakefield to a developer that plans to build condo units for housing. Housing is in short supply and, with confirmation of a mine development in Wakefield Township, our hope is that the project will provide desperately needed housing in the Western Upper Peninsula. This is just one example of the spin-off opportunities that the investment in Copperwood will create and how our group can assist.

The mines of the past are gone, and mines of the future will be held to new regulatory and environmental standards that will power the transition to a cleaner, greener economy. We can envision, with this investment, opportunities to further leverage the mine development with additional manufacturing opportunities that could ultimately supply electric vehicle and battery suppliers in Michigan. From mine to mobility.

Our current membership is comprised of mostly of retired former captains of business in the local community, including a banker, a forester, a CEO and a past city manager to name a few, and we believe we are due for a regional renaissance that will continue to provide opportunities for growth and prosperity for the next generation.

Forward Wakefield unanimously supports the MSF $50 million dollar grant for Highland Copper.

Sincerely

John C. Siira, Forward Wakefield President

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

Subject: FW: Copperwood Mine Project

From: Chris Rigoni <crigoni@baccocc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 2:41 PM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Subject: Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Mr. Casby,

Forgive me for what may become a long winded email in support of the Copperwood Mine project.

I am writing in regard to Highland Copper's Copperwood Mine project. As a lifelong resident of the Upper Peninsula, I know that much of this area was develop around mining. Mining heritage can be seen from one end of the UP to the other. As an owner and representative of Bacco Construction Company, in Iron Mountain, Michigan, I am reminded daily of the importance of mining. With the abundance of iron mines in the area, Iron Mountain was able to grow to one of the UP's larger communities. Even though the mining industry dried up decades ago, the backbone of the community had been built with the blood, sweat, and tears of hundreds of people. These individuals went on to start local business that still thrive today. Bacco Construction has been in business since 1915, when the founding members left the mine industry to pursue highway construction. Without their previous experience in the mines, who knows if Bacco would be here today. We currently employ roughly 200 people throughout our construction season. We work primarily in the Upper Peninsula, with a generational workforce that continues to this day. Recently, it seems there has been a shift away from the logging industry, which, from our perspective, has benefited us in recruiting hard working individuals. As good as this shift has been to us, it is not a good signal for the long term growth of the UP. With the logging industry slowing down, the area needs a new path forward. This brings into play the abundance of local support for new mining operations like the Copperwood Project. With the mining industry building the backbone of the UP, it is critical to bring that industry back to the area. With the recent, state of the art operations of the Eagle Mine, in Marquette, Michigan, it is easy to see that modern technology, along with hard work, can make mining a sustainable and safe industry in the Upper Peninsula. The Copperwood Mine would be a huge step in the right direction to help rebuild many dwindling communities in the wester UP and I hope that the Michigan Strategic Fund would be willing to support this much needed economic boost! Thank you for your time.

Chris Rigoni
Executive Vice President
Bacco Construction Company
906-282-0700

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

Subject: FW: Copperwood Mine

From: John Matonich <jmatonich@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 9:58 AM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Subject: Copperwood Mine

Dear Mr. Casby,

I am writing this note to express my complete support for the construction of the Copperwood mine. I currently serve on the Gogebic County Road Commission as well as the Chair of the Gogebic County Forestry Commission. Besides the economic benefits of the jobs the mine will create, it will also provide a much needed reconstruction of County Road 519 which runs from State Highway M-28 to the mine site near the north end of 519.

This new road will provide much improved access to thousands of acres of both the Ottawa National Forest (including the North Country Trail) as well as a large part of the Gogebic County Forest. Gogebic County has the largest holding of County Forest lands in the State of Michigan. It is professionally managed and through timber sales provides an income stream back to Gogebic County.

I was born and raised in the west end of the Upper Peninsula and graduated from Michigan Technological University. I moved back to my hometown after I retired 8 years ago and do all I can to help support this area which has been in a continual decline for dozens of years. We lack a major employer that would certainly be a boost to our economy. The construction of this mine would benefit several counties here in the western Upper Peninsula of Michigan as well as northern Wisconsin.

Please ask the members of the Michigan Strategic Fund to help our area return to a degree of economic prosperity and at the same time enhance our natural resources for all to enjoy.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this request.
Take care.
John

John Matonich
jmatonich@gmail.com
(c) 810-869-5167

Dear Board Members:

I applaud you for taking on this critical task. As decision-makers, you are tasked with responsibly investing taxpayers' hard-earned money. I wish I could make your decision-making process easier, as it requires not just business acumen but also tough moral choices.

I apologize. I am going to make your job more challenging.

Some folks will advocate for the Highland Mine for local economics. They have a strong case.

Some will argue that our beautiful North Woods should be left pristine. As a member of at least 14 environmental organizations, including the Sierra Club, my heart is with the environmentally concerned.

Neither of these positions should be ignored. However, there is one overriding issue that is paramount to all humanity. It should involve every decision we make. It compels us to wage war on the sources responsible for a dangerously warming world. Losing this war will have fatal consequences.

We are not helpless. We can win the climate war. Our foremost science institution, the National Academies of Science, has a war plan for success. It is called "Accelerating Decarbonization of the U.S. Energy System," it lays out the challenge. We must transition from coal, oil, and gas. We must reduce our carbon pollution by half by 2030 and be free of carbon pollution by 2050.

We must build wind turbines, solar panels, nuclear power plants, batteries, electric vehicles, and heat pumps, all connected by a new, modern grid to meet the challenge. The key mineral needed to decarbonize and survive is copper, which must be mined at a rate unprecedented in human history.

The Highland Copper Mine's projected lifespan is short, but it fits perfectly within the timeframe needed to make the transition.

On the planetary ship we thrive on, Mother Earth, we are in an all-hands-on-deck emergency. We are both figuratively and realistically on fire. I served in the Air Force, the Army, and our Navy's Military Sealift Command. When the ship is in danger of burning, everyone is called on deck to fight it.

Those who scale the ladders to meet the threat will be the heroes. I am jealous. You are one of those called, and I am confident you have the insight and courage to meet the challenge.

If you are not sure the threat is as severe as I tell you, ask the presidents of Michigan Tech, the University of Michigan, and Michigan State to task their science professors to brief you.

At your service,

Greyson Morrow

climatelynx.com

climatelynx@earthlink.net

906-285-3702

From: timothy hainstock
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: I"m in support of Copperwood mine
Date: Monday, March 11, 2024 7:49:34 PM

Greetings,

I am writing to ask for support for the Copperwood mine, and funding for the Copperwood mine.

I feel that a review of the Eagle mine operations and procedures, can and does prove copper mining can and will be done in a safe manner for the environment and people in the surrounding area. The creation if this mine will not only create jobs for the local area, it will be economically beneficial to the area as well. I would like to thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Tim Hainstock

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

From: Marty Fittante
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC)
Subject: RE: COPPERWOOD MINE
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 10:54:03 AM
Attachments: image007.png
image008.png
image009.png

Matt…

In light of the emails that the MEDC and MSF members are now apparently getting in opposition to citing the Copperwood Mine in Gogebic County, I wanted to provide some additional insight and affirmation that evidences both the incredible local support that the project enjoys and he merits of the project itself that I would ask that you share with members of the Strategic Fund so that this support and insight does not get lost by any recent traffic that the MEDC and MSF are now receiving on Copperwood.

First and foremost, the economic impact of this project are as a matter of fact not replicable, in any appreciable way, to this region, which is desperately in need of jobs – especially good paying, family sustaining jobs. This project brings with it 300 direct jobs during construction, an additional 100+ spin-off jobs for suppliers throughout the region and nearly 400 full time employees at full operation. These jobs ranging from a $80,000 to $120,000, which are twice the current median regional wage of $41,000.

With that need and the quality of these jobs, its little wonder why, at this time, 19 local units of government have taken the time and attention to pass resolutions of support, this includes townships to county boards. Beyond this, nearly 10 local institutions, like the community college and hospital have submitted letters of support supporting the construction of Copperwood – not easy positions to take in with today's political climate around the environment, which I would suggest also attests to the strength of this support.

However, the support of the project and for these jobs and the significant ancillary economic impact it will have on the community does not come at the expense of the quality of life that is critical to the community and the region – incidentally a way and quality of life that is the fabric of living in this area for every one of those stakeholders that have formally expressed their support of this project. As the company has repeatedly expressed (and why the project and the company have been so well received by the community in working in the community for the last 10 years) Copperwood will be managed and controlled with the environment at the forefront. As just one example - the project is designed to utilize precipitation and water flowing freely into the mines as a water source rather than water from Lake Superior or any other freshwater sources, which means that water will not be pulled directly from Lake Superior, inland lakes, rivers or streams.

That commitment to the environment goes beyond Highland's own affirmation. Please recall, as it is critical, that this project is fully permitted under Part 632 of Michigan, non-ferrous mining standards, which are (as Governor Granholm

mentioned when she signed these standards into law after a unanimous vote of the Michigan legislature) arguably the most stringent mining standards in the world! Those that seek to protect the environment at all costs, and ostensibly place its well-being well beyond the economic well-being of the community, cannot have it both ways: Critical minerals, namely copper, are utilized in the manufacturing process for electric vehicles and renewable energy products – the very products for which they offer full-throated support. These critical materials and miners have to be mined – which begs the question: Are we not better off to mine these critical material and mineral right here and right now with the advantages it brings to our critical supply chain, national defense and EV transition (we can lead the world in the vertical integration in the electrification transformation), all while faithfully abiding by these stringent standards

And lets not forget about the economic benefit to the local units of government and the State that result to both from the Severance Tax that will be captured through this investment. That tax actually goes a long way in repaying the State for its investment – an investment which comes with relatively little risk as the State investment is essentially predicated upon construction of the Mine.

In the interest of gathering resident sentiment across the 15 counties of the UP, our regional economic development organization, InvestUP in partnership with UP Michigan Works! and Innovate Marquette Smartzone, has undertaken the process of socio-economic polling. Results from our April 2023 poll, contracted from a national pollster and consisting of 500 randomly selected UP residents, we found that an overwhelming majority of those questioned support mining in the Upper Peninsula. Especially from the very backyard of where this project will be taking place – with an astounding 82% of western UP residents favor mining.

In addition, and very often forgotten, we have significant mining history and operations in the region - even today! Cleveland Cliffs has been mining iron ore in Marquette County for well over a century and Lundin Mining is operating the very first non-ferrous (like Copperwood) mine that was permitted through Part 632 - Eagle Mine in Marquette County. These operations have been operating safely, sustainably, quietly and with great community embrace for a very long time.

I hope this provides you and the Strategic Fund members with an vivid reminder and additional affirmation and detail for them to stand with the community that desperately needs their support and permits this vital project forward.

Of course, if you have any questions, please reach out to me any time. This is an incredible investment opportunity, not only for the Upper Peninsula or the State of Michigan, but nationally as well with the independence it provides from foreign reliance and leverage. And one that is desperately needed as reflected in the fact that the region has lost 7 om ten of its K12 students about the time that mining stopped in the region.

Thank you.

Marty Fittante
CEO

C: 906.280.7800 (anytime)
P: 906.376.0676
mfittante@investupmi.com



Charter Township of Ironwood

N10892 Lake Rd
Ironwood, MI 49938
Website: www.Ironwoodtownship.com
Phone: (906) 932-5800
Fax: (906) 932-5089

Jay Kangas., Supervisor (906)932-8447
Marlene Saari, Clerk (906) 932-8446
Maria Graser, Treasurer (906) 932-8445

February 6, 2024

Matt Casby, Director
Michigan Strategic Fund

Dear Mr. Casby,

I am writing this letter to the Michigan Strategic Fund in support of the application submitted by Copperwood to operate a copper mine in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships. As has been voiced numerous times, mining is what defines who we are on the Gogebic Range. The Iron Boom in the late 1800's created some of the greatest, most developed mines, considered in the world. These mines were one of the nation's chief resources for iron during this era. As the mines dwindled during the depression, so did the economy. Copper Range eventually opened in the mid 1950's and continued operation until 1995. Both my and my wife's father worked at White Pine and we both grew up in mining family. Supper was at 3:30 sharp and absolutely no noise after 7:00 PM. Our dad's made decent wages, were able to afford nice homes and vehicles, and were able to put their kids through college. As the need and price for copper declined so did operations at the mine. Eventually the mine shuttered and again our local economy was left to struggle.

1971 was the birth of Camp Ojibway, under the direction of the Department of Corrections. The camp provided the community with some decent jobs and a service provided by the prison work crews. The Camp was converted to a full-scale prison in approximately 2000, when it employed and supported hundreds of local workers. These jobs not only provided a good wage but allowed people to actually enjoy life. People could afford recreational opportunities that trickled down even further, putting more money back in the hands of other local businesses. 2018 marked the demise of the Ojibway Correctional Facility, through State Funding Reductions, and workers had little choice if they wanted to stay where they called home. It was either travel hundreds of miles to work at other prisons or find a comparable job locally, which were few and far between.

I was present at the MSF meeting on January 30, and I will be totally honest, I was not 100% informed on the principles or the functions of the MEDC or the MSF, but I do note that just a few excerpts from your web site, define exactly what the Copperwood proposal stands for, and what it would mean for region. *"Michigan Business Redevelopment", "Michigan Community Revitalization", "Business Incentives", "Jobs Creation", "Jobs Ready", and "Renewable Energy",* all represent what could be the boost the area needs.

The Charter Township of Ironwood is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http:/www.ascr.usda.gov/complaintfilingcust.html, or at any USDA office. You can also call 866-632-9992 to request the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter by mail to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410. By fax at (202)690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov

Requests supporting many other projects throughout lower Michigan were voiced and are all well deserving. What set us aside from these projects is that fact that we have nothing to fall back on. We don't have a plan "B". I see all the success your board members represent to the MSF and plead to each and every one of you, to please consider all of us in the Western Upper Peninsula who could really use this shot in the arm.. As an old friend would say when we would train in the Lower Michigan, "We don't live at the end of the world, but you can certainly see it from here."

I have also attached a copy of a resolution of support that was adopted by the Charter Township of Ironwood Board.

Warm regards from what used to be "Big Snow Country",

Jay Kangas
Supervisor
N10892 Lake Rd
Ironwood, MI 49938
(906) 932-8447

The Charter Township of Ironwood is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http:/www.ascr.usda.gov/complaintfilingcust.html, or at any USDA office. You can also call 866-632-9992 to request the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter by mail to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410. By fax at (202)690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov

Charter Township of Ironwood

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY
IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Resolution # 2023-0013

At the Regular Meeting of the Charter Township of Ironwood, duly held on October 23, 2023, duly held in the board room, of Ironwood Township. The following Resolution was adopted in support of the Copperwood Mine Project.

PRESENT: Aili-Angus, Justinak, Simmons, Lyons, Graser, Segalin and Kangas
ABSENT: None

WHEREAS the Charter Township of Ironwood, supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Charter Township of Ironwood, acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Charter Township of Ironwood, recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Charter Township of Ironwood, fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

The forgoing resolution offered by, ____Lyons_____ Supported by____Aili-Angus_____.
Upon roll call vote the following voted

YEAS: All
NAYS: None

CERTIFICATION
I, the undersigned duly qualified Clerk of Charter Township of Ironwood, Gogebic County, Michigan do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Ironwood, County of Gogebic, Michigan at a regular meeting held on October 23, 2023 at 5:00 pm, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976.
I further certify that the following members were present at said meeting:

Mary Segalin, Clerk — 10-23-2023 Date

From:	Timothy Lynott
To:	Matthew Casby (MEDC)
Subject:	HIghland Copper - Copperwood Funding - Gogebic County
Date:	Tuesday, February 6, 2024 12:54:25 PM
Attachments:	image001.png

Matt,
Please forward this email to the members of the Michigan Strategic Fund regarding the $50 million investment for Copperwood in Gogebic County.

Dear members of the Michigan Strategic Fund:

My name is Tim Lynott, President and CEO of Keweenaw Land Association, Ltd., a publicly traded corporation (OTC:KEWL) headquartered in Ironwood, Michigan. We have been in operation in Michigan for over 150 years as a mineral and timber management company, www.keweenaw.com. I was in the room last week when the funding request for Highland Copper was delayed and referred back to committee. It was a gut-wrenching experience for a number of reasons but 2 in particular:

First, this area knows nothing but economic decline and loss of businesses and population for the past 30 years, and secondly and more concerning is the fact this will give the environmental community yet another chance to offer scary commentary and quite frankly misleading information about the impacts of the proposed development.

Regarding the economic impacts, the loss of White Pine mine, the Ontonagon Mill, and the Ojibway correctional facility were conservatively over a billion-dollar impact and loss to the area and around 1,600 family sustaining jobs. A $50 million dollar investment in this project will kick start Copperwood, and likely lead to redevelopment at White Pine, and indirectly induce a large number of other jobs and businesses to the area. In short, it has the potential to have a **multi-generational impact** on a region that desperately needs it. Copperwood, like the Eagle Mine near Marquette, will identify additional mineral resources to extend the mine life over time, a mine that will likely reach about 20 years. White Pine, where Highland is a 34% owner has identified a 25-year mineral resource. Suddenly we are looking at 45 years or more!

As Marty Fittante eloquently stated in the meeting last week, this is not your grandfather's mine. Those days are long gone. **Michigan's regulations are the gold standard, or in this case the copper standard**. They are the best. High quality regulation combined with new ESG standards (Environmental, Social and Governance) in the world of public companies demand that businesses consider all the impacts from environment to social and economic before they can get the investment required to develop a mine.

Regarding the environmental community that is seizing on this opportunity as another chance to scare up opposition, I want to say this; **the science is settled** and the best example of this exists about 100 miles to the east of Copperwood at the Eagle Mine and Mill. All of the arguments that were put forth regarding how detrimental Eagle was going to be for the environment **NEVER** happened.

These are 21st century mines with 21st century regulations that require companies to be good corporate citizens, otherwise they are out of business even before they get started. **Copperwood is fully permitted**. Those applications and studies have been reviewed and approved by numerous company, State and independent experts; some of the same experts that permitted Eagle Mine. Now is not the time to re-litigate or re-open any of the environmental oppositions scare tactics. Those issues have been addressed numerous times over the past 14 years and are included in the environmental permits and feasibility studies that have been completed.

The environmental protections were addressed FIRST in this process, and now it is time to address the economics.

One last thing regarding the investment which was mentioned in the meeting, "*We're being asked to move forward on a project where we don't really know the structure of the ownership*." No investor or bank necessarily wants to be first, but they definitely do not want to be left out, we call it FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) these days. **This is where the State investment is critical**. The State has the opportunity to provide cornerstone financing that will lead to the debt and equity needed for this development. I believe Highland knows who their equity partners are and has a number of banks lined up for the debt, however with the sensitivity of being a public company they also need to treat this information carefully. I am sure information can be shared and conditions can be added to ensure all of the MSF committee's concerns are met.

As a lifelong resident, born and raised in Gogebic County, a member of the community where more than **82% of the population support** this development, I respectfully ask the committee to approve this investment **as it will truly have a transformative impact on the region.**

Thank you for your consideration,

Tim Lynott
President

PO Box 188
Ironwood, MI 49938

P: 906.932.3410
C: 906.364.1222

www.keweenaw.com

Michigan Manufacturers Association

March 20, 2024

Michigan Strategic Fund Board
300 North Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Dear Members of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board,

MMA is proud to offer its strong endorsement of the Copperwood Resources, Inc. project in Gogebic County. The strength of Michigan's robust manufacturing history is rooted in both innovation and capitalizing on our rich natural resources. Whether its iron ore mined in the Upper Peninsula and crafted into steel to build automobiles in Detroit, or natural brine in the ground around Midland to be transformed by Herbert Henry Dow to produce chlorine or agricultural products used by Kellogg to create a new breakfast cereal, Michigan's natural resources have driven our economic growth.

In recent years, we all learned how supply chain limitations can impact our manufacturing economy. As Michigan helps drive technological evolution in mobility, information technology and other sectors, our natural resources will once again provide a competitive advantage over other states and nations. Michigan has been the envy of other states as they want our jobs and our natural resources. Now, as one of the only states that mines iron ore, and the only state that produces nickel, Michigan must once again take advantage of its own natural resources, including copper and rare earth minerals to drive battery technology, electric vehicle innovation and spur economic growth.

The economic impact will be statewide, though the greatest impact will be felt locally in the Upper Peninsula and specifically Gogebic County. The project will create 380 jobs in a county that currently only employs 5,706 people with a population of just 14,361 people. These new jobs alone will increase employment by 7%. Moreover, these are high wage jobs ranging from $80,000 to $120,000 with benefits, will support families, grow local businesses and bolster local schools. This is a dramatic boost to local communities as the current per capita income in Gogebic County (2022) is $47,559.

The capital investment of $425 million provides a catalyst for growth as the mine will produce roughly 675 million pounds of copper over its 11-year mine life, supporting the production of more than 3,750,000 electric vehicles. The investment in mining will multiply job growth. The National Mining Association reports that mining currently supports approximately 9,000 direct jobs in Michigan and 17,000 indirect and induced jobs.

MMA encourages the MSF Board to support this project, continuing our robust economic legacy of driving innovation and economic growth by capitalizing on our rich natural resources.

Thank you for all you do to grow this great state and thank you for your consideration in this important project.

Sincerely,

John Walsh
President & CEO

TOWNSHIP OF WAKEFIELD

Gogebic County
414 County Rd. 519
PO Box 164
Wakefield, Michigan 49968

February 9, 2024

Dear Director Casby and Michigan Strategic Fund Board Members,

I was one of the 20 plus in attendance at the January 30th, 2024 MSF Board meeting. I walked into the conference room with high hopes that the State of Michigan would be generous in awarding Highland Copper the $50 million it had requested for the continued development of the Copperwood Mine Project, located in Wakefield and Ironwood Townships in the Western Upper Peninsula. As stated, I walked in with high hopes, but left with knots in my stomach of the unknown for this mine project, once again.

I will say that this project is near and dear to my heart. I can honestly say that blood, sweat, and tears were put into this project, on a very personal level. I was pregnant with my first child when Bill Williams from Orvana came to town, speaking of the great possibility of an immense copper vein located in Wakefield Township and Ironwood Township, and they wanted to start a drilling program to find out where the copper was located and at what percentage of purity it was. He was looking for a dedicated excavation team to help with the drill program as they were unfamiliar with the territory "Out North" and would need some help. My husband and his brother were hired as their team and were honored and excited to do so. As a young couple starting out, we were both excited at the opportunity of something so great that might come to our area, as job opportunities in the area were lacking after we both graduated with bachelor's degrees from Northern Michigan University. Long hours were put in with alternating shifts to keep up with the drillers in the cold of winter that year. It was hard work, but worth every minute of it to think of the possibilities. Many men and women asked questions on how they could get jobs out there and when Orvana was going to open a mine...that was 15 years ago.

After one of Orvana's last drill programs, before they sold to Highland Copper, Mr. Williams took my husband and our family out to dinner. We always enjoyed his knowledge of the mining industry and trusted him, especially when he told us not to put all our eggs in this one basket. After that discussion, it was quite a few years before we saw another drill program or any big activity out on the Copperwood site, and we were thankful for the advice as we ramped up our business activities with the logging industry in our area. Copper prices were very low and we understood that a mine would not be feasible to build at that time. We didn't put all our eggs in that basket but continued to be available for any project that Highland Copper needed, whether it be big or small, to keep this project going because we knew of the importance of it to our area.

Besides being supportive of my husband's dedication to this project, I was appointed as the Township Clerk in Wakefield Township in April 2012. This role brought me to a whole different level of support for this project that I had no idea at the time exactly what it would involve. It seems like so long ago already, but I went to every meeting with our Township Supervisor at the time, John Cox, to pledge our support of the project on behalf of Wakefield Township. Every

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mandy Lake, SUPERVISOR (906) 364-0669, PO Box 164
Jennifer Ahonen, CLERK (906) 364-0717, PO Box 164
Denice Lessig, TREASURER (906) 364-3481, PO Box 191
Mike Heikkila, TRUSTEE (906) 250-1346
Rob Drier, TRUSTEE (906) 285-3937

single project update meeting, every single permit meeting, every single public hearing meeting, and on and on. We pledged our support because our Township Board could see the possibilities for our area if this mine became a reality. Our community also had various representatives at every meeting to pledge their support also. A lot has happened since 2012. I became the Wakefield Township Supervisor once John retired, have had the opportunity to be the City of Wakefield Treasurer for 2.5 years, and am currently the City of Bessemer Clerk/Treasurer. I have gained an even larger knowledge base on how three of our communities operate, co-exist, and aim for the same goals for the region, all on very tight budgets.

As for my husband, he still has his excavation business and was fortunate to be called to the mine site this past summer to help accomplish the almost impossible in the short time frame that was allotted for the project. Work for the Wetland permit needed to be completed and his small crew was employed along with a larger U.P. excavation company. They worked together to get the job done and received many kudos from Highland Copper representatives, engineers, and most importantly of all, EGLE. There was quite a lot of work that occurred out there, and you could hardly tell that anybody was there, except for the train of trucks that came back to town every day at about 8 pm once the work was completed. We lived and breathed this project once again in the hopes that this mine would finally take off.

So, there I sat in the MSF meeting in a conference room at Gogebic Community College on January 30th, 2024, hopeful to hear some good news. For approximately an hour, we listened to many other applicants thanking the MSF Board for their consideration in grant funding opportunities, all of which were in the Lower Peninsula. I believe that the SSRP funding is a wonderful avenue for the State of Michigan to provide potential businesses with funding and was excited to hear the outcome of our region's future. The presentations by Mr. Fittante and Mr. O'Shea explained our area and the status of the mine project. More of the same information that has been given time and time again was also a topic of discussion: declining economy, aging population, no jobs available, schools declining. That's all information that we already know and it's not pretty as there is no big thing after this. Our logging industry is in a fast decline. What was once a good job for the self-employed is now a scary situation to be in. Walmart is our next biggest employer. The next thing we rely on is tourism. If we don't have young workers here because they are going elsewhere for good paying jobs, who then is left to work at the restaurants, gas stations, schools, hospitals, bank, post office, etc. One of the scariest realities though is that our median incomes are going down ($38,000 if you recall) but we pay the same prices for utilities, houses, food, vehicles, healthcare, that everybody else in the State of Michigan pays.

I sat there listening to the questions on how Highland Copper planned to finance the rest of the project, how they planned to keep it environmentally safe, how they planned to make it a project that lasted more than 10 years so it was justifiable for that amount of state funding. I have heard this same information and dedication to this project since my husband first started on the mine site 15 years ago. I love hearing the support and dedication of everybody in our

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TOWNSHIP OF WAKEFIELD
Gogebic County
414 County Rd. 519
PO Box 164
Wakefield, Michigan 49968

community and region and it has never stopped since day one. The only thing we need now is the support of the MSF Board...without it, I have a feeling that this project will never happen. We have one thing that is different than all the places downstate that are vying for the same funding, and it has to do with WANTS versus NEEDS. We have people that WANT to work today, unlike a good majority of the country as of late. They WANT to come back "home" to have a good paying job and to help their parents as they get old. They WANT their kids in safe schools, and they WANT to see their communities survive and not die. They WANT good paying jobs and don't want to worry if they must get a second or third job to make ends meet. They WANT a long-lasting job opportunity, not just one that is seasonal. As I sat and listened to everybody in that room, I WANTED that for our area. I realized that many of the WANTS that I listed are similar throughout the State. That's when my stomach started turning into knots, thinking that this opportunity might pass us up, once again. Copper prices are high, investors are willing, workers are available, copper is now listed as crucial for economic development, and we have the dedication, support, and drive in our region of the state. We NEED a YES to survive in our region in Michigan, and that far outweighs the same WANTS elsewhere in the State.

Thank you for your time,

Mandy Lake

Wakefield Township Supervisor, City of Bessemer Clerk/Treasurer, Owner of Lake's Flower Cabin in Wakefield Township, Co-owner of Silver Creek Excavating & Trucking, LLC in Wakefield Township

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY
IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN

At a Regular Meeting of the Township Board of Wakefield Township, duly held on November 7, 2023, duly held in the board room at Wakefield Township Hall, 414 N. County Rd. 519, the following Resolution was offered by Robert Drier supported by Michael Heikkila

PRESENT: Jennifer Ahonen, Denise Laessig, Robert Drier, Michael Heikkila

ABSENT: Mandy Lake

WHEREAS the Township of Wakefield supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Township of Wakefield acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Township of Wakefield recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Township of Wakefield fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

The forgoing resolution offered by Board Member Robert Drier second offered by Board Member Michael Heikkila.

Upon roll call vote the following voted

YEAS: Michael Heikkila, Denise Laessig, Robert Drier, Jennifer Ahonen

NAYS: none

The Wakefield Township Clerk declared the Resolution adopted.

Jennifer Ahonen, Wakefield Township Clerk

Date: 11/7/23

IRONWOOD AREA SCHOOLS OF GOGEBIC COUNTY
Serving the City of Ironwood, Erwin and Ironwood Townships
TRAVIS S. POWELL, SUPERINTENDENT

IRONWOOD AREA SCHOOLS
650 EAST AYER STREET
IRONWOOD, MI 49938

TELEPHONE: 906.932.0200
FAX 906.932.9915
email: travis.powell@ironwood.k12.mi.us

Office of the Superintendent

February 9, 2024

Matt Casby
Director, Michigan Strategic Fund

Re: Advocating for Funding of the Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Mr. Casby,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to advocate for the funding of the Copperwood Mine project, emphasizing the significant positive economic impacts it would have on the Western Upper Peninsula region, particularly on K-12 education. The $50 million grant would have a tremendous positive impact in our region, representing a significant return on investment. Please forward my message on to the other members of the Strategic Fund Committee as you see fit.

The Copperwood Mine project represents a tremendous opportunity for our community, promising to bring about a host of benefits that extend far beyond the mining industry itself. One of the most noteworthy aspects of this project is its potential to generate a substantial increase in job opportunities for residents in our region. With more jobs available, families will have greater financial stability, leading to a higher quality of life for individuals and communities alike. This is a big deal for a community that has been in economic decline for decades.

Furthermore, the influx of employment opportunities from the Copperwood Mine project is likely to result in increased enrollment in our local schools. As more families move to the area or choose to remain here due to improved economic prospects, our schools will experience a boost in student numbers. This increase in enrollment not only ensures the vitality of our educational institutions but also presents an opportunity for enhanced diversity and enrichment within our classrooms.

Moreover, the economic prosperity brought about by the Copperwood Mine project will provide our schools with some additional resources necessary to better serve their students and communities. With increased funding from taxes generated by the project, our schools will have the means to invest in infrastructure improvements, update educational materials, and enhance extracurricular programs. Additionally, higher tax revenues can enable schools to attract and retain top-tier educators, ensuring that our students receive the highest quality education possible.

It is crucial to recognize that the benefits of the Copperwood Mine project extend far beyond the mining industry itself. By bolstering our local economy and creating job opportunities, this project has the potential to transform the landscape of our region for the better, particularly in terms of K-12 education. Therefore, I urge you to strongly consider supporting the funding of the Copperwood Mine project, recognizing its capacity to uplift our community and provide a brighter future for generations to come.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any further questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Travis Powell
Superintendent
Ironwood Area Schools of Gogebic County

From: Eric Brye
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC)
Subject: Copperwood Project
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 11:58:12 AM

Hi Matt and MSF Members, I would like to say that the proposed Copperwood project would bring many needed jobs to the Northern Midwest which in turn would allow opportunities for my kids and many other families to provide good living wages and stay in the Northland. I hear from so many families that say their kids do not stay up north because there are limited job opportunities for them to make good wages and raise families in the area. I am strongly in favor of moving this project forward. This area has a long history of mining and the minerals need to be mined where they exist so it makes sense and would be great for future growth and development of the area. Please feel free to pass this along to other members as you see fit.
Sincerely.

Eric Brye- Vice President
Northwoods Paving Co.
610 Industrial Park Rd
Ashland, WI 54806
715-682-4340 Office
608-790-2931 Cell

EOE, including disability/vets

Notice: This e-mail (including attachments) is covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. 2510-2521, is confidential and may be privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please be aware that any retention, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is prohibited. Please reply to the sender that you have received this message in error and then delete it. Thank you for helping to maintain privacy.

To:Michigan Strategic Fund

John Cox,
844 Drier Rd.
Wakefield, Michigan 49968
Phone 906-285-3462

February 7, 2024

Dear Members of the Michigan Strategic Fund:

Please allow me to introduce myself. I was born in Wakefield, Michigan in 1948 and lived near the Sunday Lake Iron Mine in the City of Wakefield for several years. My parents also purchased a larger house in Wakefield township in the woods, so we lived in either house depending on the needs of tenants that we were renting to. My father worked underground in the Sunday Lake Iron Mine until it closed. Approximately 10 years later or so the White Pine Copper Mine also closed. The loss of Iron mines in Gogebic County devastated our economy. My dad went to work for a USFS cutting trees etc. under a program instituted by President John Kennedy. It was a life saver for us and the community.

I graduated from Wakefield Schools and finished my education with a B.S. from Northern Michigan University and later received a Master's Degree in education from the University of Michigan. I moved to the Detroit area and worked as a teacher and administrator for 25 years. My greatest accomplishment was serving at Oxford Schools as the Executive Director for Operations and Personnel. I was charged with renovating and building schools since we had a growing population. I am very familiar with the laws regarding environmental pollution, i.e. building retention ponds for water runoff and the location of new schools so that the sites do not pollute or cause damage to the surrounding land owners.

I retired in 1999 and moved back to Wakefield Township where I currently reside. I was asked by the Wakefield Township Board to serve as their Economic Development Director. It was one of the toughest challenges of my lifetime. We had some success in this area but selling this area to businesses was very difficult. Later I was appointed Wakefield Township Supervisor and continued the push for more business. Our business park expanded some with Extreme Tool and Hilborn logging and recycling. In addition we added Dalbeck Logging and Lakes's Greenhouse. Small steps but good steps.

Around 2009 Orvana Resources approached us about opening a Copper Mine in the northern part of our township. I have enclosed the documents Orvana sent to us, as well as the MDEQ letter that was sent to Jim Caron, and lastly the resolution that was adopted by the Wakefield Township Board.

I retired as Township Supervisor a few years back and am now a private citizen who absolutely supports the Orvana Copper Mine Project. With the background I have I see no good reason for not moving forward with this project. This has been the most studied and environmentally safe project that I have ever seen or been involved with. Most of my schools that were built or renovated in my career downstate and projects that I was involved in were never scrutinized as much as this project has been. Those studies are costly and in order for Orvana to build the mine they are going to need some financial help. Today most people could not find the location of all the closed mines in Gogebic County unless they grew up here. In fact the City of Wakefield draws their drinking water from an old mine shaft. They are safe and clean places. Houses were built around the mines.

Gogebic County has seen a downward population trend for many years mainly because there are no good paying jobs or opportunities to start a business. Based on history, mines bring progress and tax base to an area. I have a lot of young friends who help me out with projects around my house and acreage. They are very hard, dependable workers and good Americans. They live with their parents and are looking into the future wondering how they are going to afford a house, a good car, food, etc. I never had to worry about that, but I had to move away to find a good paying job.

Copper and iron mines are essential for this country. If we are going to be using electric cars and electric tools, someone has to produce the copper wire and assorted materials to build the infrastructure to support this. We cannot rely on foreign countries to do this anymore. We need to have a strong military that doesn't run out of ammunition, weapons, planes etc. I hope that all parties can agree that Gogebic County needs a strong tax base and support from the Michigan Strategic Fund. The funds will be a good investment for these townships, this county, this state, and this country.

Very Sincerely Yours,

John Cox

Dear Strategic Fund Board Members:
Please support the development of the Highland Copper Mine.
Iron and copper from our community mines built this nation and saved democracy by providing the minerals needed to destroy the authoritarian regimes threatening us in WWII.
A well-regulated mine will help our financially struggling communities trying to stay afloat after a disastrously hot winter. Like our historic mines, which saved the world in WWII, an environmentally well-regulated copper mine can do the same again.
Climate-wise, we are at a critical juncture. The National Academies give us a tight timeframe to save ourselves. We have until 2030 to reduce our dependence on dirty energy by half. Climate scientists worldwide warn us that by 2050, we must be completely free from carbon emissions from burning coal, oil, and gas.
Our National Academies of Science give a hopeful message: We can save the planet by electrifying our energy system. To do so, we must use clean energy sources like wind, solar, nuclear, and hydro. All these sources of energy, plus a new modern grid, require copper. Copper is the keystone mineral to transitioning to clean energy and saving our kids' future.
The Highland Copper Mine's projected lifespan makes it a natural fit to meet the need to electrify entirely by 2050.
I have read the environmental concerns. There is no mining impact that a vigilant DNR and watchdog local community cannot mitigate. I say this as a current dues-paying member of 15 environmental organizations and a member of the Sierra Club since 1975.
While other deserving projects need funding, no movement is more critical than the one confronting all humanity this instant: saving the climate.
Awarding a grant to Highland Copper will give Gogebic and Ontonagon counties a needed financial boost. But far outweighing our financial plight is the need to meet the crisis of a rapidly warming world head-on by transitioning to a bright electrical future by providing the critical ingredient, copper ore.
If you need information on the current climate state of the world, please get in touch with me at climatelynx@earthlink.net or 906-285-3702.
At your service,
Greyson Morrow
Ref: National Academies report: "Accelerating Decarbonization of the U.S. Energy System" can be sourced from the National Academies Press

From:	Matthew Casby (MEDC)
To:	Alan Tulppo
Cc:	Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject:	RE: Copperwood Mine Project
Date:	Monday, February 12, 2024 9:28:40 AM

Thank you Mr. Tulppo – I will make sure this is shared with the MSF board.

Matthew Casby
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
Phone: 517.643.1864 | CasbyM2@michigan.org

From: Alan Tulppo <atulppo@goisd.org>
Sent: Sunday, February 11, 2024 5:03 PM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>; Alan Tulppo <atulppo@goisd.org>
Subject: Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Members of the Michigan Strategic Fund,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed $50 million investment in the Copperwood Mine Project. As a concerned citizen invested in the economic development and prosperity of our region, supporting this project will bring substantial benefits to our community and contribute to our long-term growth, which will, in turn, benefit our region's K-12 education system.

After carefully reviewing the details of the Copperwood Mine Project and its potential impact on our region, I am convinced that this investment aligns perfectly with the goals of fostering economic prosperity and job creation. The Copperwood Mine Project promises to be a significant driver of economic growth, generating jobs, revenue, and opportunities for local businesses.

The Copperwood Mine Project is expected to create numerous direct and indirect employment opportunities, providing stable and well-paying jobs for our residents. Additionally, the project will contribute to the expansion and diversification of our local economy, which has languished for decades, attracting further investment and stimulating growth in related industries.

Furthermore, the development of the Copperwood Mine Project will not only benefit our region economically but also environmentally. With state-of-the-art technologies and sustainable practices in place, the project aims to minimize its environmental footprint and ensure responsible stewardship of our natural resources.

Investing in the Copperwood Mine Project is an investment in the future of our community. By supporting this initiative, we can unlock new economic opportunities, strengthen our local economy, and improve the quality of life for residents across our region.

I would like you to consider the significant economic benefits that the Copperwood Mine Project offers and to support the proposed $50 million investment. Together, we can build a brighter and more prosperous future for the Western Upper Peninsula of Michigan and the state.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Alan Tulppo, Ed.S.
Superintendent
Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD
atulppo@goisd.org
906-575-3438, ext. 102



www.goisd.org

The Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD exists to help every student succeed every day. Learn more by reading our 2022-2027 Strategic Plan. and our 2022-23 Annual Report.

Gogebic County
Board of County Road Commissioners

ROY D'ANTONIO
Chair
WATERSMEET
JOHN MATONICH
Commissioner
BESSEMER
JOHN ZORICH
Commissioner
MARENISCO

200 NORTH MOORE STREET
Courthouse Annex
Bessemer, MI 49911
P: (906) 667-0233
F: (906) 663-4807
www.gogebiccountyroadcommission.org

DENNIS SKINNER
Vice-Chair
WAKEFIELD
JIM ESTOLA
Commissioner
IRONWOOD
Garth Stengard
Manager
IRONWOOD

February 16, 2024

Michigan Strategic Fund Members,

The Gogebic County Road Commission supports the Copperwood Project and recognizes the economic importance to the area that is in dire need of a boost. The road that leads to the proposed mine site is County Road (CR) 519. CR 519 is the main road to access the Presque Isle Park and South Boundary Road which leads to the Porcupine Mountains. As part of the mine construction project, CR 519 will be upgraded to an all-seasonal road which will allow better access to the Park and the Porcupine Mountains. CR 519 is also highly used by the logging industry.

The benefit of Copperwood Mine providing good, high paying jobs cannot be underestimated. Along with the mine jobs increasing the population with young talented individuals is the trickle-down effect that it will have on the local communities including hotels, restaurants, stores, government and schools to name a few. We have seen first hand the local communities showing passionate support for this project.

The Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) has the opportunity and responsibility to assist the Copperwood Project to move forward and make this area Great Again. The Gogebic and Ontonagon Counties were built from mining towns and the residents are proud of that heritage. We hope in our hearts that the MSF can work with Highland Copper representatives and make this project a reality and allow this area to grow again, help retain our children in the area and provide the economic resources that are so desperately needed.

Please forward this email on to the MSF Members if you believe it warrants their review. We appreciate MSF's consideration and look forward to hearing the great news of MSF awarding this greatly needed grant to Highland Copper for the Copperwood Project in Gogebic County, Michigan.

Sincerely,
Gogebic County Road Commission

Garth C. Stengard, P.E.
Manager

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY
IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN

At the Regular Meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of the Gogebic County Road Commission, duly held on October 23, 2023, duly held in the board room, the following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Matonich, supported by Commissioner Estola.

PRESENT: D'Antonio, Skinner, Matonich, Zorich, Estola

ABSENT: None

WHEREAS the Gogebic County Road Commission supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Gogebic County Road Commission acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Gogebic County Road Commission recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Gogebic County Road Commission fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

The forgoing resolution offered by Board Member John Matonich second offered by Board Member James Estola.

Upon roll call vote the following voted

YEAS: Estola, Matonich, Zorich, Skinner & D'Antonio

NAYS: None

This is to certify that the above Resolution was passed by the Board of County Road Commissioners at a regular meeting held on Monday, October 23, 2023.

Patricia J. Hagstrom

Patricia J. Hagstrom, Secretary to the Board

From:	Matthew Casby (MEDC)
To:	Kathy Whitburn
Cc:	Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject:	RE: Copperwood Mine Support
Date:	Monday, February 12, 2024 10:54:11 AM

Thank you, I will make sure this is shared with the MSF board.

Matthew Casby
MSF Fund Manager & Assistant Director
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square | Lansing, MI 48913
Phone: 517.643.1864 | CasbyM2@michigan.org

From: Kathy Whitburn <kathy.whitburn.vaanok@statefarm.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 3:43 PM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Subject: Copperwood Mine Support

State Farm®
Kathy Whitburn State Farm Agency
www.KathyWhitburn.com



Kathy Whitburn
Agent

Email Me!
906-767-3001
Visit Kathy's Home Page
Map & Directions
Access Your Account
Request a Quote

460 W Cloverland Drive
Ironwood, MI 49938

Hello Matt,
I am writing you in support of the construction of the Copperwood mine in the Western UP of Michigan.

Not only will the mine create professional and skilled trade positions directly to their operation at Copperwood, it will also require additional professional opportunities in a wide range of industries from health care, service, education, manufacturing, transportation etc. The overflow effect of additional growth will bring additional tax revenues from business AND residential markets.

In 1984, my husband and I left our hometown in Bessemer because of a lack of viable jobs. It took us 30 years to boomerang back. In that time, we saw the deterioration of once booming towns, continue to lose their young people due to a lack of businesses and jobs. As a recent past Mayor of Bessemer, Michigan, I believe in this community, the resilience of our people and the positive future it can provide to new young families. Our school districts are strong, our crime rates are low, and our recreation is second to none. Copperwood will breathe a vibrant revival to the Western UP of Michigan and provide a much needed new employment opportunity for many.

I am a local business owner and resident in the area. The economic impact would bring exceptional opportunity to provide living wages as well as attract a younger demographic to the

area. The Western UP of Michigan continues to see an influx of new people migrating to our area who want to LIVE, WORK AND PLAY here. We need to encourage this growth and promote the Western UP as the gold standard for young families to make their home here not just as a place to recreate or retire.

We now have the ability to take action to effect change in a POSITIVE, FORWARD direction with the development of Copperwood.

Matt, can we count on your support to move Copperwood forward? Please forward my email to the MSF members. We NEED EVERYONE's support of this business growth in the Western UP of Michigan.

Thank you.
Kathy

Kathy Whitburn
Agent
Licensed in Michigan and Wisconsin



m

Providing Insurance and Financial Services

Stay Connected:

POWERED BY

From:	Matthew Casby (MEDC)
To:	Tony Pollack
Cc:	Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject:	RE: copperwood mine
Date:	Friday, February 9, 2024 4:07:32 PM

Thank you. I will make sure this is shared with the MSF board.

Matthew Casby
MSF Fund Manager & Assistant Director
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square | Lansing, MI 48913
Phone: 517.643.1864 | CasbyM2@michigan.org

From: Tony Pollack <tpollack@ironwoodcpa.com>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:27 AM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Subject: copperwood mine

Mr. Casby

I am a CPA that has been practicing in Ironwood since 1979. I have seen the up and downs, mostly downs, of the local economy and believe the Copperwood mine would provide some good, stable jobs that are area desperately needs. I moved to Ironwood from Minnesota's Iron Range and have many friends and relatives who have worked in the mines there so I know the stability it provides.

I also believe with the proper safeguards the mine can exist with harming our land and forests.

Any state funding used for this project would be a good investment in the future of the western U.P.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tony Pollack

Anthony R. Pollack
Makela, Pollack & Ahonen, PLLC
301 N. Suffolk St.
Ironwood, MI 49938
906-932-4430

NOTICE: To ensure compliance with requirements imposed by the IRS, if this email, or any attachment hereto, contains advice concerning any federal tax issue or submission, please be advised that it is not intended or written to be used, and that it cannot be used, for the purpose of avoiding federal tax penalties unless otherwise expressly indicated.

NOTICE: This email is intended for the use of the addressee(s) only and may contain privileged, confidential, or proprietary information that is exempt from disclosure under law. If you have received this message in error, please inform us promptly by reply email, then delete this email and destroy any printed copy. Thank you.

From: Matthew Casby (MEDC)
To: MCMILLAN TOWNSHIP
Cc: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: RE: Copperwood Project
Date: Thursday, February 8, 2024 1:53:29 PM

Thank you. I will make sure this is provided to the MSF board.
-Matt

Matthew Casby
MSF Fund Manager & Assistant Director
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square | Lansing, MI 48913
Phone: 517.643.1864 | CasbyM2@michigan.org

From: MCMILLAN TOWNSHIP <mcmillantwp@jamadots.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 1:07 PM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>; mcmillantwp@jamadots.com
Subject: Copperwood Project

To: Matt Casby
From: The McMillan Economic Development Corporation

Dear Mr. Casby –

I represent the McMillan Economic Development Corporation, located in Ewen, MI. We are writing to you to express support for Highland Copper's Copperwood Mine development project in Gogebic County.

Ewen is the central village in McMillan Township, which is located in Ontonagon County – adjacent to Gogebic County. In the past, our area relied on mining as one of the foundational pillars of our booming economy. When the copper and iron mines were flourishing, the logging businesses flourished as well, supplying beams and bracing for the mining tunnels. When the mines and the logging businesses were booming, the children of the miners and loggers attended the local schools, were treated at local clinics and hospitals, visited movie theaters, shopped at local stores, and created other local economic investment opportunities for their parents. The spouses of the miners and the loggers were working in those other local businesses, such as: schools, hospitals, clinics, restaurants, stores, hotels, ski resorts, and many others. When families are

invested in the community, homes are built or purchased, infrastructure is repaired and updated, creating even more jobs to support the local economy.

As the Michigan Strategic Fund considers an investment in the Copperwood Project, this is more than an investment in a single mining operation. This is an investment into multiple layers of economic development for a community that has been struggling to rebuild its economy for decades. Highland Copper has already invested years of research into the Copperwood Project. They are investing hundreds of millions of dollars into our community. Even more, they are offering the opportunity for people living in the Western Upper Peninsula to have jobs with a solid income to support their families.

As you evaluate the impact of a $50-million investment in the Copperwood Project, we ask that you look at the larger impact such an investment will have on our wider community. As the loss of local employment opportunities have had a negative cascading effect on our local economic situation in the past, the addition of this large employment opportunity will have a positive cascading effect on our local economy.

Thank you for your consideration of the vision we have for the future of our area.

Sincerely,
Kay S. Richter, Member
The McMillan Economic Development Corporation

Kay Richter
McMillan Township Clerk
PO Box 267
Ewen, MI 49925
Ontonagon County
906-988-2240

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

Subject: FW: Copperwood

From: Andrew Hill <news@wnbpa.net>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 3:50 PM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Subject: Copperwood

To: Matt Casby, Director
Michigan Strategic Fund

Dear Mr. Casby,

I am the editor of a small weekly newspaper serving primarily Wakefield and Bessemer, but I have individually been involved in economic development work as a private citizen for more than 30 years.

I was apprised regarding the Protect the Porkies video produced last week and aimed at the Michigan Strategic Fund, strongly opposing the idea of state grant funding to more or less "prime the pump" with the Copperwood Project. The arguments they make are shabby, and in many cases simply misleading and false.

I remember (yes, I'm a senior citizen) getting on a plane in Marquette with the governor's U.P. aide and heading to Lansing for an event announcing a $5 million state loan/grant to bring the White Pine Mine back to life. It bought our region something like 20 more years of family-supporting jobs.

A grant of $50 million today (and I understand it is a grant which could potentially be repaid) would represent a sound investment by the state.

I have written a commentary on he week's events which will be published on the front page of my little newspaper, the edition to be dated Feb. 22.

Will include the text at the conclusion of this letter. Please feel free to use it (or share it) as you see fit.

Sincerely yours,
Andrew A. Hill
Editor and Publisher
Wakefield News/Bessemer Pick & Axe

By ANDY HILL
Editor
The organization calling itself "Protect the Porkies" is in full attack mode, creating a video called "21 Reasons to Think Twice" as an effort to dissuade the state of Michigan from investing in the Copperwood Project.
At issue is a request for a $50 million grant from the Michigan Strategic Fund, an arm of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.
This group, quite evidently made up of mainly of people not from the immediate area, is aiming directly at the Strategic Fund, which should be making a decision fairly soon, according to individuals familiar with the matter.
The current owner of Copperwood, Highland Copper, is a fairly easy target for critics.

As a junior mining company, it is lacking capital. Firm officials have indicated a $50 million vote of confidence by the state of Michigan would likely be the key to getting outside investors — both lenders and equity partners — to jump in on the project.
The video is critical of the firm's changes of leadership, seeing it as a negative.
"Why has Highland had four CEOs in less than a decade?" The narrator of the video asks.
It questions the job creation numbers, which include 390 mining-related jobs at this time, but earlier were expressed at the 250 level, and criticizes the plan to ship copper concentrate elsewhere for final refining, as in smelting, as outsourcing the best paying jobs.
Nowhere does the group mention that it is virtually impossible to get a new smelting operation permitted within the United States. Environmental groups like this one were certainly eager to shut down the smelter at the former White Pine Mine.
The video raises environmental concerns which have been heard before, implying that the Copperwood site is virtually inside the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park.
It cites the mine's proximity to Lake Superior, and the perceived danger of sulfide mining and sulfide mine waste, although it has been clearly demonstrated that this particular sulfide mineral combination does not generate acid runoff, which would be a genuine concern.
The location of the site is too near the Ottawa National Forest, they say, and the North Country Trail with "recently" has been incorporated into the National Park System.
Noise and light pollution, and increased heavy truck traffic, were other concerns.
They see Highland's partnership with Ontario-based Kinterra, now the majority owner of the White Pine North project near the historic White Pine Mine as a negative as well, and an indication that Highland might sell Copperwood to a third party, given the opportunity.
The critics believe mining would be bad for the region's economy.
"There is surprisingly little evidence that mining will bring about good times," the organization claims, adding the mine would be "more likely to impoverish this area, than enrich it."
Adjacent to the North Country Trail and the Ottawa National Forest.
Copperwood would run for only 11 years.
"Why fund such a short-lived operation?" they ask.
The project would provide a longer span of employment, given the jobs to be created via mine construction and, for a period after mining concludes, the decommissioning and remediation of the site, as required by state permits.
The video characterizes the ore body, at an average of 1.5 percent copper, as being low-grade, which is entirely opposite of the truth.
South American sulfide ore bodies run at something like .3 percent copper, but are viable because they are open pit operations, able to move and process huge amounts of ore.
In truth, the mine could have a significantly longer span of life if adjoining portions of the ore body. The firm has studied the adjoining ore bodies and found ore thought to contain about 1 percent copper. With strong copper prices, those ore bodies are economically feasible to extract.
Critics also claim the mine would be operating beneath the state park, and beneath Lake Superior. Neither of these options is currently on the table.
Critics continue to assail Highland for a 2018 incident along County 519 in which officials no longer with the firm continued to do core sample drilling too late in the season and caused some muddy waste along the road and near seasonal water course emptying into streams.
The matter was corrected, under state supervision, and a modest fine was paid. In truth, the damage was by any rational reckoning minimal.

Critics continue to trot out straw dogs, like the “endangered” fish which lives in a seasonal stream near the mine site.
One man’s endangered species is another man’s bait fish.
In Michigan, a fish called the redside dace is considered an endangered species. In Wisconsin, you can buy redside dace in a bait shop. (And without breaking any rules or regulations, take them into Michigan to fish for, say, walleye in Sunday Lake, or Lake Gogebic, both of which clearly are part of the Lake Superior watershed.)
The organization sites the environmental problems relating to copper mining in the Keweenaw district, events which were done beginning more than 100 years ago in an era of zero mine regulation and even less understanding of the impact of unfettered mining operation.
The say that while the tailings facility being built at Copperwood fits the Michigan-approved design, it’s inadequate to face once in 1,000-year climate events.
Perhaps.
Among most ironic of claims is the idea that Copperwood’s plan for treating water discharged by a process to render it more pure than rainwater is unhealthy, because water with mineral content that is too low will leach minerals out of human beings.
Considering that the water won’t be consumed by human beings, and that it will be swiftly combined with the mineralized (and dirtier) water of Lake Superior, it’s difficult to understand why this is a hazard.
Academics have been cited to claim that the “boom-and-bust” nature of the mining economy is a reason to oppose mining now.
The first mining boom on the Gogebic Range began in about 1885, and ran for 80 years, while the copper era in Ontonagon County and adjoining Keweenaw ran for more than 125 years, that’s about how long Michigan has been building automobiles.
(The boom-and-bust argument was used against the proposed Gogebic Taconite project in Iron and Ashland counties, across the Wisconsin border. That project included three discreet mining areas, each capable of sustaining a mine life of 35 years. Boom and bust?)
Protect the Porkies argues that outdoor recreation generates far more revenue for Michigan than does mining. Copperwood clearly would little to no negative impact on outdoor recreation, based on the strict environmental rules now in play.
In a final bit of hypocrisy, Protect the Porkies claims that copper is not even of first tier importance, citing federal government data.
They apparently believe copper will not — despite what we are told by environmentalists each and every day — be a critical element in the battle against climate change.
Finally, it seems that because they don’t want any mining here, and they represent a group larger than the populations of our nearby communities, their opinions are more valid.
Moreover, they claim the resolutions of support for Copperwood and Highland Copper drafted by public officials in three counties covering two states, represents the opinions of only those several dozen elected officials, and not the people and communities they represent.
It may be difficult to sense the pulse of an Upper Michigan community if you are part of an organization comprised almost entirely of people who live south of the Mackinac Bridge.

From:	Matthew Casby (MEDC)
To:	Stan Kaczmarek
Cc:	Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject:	RE: Highland Copper - Support - Gundlach Champion
Date:	Friday, February 9, 2024 4:08:20 PM
Attachments:	image002.png image003.png

Thank you. I will make sure this is shared with the MSF board.

Matthew Casby
MSF Fund Manager & Assistant Director
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square | Lansing, MI 48913
Phone: 517.643.1864 | CasbyM2@michigan.org

From: Stan Kaczmarek <SKaczmarek@gcfirst.com>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:52 AM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Subject: Highland Copper - Support - Gundlach Champion

Dear Mr. Casby

Please know that Gundlach Champion supports the Highland Copper - Copperwood project 100%!
Gundlach Champion has a long history of U.P. Mine Construction and the mining industry is a major part of our current work.
We were a major contractor for the build at the Eagle – Humboldt Mill and are working at the new water plant now.

My father worked underground at the White Pine Mine for 30 years.
The mine provided a good job to raise a family.

The mining industry provides good paying jobs for construction workers and good paying jobs for the mine production workers as well.
The Copperwood project will bring back much needed industry to the Western U.P.!

Please forward this email of support to others on the Michigan Strategic Fund.

Thanks!
Stan

Stan Kaczmarek
President
180 Traders Mine Road | PO Box 490
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

T: 906.302.2491 | C: 906.281.1884 | F: 906.779.8947
skaczmarek@gcfirst.com | gcfirst.com


GUNDLACH CHAMPION
Building lasting relationships
for over a century

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: Matthew Casby (MEDC)
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 4:08 PM
To: Bill Verrette
Cc: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: RE: Highland Copper Co. Project

Thank you. I will make sure this is shared with the MSF board.

Matthew Casby
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
Phone: 517.643.1864 | CasbyM2@michigan.org

-----Original Message-----
From: Bill Verrette <verretww@championinc.com>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:39 AM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Subject: Highland Copper Co. Project

Good morning, My name is William Verrette and I strongly support the Highland Copper Company project in the western part of Upper Michigan. This project can be fundamental to the economic well-being of the people in that part of Upper Michigan as well as the people in the entire area of Upper Michigan for many years to come.
Please forward my comments on the MSF Board members.
Thank you,
William Verrette.
Sent from my iPad

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: Matthew Casby (MEDC)
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2024 8:51 AM
To: Paul Koski
Cc: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: RE: Highland Copper mine support

Thank you Mr. Koski – I will make sure this information is shared with the MSF board.

Matthew Casby
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
Phone: 517.643.1864 | CasbyM2@michigan.org

From: Paul Koski <pkoski@jamadots.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 11, 2024 9:55 AM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Subject: Highland Copper mine support

Dear Mr. Casby,

I am a retired Mining Engineer by trade and would be happy to see any new mining projects started in the local area. Although I am past my prime as an employee, I always get excited to see people in my background pursue any mining project locally. I would like to see local residents employed by the mine to support the local economy. Hopefully the company will use local labor and not bring in Contract miners from elsewhere to do the work.

It is of utmost importance that we go ahead with the mining projects here in the Western U.P. Our area is in such a depressed state economically, and therefore needs a good shot in the arm. All startup mining projects take a tremendous amount of Capital to get started and every little contribution will help.

Sincerely,

Retired Mining Engineer

Paul Koski
14783 N Cemetery Rd
Ewen, MI 49925

From: Matthew Casby (MEDC)
To: Chris Boyd
Cc: Jason Ruotsala; Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: RE: Highland Copper Support Memo
Date: Thursday, February 8, 2024 1:52:33 PM

Thank you Mr. Boyd,

I will make sure this is provided to the MSF board.

Matthew Casby
MSF Fund Manager & Assistant Director
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square | Lansing, MI 48913
Phone: 517.643.1864 | CasbyM2@michigan.org

From: Chris Boyd <cboyd@ruotsalaconcrete.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 1:07 PM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Cc: Jason Ruotsala <jruotsala@ruotsalaconcrete.com>
Subject: Highland Copper Support Memo

Dear Mr. Casby :

Please pass along this memo to the MSF members.

I feel that the mine project is very important to our community and citizens. I recently returned from a fishing trip and drove through the town of Virgina Minnesota located on the Mesabi Range. It was obvious after driving through the town that the economic benefit was clearly beneficial to the aprox. 8700 people residing there.

The Copperwood Mine will be very beneficial to the area by creating the much-needed jobs and opportunities created directly from the mine itself and the outfall of incidental jobs created because of the mine.

As a father of 4 children it is important for not only my family but other families in the area to have there children have the opportunity to be able to work in the area that they grew up in. The Copperwood Mine would create these opportunities for employment at a scale that no other industry or company that I am aware of is even considering to do.

We are very lucky to be located in an area that once flourished from mining and logging, thankfully the minerals in the earth that are needed happen to still be located here and Highland Copper choosing to hire local experts such as Micheal Foley as the Site Manager of the projects is already keying itself up for success and also demonstrating/confirming the important point I mentioned earlier of the creation of good jobs in the hometown of our residents.

**This memo also has been reviewed and supported by the management of Ruotsala Construction and its employees.

Thx

Chris J. Boyd

Ruotsala Construction Inc.
E5299 Hannu Road
Ironwood, MI 49938
906.932.4314

From:	Matthew Casby (MEDC)
To:	Mike Smith
Cc:	Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject:	RE: Highland Copper-Copperwood Mine
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 7:58:33 AM

Thank you, I will make sure this is shared with the MSF board.

Matthew Casby
MSF Fund Manager & Assistant Director
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square | Lansing, MI 48913
Phone: 517.643.1864 | CasbyM2@michigan.org

From: Mike Smith <mike@upconstruction.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 6:48 AM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Subject: Highland Copper-Copperwood Mine

Director Casby,

For more than 40 years the Upper Peninsula Construction Council has represented the members of the Upper Peninsula Building Trades Council and Signatory Union Construction Employers in the Upper Peninsula to address itself to topics of mutual interest to both management and labor.

On behalf of nearly 90 signatory contractors and 4500 Union Building Trades members in Michigan's Upper Peninsula we wholeheartedly support investment of the MEDC through the Michigan Strategic Fund for construction of the Copperwood Mine. The construction of this mine is of critical importance to our communities and our nation. The project has received resolutions of support from all townships within Gogebic County and multiple neighboring communities.

We hope you and the Michigan Strategic Fund Members will consider our support of this project when making the decision to award a grant in lieu of job creation with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

Thank you for your consideration. Please forward this on to the members of the Michigan Strategic Fund if you believe it warrants their review.

Michael J. Smith
Executive Director
UP Construction Council
906-250-7498
mike@upconstruction.com



https://www.upconstruction.org/

https://www.facebook.com/UPCC-587890964554600

From:	Matthew Casby (MEDC)
To:	Ryan DeHut
Cc:	Mike Foley; Marty Fittante; Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject:	RE: Support for Copperwood and White Pine Mining Projects
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 7:58:44 AM
Attachments:	Resolution of Support - Copperwood.pdf image001.png

Thank you, I will make sure this is shared with the MSF board.

Matthew Casby
MSF Fund Manager & Assistant Director
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square | Lansing, MI 48913
Phone: 517.643.1864 | CasbyM2@michigan.org

From: Ryan DeHut <rdehut@ontoroads.org>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2024 1:09 PM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Cc: Mike Foley <mike.foley@highlandcopper.com>; Marty Fittante <mfittante@investupmi.com>
Subject: Support for Copperwood and White Pine Mining Projects

Matt,
The Ontonagon County Road Commission is pleased to provide this note of support for the current Highland Copper Company's Copperwood project and future Kinterra White Pine Mine project. The economic importance of both projects is directly related to real estate, construction, tourism, and overall wellbeing of depressed communities in Ontonagon County. Bringing back high-quality jobs to this area ensures a renewed focus on quality of life and economic sustainability for both visitors and residents of Ontonagon County.

I have also attached a recent resolution of support for the Highland Copper Company's Copperwood project. The wetland mitigation Highland Copper is doing for this project has a direct impact on Bluff Creek in Haight Township of Ontonagon County. The mitigation project will replace multiple older culverts with a new bridge which will ensure a sustainable habitat for this local trout fishery.

Please forward this email to other MSF members if you feel it may be beneficial and warrant their review.

BR

Ryan DeHut
Manager
Ontonagon County Road Commission
415 Spar St.
Ontonagon, MI 49953

rdehut@ontoroads.org
PH: 906-884-2332

From: Matthew Casby (MEDC)
To: Mike Hubbard
Cc: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: RE: Support for Highland Copper
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 4:10:37 PM

Thank you. I will make sure this is shared with the MSF board.

Matthew Casby
MSF Fund Manager & Assistant Director
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square | Lansing, MI 48913
Phone: 517.643.1864 | CasbyM2@michigan.org

From: Mike Hubbard <mike.hubbard@mjvandammeinc.com>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 3:56 PM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Subject: Support for Highland Copper

Matt,

I write to you today in strong support of the Copperwood mine in Wakefield, MI and to urge you to vote to approve the state funding that will show to potential investors that the State of Michigan is in full support of this mine being developed. I'm a Project Manager working on behalf of M.J. VanDamme (located in Gwinn, MI) and as a contractor working for Highland Copper on the Copperwood project we have witnessed the beginnings of what this project can mean for this community. Many local companies to Gogebic County and countless individuals have benefitted throughout the community in just the first few months of work. As a civil earthwork contractor, we do business with consumable suppliers, fuel suppliers, and many more. Our employees do business with the local restaurants, laundry mats, grocery stores, hotels, campgrounds, etc. We are just the first drop in the bucket that represents what this project could mean to the area.

As a lifelong Yooper that grew up in Newberry, MI I know firsthand what it takes to make it in the U.P. I also know what it looks like when major employers pull out of an area. Since the State Hospital closed in Newberry over 30 years ago the graduating classes in the high school are less than 25% of what they once were. The number of jobs for family aged adults are becoming increasingly limited if you don't live in the counties of Marquette, Houghton, or Delta and even these counties have seen their options reduced. Our young people fresh out of Highschool or some form of higher education have no option but to leave the U.P. to find suitable jobs and wages with many unlikely to ever return. Projects like the Copperwood mine and eventually White Pine mine are exactly the type of projects we need to reverse that trend and keep our people, our most valuable natural resource, in our state.

Please help in supporting not just Highland Copper but also Gogebic County and the

entire Upper Peninsula as a whole.

Best regards,

Mike Hubbard
906.630.4036

MJ VanDamme Logo

Disclaimer: This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please permanently delete the email immediately. Any views or opinions presented in this email are solely those of the individual and do not necessarily represent those of the company. Any opinion or advice contained in this email is not a modification or amendment of any of the terms or conditions contained in any agreement you may have with MJ VanDamme, Inc.

The recipient must check this email and any attachments for the presence of viruses and/or malware. The company accepts no liability for any damage caused by any virus or malware transmitted by this email.

From:	Matthew Casby (MEDC)
To:	Daniel Staff Sr
Cc:	Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject:	RE: Support of Copperwood Mine/Please forward this email on to MSF members
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 7:59:10 AM

Thank you, I will make sure this is shared with the MSF board.

-Matt

Matthew Casby
MSF Fund Manager & Assistant Director
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square | Lansing, MI 48913
Phone: 517.643.1864 | CasbyM2@michigan.org

From: Daniel Staff Sr <djstaffsr@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2024 1:05 PM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Subject: Support of Copperwood Mine/Please forward this email on to MSF members

My name is Daniel J. Staff Sr. I am the supervisor of McMillan township in Ewen Michigan located in the southern part of Ontongon County of the Upper Peninsula. I am writing in support of the Copperwood Mine. There are many reasons that this mine would be a huge benefit for our local community and the whole western part of the Upper Peninsula. The mine would provide for more businesses to locate to our communtiy as well as to other communities. It would create more jobs and add to more housing for possibly new people moving into our area. Hopefully, having younger families moving into the area would also help our schools with more enrolment and providing more of a tax base for our schools to operate. It would hopefully also bring back many businesses that have been forced to close over the last few decades.

Mining has always been a huge part of our community. The mine would help our community to thrive as it did in the 60s and the 70s with the White Pine Copper mine. Small communities have taken a big hit with loss of jobs and businesses. Families have been forced to move due to no work. Many people that have come to our community would love to stay in our area but are forced to leave. Copperwood mine would provide jobs and an incentive to move and stay. A trickle-down effect of the mine would bring jobs, people, and businesses to our area and all of the Upper Peninsula.

Please take into careful consideration of the construction of Copperwood Mine as it would affect many people's lives and communities in the western Upper Peninsula.

Sincerely,
Daniel J. Staff Sr.
McMillan TWP Supervisor



Virus-free.www.avg.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: Matthew Casby (MEDC)
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 11:42 AM
To: Austin Damm
Cc: Nick Hanchek; Mike Foley; Marty Fittante; Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: RE: Copperwood Mine

Thank you I will make sure this is shared with the MSF board.

Matthew Casby
MSF Fund Manager & Assistant Director
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square | Lansing, MI 48913
Phone: 517.643.1864 | CasbyM2@michigan.org

From: Austin Damm <dammgoodoil@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 9:37 AM
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC) <casbym2@michigan.org>
Cc: Nick Hanchek <nhanchek@gmail.com>; Mike Foley <mike.foley@highlandcopper.com>; Marty Fittante <mfittante@investupmi.com>
Subject: Copperwood Mine

Good Morning Matt,

I am writing on behalf of myself and Nick Hanchek in support of Highland Copper's Copperwood Mine project in Gogebic County.

Nick and I are locally based lubricant sales professionals in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan representing Schaeffer Manufacturing. With our manufacturing plant in St. Louis MO, Schaeffer manufactures high quality lubricants (engine oils, grease, hydraulic fluid, gear lube, industrial aerosol products) used in many large industrial markets, including mining.

With the growing need for minerals like copper to sustain today's modern life with the increase in battery production, new building construction and big industry in general Nick and I are in full support of the construction of Copperwood Mine. We believe that Highland Copper will protect the environment to the fullest extent and keep natural resources safe in the area where the mine will be operating.

Thank you for your time,

Austin Damm
Lubrication Specialist
Phone: (313) 930-3108
Email: dammgoodoil@gmail.com
www.schaefferoil.com
"We're not the best because we're the oldest; we're the oldest because we're the best." Since 1839


SINCE 1839
Schaeffer's
SPECIALIZED
LUBRICANTS

RESOLUTION #023-034

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY
IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN

At a Regular Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Ironwood held on the 23rd day of October 2023, in the Commission Chambers of the Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood, Michigan, the following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Semo and supported by Commissioner Andresen.

WHEREAS the City of Ironwood supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the City of Ironwood acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the City of Ironwood recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City of Ironwood fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

Upon roll call vote, the following votes were recorded:

AYES: Commissioners Semo, Andresen, Korpela, Mildren, and Mayor Corcoran.
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

Kim Corcoran, Mayor

I, Jennifer Jacobson, the duly appointed City Clerk of the City of Ironwood, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the City Commission of the City of Ironwood at its Regular Meeting on October 23, 2023.

Jennifer Jacobson, City Clerk

WALTER LANNET
Bruce Crossing, MI

DONALD BUSSIERE, CHAIRMAN
Ontonagon, MI

KEN TRUSCOTT
Greenland, MI

JACQUELINE JOHNS, BUSINESS MGR.
Ontonagon, MI

RYAN DEHUT, MANAGER
Ontonagon, MI

ONTONAGON
BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

415 SPAR STREET
ONTONAGON, MICHIGAN 49953
PH. (906)884-2332 FAX (906)884-4719
ontoroads.org

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

Commissioner Bussiere offered the following resolution of support for the Copperwood Mine Project by Highland Copper Company in Gogebic County, Michigan.

WHEREAS the Ontonagon Board of County Road Commissioners supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Ontonagon Board of County Road Commissioners acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Ontonagon Board of County Road Commissioners recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Ontonagon Board of County Road Commissioners fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

Moved by Commissioner Truscott, seconded by Commissioner Lannet that this resolution of support is adopted.

AYES: Bussiere, Lannet, Truscott
NAYS: None

I, Jacqueline S. Johns, do hereby certify that I am duly appointed and qualified Clerk of the Ontonagon County Board of Road Commissioners and do further certify that the foregoing is a complete and accurate copy of the resolution adopted by the said Ontonagon County Board of Road Commissioners at their regular meeting held October 18, 2023.

Jacqueline S. Johns, Clerk

February 8, 2024

Matthew Casby, Manager and Assistant Director

Michigan Strategic Fund

Dear Members of the Michigan Strategic Fund,

On behalf of the Wakefield-Bessemer Rotary club based in Wakefield Michigan of Gogebic county we would like to offer our support to Highland Copper as they are being considered for a $50 million dollar grant from the Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) to build and operate the Copperwood Mine Project. Our group is comprised of seventeen members from the community ranging from past staff and faculty members of Gogebic Community College, local bankers, business owners, and superintendents from both Wakefield-Marenisco and the Bessemer school districts. Our group voted unanimously to send a letter strongly supporting the investment from the MSF for this project, and quite frankly this same level of support extends to most all of the local and surrounding communities.

We have met with company officials over the years dating back to 2008. They have been a good corporate member of the community and have diligently conducted the geological and environmental work necessary to advance the permits and studies required to build the mine. They have consistently provided updates to our group and have become a staple in the business community with an office located in Wakefield since 2015.

The economic impact of this investment will change the trajectory of the local community, which as our club membership reflects has only declined over the past number of years. These jobs will support families, keep our young people in the area and more than likely bring numerous people back to the community that have had to leave since the White Pine mine closed in the nineties and more recently when the Ojibway correctional facility closed in 2018.

Lastly, as members of the community, we welcome this investment because without it, we may not be able to continue to live and work here. We value our environment, but we also value economic development that is sustainable and responsible, and we believe this investment checks both boxes, helping to preserve our way of life for now and long into the future.

Sincerely

Kevin Everson, President, Wakefield-Bessemer Rotary

On Behalf of all of the members of the Wakefield-Bessemer Rotary.

Bessemer
CK&AXE
ly by Andy and Sue Hill

Quote of the Week

Lawyers and painters can soon change white to black.

—Danish proverb

I ENGEL

VS

On that news channel a press onference was being con- ucted and there were people n the back ground holding igns of criticism and condem- ation. Fools.

I've yet to hear about the roblem of mass exodus across ur boarders. As far as I can ell this country still offers lenty of opportunities to be uccessful, be employed and arn a living.

Yes, things could be better ut we could say that about retty much everything other han the football seasons of the University of Michigan and Harding University. They were both perfect and National Champions.



GEL

The press conference touched on the increasing fentanyl problem here in the states. The speaker said that there were more than 70,000 deaths due to fentanyl poisoning, and an verage of five Texans die very day due to the problem.

Evidently, the 77 Texans that ie every day due to tobacco se are not a problem.

Fentanyl is a synthetic pioid, a powerful pain reliever sed primarily in severe cancer atients and after surgery. It is 0-100 times more powerful han morphine and 50 times nore potent than heroin.

Illegal production of fentanyl s often mixed with amphetamines, methamphetamines nd heroin as a low-cost addiive which increases the poency of these drugs, thus naking them deadly.

Over 70 percent of the fentanyl deaths are mixed with

See 'Footnotes,' Page 11

Other Voices

Copperwood will be good for U.P.

By MARTY FITTANTE

Growing up in the U.P., my dad often reminded me how fortunate I was to be living in "God's Country."

I have come to appreciate the spirit of that phrase as one felt deeply by many Yoopers because it is anchored in a quality of life blessed with kind people that care about neighbors and an incredible, breathtaking beauty.

That respect for "God's Country" was one handed down to my father from my grandfather, who emigrated to Iron River at the turn of the last century at 14 years old for a better way of life by working in the iron mines.

It is of course a story that is not unfamiliar here. I am, like so many, proud of that heritage and legacy.

Over 100 years later, it is gratifying to realize we have a chance to build on that legacy through Highland Copper's construction of the Copperwood Mine in Gogebic County.

This is not a fly-by-day investment. The company has been working in and around the community for over a decade to get this right. It is why they have earned support from at least 19 local units of government that would be impacted by the mine, and nearly a dozen local institutions such as the hospital and community college.

Residents support it too!

InvestUP conducted a poll in April 2023 that showed a decisive 82 percent of Upper Peninsula residents support mining. That number is bested by the support that mining receives in the Western U.P., where a mere 7.7 percent of residents oppose mining.

Highland's $400 million investment in Copperwood will not only bring mining back to the Western U.P. for the first time since White Pine closed 30 years ago, but more importantly, bring 380 good paying, family sustaining jobs — the kind that make a difference between a thriving community and a dying community.

To truly appreciate the meaning of these jobs to the community, we must consider the dire demographics of the area, such as the troubling reality that Gogebic County has lost nearly 70 percent of its K-12 population.



MARTY FITTANTE

It is even more tragic for Ontonagon County, which will also see tremendous economic benefit from Copperwood, where they have lost nearly 80 percent of their student population, have the state's oldest average age, and see one in two households earn less than the minimum cost necessary to live and work.

The benefits of Copperwood reach far beyond the U.P.

Copperwood will also help fulfill a national need for copper — a critical material imperative to advanced manufacturing technologies for electrification, 21st century energy infrastructure and national defense.

Having this resource in our backyard mitigates vulnerabilities for our state and our nation that come with our reliance on foreign supply chains, particularly those that don't ascribe to the same stringent environmental standards we have in Michigan that safeguard the environment and demonstrate stewardship is not at odds with economic opportunity.

Eagle Mine in Big Bay is a great example. Neither it, nor Copperwood, are your grandfather's mine. Rather, mining today embeds community health and economic sustainability in its structure so the environment is not adversely impacted, and the community can prosper.

Eagle Mine has also successfully complied with Michigan's stringent standards while providing more than $1 billion in economic benefit to the region.

Mining is part of our proud history in the U.P., and thanks to Highland Copper, it can now be part of our exciting future in God's Country.

The author is the CEO of InvestUP, as well as a former chief of staff and former policy advisor in the state legislature, where his work spanned industries such as forestry, mining, and economic development.

Letters policy

—No unsigned letters.

—Brief is better.

—Give others a turn.

—Gogebic Range residents or those with direct ties to the area have first priority.

—Don't be tedious.

—You have a right to free speech, but not necessarily within the columns of this publication.

—Have fun.

From:	Jerald Wuorenmaa
To:	Matthew Casby (MEDC)
Subject:	Local comments in support of Copperwood Resources SSRP project (Wuorenmaa, WUPPDR/Bergland)
Date:	Tuesday, February 6, 2024 1:53:41 PM
Attachments:	Copperwood Support Resolution - Signed.pdf Bergland Twp CW Support Resolution.pdf
Importance:	High

Good Afternoon Mr. Casby:

I serve in two major roles in relation to the Copperwood Mine project under consideration for Strategic Site Readiness Program funds.

1. I am the Executive Director of Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR). Created in 1968, WUPPDR is the state designated planning and development region and federal economic development district covering the six western counties of the U.P., including Gogebic. We are a multijurisdictional local government entity comprised of 14 units of government, including Gogebic and Ontonagon counties, the cities of Ironwood and Wakefield, and the Village of Ontonagon, all of which would benefit from Copperwood and/or the White Pine North project that would likely follow (and which Highland Copper Company also owns a large portion of). The WUPPDR Commission (our governing board) is supportive of both projects (resolution of support for Copperwood attached). None of the more than 20 member representatives have ever raised any opposition to the projects in the WUPPDR venue. Highland Copper's then-CEO was the guest presenter for WUPPDR's Annual Meeting in White Pine this past September. Reception of the audience, including a variety of stakeholders from around the Western U.P., was favorable.

   WUPPDR recognizes the vital importance of all elements of economic development, including capitalization on natural resources for tourism and recreation, resident quality of life, and mining. We believe that all of these activities and benefits can peacefully and safely coexist in close proximity at the Copperwood site. Our agency, area stakeholder organizations, and the vast majority of community members understand that industrial development, **where the physical resources are located** and where it will create the greatest concern, is important to support our ability to enjoy the other benefits of natural resources.

2. I am a resident, board trustee, and planning commission member of Bergland Township. Our namesake community, Bergland, is located less than 20 miles east of the junction where County Road 519 leads north toward the Copperwood site (and even closer to White Pine North). Our community and board are very supportive of the Copperwood project (one of the numerous local governments that has adopted a resolution of support, attached) even as we greatly respect and benefit from the vast landscape of forests, flora, fauna, and waters that surround us.

   Ontonagon County, where Bergland is located, has close economic linkages to Gogebic County but is in even more dire socioeconomic straits. Ontonagon County, based on the past 20 years, has the fastest-declining (percentage basis) population of any county in the State

of Michigan. State analysis projects a halving of population to approximately 3,000 residents by 2045 – In the **third-largest county by land area in Michigan**. The consolidated school district we are located in, which covers roughly the southern half of the county, has fewer than 200 students in grades K-12 – a vast decline over the past couple of decades. According to an article by the Minneapolis Federal Reserve in 1995, the White Pine mine, the county's largest employer, reportedly accounted for 40 percent of the county's economy before closing that year. This dearth of people and related decline in economic activity will make it difficult for businesses and services to cater to both residents and the visitors who cherish our natural resources. Furthermore, a continued lack of industrial activity will discourage future investment in all industries and communities – a vicious cycle.

Personally, I am an avid outdoorsman and fisherman, and the west end of the Porkies State Park, near the Copperwood site, is one of my favorite places to spend time in the outdoors. I do not feel that mining activity will have a significant negative impact on my activities there, and I also do not thing visitors from outside of the area will be dissuaded from visiting because of the mine.

With Michigan having probably the United States' most stringent and protective mining statute (as mentioned in the January 29 MSF Board meeting), there is very little risk of detrimental impact to the natural environment. Believe me: Despite our drive for economic development with well-paying jobs, I – and I believe my boards would say the same – **hold Copperwood Resources to a high standard environmentally (and, relevant to the MSF Board's consideration, financially)**.

As an undergraduate university student at Northern Michigan University when the novel mining legislation was being developed and Marquette County's Eagle Mine was in permitting stage, I was opposed to Eagle Mine's development. So I can understand where environmental opponents to the mine are "coming from" – but with pragmatism and a broader understanding of the economy, my views have changed. Eagle has been an important employer and (like Highland) good community partner, and it has operated safely for many years. And importantly, despite what environmental opponents to the Copperwood project are publicly stating, objective engineering analysis has shown that the ore deposit is **not acid-bearing rock**.

In further considering Copperwood Resources' SSRP application, please consider these many perspectives and my love for the community and region, and count me as one of the many local supporters of the Copperwood project.

I would appreciate you forwarding this message to other individual MSF Board members if you think it appropriate.

Jerald (Jerry) Wuorenmaa, Executive Director
Western U.P. Planning & Development Region (WUPPDR)
400 Quincy St 8th Floor, Hancock, MI 49930
Working primarily remotely in Bergland, MI
(906) 482-7205 x111, jwuorenmaa@wuppdr.org

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mitchf4040@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mitchell Fenton <mitchf4040@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 11:34 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

I love this place. i am not from Michigan, but i am from our nation's capital. I have seen first hand how politics destroys the vital resources that our world NEEDS. It is counterintuitive to destroy a resource that we as the human race NEED, for something so superficial like money.

please do not open this mine.

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C0d42a65b5af54118b35708dc32fae382%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441300362967813%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=v3eloO0q5Zebwehk0OIdb8KOf1xveJY8RqkZcYo7z3o%3D&reserved=0

I love this place. i am not from Michigan, but i am from our nation's capital. I have seen first hand how politics destroys the vital resources that our world NEEDS. It is counterintuitive to destroy a resource that we as the human race NEED, for something so superficial like money.

please do not open this mine.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Mitchell Fenton
516 Longwood Dr Rockville, MD 20850-1412 mitchf4040@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: paulkhanna@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Paul Khanna <paulkhanna@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 8:29 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

Look, the most valuable resource in the world is going to be freshwater in the next 30 years. Don't destroy the most important resource we have available. We all know this project is going to end up as a superfund cleanup site. I used run drill sites searching for toxic chemicals markers in aquifers, and I can tell you from bitter experience, it's possible to destroy the clean water of an area for human consumption indefinitely.

The rest of this is the form letter. Thanks for reading this.

Paul Khanna

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-

6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C4c57975086e94a20323108dc30ea3748%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439030090529813%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6v%2BUgIQ%2BldN1z8guJ5r2lAt87yx1fujeK3BN3l4iQKY%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Paul Khanna
800 Quie Ln Northfield, MN 55057-1215
paulkhanna@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: meyerr.lucy@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lucy Meyer-Rasmussen <meyerr.lucy@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 5:05 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

TAKE CARE OF OUR PRECIOUS RESOURCES PLEASEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C4913c0a636244164f4e108dc34bb7aa5%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443227032106032%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=HV9B1aAQLW6dPtOmjRnulKmiHbNfz2EjiazntQDXtiY%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Lucy Meyer-Rasmussen
425 W Bluff St Marquette, MI 49855-4111 meyerr.lucy@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: johnfenton1961@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of John Fenton <johnfenton1961@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 5:32 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

We own a home in Bessemer Michigan on E. Iron St. We spend quite a lot of time in the summer in upper of Michigan. We fish all the rivers that run into superior. The Presque Isle River is one of our favorite fishing spots. I am certainly torn between the need for viable work in the UP and the beautiful environment that exists for all. I certainly hope residents up there consider the potential long-term damage that this mind can do to the environment. Especially considering the proximity to the porcupine wilderness area.

Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. John Fenton
59 Bay Reach Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971-1929 johnfenton1961@icloud.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: terp.richelle@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Richelle Terpstra <terp.richelle@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2024 2:17 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

As Michiganders who are we without our Great Lakes? We should be protecting our greatest resource to the best of our abilities. This mine would just be another stressor added on to an already stressed environment.

As someone who works in protecting our fisheries here in the Great Lakes region, it is astounding to me that there is even a possibility that the state would fund something so dangerous. The potential irrevocable harm this could cause would be absolutely disastrous. The Great Lakes have been under constant threat every day for the last 100+ years, as industrialization and shipping brought aquatic invasive species that threaten to collapse the ecosystem and have permanently changed the food web. Having the potential for toxic waste to pollute the waters only adds to the stress our lakes are under. If something goes wrong with this mining development, there is no telling the harm this could cause.

Here are 5 more reasons why opposing this investment is the best choice:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cd097464be0cb4797a86108dc36364d16%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444854058655061%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luM

zIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TJVT0s7%2Br60lSy2BQQdZeaQaC9XUvRmC6YDUGb3j1Ro%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Richelle Terpstra
1014 W Bluff St Apt 2 Marquette, MI 49855-4022 terp.richelle@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: luannekozma@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of LuAnne Kozma <luannekozma@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2024 3:45 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

My main concern is protection of parkland. Parkland cannot be sustained with development up to its borders. Especially wilderness, which requires more buffer zones than other designations such as recreation areas or municipal parks. I'm concerned that this project would substantially and forever alter Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park. I am a longtime park advocate. I have a degree in Parks and Recreation from Michigan State University. I have worked in wilderness areas in the western U.S. and understand the policies and designation of wilderness. Wilderness is not sustainable with intensive development right at the door. The reason why the Porcupine Mountain State Park is so successful is because of its intrinsic qualities, remoteness, absence of human development, and uninterrupted nature and natural ecosystems. Copperwood would destroy all of this. Preserving an "island" of "wilderness" with massive, extractive industry and infrastructure connecting mining operations, and ultimately, a highly-toxic waste field surrounding the park, destroys the quality of what is in the park itself.

I am also concerned for the harms that mining at the door of the park and its intrusions--visually, noise, remoteness, traffic, and actual trespass of harmful materials into and onto the parkland's land and water, will cause of conversion of parkland to non-park uses.

Surely there is better use of millions of tax dollars to help protect this place and provide incentives to preserve the buffer around Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park.

Tax dollars to support ecotourism are what's needed. No one goes to visit a toxic waste dump.

Additionally:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. LuAnne Kozma
9330 Woods Rd Charlevoix, MI 49720-1698 luannekozma@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: brendasmoseley@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Brenda Moseley <brendasmoseley@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 7:19 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

The Porkies are a sacred place, a sanctuary for some of the last remaining old-growth forests in the Midwest. International visitors come here, and they stand in awe just like the rest of us. Porcupine Mountains has been rated as the most beautiful park in the USA by Travel Lens based on the company's analysis of Yelp and TripAdvisor reviews. Yet your grant would support a mine only two miles away from the Presque Isle campground and a few car lengths away from the park entry sign. According to the company's own EIS, noise from the mine's grinding and extraction operations will reach the campground. And the beautiful county road leading to the park will, at state expense, be widened and fortified up to the site, effectively turning it into a zone for heavy industrial traffic. If built, the mine, with its noise and lights and blasting crews, will operate at least 20 hours a day, eventually producing a 17-story tailing pile sloping towards Superior. This towering reminder of industry, visible from the campground and other park sites, will remain for the state to deal with long after Highland Copper, a Canadian LLC with no prior history of mining and a portfolio that only includes Copperwood and White Pine, has departed. It's hard to imagine a project more incompatible with the park's wilderness values. The mine will likely damage the growing and sustainable outdoor recreation industry in Gogebic County and cause long-lasting harm to the environment.

It's also a risky investment. The price of copper isn't stable, and companies are already looking for greener replacements. There are nickel-based batteries, solid state batteries and new batteries just announced by researchers at MIT that ditch copper, nickel and cobalt, instead using organic materials in their cathodes. Their battery is cheaper and charges more quickly. Will Michiganders get any return on their money if copper is soon viewed by manufacturers as only a more expensive and environmentally damaging choice?

And what about the downside risks at the site? Highland Copper provided two years of hydrological data as required, but this data was based on two years with below average precipitation. This data was also used in the computer models constructed by the firm employed to assess project risks for the company's EIS. As noted in public comments to Michigan's DEQ, two 500-year floods and one 1000-year flood have since occurred. Some scientists believe that we're already beyond the time where these averages can be relied on. They're based on a stable climate rather than one already being destabilized by global warming. And consensus is that the climate we have now will not be the climate that we have in 30 years. We're projected to have more rain and more extreme downpours, and this project isn't designed for this future. When the tailings pile fails, will the amount that Highland has placed in reserve for reclamation come anywhere near the actual costs of clean-up and the long-term economic losses to the communities and state?. Or will Michigan residents pick up the bill, a bill made even more bitter by their knowledge that the Fund sacrificed Superior in exchange for a short-term boom and bust project.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Brenda Moseley
503 E Oak St Ironwood, MI 49938-3013
brendasmoseley@me.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mjacknorton@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Matthew Norton <mjacknorton@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 10:33 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

All mining ends. Mining is never "sustainable." This mine, if Michigan allows it, will be outlived by the pollution and human costs of the mining. By human costs I mean the harm to children and the adults they grow into, from having eaten fish laden with additional mercury, since the mine will release sulfate (among other pollutants). Sulfate pollution equates to increased mercury in fish tissue, because sulfate is used by sulfate-reducing bacteria in wetlands, streams, rivers and lake sediments to power their bacterial metabolism, in the course of which they methylate mercury, and only methyl-mercury bioaccumulates in the food web. Methyl-mercury poses a particular threat to the brain development of children and unborn babies, but also damages the heart, sight, and hearing of adults. The economic consequences for individuals and communities of mercury contamination of babies and children were calculated in a 2005 paper by Trasande, Landrigan, and Schechter, published in the journal Environmental Health Perspectives. If any of the waters downstream from the proposed mine are already listed on the Michigan impaired waters list for having too much mercury in fish tissue, then permitting this mine to be built very likely will cause or contribute to that(those) impairment(s), in violation of the Clean Water Act.

If the proposed mine plan would put mine waste rock, tailings, or other toxic residue on Michigan state land, then the State of Michigan would have to pay for later clean-up costs. In Chevron Mining, Inc. v. USA, 863 F.3d. 1261 (10th Cir. 2017), after creating a toxic mess, the mining company sued the U.S. for a share of clean-up costs, and the United States 10th Circuit Court of Appeals found the U.S. liable for $1 billion in CERCLA (Superfund) liability for clean-up. The State of Minnesota, because of this risk, told Twin Metals not to submit any mine plan that proposed dumping copper mine tailings on state lands.

So watch out. This mine will pollute your land, water, fish, and people. Later, the mining company will take you to court, and then to the bank.

1. Toxic waste from this mine will require on-site storage and maintenance, forever. Nothing lasts forever. The waste will make its way into water, causing massive contamination and very seriously harming Michigan's resources, people, and reputation.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. The proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does. Unlike mining, recreation revenue never needs to end, so long as the land and water are clean.

5. The proposed mine is deeply unpopular:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotectttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C39541b856bbd428d745508dc33bb8bc5%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442127811961200%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=zPI6NqY4xlZWfhs3JJcocOj7DVNlXd9QFdKXdhVKZ%2Fc%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Matthew Norton
143 Orlin Ave SE Minneapolis, MN 55414-3519 mjacknorton@gmail.com

From: reedcaden313@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Caden Reed
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 7:17:16 AM

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

Good morning to you all.

I write this requesting that you do not vote in favor of the Copperwood $50 Million grant.

Why continue to disrupt and take away from our natural world and resources, especially in an area still so pristine and wondrous. It specifically gets under my skin as I have yet to make it to the Porcupine Mountains (as an Upper Peninsula resident) and the idea that the first time and the rest of the time I and my future family will visit that area, it will have a large-scale wasteful mining operation.

I understand resources are necessary but there has to be another option that doesn't risk our freshwater, ruin our old growth forests, and tamper with the pristine beauty that lies in the forests of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

As a resident of Marquette, Michigan - I urge you all to say no and pay attention to the short term gain of a mining project that produces a minimal amount of product and an extreme amount of waste. Clean water, soil & air are being lost - and you have a chance to make a decision that preserves it for our grandchildren and their grandchildren.

Respectfully & hopeful.

-Caden A. Reed
Founder/President: Superior Healing Initiative

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinna Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures: https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmiclcomments%40michigan.org%7C53464c7bc8454f017aa808dc4d866964%7Ce1b7aa2eb8834a49aeb93c559a258b28%7C0%7C0%7C638470486358193295%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3dleyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xjY3Acco9laZkNcJPmjMFBH0GnjznXaDFW%2OPzfW4Tc%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Caden Reed
810 Ontario Ave Marquette, MI 49855-2355
reedcaden313@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: aeaster90@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Abbie Brooks <aeaster90@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 3:54 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs Abbie Brooks
3580 Little Canada Rd Cheboygan, MI 49721-9278 aeaster90@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: afancher92@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Adam Fancher <afancher92@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 5:28 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C9b71eb0c51da4ced0de208dc33f57a82%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442376624757359%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=QjehUrJvghF4B4TFHOT%2Bm3VzJYnteMlYUke48DXcc%2Fo%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Adam Fancher
1605 Gray St Marquette, MI 49855-1541
afancher92@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: arbaier1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Aimee Baier <arbaier1@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 8:37 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ca0c87b002e0a4882577208dc30eb32cd%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439033936657513%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=u50ncEk0nrHU0aIyFRCsh%2BDWLuK6j%2F9KaBbvhgEnIm4%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Aimee Baier
541 Maple St Sault Sainte Marie, MI 49783-2043 arbaier1@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: albertaborneo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Alberta Borneo <albertaborneo@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 5:37 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cafcfbee5394042fea1e608dc319b453b%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439790172510409%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=y8EtGUFnor8G0gmTGRxMiZU%2FAMT1NJOQTe%2BKQiQSIN4%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Alberta Borneo
632 Heartwood Ln Saline, MI 48176-8604
albertaborneo@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: alice.m.west@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Alice West <alice.m.west@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 4:40 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C35edd124744a40bed18d08dc2f37e3ac%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437164310169168%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=RrYJzh1XTLd5zrpeO4ma6%2Br8%2FD4Ad7b6NqzG545rkmA%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Alice West
315 1st Ave E Grand Marais, MN 55604-3106 alice.m.west@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: alishslade@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Alish Pfeiffer <alishslade@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 8:40 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cc96b9062d460471a0f9308dc34105678%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442491986153854%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=W0zkzkdCbtxAYUxZLGrQNU%2F2i8JPzHBzXZq8KiIOJlU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs Alish Pfeiffer
10085 William Jones Cir Apt 2 Anchorage, AK 99515-4293 alishslade@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: alison.stankrauff.1974@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Alison Stankrauff <alison.stankrauff.1974@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 5:44 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C4bada7e5d8c64601f93608dc2f40c893%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437202502288340%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=FCVdWpqHaMRd5y%2BNvl8ySnxCAENZ0i7rZG6MA8lX1oY%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Alison Stankrauff
120 Seward St Detroit, MI 48202-4416
alison.stankrauff.1974@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: alhein@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Allison Hein <alhein@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 1:53 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C8cc342a60f164910ccdc08dc34a0a0db%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443111717699388%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=SKh4UGAtAsNyDr6DfiUkyEzgcA1K9BqereX5MkpR%2BFc%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Allison Hein
230 Northwoods Rd Apt 11 Marquette, MI 49855-8857 alhein@alumni.nmu.edu

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: amdelverne@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Amanda DelVerne <amdelverne@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 6:23 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C956c9e4b8a83464aa9fb08dc33fd26a5%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442409562944862%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=lIgOq6RCmPjiggPjdgxjtc6Lo9CmO4MjYnic7sdvGdY%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Amanda DelVerne
911 Clinton Springs Ave Cincinnati, OH 45229-1956 amdelverne@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: asebrosky@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Amanda Sebrosky <asebrosky@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 7:45 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Amanda Sebrosky
31221 Walker Rd Bay Village, OH 44140-1409 asebrosky@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: aj.saintm@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Amanda StMartin <aj.saintm@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 12:02 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Amanda StMartin
2520 S Huron Rd Kawkawlin, MI 48631-9153 aj.saintm@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: am12bgarden@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Amy Fitkin <am12bgarden@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 8:05 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C575413a657a145bb1e7e08dc347004f9%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442902936927377%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=8D49UmgQsa3QufSS6Ua4SLtlMN%2FFkF%2BJI01reSXCqjM%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Amy Fitkin
5 Hunters Ridge Dr Saginaw, MI 48609-9318 am12bgarden@aol.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ajgoat@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Amy Gauthier <ajgoat@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 10:26 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C55b0b288df3f412367a208dc3483c2f0%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442987719499472%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=lCwEkaL%2BIetKiYtyDSvTtTpNUJvCupVS6WEvS8tztzk%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Amy Gauthier
925 Sporley Lake Rd Skandia, MI 49885-9417 ajgoat@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ajanczy@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Amy Gleason <ajanczy@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2024 2:59 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cdf366a49290349b0a1e508dc49d8ef29%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638466443320547953%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=26MqlhyQYlpl1R%2Fd%2BNqX%2BXvjM6oqfs%2BHMZmGUVkZj9o%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Amy Gleason
228 E Gogebic St Ironwood, MI 49938-2018 ajanczy@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: andrea.fshhc@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Andrea Behrmann <andrea.fshhc@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 7:18 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C44520b092a9e435b041908dc37299a2d%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638445899035294756%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=wup2wMy%2BSX9RboSy%2FZVPAKy%2Fqi0X9MrP0nD0CMHEoLI%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Andrea Behrmann
1520 11th St Bay City, MI 48708-6755
andrea.fshhc@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: chisaria@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Andrea Chisari <chisaria@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 4:41 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C2acd6a8582f94b55498208dc2f37f06e%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437164519673535%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sXjyPT8es9hMVvz3H32v8uIWdUOBeumsQpMaeuTKCQc%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Andrea Chisari
3195 Keith Ln Mims, FL 32754-5679
chisaria@att.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: pinkandream@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Andrea Pink <pinkandream@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 8:05 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C54361be18f9f40bfbb9908dc340b711f%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442470958458659%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IwLsi1u6pIvmlSXsaseN8SCLX2b5DW%2F%2FHTfzrzD%2BdoE%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Andrea Pink
200 E Ridge St Apt E Marquette, MI 49855-4238 pinkandream@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: andyhendricks11@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Andrew Hendricks <andyhendricks11@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 9:54 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C64dfc5b8d2b14c9bf17108dc2fc84b62%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437784513156545%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Oc%2BOn7a72XPM%2FcUgsEZRzX60Am2O%2B1odIUf2F9x1jLE%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Andrew Hendricks
5644 Acorn Trl Caledonia, WI 53402-9743 andyhendricks11@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: arlangberg@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Andrew Langberg <arlangberg@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 6:52 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Andrew Langberg
216 Jackson St Marquette, MI 49855-4936 arlangberg@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: bluewolf3868@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Andrew Pinchen <bluewolf3868@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 12:51 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Andrew Pinchen
2100 Hunter Rd Brighton, MI 48114-8930
bluewolf3868@aol.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ann@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ann Baughman <ann@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 11:58 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ce89cbfec2f1d432fcbbb08dc32fe37d6%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441314649065996%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=x6hC%2F1XVNpeB7wK40bLELbNp9xPizvms0rQXEaqIIP8%3D&reserved=0

This project does not have adequate investment to ensure that the natural resources--land, water, and air--are not impacted by the destructive approach of this type of mining. Community development agreements should be required for every mine and includes an investment in the community in perpetuity.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Ann Baughman
10260 Chickagami Trl Brutus, MI 49716-9534 ann@dflyweb.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: arpgustaf@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ann Gustafson <arpgustaf@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 4:19 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cf502e90eb2424adecbff08dc32599eec%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440607713613038%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=vcHw17YIzs%2B5HwEu69YCRU%2BU8afgRptciEemZ4x7u60%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Ann Gustafson
3700 Cambrey Dr Lansing, MI 48906-3517
arpgustaf@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: freshdivinebeginning@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ann Tusa <freshdivinebeginning@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 11:27 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C115923ac30fe47be060008dc309e6c47%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438704203092504%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=28DNMtmMpaIsKHJF4dg%2Boemh3%2FsOUIzhsk%2BECf4j83E%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Ann Tusa
4211 W 7th St Duluth, MN 55807-1529
freshdivinebeginning@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: alippert@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Anne Lippert <alippert@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 9:34 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C31bc1808d8c442aa486108dc3417f125%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442524641747390%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BBjggy4Jcw%2FRBr4xP7GfeafJHECYZYlGXtyUe56DXG4%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Anne Lippert
424 W Baraga Ave Marquette, MI 49855-4557 alippert@nmu.edu

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: lilati@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Annie Konkol <lilati@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 10:43 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cac3151eb18f04cf613cc08dc322a9120%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440405615414928%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=0rh9eoE2t%2F2zxcnkgM6V9VhEs4xVWhF%2FRTROqYR9BF8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Annie Konkol
PO Box 4742 West Hills, CA 91308-4742
lilati@aol.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: adejonge@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ansje DeJonge <adejonge@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2024 10:23 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C02d2e522b6de4bd7155508dc3eba6920%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638454217564397522%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Nn7shrLgQ7LEGN9cOVIlCl6cIiKOKr%2BGEmMJiEgHqIU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Ansje DeJonge
111 E Michigan St Marquette, MI 49855-3821 adejonge@nmu.edu

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: tonyboylemi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Anthony Martin-Boyle <tonyboylemi@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2024 7:44 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cbb6874b81a5e4d60d87708dc4c5c4acf%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638469206484828252%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=2nOPqE2pcPUMD0eF0Y7e8TgltdZ5TLa%2BfxtoK7tvB%2BY%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Anthony Martin-Boyle
401 W Michigan St Marquette, MI 49855-3334 tonyboylemi@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: tonywakeham@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Anthony Wakeham <tonywakeham@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 11:25 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C09e78ead5e9546e1a14a08dc4cdfbf3f%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638469771079893228%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=pwSazEdj%2BnVxZYoGHKIE9xCbw6dAevDIYKM4sV1hheo%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Anthony Wakeham
17703 Skanee Rd Lanse, MI 49946-9025
tonywakeham@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ariesdevries@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Aries De Vries <ariesdevries@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 11:26 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cfb83bea747b7455a611508dc2fd53018%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437839895244235%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2B0CdK2fpHnCvpTd7L5VAuLRt0Zll3nJZug0kkLFdN%2Bg%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Aries De Vries
206 E Malcolm X St Lansing, MI 48933-2425 ariesdevries@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ashlynraew@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ashlyn Warren <ashlynraew@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 5:29 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cdfd5a1621a6f4be4793308dc33f59dd8%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442377223437560%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jpykv5arzVlqZFpWwTI8I8s92z1cgM%2BLlUMrO9ozpB4%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Ashlyn Warren
1910 Sugar Loaf Ave Marquette, MI 49855-1845 ashlynraew@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: sotovoce70@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Athena Kaskey-Rohlfing <sotovoce70@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 8:29 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C490d9898ec374807aee608dc31b36222%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439893726098286%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=8OQnbgWThxRUhOVkla7HFMy4g6AbZHV3gIsHb0UqW80%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Athena Kaskey-Rohlfing
24 Martin Ave Asheville, NC 28806-3533
sotovoce70@protonmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: augustcamp2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of August Camp <augustcamp2@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 10:17 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cc17f8df5bf9b4854b73508dc34828091%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442982303847018%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=CDVgvEc5SpqK2qsXx2s4IYu9JpPOz3xH%2FZu4YpIslSk%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. August Camp
803 Elm St Hancock, MI 49930-1507
augustcamp2@gmail.con

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: rankinautumn00@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Autumn Rankin <rankinautumn00@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 8:11 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Caf1de6d8f405472f5b7c08dc340c3ea2%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442474403996843%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=HD%2FhPej8UgiU7jSayXywdwEKNhdbGbByA1ICKokhO1M%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mx. Autumn Rankin
408 14th Ave W Ashland, WI 54806-1236
rankinautumn00@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: fier.averi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Averi Fier <fier.averi@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 8:03 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cd577f0a82f0c457a098208dc340b3cc0%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442470084630551%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=QWIA514dgb%2B6CNx%2FDMXcAlprrsscPD%2FCQuyNG9FuwJg%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Averi Fier
1950 Presque Isle Ave Marquette, MI 49855-1968 fier.averi@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: barbsal2001@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Barbara Salame <barbsal2001@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 10:45 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cc9fb1d7c365746e09a6e08dc322af61f%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440407312642342%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=wUvTnmo89s%2Fvnc4w5aM2vX%2BioO3gzEKrhFWBHba5ocY%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Barbara Salame
10823 Wooden Pole Dr Parker, CO 80134-4264 barbsal2001@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: beatrizvera00@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Beatriz Vera <beatrizvera00@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 1:22 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C1254d6a5ba18415e0b3a08dc3240d6bf%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440501285035856%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=EEruT5cDMVSqIj9FC8yvSP%2B6sqndRLXG%2B%2Bv49O%2BGncQ%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Beatriz Vera
7101 N Mesa St # 119 El Paso, TX 79912-3613 beatrizvera00@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: becky@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Becky Reimbold <becky@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 5:34 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C9f26cb459c764573d0b808dc30d1a747%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438924223306179%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=7xN7VycLS779sJ9bVX7aOjdRPWEJL6mfnK4Vc3eQO2g%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
mx Becky Reimbold
1127 E Bronson St South Bend, IN 46615-1139 becky@justgoods.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: bettyharris7599@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Betty Harris <bettyharris7599@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 9:52 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cedb290e3797f4161487c08dc32ec9970%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441238979907918%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=K5picFaM%2BNGLlyXl1wuRuZc2%2Br9yUMGnS33c60Aymhk%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Betty Harris
30412 Olson St Livonia, MI 48150-3921
bettyharris7599@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: bjarnesart@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Bjarne Johnson <bjarnesart@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 3:31 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C8ed8d8c8ae464912ca9c08dc30c07f6e%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438850550489829%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=KP%2B6xcqR0RDIdyfMGQy6CYJAmhAMu3hV1ej3%2BO7RUs0%3D&reserved=0

P.S. I know I now live in Georgia, but I was born and raised in Michigan. I spent large portions of my childhood in the Keweenaw Peninsula, enjoying what remains of our state's natural beauty. Please do not destroy it for a quick dollar as the Great Lakes are already in peril from pollution.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Bjarne Johnson
81 Cobblestone Crk Peachtree City, GA 30269-1135 bjarnesart@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: writebon@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Bonnie Peterson <writebon@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 7:50 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

a) We are still cleaning up from mine waste in the early 20th century. The ugliness and wasteland that are here as a result are disgusting remnants of copper mining.

b) If you put the same amount of money into attracting tourists from surrounding states, WE WOULD BE RICH! Tourists from IL and MN and WI do not want to come here and see mines and polluted rivers.

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ceb1a5bdddab74aa8306208dc2f525474%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437277868607920%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=HzBP8OO1LviayRqlKjQ0Nc4k9uRdNqvXKDAjd95qRD0%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Bonnie Peterson
22117 Royalwood Rd Houghton, MI 49931-9014 writebon@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: bwoodman1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Bradley Woodman <bwoodman1@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 4:52 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C0a36e3dde1d947e8000f08dc30cbdf29%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438899397715088%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=vtNK1gnMmZpcAfp5TWf%2F83ftytHXDZDWhZhcu4B1AiU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Bradley Woodman
1713 Harrison St Evanston, IL 60201-2326 bwoodman1@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: BRANDONMEYER715@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of BRANDON MEYER <BRANDONMEYER715@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 3:16 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. BRANDON MEYER
31409 Gable Ave Stacy, MN 55079-9488
BRANDONMEYER715@GMAIL.COM

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: semperlegendis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Brian McConnell <semperlegendis@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 12:33 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Brian McConnell
4124 Lake Harbor Rd Norton Shores, MI 49441-4524 semperlegendis@proton.me

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: brielizondo16@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Brianna Elizondo <brielizondo16@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 6:57 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C21db292bfbbd4280520808dc34cb19ea%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443294125664304%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=yfuWcYJSOUzcBdm1eXi6ebFniWbBEp%2BrHxxgB2KXkKM%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Brianna Elizondo
16530 New Holland St Holland, MI 49424-5557 brielizondo16@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: aeroflotguy@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Britton Saunders <aeroflotguy@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 7:33 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Britton Saunders
2225 N 54th St Milwaukee, WI 53208-1013 aeroflotguy@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: bryanobaisley@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of bryan baisley <bryanobaisley@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 8:10 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. bryan baisley
1603 Altamont St Marquette, MI 49855-5018 bryanobaisley@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: caitlinsternberg@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cait Sternberg <caitlinsternberg@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 7:19 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Cait Sternberg
519 Hapgood St Boulder, CO 80302-6965
caitlinsternberg@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: candraneff1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Candra Neff <candraneff1@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 12:51 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Candra Neff
14785 Curtis Cir Sonora, CA 95370-7504
candraneff1@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: capriandrews11@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Capri Redondo <capriandrews11@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 7:40 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C6b9ae3013fa3407505d708dc372c91ab%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638445911771828185%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IMQ%2B92nKb4Y8d%2BPFRYSODjZHVNgXsEex5S76W9n0%2Bco%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Capri Redondo
1141 Stearns Dr Los Angeles, CA 90035-2640 capriandrews11@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: carriewilliams74@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Carrie Smith <carriewilliams74@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 6:01 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C13bb0637cc6248fd5fcf08dc32033c20%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440236699285639%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=VqHCSoNkJgwole8Kg0cR3GvNO%2BgAS0UiL0k0gEUHwU8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Carrie Smith
2901 Green Acres Dr Mulliken, MI 48861-9709 carriewilliams74@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: caseymfarrell@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Casey Farrell <caseymfarrell@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 9:22 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ca5d9889fc1074d2e232008dc30f19aad%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439061449245031%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9xub2RzE3O4jRTipDc82BZ2c1tb8YK0jIHp6RbPNvEU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Casey Farrell
5050 N Glenwood Ave Chicago, IL 60640-2874 caseymfarrell@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: cassidyberlin15@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cassidy Berlin <cassidyberlin15@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 9:49 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C14c1461d2b6145336b3308dc347e8c21%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442965316759135%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=YTv4I%2B%2FUpLiUkCXYRrzynWV7ypdgJNmqVN8PwEvOa1s%3D&reserved=0

This is a reckless project that endangers everything precious about our local environment. Do not allow it to come to fruition.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Cassidy Berlin
134 W Michigan St Marquette, MI 49855-3574 cassidyberlin15@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: cj49801@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Catherine Johns <cj49801@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 8:43 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C39a7fabb3d234573e1fa08dc31b54982%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439901903431577%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=AyWxXooknlt%2FJjwWSW6LhS8%2F4WvqmhMyL1xaI9x1eJk%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Catherine Johns
N4939 County Road 607 Iron Mountain, MI 49801-9523 cj49801@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: earth-and-sky@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Catherine McCrow <earth-and-sky@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 1:12 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cdc60cfcf34424d1bc3f708dc2f7f6a6b%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437471510766365%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=zguVux1nVIslh1GbBjj32i9LaIrJPDRUOmwSF9U4TXQ%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Catherine McCrow
21655 Siskiwit Shores Dr Cornucopia, WI 54827-4751 earth-and-sky@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: cjmsten@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Catherine Stenberg <cjmsten@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 6:30 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Catherine Stenberg
3050 Island Beach Rd Marquette, MI 49855-2023 cjmsten@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: chuckied84@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Charles Dahl <chuckied84@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 4:05 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

As an avid fisher of Lake Superior here are the reasons I am against this.

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Charles Dahl

613 Hayes Dr Northfield, MN 55057-3537
chuckied84@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: chayahenkel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Chaya Henkel <chayahenkel@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 11:40 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Chaya Henkel
50572 6th St Hancock, MI 49930-9692
chayahenkel@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: cbassdesign@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Chelsey Bassett <cbassdesign@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 8:45 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Chelsey Bassett
531 W Magnetic St Marquette, MI 49855-2712 cbassdesign@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: wildonionyoga@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cheryl Henley <wildonionyoga@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 5:17 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ca68f441d15c64239119808dc2f3cff5b%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437186250723676%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=K0v%2FN%2FFiak1lWRixzsZUGHIHAFkHYbKusqirON%2Fx4xg%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Cheryl Henley
1203 Washington St Evanston, IL 60202-1621 wildonionyoga@live.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: Chloestetson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Chloe Stetson <Chloestetson@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 6:56 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C21fa20c4eec44d2b6ad708dc3401d7a6%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442429728566650%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZkyAIzd%2B2j3b0pAh2fXPEM6CQFtYTz9aVHyh1Suscy0%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Chloe Stetson
405 Eugenia Ave Madison, WI 53705-3432
Chloestetson@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: crein@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Chris Rein <crein@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2024 4:50 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cb4c7dc341d3141f9537308dc364bc4d3%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444946266208914%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jPGQAGE1BY95LjS8Z4vx0q8jRjqBvYvq8MralozViOY%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Chris Rein
80993 Schwilk Rd Glidden, WI 54527-9116 crein@uwalumni.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: CiaraGarrity322@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ciara Garrity <CiaraGarrity322@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 10:39 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C7a6f086e9f224116ba7f08dc30332703%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438243457326723%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=zwpOS2PmeRufZuv2Vcxjs7s%2FQgHo%2FIxKYYEpBybQhww%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Ciara Garrity
140 Pauline Dr Elgin, IL 60123-5939
CiaraGarrity322@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: cinsera@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of cindy serafin <cinsera@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 8:37 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

This has to stop! There are too many outside corporations that are coming into Michigan and causing deforestation, wildlife to move out of their natural habitat and the ruining of our natural waterways and lakes. What is Michigan's motto... Si Quaeris Peninsulam Amoenam Circum spice....if you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you..LET'S NOT FORGET THIS!!!! Michigan is becoming nothing but PFAS, deforestation and loss of wildlife....Camp Grayling is trying to take over thousands of acres as well...Again, save the beauty of the State of Michigan... Some one has to do it, let it be you!

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Caf78247600704ce198aa08dc31b46beb%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439898172441238%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4w

LjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=dS%2BTf3MyquXuHs2dNAK4QhYshj%2BiJOG%2Flg1dW74jz0w%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs cindy serafin
315 Kirkshire Ave Roscommon, MI 48653-9221 cinsera@sbcglobal.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: obrienclaire93@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Claire Leckie <obrienclaire93@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 4:08 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cb468377715194c14151908dc34b3927e%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443193059335712%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IVzb4shnHQ3HSX2vsHJgvlfMm5pNdipU8YVWIZ2vC40%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Claire Leckie
822 N 4th St Marquette, MI 49855-3409
obrienclaire93@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: cole.robert823@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cole Grindling <cole.robert823@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 10:41 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ceebe568e49df45bdcd4908dc342149bd%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442564794214771%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sjJKV%2FsczMDpzb9%2FL4fq0Ot4zLBcoL2C68iWUC%2Fv59M%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Cole Grindling
1308 Presque Isle Ave Marquette, MI 49855-2720 cole.robert823@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: collin.crane1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Collin Crane <collin.crane1@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 7:58 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cda43dd7ad882449b733a08dc340a894b%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442467063483608%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=bgiL3Q4mf7cE%2F7A4OWk4GN3WTijnCvq%2FUR9Lg9dN0Wo%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Collin Crane
118 W Arch St Marquette, MI 49855-3540
collin.crane1@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: coni.barlow@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Coni Barlow <coni.barlow@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 2:54 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. It's important for us to protect the few really pristine and wild areas left on this earth!

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Coni Barlow
PO Box 263 Dansville, MI 48819-0263
coni.barlow@wayne.edu

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: cjolson720@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Connor Olson <cjolson720@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 1:26 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C48ca23b5fc824395602308dc34383f45%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442663393104100%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=DYbGIvzwxeli0R13SWnRHt5eES6aWQ1o2qRh7B2rzA8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Connor Olson
565 Sandhurst Dr W Saint Paul, MN 55113-4698 cjolson720@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: constantinakarathanasis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Constantina Karathanasis <constantinakarathanasis@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 7:26 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C9493ccd272884b00e94b08dc36c607e8%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638445471383511839%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=V%2BubjGytYbmRTz2uFn4uxRrf%2B67aHPgkeYVBACiRCdc%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Constantina Karathanasis
2042 Quail Run Dr Kalamazoo, MI 49009-1875 constantinakarathanasis@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: dinodna12@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Daniel LaBar <dinodna12@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 6:33 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C1b6c5c5159c348ea778808dc33fe9ad9%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442415817848790%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=vhmCj4%2FGYHwXwL3Ub7PDPHMd7OpdP9T0hMl8zVjm9Kk%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Daniel LaBar
3050 Island Beach Rd Marquette, MI 49855-2023 dinodna12@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: djhallba@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of David Hall <djhallba@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 3:08 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ce112cec16c484caefa7908dc34ab19e0%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443156694925545%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Un%2FAOkRDzonNTgMuTt%2Fdp51bOreEnB42Hm55emqXLV8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. David Hall
6097 Byram Lake Dr Linden, MI 48451-8784 djhallba@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: dawnrcasper@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dawn R Casper <dawnrcasper@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 3:47 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

Now more than ever my husband and I fear for the future of our two daughters. We need to consider how our actions today impact not only us, but our children and future generations. Please ACT NOW to make sure there is NO funding for the Copperwood Mine Project . Our kids are counting on us to make the choices today that give them a chance for a productive and healthy future tomorrow.

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C68c2de7986384f6d0c3f08dc3579bfe6%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444044237811725%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=C6KQtVlUUAtdfOWZhjRHQ4O%2BcmFpGkEw%2B0JqIb9MuM8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Dawn R Casper

5709 Cedar Pl Madison, WI 53705-2559
dawnrcasper@sbcglobal.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: den4ben@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dean Bennett <den4ben@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 9:30 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cc48dc49257854734acfd08dc32e98846%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441225802311370%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=2w%2FLDqzodixk%2FkUxWMsuCMjVZr10wkqWqteQMzrG%2F7g%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Dr. Dean Bennett
W863 White Oak Dr East Troy, WI 53120-2245 den4ben@wi.rr.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: debkaygee@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Deb Kallunki <debkaygee@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 4:45 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

I was born and raised in the Western UP; and I have lived in Ontonagon and Gogebic Counties for over 70 years. I still recall the fiasco of the SOM's financial support of the doomed-to-fail Upper Peninsula Shipbuilding Company (circa 1978-1982). I am strongly opposed to this mining venture. Highland Copper (and the corporations that preceded it) have been trying to sell this pipe dream to our economically depressed area for well over a decade. If Highland cannot secure venture capital, potential investors must not have confidence in this scheme. If Highland truly believes they can profit from mining copper in the Western UP, they should be able to fund their venture WITHOUT a grant from the State of Michigan, WITHOUT taxpayer funding. I strongly urge you to NOT give any money to this company.

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C6aad2ab633ac40d97b5008dc319404ea%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439759019965679%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4

wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=FY%2F0gpdCdt3MvpqBP04FL79dz%2FX5MngIvthGWWlYfw4%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
ms Deb Kallunki
11425 Aspen Ln Mass City, MI 49948-9500 debkaygee@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: debbiehill2996@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Debra Hill <debbiehill2996@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 6:01 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C76f47ee6785845f3d41608dc300c57ba%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438076785064878%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=USyVlVIjdVeiZA5pwzvHA%2Fp4MXEFsQdfb%2FmHZcEjyp8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Debra Hill
4300 W Lake Ave Glenview, IL 60026-1474 debbiehill2996@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: dgendvil@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Derek Gendvil <dgendvil@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 1:20 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ceab5dbd5a9f649a27d8e08dc34377081%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442659931434804%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6W%2FB7uxgIYhV4HcRXtLnIIkliCeJcUggkXsVk2Bk%2FGM%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Derek Gendvil
9030 W Sahara Ave Apt 360 Las Vegas, NV 89117-5744 dgendvil@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: dclenz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Derek Lenz <dclenz@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 7:27 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ce9c64c96d18949cf052108dc30e17d83%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438992242214248%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=lDtej8ouAKHCpluE7CbohygegS7oegJT7wg4cD2QadA%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Dr. Derek Lenz
11608 Argentine Pivet Dr Linden, MI 48451-8306 dclenz@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: Diana.L.Buehler@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Diana Buehler <Diana.L.Buehler@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 2:22 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C504420e1a3bc4c7ea57508dc32493d49%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440537355733741%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=EvBV0NRnHEsKTdpHh5UmmHSqd1RXCk7%2F9nxdfWpzhvo%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Dr. Diana Buehler
1439 31st St Des Moines, IA 50311-2805
Diana.L.Buehler@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: dianaoman@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Diana Oman <dianaoman@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 11:25 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ca3b4306ba5754dfeba3c08dc32950fbf%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440863012975319%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=vp8RNSOUoByqwdUzFQYQQQadJrHXs2Mo19ypbWPcXOc%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Diana Oman
107 Lakewood Ln Marquette, MI 49855-9506 dianaoman@sbcglobal.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: dominiquekymvalentine@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dominique Valentine <dominiquekymvalentine@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 6:31 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cdd47ec6fb8704f19379c08dc3335280b%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441550598650302%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FtTA%2Bje8AyddkBPL%2BW%2F%2F4kLe4VbT36EkGD44I3eopzo%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr Dominique Valentine
E5203 Sunset Rd Ironwood, MI 49938-9341 dominiquekymvalentine@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: finwall.dj9@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Donald Finwall <finwall.dj9@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 1:43 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C6aadf136a2e24df8f6c408dc4cf30725%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638469853908357726%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=KoU0qcvAypnAi1hUVB3gCbIHnr5p%2BtJTRR27SiSLnvc%3D&reserved=0

I have personally read and agree with these statements.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Donald Finwall
142 Fisher St Marquette, MI 49855-4715
finwall.dj9@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: samulski.d@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Donald Samulski <samulski.d@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 2:00 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C45099a90b02943d080d908dc2feaae64%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437932207212457%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=rZKJdm9jpBAkz0SX2k4gprwKFGr3QZkiVLfatg3WUBE%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Donald Samulski
418 Mcmillan St Marquette, MI 49855-4809 samulski.d@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: bedell.doug@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Doug Bedell <bedell.doug@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 9:26 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ca238d487632346b7a84f08dc35448dd4%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443815780563544%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=n2z%2FvkCe7NJsZJEfdqmssIjIIu0IJLjYwCXwL%2BY%2BjkA%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Doug Bedell
2377 Vandermark Rd Bellaire, MI 49615-9388 bedell.doug@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: dylantrost@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dylan Trosr <dylantrost@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 10:04 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cc0a06ab4305144dc095b08dc3480ac6e%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442974459528716%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=O2JuTl1vzdMXtF3CMYZKX1VwMQqBCdFqBkMMCaqwzvg%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Dylan Trosr
817 Pine St Marquette, MI 49855-3727
dylantrost@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: m12md@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Edward Markushewski <m12md@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 2:40 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cae34d8584e4b4375e9e808dc3314df11%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441411942051754%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=eAzjXqpKAMMpL9w4lsIU6KqTfTnL25%2B6J9Kc9U2Pix0%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Dr. Edward Markushewski
2404 Covemont Dr SE Huntsville, AL 35801-2259 m12md@comcast.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: eryanphoto@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Eileen Ryan <eryanphoto@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 3:01 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C0964df83983745897fcf08dc2f8e9257%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437536586166049%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nq8cMnkANSxu%2FD46T78s2r4wqqE8YBHPbWOde7TFe3E%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Eileen Ryan
4865 N Ravenswood Ave Chicago, IL 60640-4409 eryanphoto@rcn.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: wangygroove@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of elaine rysiewicz <wangygroove@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 6:15 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

Protect our fresh water. Protect our lives. Protect all life. No mines on, near Lake Superior ever. And leave the wilderness area of the Porcupine Mountain alone. Begging you.

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ce271f41bdf43423779dc08dc32051deb%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440244764199189%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=f9GkuLW4tOYgJlr8exk7zkVpTry7yijPB33fJYzrcAM%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,

Ms. elaine rysiewicz
57482 Rockland St Calumet, MI 49913-3039 wangygroove@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: lenagu33@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Elena Gusev <lenagu33@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 10:39 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C0526b1ecfb644b6863a708dc33bc5899%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442131238946949%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=R8BWQ68MiABP72d4GvHWfrZBHL972HAM9F6cMbETOJA%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Elena Gusev
41 Crestwood Rd Milford, CT 06460-6923
lenagu33@aol.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: swansen.eli@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Eli Swansen <swansen.eli@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 4:31 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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I will leave the message written by the site that directed me here. Below are my own additional comments.

As a Upper Great Lakes resident my entire life I value to the importance of a clean and sustainable natural environment for everyone. This needs to be accomplished throughout society and it starts with each individual action. Closing down this mine will not fix the historic misuse, mistreatment of indigenous groups and their land, or the extraction and consumption society as whole, but it is a start. Each action we take positive or negative is a legacy we leave behind for our children, grandchildren, ancestors, and world overall.

How will our legacy look? I want it to be at the very least an improvement on previous generations. So please oppose this mining project!

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Eli Swansen
6921 County Road B Pittsville, WI 54466-9700 swansen.eli@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ejsabin1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Elizabeth Sabin <ejsabin1@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 5:41 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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6. I am a teacher and I want all my students past and present and future to enjoy the beautiful lake too!

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Elizabeth Sabin
114 W Hewitt Ave Marquette, MI 49855-3570 ejsabin1@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ellenlatulip69@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ellen LaTulip <ellenlatulip69@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 9:25 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C113cb82474ed442449a108dc31bb1eab%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439926968757097%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=GTT5NL3jO6IZzOPXoRpk%2Bb%2FKTK2Ln3wZeiqcY6uiWMc%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Ellen LaTulip
816 Webster St Traverse City, MI 49686-3788 ellenlatulip69@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ellynwolfson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ellyn Wolfson <ellynwolfson@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 2:34 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C1d82e86d45fb468b315908dc324add2b%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440544335012595%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TQUtv2LDju5rZ8MwLV5tBJrXIU45jfgrjzzd1JXRngw%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Ellyn Wolfson
7923 Loral Pines Dr SE Ada, MI 49301-9616 ellynwolfson@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ewaatti@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Emma Waatti <ewaatti@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 9:25 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Emma Waatti
5105 N MAIN St Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 ewaatti@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: brookse32@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Eric Brooks <brookse32@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2024 11:57 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Eric Brooks
1 Nob Hl San Francisco, CA 94108-2228
brookse32@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ericwiduger@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Eric Widuger <ericwiduger@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 8:45 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Eric Widuger
2080 Hassell Rd Apt 203 Hoffman Estates, IL 60169-6323 ericwiduger@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: florincrs11@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of frank florin <florincrs11@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 4:10 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. frank florin
N12902 273rd St Boyceville, WI 54725-9560 florincrs11@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: knappbuth@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gary Knapp <knappbuth@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 8:54 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C885e7428a17c40978abb08dc353ffc39%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443796129750554%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=w8B0i9XU%2BDR68MD6FuhSKjiM6YvxacgnoJa9jhf0nzc%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Gary Knapp
5681 Brake Rd Bellaire, MI 49615-8868
knappbuth@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: dis95@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gary Sebrosky <dis95@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 7:45 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C10427321a94442df2e8708dc3148a542%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439435290192019%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sJ8LJwQBO4%2B0%2BaMGBDWEdD%2FrLmVVWumT425jUW9jIUc%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Gary Sebrosky
31221 Walker Rd Bay Village, OH 44140-1409 dis95@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: gneisslifeinnovations@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gibran Washington <gneisslifeinnovations@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 1:46 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cfc3ad9f507494f8aeb1d08dc2f8418d7%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437491614011202%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=QMA0f4twmPSOSL1%2BJKti%2FdebPdIcIEKLNlpcul8ODws%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Gibran Washington
1420 Washington Blvd Ste 301 Detroit, MI 48226-1750 gneisslifeinnovations@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: gloria.guillo101@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gloria Guillo <gloria.guillo101@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 8:45 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cf10d2e7d31d94f05f57408dc321a36c1%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440335380273478%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=C6Iksh0eH%2BjvNHkFSp07FoDKrCjAnMQIR06ZJYzJ9dU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Gloria Guillo
101 Clark St Apt 23C Brooklyn, NY 11201-7808 gloria.guillo101@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: graceyanner@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Grace Rieger <graceyanner@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 6:11 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C52fb43c03e234e3a4ac408dc33fb82b5%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442402534143751%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=WgbyBp363XIgpmvUWpNWGhIxjP3vpEhTl36m7pX%2FchM%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Grace Rieger
1240 Center St Apt 6 Marquette, MI 49855-5601 graceyanner@icloud.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: grady_davis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Grady Davis <grady_davis@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 11:48 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotectttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C5bad94f26b7a48b1ee6d08dc32fcedca%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441309118079680%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=vYjK287iqxPePp4AjyO5mnbbtQU57txVSEDOz%2F5A7ao%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr Grady Davis
1391 Chelsea Way Livermore, CA 94550-6504 grady_davis@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ArgyleG86@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Greg Argyle <ArgyleG86@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 6:26 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C58daafe3be7741d0cde408dc30d8f69c%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438955624661148%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=acRd1tXTxaGnA9FDNdG32SjmYt5GHMm6xQ6hTERq0Co%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Greg Argyle
604 Sheridan Rd Traverse City, MI 49686-1962 ArgyleG86@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: RKL9763@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Greg Stawinoga <RKL9763@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 7:37 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C765885269fa34847ce8b08dc3599d7f2%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444182103636641%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=FvIWAoOz1WgGGbul9Dlxndx940rgJGMRyjZePKRGFTY%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Greg Stawinoga
1247 E 168th Pl South Holland, IL 60473-3151 RKL9763@cs.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: grecle@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gregory Cleveland <grecle@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 8:56 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cee4170bf39e7498d513708dc2fc034b5%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437749783399639%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=C8iS7DVEUoEt0gGtD4rBCailZsJfvmmpvtzwKbjmMAM%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Gregory Cleveland
914 Maple St Hastings, MN 55033-2354
grecle@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: gszymanski@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Guage Szymanski <gszymanski@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 6, 2024 11:10 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotectttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cc089044189ad4fcd559908dc3e5c71c6%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638453813977239457%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OeaLW%2F4gWnn7lzu9QF2BoBAIWzDGalG3zLz%2B08RsNso%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Guage Szymanski
4263 Sugar Bush Dr Gaylord, MI 49735-9654 gszymanski@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: hannah.marose@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Hannah Marose <hannah.marose@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2024 6:53 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C879ee4fabca949bedef308dc4c5524e5%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638469175787251341%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=rNo0u1fmvaLG1WNo6NhBmSLwN0iTN0NMYjiaQfG5HGU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Hannah Marose
297 Mangum Rd Marquette, MI 49855-9260
hannah.marose@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: canian23@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Harley Doss <canian23@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 5:22 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C9e46aa5f6efa4755c30e08dc2f3db575%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437189295590697%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=f6%2B3m9Cw6CnVEiklCn10BNoOMtBjmDTaQpFL7FDl5VU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Harley Doss
719 N Court St Rockford, IL 61103-6956
canian23@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: pppig4@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Heather Brock <pppig4@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 3:01 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cb74de695f29b41fc58fd08dc350eca68%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443584851532825%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nqNd17voQrCHI8CtWtMgmfknwT67woQUWUZYRJ4ZgxI%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Heather Brock
9505 Cape Anne Pl Montgomery Village, MD 20886-1223 pppig4@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: crazylizard320@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Heather Brown <crazylizard320@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 3:29 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cc548e8d3a2134dae83ae08dc318965bc%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439713395839300%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=0Qr%2BNRE0K5vrH5mnC4ON3DcrlVPCGrngZC745rLRjB0%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Heather Brown
15654 Erickson St Lanse, MI 49946-8436
crazylizard320@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: heidibes57@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Heidi Bessette <heidibes57@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 8:34 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cad5352d006c04ff5ea3308dc37341b47%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638445944148631560%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Ab6ECb6zTBvWYStDd7lYPbKOt49zd0rfIw3utP1Z1hs%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Heidi Bessette
321 S Sheridan St Bay City, MI 48708-7463 heidibes57@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: hiljewell17@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Hilary Jewell <hiljewell17@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 6:16 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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It's outrageous that we would domestically fund foreign investors to destroy our environment. Not only do they capitalize on our only home, but the hole is in our backyard, not theirs. And we're going to pay them for this? No way. Please think of your children, grandchildren, and the future of humanity. Not a few short term jobs, or whatever perceived benefit has you considering this egregious breach of the stewardship responsibility we all bear as humans.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Hilary Jewell

85465 Happy Hollow Rd Bayfield, WI 54814-4487 hiljewell17@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: iannschenk42145@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ian Schenkel <iannschenk42145@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 10:41 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Ian Schenkel
111 E Michigan St Marquette, MI 49855-3821 iannschenk42145@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jacichristenson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jaci Christenson <jacichristenson@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 6:59 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Jaci Christenson
12309 Fiona Ave N White Bear Lake, MN 55110-1147 jacichristenson@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jake_debree@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jacob Debree <jake_debree@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 1:31 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Jacob Debree
E3521 W COLD SPRINGS Rd Chatham, MI 49816 jake_debree@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jake@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jacob Ruggles <jake@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 6:42 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Jacob Ruggles
518 Forest Park Dr Marquette, MI 49855-4404 jake@truggles.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jmsmith_94@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jacob Smith <jmsmith_94@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 6:46 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C8553a9e2857441ab1ba508dc30dbc462%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438967649268780%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1BIq61RK9OF%2BchTpmclTc6Vmr9nL8kbGCQle%2FOSkqQE%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Jacob Smith
4221 Quincy St NE Columbia Heights, MN 55421-2942 jmsmith_94@hotmail.con

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jwolfe087@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jacqueline Wolfe <jwolfe087@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 5:59 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C80c27eb5cdf34eaf21e608dc2fa761ba%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437643172510445%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=N0%2FtPRr3MftrK1SxTe4%2B7xh%2F8DRyN1KaTUq4T2hNvQg%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Jacqueline Wolfe
54840 Tecumseh Rd Calumet, MI 49913-2540 jwolfe087@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: nomadguitarschool@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of James Ferris <nomadguitarschool@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 12:28 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

https://www.fodors.com/news/news/fodors-no-list-2024
The prestigious travel website FODORS is recommending folks not to travel to Lake Superior due to ENVIRONMENTAL THREATS. How exactly will funding the closest sulfide mine to the Lake in history benefit this troubling situation?

https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2024/02/04/buffalo-reef-task-force-lake-superior-reef-mining-waste-cleanup/72439930007/
Over $2 billion is being spent on clean up of copper mine waste off the Keweenaw Peninsula. History repeats. So $50M to fund, then billions to clean up— is that a good investment?

https://www.wsj.com/business/bhp-expects-5-7-billion-in-charges-against-nickel-samarco-assets-00836cef
Metals mines all around the world are spending billions on premature closures and environmental remediation. The price of metals is too volatile currently and making a large investment is unwise.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. James Ferris
1610 N County Road 519 Wakefield, MI 49968-9576 nomadguitarschool@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: thfishie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jamie Bennett <thfishie@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 5:15 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cc9ec93d8d78f43e0610308dc34bce14a%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443233051883504%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=tZClb3FDK19qawa6Zj815f2%2B%2Beo%2BF8w1U0GTtI0QNEk%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Jamie Bennett
1348 Sheffield Ave Niles, MI 49120-1829 thfishie@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: MzIsis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jan Cloutier <MzIsis@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 9:40 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C7617c7a9cbdc4e0532c108dc334f8c8f%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441663958086120%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=pAnAAMEUO4ryYRTSTJb5Y2zeZQH15t7NEJrkrOVKpo4%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Jan Cloutier
1010 Pine St Marquette, MI 49855-3611
MzIsis@aol.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jmholik@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jan Holik <jmholik@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 2:53 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Jan Holik
9133 Hackberry Ave Plymouth, MI 48170-4159 jmholik@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: svanet@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Janet Anderson <svanet@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 5:27 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
ms Janet Anderson
21920 Whitmore St Oak Park, MI 48237-2617 svanet@comcast.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jean.ellisor@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of JEAN ELLISOR <jean.ellisor@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 12:52 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. JEAN ELLISOR
1322 N 22nd St Escanaba, MI 49829-1747
jean.ellisor@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: weberjea@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jeanine Weber <weberjea@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 10:31 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Jeanine Weber
2650 Ridgecroft Dr SE Grand Rapids, MI 49546-8047 weberjea@aquinas.edu

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jrblackman@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jeff Blackman <jrblackman@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 1:26 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cb6fd45fa1ebd472f7b1f08dc30af1012%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438775652690289%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FbpyPSPmDcYaNAqoqUgr8rpzYMXzKvTiNF8p%2BayQp8A%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Jeff Blackman
807 Whitney St Mount Pleasant, MI 48858-1268 jrblackman@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jbudd3500@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jeff Budd <jbudd3500@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 6:32 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C026cd190b7f0473d646308dc33fe83b2%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442415449960732%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=AcADHBkfeDGmRTyiLV%2FNQnc%2BuddkiRF6tL8D%2F2aS9JU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Jeff Budd
PO Box 1351 Sitka, AK 99835-1351
jbudd3500@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jwouimet@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jeff Ouimet <jwouimet@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2024 9:54 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Jeff Ouimet
669 Snowmass Dr Rochester Hills, MI 48309-1323 jwouimet@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jennaweiler4@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jenna Weiler <jennaweiler4@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 10:33 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ced0800e5364447d6911b08dc35b276b9%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444287826945393%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Ylo07nJzhbm%2BzUl5QQK4rSF3LjpP5e1RgVCm6LDJqVc%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Jenna Weiler
500 W Sharon Ave Houghton, MI 49931-1928 jennaweiler4@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jennifermnish@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jennifer Nish <jennifermnish@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 2, 2024 11:57 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cab4081357ac94a115d4108dc3ad9ca24%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638449954279252276%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nGXgDwGVXOnx2EKlaTqcCuLMnP3OYvtdpBe66pi97zo%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Dr. Jennifer Nish
18853 Bear Lake Rd Hancock, MI 49930-9643 jennifermnish@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: smithjj3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jennifer Smith <smithjj3@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 3:21 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C4aa8f800a2254b1a88bd08dc2f916111%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437548661179094%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1AcTnKIoPN5PScIxPqmfzshJeZBzK%2Fc6ZP8r9Ya6tK0%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Jennifer Smith
5820 N Sheridan Rd Apt 208 Chicago, IL 60660-4917 smithjj3@aol.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: sirjess.niemi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jess Niemi <sirjess.niemi@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 11:24 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Jess Niemi
246 Blemhuber Ave Marquette, MI 49855-4914 sirjess.niemi@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jas5377@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jessica Seppala <jas5377@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 2:46 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Jessica Seppala
100 Freedom Pl S New York, NY 10069-0931 jas5377@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jesswac@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jessica Waclawski <jesswac@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 8:13 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Jessica Waclawski
93790 Hyde Rd Bayfield, WI 54814-4608
jesswac@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jessiepauline2003@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jessie Collins <jessiepauline2003@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 10:58 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C7170a0c35c1b449ede8908dc31639684%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439551007708244%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=v8KsN0PehwMdd%2FRs%2FI%2BhtMNnp9B1Wbik7r6Juw10b4E%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Jessie Collins
17397 Five Points St Redford, MI 48240-2153 jessiepauline2003@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jill.lavish@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jill Hintsala <jill.lavish@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 9:02 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

Yo. This is WHACK. Please don't do this.

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cf0be8c1162ba4ad977ba08dc2fc10c5c%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437753397355669%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9ZN2hMhv3ahVRz6SYrEw9Plc1hBuxnnNOkj3V4iTJlw%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr.AndMrs. Jill Hintsala

409 Radisson Dr Marquette, MI 49855-5236 jill.lavish@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mamaofstu@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joan Karlson <mamaofstu@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 12:13 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C49345e3d398241221cc508dc316e04fe%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439595829513922%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=mmmiKML62jcP7aIR2f3l25NABqXtm2Bvf58c6IywHgo%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Joan Karlson
351 Lincoln Ave Ontonagon, MI 49953-9691 mamaofstu@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jojobobo56@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joanne Kloida <jojobobo56@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 4:14 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C2b293ee5bcc24b41527c08dc33221253%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441468629231950%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OD%2By4O3g9KNRauZxZx20ZiVNDNVdpthzazj84CeNBYM%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Joanne Kloida
W5261 Birch Creek Road No 6 Menominee, MI 49858-9614 jojobobo56@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: online4contact@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jody S <online4contact@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 8:03 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C5ecf1a0eba8b4303acf008dc372fd520%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638445925787969578%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=zBReSwJz2%2Fl86DDO4Fs9tgg9ddWSlgnKgEKragrDHZE%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mx. Jody S
PO Box 12 Portland, OR 97207-0012
online4contact@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: quinnanj@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joe Quinnan <quinnanj@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 5:00 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C728fcf0877dc45a3bf6a08dc34562551%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442791824533558%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Tz%2BQwDuhOMY5%2BuWXnxBslSUa0t0i0pB16o%2Fz59z6hYE%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr Joe Quinnan
6137 Golf Club Rd Howell, MI 48843-9012 quinnanj@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: joelfeldhake@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of JOEL FELDHAKE <joelfeldhake@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 12:29 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

As someone who has lived in the UP for over two decades, I'm greatly concerned with the impact the proposed site would have on our beautiful peninsula.

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cb24c7f1c4d4d4e690b8408dc30a71da3%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438741512347666%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=E56Tvevvs7%2BvW458sAZkvlXY%2F3M7kmSMQFPNACmxEpQ%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,

Mr. JOEL FELDHAKE
1719 Alpine Dr Traverse City, MI 49686-2059 joelfeldhake@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mrs.jmunns@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Johanna Munns <mrs.jmunns@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 10:45 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C7ecee03ca49f46f1358308dc34eb0731%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443431258002315%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=FAtGx9akn6ryFWOcFPibPWJZGZezRD3zY%2BQCdpld0kA%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Johanna Munns
1939 Berkeley Ave Saint Paul, MN 55105-1631 mrs.jmunns@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: janklee@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of John Carroll <janklee@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 7:59 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C83c5679fc18f4580436f08dc34d3cfd5%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443331535499388%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=DEt9WOqNu0rdFR9Nb1yYymOopVgGyB8rkogwgUe04R0%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. John Carroll
Michigan Hyw 64 Fire Number 3185 White Pine, MI 49971 janklee@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mcadamj@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jonatha McAdams <mcadamj@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2024 11:34 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ce9e595ee55274f24c35508dc361f8118%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444756154689284%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4lNmcDISiEjvozhjqHMlRElthh9QNerDONqqdbEMeOQ%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Jonatha McAdams
14025 Ruby Ln Big Rapids, MI 49307-8903 mcadamj@ferris.edu

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: bertnjonnie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jonnie Wilson <bertnjonnie@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 12:09 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C849ac1efe0a749b1282d08dc34922c88%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443049627165166%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=HfhizH%2BtwdeFW%2FZQtDiGcsTSLUHz46TKPTZC2roEvBs%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs Jonnie Wilson
788 Fruitvale Rd Montague, MI 49437-9577 bertnjonnie@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jhamilto10@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jordan Hamilton <jhamilto10@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 7:19 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C1c56db47e289457c61ee08dc4b2afab3%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638467895176951967%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=tC9y0TiCECvoBifItQ1wwuj8eOOto77wx3LtmIYNaLk%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Jordan Hamilton
2509 Portage St Kalamazoo, MI 49001-3741 jhamilto10@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: jfifer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joseph Fifer <jfifer@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 6:28 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C480d1b3093934db6ba0008dc2fab768f%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437661048453315%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nguMHz1esn9u9vJS7OtmjYLseYBL0VJ2A8CVQUEwthU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Joseph Fifer
306 Garnet St Houghton, MI 49931-1318
jfifer@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: swampyacres906@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Josh Hall <swampyacres906@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 12:44 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C525af88d85d74c547ff208dc3496fbee%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443070298877950%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ClAt6HLxg43vO9GAa8TMk9jZ0hOYeAQZjGie8y8cG4c%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr Josh Hall
871 Sand River Rd Deerton, MI 49822-9600 swampyacres906@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: JoShreed85@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Josh Reed <JoShreed85@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 4:20 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C23e7b7524179471cbf6408dc2ffe28a8%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438015852207635%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3pZ5UkKtXJk%2BC7JVXBnitc5PQnBun8NpEZQkz3XQca0%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Josh Reed
12270 Grand Kal Rd SW Fife Lake, MI 49633-9337 JoShreed85@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: suttonjoshua77@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joshua Sutton <suttonjoshua77@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 5:18 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cf8c82b6cfd214f5d0f0c08dc34bd4c66%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443234846207437%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Wk%2B1b5zenVkikdkahJfcIDOOCPXBB49HLh%2Fd6V55nG8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Joshua Sutton
6594 Rogers Dr North Branch, MI 48461-9345 suttonjoshua77@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: tuckher1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Judie McKenney <tuckher1@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 12:02 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cdd5932bc326e46e2b5d308dc32fec6b7%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441317053469557%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Q%2FqA0KOegx7yYmzcTikUfDkxMm4KTJHeCq%2FGtJo7ImE%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Judie McKenney
427 Elizabeth Ave Marinette, WI 54143-2734 tuckher1@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: judywoellner@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Judy Woellner <judywoellner@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 11:57 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C89f10e6537cc4cb7e73f08dc31073235%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439154177573259%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=BWZdHjN1bI1fooHG11IX9L5hrUPWRlabXHVjf%2BMbnlo%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Judy Woellner
1595 W Wayzata Blvd Long Lake, MN 55356-9462 judywoellner@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: earthmuffin56@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Julia Chambers <earthmuffin56@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 4:08 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C2a4224c96ae4460adffa08dc357ca821%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444056725148245%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=vVa9geH43Q7xVb2txFtq7GUzf4iHyetAYxXG6KqKoYU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
MS Julia Chambers
7936 Hansen Rd Fountain, MI 49410-9799
earthmuffin56@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: julefanch@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Juliana Fancher <julefanch@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 8:53 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C970a9993d9c54af60d6a08dc34122a1a%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442499851881510%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=50TzEI16WrQxoKXRnUiSmfOn2cHw%2BHI28AkOFONsIMM%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Juliana Fancher
3854 Loch Dr Highland, MI 48357-2604
julefanch@comcast.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: julietooohio@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Julie Dye <julietooohio@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 4:20 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Julie Dye
25998 Dutch Settlement St Dowagiac, MI 49047-8912 julietooohio@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: justinhubb@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Justin Hubbard <justinhubb@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 3:28 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C9d7834dcfb5249bb9bb908dc30c009b7%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438848569467643%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=aUgEJM%2F5eb4W0pWYaA71%2By%2BX9w7WM7iV0XGMQl2ILIY%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Justin Hubbard
233 Ward St San Francisco, CA 94134-2134 justinhubb@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: karenvvll@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Karen Blanco <karenvvll@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 8:40 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Karen Blanco
13189 Saari Rd Lanse, MI 49946-8383
karenvvll@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: karenclausen39@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Karen Clausen <karenclausen39@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 3:15 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ca7b39e0a83f94395618b08dc35754239%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444024950204673%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=yHUXw5Xmy2YhZYedm8NAckw5HKf4XtiBeWu2X5pQ4Sg%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Karen Clausen
5555 N Sheridan Rd Chicago, IL 60640-1609 karenclausen39@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: karendarnell@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Karen Darnell <karendarnell@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 11:52 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ca15d1c9662904d6e1cb308dc3558e5d7%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443903135199668%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=XJZLCZUB%2B9Qg6210SMu0PQ3%2FpcOxCmMIN%2FP5PFqgOgw%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Karen Darnell
323 W 126th Ave Crown Point, IN 46307-7102 karendarnell@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: karenp735@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Karen Peterson <karenp735@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 11:03 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ce7c90556eb1c4a75678d08dc31643bde%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439553778036891%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FanNQnArwUwcpPgWH8Po7epFlUdmXo7PoWI8qroje0A%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Karen Peterson
735 York Ct Northbrook, IL 60062-3954
karenp735@att.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: karinkozie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Karin Kozie <karinkozie@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 8:26 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C072c8a585d3d44f319c608dc34730347%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442915777989951%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9Oe4A5w%2FQKKf24%2B7hnp0F90yqyNVgzCeGn7W%2F%2FKqIeE%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Karin Kozie
29580 County Highway C Washburn, WI 54891-4810 karinkozie@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: kjbradley123@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kathleen Bradley <kjbradley123@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 4:52 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C8e86b026df04458a40d408dc2f3970da%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437170967034628%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=BOLUVo7OJrfKiS9puZTlg5WgWnryzO%2FbwokJx1Vxin4%3D&reserved=0

Even though I am not from Michigan, the Great Lakes are important to me and all of us in my family.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,

Ms. Kathleen Bradley
60 N Cedar St Oberlin, OH 44074-1530
kjbradley123@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: kjhoule06@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kaylee Houle <kjhoule06@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 9:51 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Kaylee Houle
77926 Birch Hill Ln Saxon, WI 54559-9029 kjhoule06@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: kelseyrh681@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kelsey Hill <kelseyrh681@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 7:21 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Kelsey Hill
5169 Michigan St NE Ada, MI 49301-9508
kelseyrh681@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: keriderosso@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Keri DeRosso <keriderosso@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 6:30 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cde1816f1dc6a47da86c508dc2fabd059%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437662209135819%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BaOJbuDaAnzYf5%2BGAXWYmJJvp7mB4NS93J6cHlTWTa4%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Keri DeRosso
N11225 Junet Rd Ironwood, MI 49938-9710 keriderosso@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: kevinlpina@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of KEVIN PINA <kevinlpina@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 8:49 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cf8a54ba665774870228e08dc32e3d559%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441201323582110%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=hSXLXhtb76fo38UUEscu9xSxIey6O29sicMQxVnFV4w%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. KEVIN PINA
122 S Webster St Port Washington, WI 53074-2128 kevinlpina@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: kirstenlmatson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kirsten Matson <kirstenlmatson@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 12:55 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Kirsten Matson
7159 W 12 1/2 Rd Mesick, MI 49668-9353
kirstenlmatson@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ltmustardseed@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kristen Willis <ltmustardseed@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2024 8:29 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ce06ad0b35ace420cd45908dc3605c40a%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444645611844916%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=m%2BOSpiTcYmudWCE3KtDAYM6tU6HcqzeXT0Bi9iGJxGU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Kristen Willis
335 S Avenue 52 Los Angeles, CA 90042-4505 ltmustardseed@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: kbillings8577@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Krystal Billings <kbillings8577@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 5:41 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cbc47d9cb92bc4743c25708dc32c986a6%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441088348965614%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=u1GFpJUuaXo5EzttmyyRFCOcGt1RqX7e0c1n8VRPHbg%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Krystal Billings
84120 2nd St Hartford, MI 49057-9658
kbillings8577@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: kjyeakle@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kyle Yeakle <kjyeakle@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 11:19 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C0637f1a38c9545691c3208dc322f99c1%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440427230638031%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=DgCr4NV4IIr2NGEtFTlVIAniT60Qfjot8HH%2FncplmsA%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Kyle Yeakle
26760 Lenox Ave Madison Heights, MI 48071-3547 kjyeakle@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: larissa.larson20@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Larissa Beun <larissa.larson20@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 6:23 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Larissa Beun
712 E Division St Ishpeming, MI 49849-2207 larissa.larson20@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ladillivan@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Laura Dillivan <ladillivan@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 8:17 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Laura Dillivan
1545 Cole Ave NE Grand Rapids, MI 49505-5026 ladillivan@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: lauridi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Laura Routh <lauridi@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 12:05 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Laura Routh
3729 Fence River Rd Republic, MI 49879-9171 lauridi@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: tarottemptress@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Laura Wilson <tarottemptress@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 2:23 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cde94a65763574214ad0908dc324966e4%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440538058262369%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BL4YgxKX84rA41h8WbkTgdLnUyofRQGQeHPC5nXedRs%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Laura Wilson
42136 La Roi Dr Novi, MI 48377-2130
tarottemptress@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: sewingwizhere@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Laura Wirkkala <sewingwizhere@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 4:47 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cb1a38e5ac73c4d9bd9ff08dc36afdad5%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638445376137278303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=dbSWxwjKjq1gksTtwHUD636y8eIDZwFLgKVAaZZ04ec%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Msv Laura Wirkkala
1405 Beaser Ave Ashland, WI 54806-3629
sewingwizhere@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ibawarped1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Laurel Stromer <ibawarped1@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 9:33 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C29f9c3cb7f574ea78f0e08dc328566cd%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440795743761265%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=2oFBO14UmVbaf%2FmpvGOMhhou%2Bzeb92ujzWNgiXsi3bg%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Laurel Stromer
9829 E Ml Ave Galesburg, MI 49053-9627
ibawarped1@comcast.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: laurielkopack@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Laurie Kopack <laurielkopack@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 8:34 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cee083db2c4694b75e88508dc32e1b87b%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441192240751143%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9UqiwIg47J10XfyprOKidhJFplVFKXf4FdMTSojegCY%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Laurie Kopack
23103 Meadowlark St Oak Park, MI 48237-2201 laurielkopack@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: leannagoose7@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Leanna Goose <leannagoose7@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 12:59 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cc1c0eb438adc4146eff608dc30ab39cb%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438759178439895%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=U0U4sPT9Rllw%2B7%2BuhdvaOe%2Fv8k%2Fg9mWNsbuYKidaers%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
ms. Leanna Goose
9983 Battle Point Dr NW Federal Dam, MN 56641-6722 leannagoose7@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: davisgirl01@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lesley Addison <davisgirl01@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 8:03 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C03a22591b4d14075822508dc340b2a82%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442469795021826%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xl1m03rabtXRcxMbKdrUTiPQ6XHdSZJ0%2FSf8dUTzaBU%3D&reserved=0

As someone who grew up on the Lake and recognizes the broad, negative impact this project could have on the Lake's water, wildlife, shoreline, and the economy of all communities surrounding the Lake, I implore you to oppose investment in this mine.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Lesley Addison
1613 Elm St Marquette, MI 49855-2515

davisgirl01@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: sabatree@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Liana May <sabatree@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 1:27 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C9d4cc2d216884a7c330408dc31785901%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439640155250356%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=V%2BiI57T7tKRU7ThtVBxga%2FieDAHwsInrZqYgJUjOHB4%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Liana May
12840 S Regal St Traverse City, MI 49684-5344 sabatree@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: linda.grammer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Linda Grammer <linda.grammer@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 5:50 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

The facts are (which is why our farming family opposes this controversial and inappropriate proposal) 1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does. Protect the interests of Americans who love this beautiful area and the indigenous biodiversity it contains.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures. This area is precious and must be protected in perpetuity. :
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C443cded7d183433bb8b608dc319d1bab%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439798062791316%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=DeZWsNVp4srZc9G9AKAx%2Fu95AbfkBauhPkUcQO6fT7o%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Linda Grammer

141 E 13th St New York, NY 10003-5391
linda.grammer@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: spacedrift117@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Linda Olson <spacedrift117@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 10:21 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C64b77e7887834de1fdeb08dc35b0c88b%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444280603236655%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZBDkEDqBX%2Fd7k%2FPpROouSpnFi%2BtW6kIOoZkAFTLNxeQ%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Linda Olson
117 E 8th St Duluth, MN 55805-1250
spacedrift117@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: lisarjohnson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lisa Johnson <lisarjohnson@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 7:28 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cd4c9f082239947bb49e408dc346ade45%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442880796731534%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=gbensoAewTl6hLKlNrsFo76Y0UNPxpnyzjUAmo12YnQ%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Lisa Johnson
1108 Coolidge Ave Rhinelander, WI 54501-2823 lisarjohnson@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: kallunki@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lois Kallunki <kallunki@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 10:07 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

I am a native of the Upper Peninsula, born in Houghton County and raised in Ontonagon and currently spend half of my time in Silver City, Michigan. My grandparents and father worked in the copper mines in the Calumet area. I understand the nostalgia for those eonomic boom times, but I also know that mining for copper results in much toxic waste, which this area is still dealing with many years after these mines closed. There are times when the environmental risks presented by an activity far outweigh any benefit. In this case, the short life of this mine in one of the only still pristine areas of Michigan simply cannot justify the activity.

In addition, state money should not be used for this activity. If this were a viable commercial activity, private funders would be out there ready to help.

Please reject this request for taxpayer money.

Lois Kallunki

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Lois Kallunki
34374 State Highway M64 Ontonagon, MI 49953-9090 kallunki@wisc.edu

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: drlora22@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lora Chamberlain <drlora22@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 3:01 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C7f314a58e49e4e7d478c08dc31ea14a2%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440128642753209%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nr1pd%2Fx8m1X4jors4q4ZIICD%2FrwyQdzqFEqFgrD%2F%2BLQ%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Dr. Lora Chamberlain
6341 N Glenwood Ave Apt 1 Chicago, IL 60660-1303 drlora22@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: andres01@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lori Andresen <andres01@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 10:26 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Lori Andresen
3025 E Superior St Duluth, MN 55812-2355 andres01@charter.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: lhboes@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lori Boes <lhboes@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 9:07 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Lori Boes
736 E Ayer St Ironwood, MI 49938-2302
lhboes@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: loumac924@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Louise MacDonald <loumac924@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 11:19 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cf17720f02b3e4fe5ed7008dc355443cd%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443883236728784%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=GlUrFraZyrCgsbdSmvKIUVA%2BtsW8c3xfEbJUqLP%2BvLI%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Louise MacDonald
2809 E Minnehaha Pkwy Minneapolis, MN 55417-1367 loumac924@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: lucasdishinger@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of LUCAS DISHINGER <lucasdishinger@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 11:18 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Lucas LUCAS DISHINGER
105 E Arch St Marquette, MI 49855-3801
lucasdishinger@aol.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: madelynn.dejarlais@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Madelynn DeJarlais <madelynn.dejarlais@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 12:07 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Madelynn DeJarlais
3938 W Boulder Ln Perry, MI 48872-8160
madelynn.dejarlais@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mcarico@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Madison Carico <mcarico@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 9:03 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Madison Carico
2116 Longyear Ave Apt 3 Marquette, MI 49855-1708 mcarico@nmu.edu

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: anglenmandy@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mandy Anglen <anglenmandy@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 7:49 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Mandy Anglen
744 Mather Ave Ishpeming, MI 49849-1033 anglenmandy@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: farqu@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mandy Farquhar <farqu@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 10:48 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs Mandy Farquhar
28055 Hawberry Rd Farmington Hills, MI 48331-3322 farqu@sbcglobal.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: manueljtapia.det@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Manuel Tapia <manueljtapia.det@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 1:51 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C93421bc63e6b48d142b808dc30b27c60%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438790355044187%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=P6wVDkfkR%2FRL2DhnCYKbO8TUupZchsFLo5aHoKx%2BPnI%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Manuel Tapia
57408 Rosecrest St New Haven, MI 48048-3313 manueljtapia.det@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: marci.jem@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Marci Bird <marci.jem@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 6:16 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Marci Bird
5785 Buechel Dr Delaware, OH 43015-9232 marci.jem@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: manthjac@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Margaret Mohr <manthjac@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 7:12 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Dr. Margaret Mohr
37 Worthington Ln Weaverville, NC 28787-7706 manthjac@aol.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mjbutala@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mark Butala <mjbutala@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 5:14 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C42865655d0744902d7f308dc2f3c944c%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437184449710317%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=cVy0%2FGlObDdzZd2HIT%2F167vRk3q5%2BcV1mDEKJx%2BnFYk%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Mark Butala
1015 Nena Dr Stillwater, MN 55082-4599
mjbutala@msn.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: cromark@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mark Crowley <cromark@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 5:55 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Mark Crowley
1820 Church St Detroit, MI 48216-1527
cromark@comcast.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mpsteve91@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mark Stevens <mpsteve91@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 8:43 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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6. Sitting around the campfire on the shore of Burt Lake, (part of the Michigan Inland Waterway) several years ago I found myself in a heated conversation about the importance of protecting not just the natural resources of Michigan but the natural resources of the entire planet. The person I was taking with was an employee (and an investor) in a mining company in Canada. This person had no concern at all with the ecological damage that the mine would cause and was only interested with the money that was to be made by raping the land. To end the conversation I simply pointed and

said "One day that will be worth more than gold" to which he repiled what will be worth more than gold. I pointed again...to the lake and said. "that will". Nothing, absolutetly nothing will exist without fresh water.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Mark Stevens
32756 Cowan Rd MI48185 Westland, MI 48185-6948 mpsteve91@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mcgladdery3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Martin and Sharon McGladdery <mcgladdery3@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 4:36 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Martin and Sharon McGladdery
35310 Edythe Dr Farmington Hills, MI 48331-2025 mcgladdery3@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: cabinfeversup@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Martin Erspamer <cabinfeversup@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 9:44 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

From what I understand, the tailings dam in the Copperwood project is made to handle "once-in-one-hundred year" storm events — but doesn't mention "once-in-a-THOUSAND-year" storm events - which we have had a few of in recent years. This leaves Lake Superior and the Porcupine Mountains (and the surrounding areas) in a disastrously precarious position.

This is simply not worth the risk to those of us whose live and run small businesses in the area.

Please vote no.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Martin Erspamer
E6407 Snowflake St Bessemer, MI 49911-9744 cabinfeversup@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mariaemailtrash@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mary Chaplin <mariaemailtrash@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 8:55 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Mary Chaplin
721 Scottview Dr NE Comstock Park, MI 49321-8592 mariaemailtrash@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: marydebona18@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mary DeBona <marydebona18@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 8:34 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Mary DeBona
2 Manchester Ct Ann Arbor, MI 48104-6562 marydebona18@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: maryahansen66@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mary Hansen <maryahansen66@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 9:16 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C893648815de04fd0ee0408dc32e795a2%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441217433688480%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=UbnKhf2S6Tn7pSOm2HDWt6jTiYgCYwAxMXbUcR9CwCc%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Mary Hansen
389 S Ellis Ave Peshtigo, WI 54157-1501 maryahansen66@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: projectneed.bentonharbor@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of MaryAlice Adams <projectneed.bentonharbor@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2024 10:44 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cf3a5c3ffdc4f44ba65f708dc3618a089%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444726613545639%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=JwZbmN3pLqIvynKkxHgdTv9QV3kI7RmMGKSo4wGB0oU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. MaryAlice Adams
152 Lake Ave Benton Harbor, MI 49022-4620 projectneed.bentonharbor@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: bonoone@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Matt Brzezinski <bonoone@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 4:38 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cb5b73164d08a44115bb308dc2f377d67%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437162594164585%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=LBc3Ok%2FYjrrKtv5p2Szj8FFrujIBOKALjAk%2BewBuPaY%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Matt Brzezinski
21216 Briar Ct Saint Clair Shores, MI 48081-1511 bonoone@aol.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: masheahan@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Maureen Sheahan <masheahan@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 9:33 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C20f242c608494ab1233d08dc2fc568ab%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437772118341465%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=8Vxsr4Z5WE2CjxWzwh6KPa9YUkbSHMDo5ORHJTbsQow%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Maureen Sheahan
20996 Inkster Rd Southfield, MI 48033-3520 masheahan@aol.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mckaylastyle@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of McKayla Style <mckaylastyle@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 6:46 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C19adb9e520cd49f2c71308dc34005be2%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442423353195704%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=iXCH3QFN7%2Ff9JNLVHcE2nW80axDhFEIxiTvFGDmQU1M%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. McKayla Style
1603 Altamont St Marquette, MI 49855-5018 mckaylastyle@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: megknitter8@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Meg Swansen <megknitter8@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 8:54 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Meg Swansen
6899 County Road B Pittsville, WI 54466-9790 megknitter8@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: megstrait12@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Megan Strait <megstrait12@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 8:09 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Megan Strait
5998 Alcala Park San Diego, CA 92110-8001 megstrait12@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: m.t.clack2010@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michael Clack <m.t.clack2010@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 11:41 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Michael Clack
609 N 7th St Ontonagon, MI 49953-1249
m.t.clack2010@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mpdecraene@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michael DeCraene <mpdecraene@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 4:42 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Michael DeCraene
18960 Eastwood Dr Harper Woods, MI 48225-2080 mpdecraene@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: hobigmg@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michael Hobig <hobigmg@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 3:06 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

Please keep this a worthwhile place to visit, please dont distroy future value for only limited gain and certain destruction. Please be informed by this information;

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ccaf34740ca0e4a12db3b08dc35740900%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444019696390779%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6mUkEeXTRFxR5KQBnpHYjD9u%2FdolJNJygAFP73qHmr8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Michael Hobig
23052 Oakwood Ave Eastpointe, MI 48021-3515 hobigmg@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mjmcgaffigan@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michael McGaffigan <mjmcgaffigan@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 10:31 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cdb30996b7170415cdc0e08dc35b22efb%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444286617104303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=RBUcFLUsjHLwRGKeQtL%2F4hPvHw17D7Ggy0%2BH76WlPRI%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Michael McGaffigan
1411 West Ave Marquette, MI 49855-1562
mjmcgaffigan@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: msumichael1967@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michael Motta <msumichael1967@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 8:01 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C19dc45a2f060429c003d08dc32dd2211%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441172548591743%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Nd2kvWUYT37p0EoFXcLiHHLHvJrRB1nRn9wLOylYNcE%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Michael Motta
100 Vanderveen Ave Holland, MI 49424-2114 msumichael1967@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mkoersch@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michelle Koerschner <mkoersch@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 12:02 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

This is not the legacy future generations of Michigan residents and visitors should see forever.

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cce2613f72b7d4df7b56208dc36ecb557%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638445637475964614%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9Jr9IDb5tzd2XSOmDJ0NxVw8mZBknWJGPbtbO7oW7x8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Michelle Koerschner
5934 E Horizons Ct Ann Arbor, MI 48108-8530 mkoersch@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: designsbynatureup@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michelle Wietek Stephens <designsbynatureup@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 3:18 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1.a. The fresh water in Lake Superior is worth more than all the copper in this vein. We are sitting on a significant portion of the world's fresh water. To put it at risk so a company can make a few years of profit is a criminal failure to steward our natural resources for the public. The failure is worsened by using tax dollars to subsidize such a pollutant-rich project.

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ca7537a3fd4ea4420d6bd08dc34ac82cc%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443162735266404%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=n1KarFd1JXmfxUdDqgp%2FNq3IDQQ94oedyjDd1yqITAc%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Michelle Wietek Stephens
550 Little Lake Rd Marquette, MI 49855-9257 designsbynatureup@up.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mistykosmerick@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Misty Kosmerick <mistykosmerick@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 3, 2024 4:09 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cd7c7fcf5752242ff3cca08dc3bc63687%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638450969725870198%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=adFOALk39MI8Qs%2BWqj8zlbztb99QtMDAmUy%2Bo1k8504%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Misty Kosmerick
439 Buck Rd Coldwater, MI 49036-9749
mistykosmerick@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: motiffplaster@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mitch Motiff <motiffplaster@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 10:21 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ced24e450c0a54b0efb1e08dc30f9bca9%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439096377461027%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BTQvmlQ8mRICq7FccV4YE8%2Fpzh94F9X9dV5Q%2FjikRPE%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Mitch Motiff
302 W Omaha St Washburn, WI 54891-9506
motiffplaster@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: tyler340@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Murphy Tyler <tyler340@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 10:21 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C4c6708c50e4a4fcab03e08dc354c341d%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443848609404176%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Wex%2B8Hgi3Owl07sJjB57WkCpQuQdBO4ACxsD%2F4TkHhU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Murphy Tyler
721 2nd St Menasha, WI 54952-3205
tyler340@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: nmoor02@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nancy Moore <nmoor02@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 5:19 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ca7573cb6dc5649bb9c0008dc34bd70b4%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443235448707052%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=VqswG1PRHb%2F%2BDsRQwl2mdRHkhw9qPEkLUEBBPaMJBrg%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Nancy Moore
6225 Mineral Point Rd Apt D87 Madison, WI 53705-4575 nmoor02@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: 4halia0805@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nancy Nelson <4halia0805@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 6:32 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C8048dd597cfd4b04ba3808dc31a2e7ff%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439822953098615%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9bBTIundDj5AxyVrZYTGYSXoHY0DpBJNES5hkhr29Vc%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Nancy Nelson
20 Ray St Biddeford, ME 04005-3234
4halia0805@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: nop@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nancy Polderdyke <nop@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 1:38 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ca027cebb409e4750e27908dc36fa163a%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638445694951341930%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=gTcqUNVHmP3Ze%2FLMHKA0%2FA6FAXyafGeH07p4%2FRCnnAY%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Nancy Polderdyke
43446 Proctor Rd Canton, MI 48188-1724
nop@umich.edu

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ferreynd@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nathan Ferrey <ferreynd@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 6:02 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cc60eb908c1fd4195dc3408dc30d5975e%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438941131777224%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jow%2B2dxEYFerSWla1Lslp7com7YB44SyKDgGGdCcYTs%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr Nathan Ferrey
767 Larson Ln Shoreview, MN 55126-2047
ferreynd@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: nicky.kumerow@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nicky Kumerow <nicky.kumerow@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 5:44 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cd4421922e03342b83a1a08dc33f7d26c%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442386716894823%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=UZVR58WUMfUoz7wtytZGD0gb0khbRIA%2FQUwXYWjW804%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Nicky Kumerow
1005 Glen Place Dr Apt A25 Duluth, MN 55806-2282 nicky.kumerow@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: nicolaanthonyfalco@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nicola Falco <nicolaanthonyfalco@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2024 12:37 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C35252a9a0aa448910cd708dc35c3ce7c%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444362306302600%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=CfcilRmh2U9RTmnYM3tXd4m4uCEzCXFNJvVydsVT%2BhI%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Nicola Falco
1411 West Ave Marquette, MI 49855-1562
nicolaanthonyfalco@gmail.con

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: nicky.bates92@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nicole Bates <nicky.bates92@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 6:15 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ccfe4dd57c32c4d14089208dc33fc1252%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442404943559656%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3BEnGCflW4QyH8Y8k84EQs6qlZgQvz8gM7pMc6gv8gU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Nicole Bates
505 E Ridge St Apt B Marquette, MI 49855-4231 nicky.bates92@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mcmenomay@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nicole McMenomay <mcmenomay@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 8:20 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C89f8c2815db8477479f008dc340d8bdf%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442479994496010%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=K%2FAMlnMx9kvIrjNzfHjqXlckIpDMnJd3aEPHAhY0xs8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Nicole McMenomay
421 N Front St Apt 3 Marquette, MI 49855-3559 mcmenomay@me.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: NIK.RAGER@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nik Rager <NIK.RAGER@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 8:53 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C5ba46be28b57412314ef08dc2fbfba88%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437747728713837%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=5pxmJl41a02Dg%2FxnZH7mja1Loe0a2A8Nl1%2FzBAlXb5s%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr Nik Rager
13847 Jenny Dr Warren, MI 48088-5760
NIK.RAGER@GMAIL.COM

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: outdoortokar@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nolan Tokar <outdoortokar@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 8:43 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Nolan Tokar
8630 E Middle River Rd Poplar, WI 54864-9060 outdoortokar@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: noreenlas@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Noreen Lassandrello <noreenlas@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 8:22 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C3c98a628be5d4d74a9e408dc2f56c733%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437296958767449%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=zV15AaD6M43Cym0x%2BdryPNd0ryRnzt1w94d%2BP3oTmXw%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Noreen Lassandrello
35 Orchard Pl Hinsdale, IL 60521-4216
noreenlas@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: oed555@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Olivia Dunn <oed555@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 7:03 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C4482261d05fb45d9d8d608dc3402c146%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442433649351251%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sBdcsKi1Pr%2BpdyoysuzDR9AzTFMiR%2Fwj1FLq8fUnu0w%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Olivia Dunn
814 9th St NE Unit B Washington, DC 20002-3732 oed555@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: olihetz22@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Olivia Hetzel <olihetz22@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 8:40 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cb09ec48557c546ad521c08dc34104956%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442491756629596%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=G8QRf%2F3aF2%2BZaap9uiBI5EAl%2B6RGeAWnrUsdJR69y8g%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Olivia Hetzel
214 N 3rd St Apt D Marquette, MI 49855-4356 olihetz22@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: igardensoidontchokepeople@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Pam Novotny <igardensoidontchokepeople@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 9:25 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C0a72e80bdf4f4ccfed7108dc2fc44a27%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437767325158824%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nFLAx3d1oZ5qzGxtKJjNP4BZRxpauNEFZd0YT%2BIqW%2BA%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Pam Novotny
4401 Dodge St Duluth, MN 55804-1409
igardensoidontchokepeople@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: psagoodman@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Pamela Goodman <psagoodman@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 7:21 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C734e4c6a0bd34c34d11a08dc2f4e43c1%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437260404406308%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IZsXflt7pLhyX3KOOAleWwOXok24z%2Bnv5xLaF4rsUQg%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Pamela Goodman
1834 W Giles Rd Muskegon, MI 49445-1136 psagoodman@aol.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: pschniers6794@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Patricia Schniers <pschniers6794@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 7:29 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C319d49ff17424d3f2bda08dc31aae4b2%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439857257795710%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=tNN2wtH7NqEBNsJamGlQl3jJs4WhdQvhEPuvngD%2BIiA%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Patricia Schniers
11031 Hillcrest St Livonia, MI 48150-2921 pschniers6794@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: paulmatthews@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of paul matthews <paulmatthews@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 8:48 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C8196891c99e8445f36a008dc32e3b174%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441200735661069%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=wHlV%2BgB7YeWZ87oZqv56B0TfJ4oGNtQXA5tWbyBhy4c%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
dr paul matthews
1008 S Brooks St Madison, WI 53715-1904 paulmatthews@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: irishscotlad@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Paul Pate <irishscotlad@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 9:29 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ca7fb9967f27e468be79a08dc36d756c7%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638445545711693506%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=m6aSQ5AKiYI%2BVzMBg0MNRt05IvpdbPX20im9ivkHYO8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Paul Pate
104 Wagner St Crystal Falls, MI 49920-1739 irishscotlad@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: peg281944@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Peggy S. Collins <peg281944@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 5:49 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Peggy S. Collins
21310 Lathrup St Southfield, MI 48075-4216 peg281944@aol.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: peterboothlee@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Peter Lee <peterboothlee@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 12:01 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

Heck No! This is a LOSE - LOSE Proposition!

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C3ae373c9a6484748814a08dc30a324f9%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438724470508974%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=AJc82zieD9zRmEzzNiiBr1tI0K7WDD7fTRk6l3Aoq6E%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Peter Lee

3910 Fulton St Apt 4 San Francisco, CA 94118-3548 peterboothlee@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: Polly.hubbard96@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Polly Hubbard <Polly.hubbard96@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 4:29 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Polly Hubbard
N7983 US Highway 41 Stephenson, MI 49887-9010 Polly.hubbard96@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: rachelhavrelock@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rachel Havrelock <rachelhavrelock@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 10:10 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cd152c9da81754be2b3a908dc30f83ddd%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439089960393745%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=gqKw1qDlnSeVBsqyyNE4GnfWeWKy7CY4h0um8S2kWuE%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Dr. Rachel Havrelock
1205 W Flournoy St Chicago, IL 60607-3325 rachelhavrelock@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: frankyfiggs23@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rachel Wendels <frankyfiggs23@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 7:43 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Rachel Wendels
6598 E Mitchell Rd Petoskey, MI 49770-9662 frankyfiggs23@aol.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ravenmccord@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Raven Barden <ravenmccord@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 7:00 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Raven Barden
607 Finch St Adrian, MI 49221-2310
ravenmccord@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: heithausr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rebecca Garvey <heithausr@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 1:39 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cd9d44029fa8243c2631308dc324344b9%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440511725906283%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ubv2mQO3yRzRvUOYwwSvZ8EMLl6BsDgp8oYFaBSleH0%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Rebecca Garvey
7374 Cuesta Way Dr NE Rockford, MI 49341-9494 heithausr@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: reginavchaltry@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Regina Chaltry <reginavchaltry@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 5:24 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C598089e5e5644ea3d35308dc332bd4cc%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441510573148695%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=wSBftWr7%2F0ZAY2sCo8ssysK%2BzY9xXZ99UaiinK0wdTU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Regina Chaltry
N2471 Bay De Noc Dr Menominee, MI 49858-9611 reginavchaltry@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: rls284@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Renee Sears <rls284@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 3:02 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

As someone who visits from out of state to Michigan now yearly, I urge you to not allow mining anywhere near your great lakes. To do so would be irresponsible not only for those that live nearby but for future generations.

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Dr. Renee Sears
9014 Laurel Crest Dr Saint Louis, MO 63126-2413 rls284@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: cornytunes@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Richard Peterson <cornytunes@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 11:04 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Richard Peterson
735 York Ct Northbrook, IL 60062-3954
cornytunes@att.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: rls46032@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Richard Smith <rls46032@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 3:36 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Richard Smith
5375 Paradise Dr Reading, MI 49274-9780 rls46032@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: rickshugarman@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rick Shugarman <rickshugarman@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2024 7:39 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Rick Shugarman
1012 7th St Santa Monica, CA 90403-4039 rickshugarman@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: cantor.wallach@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Risa Wallach <cantor.wallach@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 6:17 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C49274d669a2d4e20e19b08dc300e9050%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438086325775263%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=WJw9AQU9juhB287rviav4Cu9B9Ti7Rj7%2FGKy12HQA8s%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Risa Wallach
70 Veterans Memorial Dr E Somerville, NJ 08876-2951 cantor.wallach@hushmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ddmtrack@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rob Diez de Medina <ddmtrack@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 10:07 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cb123c23ca588458b247108dc302ea760%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438224140099031%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=EDTyQUegZIr1eu5HtWK0%2FKSCx8YgReROUudV6%2FqpHgk%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Rob Diez de Medina
3616 Holiday Village Rd Traverse City, MI 49686-3914 ddmtrack@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: robbiejoly@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Robbie Joly <robbiejoly@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 2:18 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cf2b12c1aae224f0b245408dc4840faff%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638464691132099890%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=YHU4JbXj0XOedGJ9BIgV%2F2Vq7V8cnTzDYPJ3bca%2FS6M%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Robbie Joly
8032 Comanche Trl Temperance, MI 48182-9217 robbiejoly@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: trtfmnlwr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Robert Handelsman <trtfmnlwr@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 6:57 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C6295f96b39414af529e808dc2f4ae9a5%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437245992283134%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=QMyELHahh43HLO7jFtuQpQDZYliLNceGGAU8QW5udUs%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Robert Handelsman
2643 Central Park Ave Evanston, IL 60201-1170 trtfmnlwr@aol.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ransom_roger@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Roger Ransom <ransom_roger@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 10:17 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ccee013f082f14031381108dc31c26823%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439958266588647%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=J2oKh%2FLczmlhpWU96LigCmb4dT2%2BUoXU1aEI3UQqNkw%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Roger Ransom
397 Rainy Creek Rd Negaunee, MI 49866-9593 ransom_roger@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: rose.greco@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rose Greco <rose.greco@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 4:26 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C3ddb5b151244470ffb5708dc351aaa70%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443635843744837%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=7C1oR3qas3wJEgrn29O2Jrky2GRYzPPBhNQuyIQeFOw%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Rose Greco
1140 S Lorraine Rd Apt 3C Wheaton, IL 60189-7020 rose.greco@att.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: dawnfromtheoak@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Roxanne Christie <dawnfromtheoak@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 9:36 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C5814906cbc8f4851511d08dc2fc5ce04%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437773827312772%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=oa9W%2Bi%2BIRjoZPhmEmJjB%2BparSw%2Fq26y7zfilbxDFtu0%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Roxanne Christie
230 E 2nd St Oswego, NY 13126-3105
dawnfromtheoak@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: rnagy2346@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ryan Nagy <rnagy2346@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 12:34 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cd5d5523fb4af4f67e9da08dc3170ecc1%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439608292266405%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=k6GtIZQ50SEDFZqLpnHbqFcaEHmpEfOWSw59h0UU%2FSM%3D&reserved=0

Let's do the right thing here folks...

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Ryan Nagy
4026 Chestnut Dr Florence, WI 54121-8157 rnagy2346@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: ryburke@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ryann Burke <ryburke@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 5:53 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C35f757dafbd348834d2608dc33f8fceb%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442391702098903%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=QyVUpBZ%2BmybhYMvD5%2BLyLSLooh6RFxnwWTvtW8iRcco%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Ryann Burke
213 E Arch St Marquette, MI 49855-3855
ryburke@nmu.edu

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: Tamorrosadie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sadie Kendall <Tamorrosadie@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 9:25 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C2f2d898fbc0b4222636d08dc341693fe%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442518791862896%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ey3ZuETI4SOI36eWEVDccDF4K9bIscwvauyszJZl9D8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mx. Sadie Kendall
645 Spring Ln Quartzsite, AZ 85359
Tamorrosadie@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: samjlipson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sam Lipson <samjlipson@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 8:57 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C55e8ce0ec85547a61cb508dc3089895a%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438614487853156%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=spXUE3A%2BqLyYUjhMQzMSEXeMbNKNIKfHS9uTev%2BQa6M%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Sam Lipson
1888 Cumberland Dr Traverse City, MI 49685-9318 samjlipson@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: runningwouters@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sam Wouters <runningwouters@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 9:50 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C020f97d94ff542b6de4e08dc32ec65fd%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441238110044149%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=yxrYIGxlcin8ijB%2FjmCoAMBT%2BxmDgAwb9y5sOSSZK04%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Sam Wouters
550 Milky Way Madison, WI 53718-2916
runningwouters@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: sajghaus@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Samandar Ghaus <sajghaus@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 12:39 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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6. These are my partner's beloved childhood mountains. I love the land that made them who they are. Please don't devastate these memories.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,

Mx. Samandar Ghaus
722 W Dodds St Bloomington, IN 47403-4716 sajghaus@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: sfkarnitz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Samantha Karnitz <sfkarnitz@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 10:29 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ca3a062fd85ef4f44c70708dc348434ab%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442989618115466%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=f%2ByVYejVeEbWTuxBQd0GW3Qsaq1aSGG9VuqoU%2F1kWXM%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Samantha Karnitz
812 W Edwards Ave Houghton, MI 49931-2423 sfkarnitz@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: sndrcch@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sandra Couch <sndrcch@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 5:57 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cc944a38104fe47ed4c6b08dc2f42a6f8%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437210528112625%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nSz4UkPrfjdwIiKj6zkSCRquC1Fqeemzbp9r%2FWopnfM%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Sandra Couch
2903 Bartlett Ct Unit 201 Naperville, IL 60564-4694 sndrcch@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: sara.t.johnson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sara Johnson <sara.t.johnson@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 6:39 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Sara Johnson
901 N 3rd St Ishpeming, MI 49849-1103
sara.t.johnson@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: sarat91@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sara Tudball <sarat91@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 10:40 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Sara Tudball
26263 Virginia Dr Warren, MI 48091-3978 sarat91@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: srhlang@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sarah Lang <srhlang@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 11:45 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mx. Sarah Lang
1268 Maggie Way Hubertus, WI 53033-9422 srhlang@icloud.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: sarnitasalazar@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sarna Salzman <sarnitasalazar@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 7:58 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mx. Sarna Salzman
535 Woodland Dr Traverse City, MI 49686-3549 sarnitasalazar@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: octowussy71@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sean Darner <octowussy71@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 5:46 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C23c09cd5639f4b2f1ce708dc33f80062%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442387455141750%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6DYpUWSTNo4IEjHk%2FyteXHzaVnYgQXxKvuJeyFeWTyU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Sean Darner
730 Marquette, MI 49855
octowussy71@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: sheilabearry@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sheila Tran <sheilabearry@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 6:45 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C1bb43967aeb5477d28a508dc2f4947ce%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437239007558194%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=s3ahYOdvMKaVBJxnXGt2aujpJHO0euoKgPUJfe%2BeyY%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Sheila Tran
1766 Serpentine Dr Eagan, MN 55122-1634 sheilabearry@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: SPKronberg@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Solomon Kronberg <SPKronberg@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 9:22 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C29684055d06244102b6608dc321f4734%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440357119122364%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sgAnBowzv7SutcMI8jvOWWAFXwYhKY18EOtKnRfAoa0%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Solomon Kronberg
1317 N Front St Marquette, MI 49855-3028 SPKronberg@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: stanroyalty@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Stanley Royalty <stanroyalty@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 11:44 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cab364b528472439ef9d008dc2fd79b16%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437850274515027%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=EGnsgk%2BFo5GOxyzb9EPSpJ%2Bw8X1MrikohztDgWWlvdw%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Stanley Royalty
500 Silver Creek Rd Petoskey, MI 49770-9641 stanroyalty@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: sleich@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of sue Leich <sleich@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 12:44 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C3a7fb6680d084cc1446e08dc2fe00f57%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437886588436040%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=fCPAP0o%2BOkJ6CrjwlA8VIDfRt6bg%2FFRDn%2FXBtfTKoiE%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. sue Leich
6605 Indianwood Trl Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-2966 sleich@att.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: sueinbigbay@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of susan Hardiman <sueinbigbay@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 5:05 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cfa56553ede9c4b98c15d08dc326006d0%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440635217776273%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6X6hU9v1vOvd5wWn7VZ7Va2OlOtZzE16Bfla4c5%2BQFQ%3D&reserved=0

The UP wild areas need to be protected!!!! There are so few wild places in the U.S.!

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. susan Hardiman

7311 County Road 550 Marquette, MI 49855-9767 sueinbigbay@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: keumran6@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Susan Welsford <keumran6@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 9:06 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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Again, OPPOSE investment in the Copperwood mine!

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Susan Welsford

642 Wendover Blvd Norton Shores, MI 49441-5050 keumran6@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: angelfire_913@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of T Lesperance <angelfire_913@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 1:59 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C33edd54cabb34919fc8908dc330f237f%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638441387334138415%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=qsPqoWfuELLZjMDV32bobgWAeU7xpWDpKNfNmq7c2SQ%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. T Lesperance
W8586 Broberg Lane No 23 # 23 Stephenson, MI 49887-8365 angelfire_913@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: tandyhewitt50@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tandy Hewitt <tandyhewitt50@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 9:19 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cf4061eaa41f74ec0533608dc31ba4acf%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439923405324006%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=dQ3%2F8hcGBbdTQxokcEn5BXwjStm1ngbxiXsfbOKUy6o%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Tandy Hewitt
6618 SW 177th Pl Beaverton, OR 97007-4736 tandyhewitt50@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: tayb123400@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Taylor Brown <tayb123400@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 4:33 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C5d621899e1a745ec73eb08dc2ffff5b7%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438023583080581%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ezP8%2BgfOrXqT5NhnIDSLBevh983zdTauRXLqY4b017M%3D&reserved=0

I grew up in L'Anse, Michigan and have visited the Porcupine Mountains since I was a kid. Please choose life over greed. Yoopers do not want or need this. This is a environmental disaster in progress and an absolute disgrace to the land.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,

Ms. Taylor Brown
225 N 4th St Marquette, MI 49855-4308
tayb123400@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: reka1963@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Theresa Pitts <reka1963@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 11:44 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

As a resident of Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula and member of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, I am all to aware of the effects of mining on our precious water systems including, Lake Superior. The countless tons of waste generated by past mining operations in our region are still wreaking havoc on our delicate ecological systems. This includes Lake Superior herself, which to this day suffers the destructive effects of shifting mine waste including the threatened decimation of Lake Superior whitefish and trout because of shifting tailings currently encroaching on the Buffalo Reef spawning site.

If we are unable to protect our environment from the devestation of past mining activities, how can we possibly expect to protect our waters and environment from proposed ventures?

PLEASE SAY NO.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Theresa Pitts
PO Box 422 Dollar Bay, MI 49922-0422
reka1963@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: filipczak39@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Thomas Filipczak <filipczak39@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 9:34 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C98c2ab2b5be643a3b16e08dc308ea206%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438636373396289%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=0yldTmAJqZHWGbCrq3Ole3TKvcr3lUju2C%2Fw3hv1%2BGU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Thomas Filipczak
21655 Siskiwit Shores Dr Cornucopia, WI 54827-4751 filipczak39@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: tjkelly62@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Timothy Kelly <tjkelly62@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 12:58 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C9db2b9d7a11248fcd71e08dc34fd8f3d%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638443510844956991%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=cuDo3htnxiOf2kE5PcL5qxkVq6myEhLSxfOGFEw6ko4%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Timothy Kelly
5308 S Austin Ave Chicago, IL 60638-2632 tjkelly62@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: twn1953@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tom Nacey <twn1953@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 6:07 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ce774438c796a48e0199f08dc2f440b93%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437216506611463%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=cYZfg1rUYfu6MpgIlm4e6EbfgWSXe3Og1GCw0RorUg4%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Tom Nacey
HARRISON St Superior, WI 54880
twn1953@hotmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: tracymtolliver@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tracy Tolliver <tracymtolliver@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2024 1:03 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C174984f08f2a4953d51508dc362c0466%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444810242250573%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=tdRy6OxZSe3ZFx%2BC7kp4hwXZZEsinIAGpjki07hcYE8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Tracy Tolliver
2151 Lakeshire Dr West Bloomfield, MI 48323-3839 tracymtolliver@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: tbull456@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Trevor Bullis <tbull456@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2024 7:39 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C5aa2247127244ff0329508dc2fb574c3%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437703614724978%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=PAtOci0FQObYKP9WhNCfVulAbeMSBqXUWEjfmg0zWI8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Trevor Bullis
206 S 5th Ave Apt 3 Alpena, MI 49707-2585 tbull456@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: derp.tjm@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Turner Miles <derp.tjm@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 7:35 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cf1261b1b6be643de356a08dc34075625%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442453330202092%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IK35vCSonbe%2FWRaLhneZqfX3zJCnXdIyIWpdQW643rw%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Turner Miles
7800 Jonagold Dr SE Grand Rapids, MI 49508-7605 derp.tjm@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: tc.barden89@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tyler Barden <tc.barden89@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 7:01 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C078fb55644aa4c7f499908dc31427490%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439408707261069%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=lnWBnjPfATIJr5ZLJBI3e5PisVTi8HdoauJH9DEBDzk%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Tyler Barden
607 Finch St Adrian, MI 49221-2310
tc.barden89@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: t.beun363@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tyler Beun <t.beun363@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2024 9:20 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C4a7c80a26b1447bd5e5f08dc360cd407%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444675934859159%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3d4ADda0GMkCSg3c3WU%2BSU%2B1ZnnibM3e6kVq79FiQ8E%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Tyler Beun
712 E Division St Ishpeming, MI 49849-2207 t.beun363@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: giraffeval@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Valerie Wilson <giraffeval@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 3:01 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C9d1d713783d0429561f608dc3120e453%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439264552440561%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9pb7CTWduoFdXRkCwvpO8t1AQsDU161Ay2UV9sJ8GoU%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Valerie Wilson
6106 N Berry St Westland, MI 48185-8103 giraffeval@yahoo.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: mcgaffiganvicki@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Vicki McGaffigan <mcgaffiganvicki@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 7:38 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C6a2aab00cbca47e00b8b08dc3407ad95%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442454786656849%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=zYNASXDayN29%2Fafw%2Fn2ns7eHaPIZxub8pILrMr8y2%2FM%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Vicki McGaffigan
E4603 State Highway M35 Escanaba, MI 49829-9622 mcgaffiganvicki@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: youngquistvs1520@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Victoria Smith <youngquistvs1520@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 4:56 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C475dc96ebe8a434280ac08dc30cc5922%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638438901452882331%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=q2Uji83gZsKbfC9Nu1qsz7YpJXM6un2EicZ2%2Fdu4ax0%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Victoria Smith
1406 E 3rd St Superior, WI 54880-3346
youngquistvs1520@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: wwtervo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Wayne Tervo <wwtervo@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 11:47 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cf53c0433170440cc2e1308dc3105cc03%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439148184616707%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZZtkMm1m00NJYhTqAfatm6xftO9s5J%2FVwHQYMlFfIkk%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Wayne Tervo
8263 Grossman Rd Manchester, MI 48158-9675 wwtervo@msn.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: deilandwyer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Weiland Dyer <deilandwyer@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 10:31 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cc2d346f7778e4dc693a208dc35b22ef7%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638444286618893952%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZEhEei2%2Fw89JOxvb7DyNQYAj3QZNMXkCRTVIbaEQMVo%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Dr Weiland Dyer
8504 Riverview Ln Minneapolis, MN 55444-1306 deilandwyer@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: wjgl@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Wendi Greer <wjgl@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 5:21 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. I am concerned about production of toxic acids as waste products in proximity to the largest freshwater lake in the world. This is a world treasure and resource without comparison.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to the pristine wilderness areas that draw tourism dollars and are a livelihood for many of the residents of the UP. Not to mention their spiritual and tribal significance.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace . Likely other species will be negatively impacted as yet to be identified.

4. The value system of the people of Michigan incorporates the live and stewardship of the land.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C841f74f9def149bba62508dc32624248%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440644814266372%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=baZem4rc8%2FmTL6KMMPb8wpTkyHXXYF4GO7wG1HjceXk%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Wendi Greer
96 S Blue Lake Rd Gwinn, MI 49841-9040

wjgl@sbcglobal.net

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: wbingham20@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Whitney Bingham <wbingham20@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 8:17 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cbb2e2fd674484235b90c08dc3471ad7f%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442910062604913%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=0gThy6ly1jrcPmwkI6lNgHohHPoCrI%2FWMI80%2BkUmYuo%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms Whitney Bingham
828 High St Apt 3 Marquette, MI 49855-3756 wbingham20@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: whaweaver@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Will Weaver <whaweaver@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 9:05 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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2. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

3. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

4. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C39c5969713b544e93da108dc3153b837%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439482856854694%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IHVnvVAqzl%2FJbuOxWeUgKE4vuq4CqIR%2FMfmmYFvwk%2FM%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Will Weaver
332 8th St Calumet, MI 49913-1512
whaweaver@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: bill.backes@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of William Backes <bill.backes@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 9:02 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

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3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

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https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C532f75b7c57f4fd0885308dc2f5c6a64%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638437321196993017%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=YeDokVeIkq2Ho0ZZ6s3CuDkIGH6VsTxMayiJFDSOkfk%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. William Backes
14 W Newhaven Cir Madison, WI 53717-1052 bill.backes@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: wm.henne@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of William Henne <wm.henne@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 5:34 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

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4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. William Henne
8347 Boyne City Rd Charlevoix, MI 49720-9499 wm.henne@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: yve.mendez@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Yvette Mendez <yve.mendez@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 1:03 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cece7a7f42ae846b868c508dc323e31ff%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440489906869886%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=hG4D26LAx5KrTQjWJHw%2FdxnS9OxygE1wrrBrzrrvD0Q%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ma. Yvette Mendez
15511 Empanada Dr Houston, TX 77083-4111 yve.mendez@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: godsgmaw@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Yvonne Senko <godsgmaw@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 11:10 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Ca083cb1d4d614fa2d26a08dc31c9d068%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638439990089988365%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=CRhgNkOQFYXO6t54ieefmsjGU7EZGMImUYYsOrQNeps%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Miss Yvonne Senko
6118 Haag Rd Lansing, MI 48911-5450
godsgmaw@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: zzuzula@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Zane Zuzula <zzuzula@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 7:19 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7Cdeecb83c4b2f48d2f0ad08dc3404f9cb%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442443196130449%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=iOAf5XOsq00%2BPHcpC7WcVT5Bbri7AMDX6f5U7%2B9xgX0%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. Zane Zuzula
528 1/2 W Bluff St Marquette, MI 49855-4114 zzuzula@nmu.edu

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: zbyrd@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of ZB Fontella <zbyrd@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 7:36 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C26ea047162154e7e5dfa08dc34077a1f%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638442453931356161%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=T1BT3DgTN3ctbvJMAlKmM5fHjVJfCBkIMUALlP4Uhj8%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mr. ZB Fontella
1701 Lincoln Ave Apt 43 Marquette, MI 49855-1675 zbyrd@nmu.edu

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: zenhoneycutt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Zen Honeycutt <zenhoneycutt@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 8:06 PM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and introduce the risk of acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fprotecttheporkies&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C288ff7548d21431468cb08dc373039b8%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638445927493796980%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=cPB8nzNPRnqI1iJD1gC1bXUFu%2F0aaJKoVfhpouf0iVc%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Ms. Zen Honeycutt
16 Paint Horse Dr Alexander, NC 28701-9208 zenhoneycutt@gmail.com

Natalie Davenport (MEDC)

From: zoe.zeerip@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Zoe Zeerip <zoe.zeerip@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 9:15 AM
To: MEDC MSF Comments
Subject: Comments: No Funding for Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board Comments,

I am writing to urge you to oppose investment in the Copperwood mine.The potential long term harmful impacts of the mine on the community's local economy far outweigh the short-term economic benefits. I do not believe that this project meets the following criteria for the Strategic Site Readiness Program application, as this mine: 1. does not promote sustainable development 2. creates an unacceptable level and extent of environmental contamination and 3. is a poor overall return on investment to Michigan. My opposition is based on the following concerns:

1. Since Copperwood's ore grade is only 1.5%, nearly 99% of what comes out of the ground will NOT be copper. For only 30 pounds of extracted copper, 1,970 of mine waste will be produced. Applying the same ratio to the proposed grant, only $750,000 would fund copper, while more than $49M would fund sulfide-bearing, toxic waste, requiring on-site storage and maintenance, forever.

2. Copperwood poses a significant threat to Lake Superior, which contains 10% of the world's surface freshwater. The company's maps clearly show that the best copper is closest to the lakeshore. The proposed location of the tailings facility is dangerously close to Lake Superior and will store over 50 million tons of toxic mine waste and acid mine drainage.

3. The mine's construction threatens an endangered species protected under Michigan law, the Redside Dace fish. The mine would be permitted to dump up to half a million gallons of wastewater per day into Namebinag Creek, the dwelling place of the Redside Dace.

4. Without adequate environmental protections the proposed mine puts at risk the community's outdoor recreation economy. Outdoor recreation contributes more than 10 times as much to Michigan's economy than mining does.

5. Despite its remote location, the project is opposed by many thousands of people. A petition opposing Copperwood has nearly 12,000 signatures:
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.change.org%2Fp%2Fprotect-the-porkies-protect-lake-superior-stop-the-copperwood-mine%3Futm_source%3Dshare_petition%26utm_medium%3Dcustom_url%26recruited_by_id%3Da6e63bc0-00ae-11ee-8146-6d614c8c5bd0&data=05%7C02%7Cmsfcomments%40michigan.org%7C947ffd5a0f514134d8d508dc321e4ba9%7Ce1b7ea2e68834a89aeb93c559a238b28%7C0%7C0%7C638440352899387528%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9y%2FNlgiv3coeJKC03obFzkD88H%2B%2FVgQ%2B2Y97l3%2B1p7o%3D&reserved=0

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

For the Great Lakes,
Mrs. Zoe Zeerip
248 Marion Ave NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504-5476 zoe.zeerip@groundworkcenter.org

MEMORANDUM

Date: **April 16, 2024**

To: **Michigan Strategic Fund Board**

From: **Colleen Horton, Director-Business Compliance**

Subject: **Suniva, Inc. – Michigan Business Development Grant – Write-Off Request**

Request

Michigan Economic Development Corporation ("MEDC") staff recommends that the Michigan Strategic Fund ("MSF") Board authorize a write-off of $1,050,000 owed by Suniva, Inc. ("Suniva" or "Company") to the MSF under its Michigan Business Development Program ("MBDP") grant agreement (the "Request").

Background

On July 22, 2014, the MSF awarded a $2,500,000 performance based MBDP grant to Suniva for the creation of 350 Qualified New Jobs ("QNJs"), and capital investment of approximately $12,225,000 in Saginaw Township in Saginaw County (the "Suniva Grant").

On October 19, 2014, the MSF approved an amendment to correct the Project location address from 3650 Schust Road, Saginaw Township, Michigan 48603 to 2650 Schust Road, Saginaw Township, Michigan, 48603. On October 6, 2016, the MSF approved an amendment to extend the Milestone 6 due date from April 30, 2016, to October 31, 2017, extend the Milestone 7 due date from April 30, 2017, to October 31, 2028, and extend the grant term from April 30, 2019 to October 31, 2020.

Suniva successfully met Milestones One through Five as required by the grant agreement and received disbursements totaling $1,050,000. On April 17, 2017, the Company filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy. As a result of the default, the MSF was entitled to seek full repayment of disbursements made under the Suniva Grant. On October 16, 2017, the MSF Fund Manager executed and filed proof of claim on behalf of the MSF for the $1,050,000 owed under the Suniva Grant. The amount sought by the MSF was treated as a general unsecured claim.

On January 2, 2024, the United State Bankruptcy Court issued a final decree closing the Chapter 11 case. No unsecured creditors, including the MSF, received any proceeds from the bankruptcy settlement. The balance of the Suniva Grant was returned to the Business Development Program for use on other projects. Given that all options for collection have been exhausted at this stage, the MEDC recommends that the MSF Board authorize a write-off of the repayment amount owed by the Company under the grant agreement.

Recommendation

MEDC Staff recommends that the MSF Board approve the Request.

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND
RESOLUTION 2024-061

SUNIVA, INC.
MICHIGAN BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GRANT WRITE-OFF

WHEREAS, the Michigan legislature passed legislation establishing the 21st Century Jobs Trust Fund initiative that was signed into law;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation ("MEDC") provides administrative services to the Michigan Strategic Fund ("MSF") for 21st Century Jobs Trust Fund programs;

WHEREAS, pursuant to MCL 125.2088r, the MSF shall create and operate the Michigan Business Development Program ("MBDP") to provide grants, loans and other economic assistance to qualified businesses that make qualified investments or provide qualified new jobs in Michigan;

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2011, by Resolution 2011-184, the MSF (i) created the MBDP, and (ii) adopted the guidelines for the MBDP as later amended on December 8, 2020 ("Guidelines");

WHEREAS, pursuant to SFCR 125.2088r-1, the MSF authorized the MSF Fund Manager or the MSF President to negotiate the terms and conditions and execute all final documents necessary to effectuate awards and decisions approved under the MBDP in accordance with the Guidelines ("Transaction Documents");

WHEREAS, on July 22, 2014, the MSF Board authorized a performance-based MBDP grant of up to $2,500,000 to Suniva, Inc. ("Suniva" or the "Company") for the creation of 350 Qualified New Jobs and capital investment of $12,225,000 in Saginaw Township in Saginaw County (the "Suniva Grant");

WHEREAS, the MSF and the Company entered into a grant agreement governing the terms and conditions of the Suniva Grant (the "Grant Agreement");

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement, the Company received disbursements of $1,050,000 for creation of 100 Qualified New Jobs in the State of Michigan;

WHEREAS, subsequently, Suniva experienced financial challenges and filed Chapter 11 bankruptcy on April 20, 2017;

WHEREAS, the MEDC filed a proof of claim on behalf of the MSF for the $1,050,000 of disbursed grant funds, which claim was treated as a general unsecured claim through the bankruptcy proceedings;

WHEREAS, on January 2, 2024, the United State Bankruptcy Court issued a final decree closing the Chapter 11 case, and no unsecured creditors, including the MSF, received any proceeds from the bankruptcy settlement;

WHEREAS, the MEDC requests that the MSF Board approve a write off of $1,050,000, which represents the remaining balance owed as a result of the bankruptcy proceedings (the "Write-off Request").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the MSF Board approves the Write-off Request.

Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner

Nays: None

Recused: None

Lansing, Michigan
April 16, 2024

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
DIRECTOR

January 21, 2022

Ms. Katelyn Wilcox
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

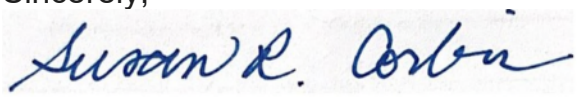
Re: Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Designees

Dear Ms. Wilcox:

Pursuant to MCLA 16.51, I hereby confirm my designation of John Groen and Jonathan Smith as the persons authorized and empowered to act in my stead as a member of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board for scheduled meetings or portions thereof that I am unable to attend.

If you need anything additional, please contact Diane Burton at (517) 230-5454. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Susan R. Corbin
Director

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

Ms. Rhonda Bishop
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund Office
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Bishop:

I hereby confirm and ratify my designation of Michael B. Kapp, Administrator, Michigan Department of Transportation, as the person authorized and empowered to act in my stead for Michigan Strategic Fund meetings that I am unable to attend.

Sincerely,

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MEMORANDUM

Date: **April 16, 2024**

To: **Michigan Strategic Fund Board**

From: **Colleen Horton, Director- Business Compliance**

Subject: **Greenfield Die & Manufacturing, Corp. – Michigan Business Development Grant – Write-off Request**

Request

Michigan Economic Development Corporation ("MEDC") staff recommends that the Michigan Strategic Fund ("MSF") Board authorize a write-off of $1,942,568.25 owed by Greenfield Die & Manufacturing Corp. ("Greenfield Die" or "Company") to the MSF under its Michigan Business Development Program ("MBDP") grant agreement (the "Request").

Background

On October 28, 2014, the MSF awarded a $2,000,000 performance based MBDP grant to Greenfield Die for the creation of 128 Qualified New Jobs ("QNJs"), maintenance of 435 Base Jobs, and capital investment of approximately $42,969,000 in Plymouth Township in Wayne County (the "Greenfield Die Grant").

Greenfield Die successfully met the five milestones required by the grant and received disbursements totaling $2,000,000. On August 30, 2020, the Company filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy. As a result of the default, the MSF was entitled to seek full repayment of the Greenfield Die Grant. On February 22, 2021, the MSF Fund Manager executed and filed a proof of claim on behalf of the MSF for the $2,000,000 owed under the Greenfield Die Grant. The amount sought by the MSF was treated as a general unsecured claim.

On January 22, 2024, the MSF received a check in the amount of $57,431.75 on its claim for $2,000,000 under the Greenfield Die Grant. This amount is approximately 2.9% of the general unsecured claim in the bankruptcy. This represents the MSF's pro rata share of the full and final distribution to the holders of allowed general unsecured claims, which includes all payments made to the liquidating trust and a reservation for all fees, costs, and expenses associated with administration of the liquidating through dissolution.

Recommendation

MEDC Staff recommends that the MSF Board approve the Request.

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND
RESOLUTION 2024-062

GREENFIELD DIE & MANUFACTURING CORPORATION
MICHIGAN BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GRANT WRITE-OFF

WHEREAS, the Michigan legislature passed legislation establishing the 21st Century Jobs Trust Fund initiative that was signed into law;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation ("MEDC") provides administrative services to the Michigan Strategic Fund ("MSF") for 21st Century Jobs Trust Fund programs;

WHEREAS, pursuant to MCL 125.2088r, the MSF shall create and operate the Michigan Business Development Program ("MBDP") to provide grants, loans and other economic assistance to qualified businesses that make qualified investments or provide qualified new jobs in Michigan;

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2011, by Resolution 2011-184, the MSF (i) created the MBDP, and (ii) adopted the guidelines for the MBDP as later amended on December 8, 2020 ("Guidelines");

WHEREAS, pursuant to SFCR 125.2088r-1, the MSF authorized the MSF Fund Manager or the MSF President to negotiate the terms and conditions and execute all final documents necessary to effectuate awards and decisions approved under the MBDP in accordance with the Guidelines ("Transaction Documents");

WHEREAS, on October 28, 2014, the MSF Board authorized a performance-based MBDP grant of up to $2,000,000 to Greenfield Die & Manufacturing Corporation ("Greenfield" or the "Company") for the creation of 128 Qualified New Jobs, maintenance of 435 Base Jobs and capital investment of $42,969,000 in Plymouth Township in Wayne County (the "Greenfield Die Grant");

WHEREAS, the MSF and the Company entered into a grant agreement governing the terms and conditions of the Greenfield Die Grant (the "Grant Agreement");

WHEARAS, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement, the Company received disbursements of $2,000,000 for creation of 128 Qualified New Jobs and maintenance of 435 Base Jobs in the State of Michigan;

WHEREAS, Greenfield experienced financial challenges and filed Chapter 11 bankruptcy on August 30, 2020;

WHEREAS, the MEDC filed a proof of claim on behalf of the MSF for the $2,000,000 on disbursed grant funds, which claim was treated as a general unsecured claim through the bankruptcy proceedings;

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2024, the MSF received a check in the amount of $57,431.75, on its proof of claim, which represents approximately 2.9% of the $2,000,000, and is the full and final distribution to holders of allowed general unsecured claims;

WHEREAS, the MEDC requests that the MSF Board approve a write off of $1,942,568.25, which represents the remaining balance owed as a result of the bankruptcy proceedings (the "Write-off Request").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the MSF Board approves the Write-off Request.

Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner

Nays: None

Recused: None

Lansing, Michigan
April 16, 2024

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
DIRECTOR

January 21, 2022

Ms. Katelyn Wilcox
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

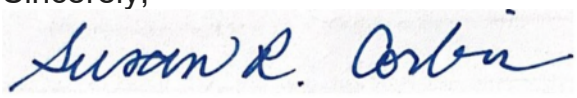
Re: Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Designees

Dear Ms. Wilcox:

Pursuant to MCLA 16.51, I hereby confirm my designation of John Groen and Jonathan Smith as the persons authorized and empowered to act in my stead as a member of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board for scheduled meetings or portions thereof that I am unable to attend.

If you need anything additional, please contact Diane Burton at (517) 230-5454. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Susan R. Corbin
Director

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

Ms. Rhonda Bishop
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund Office
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Bishop:

I hereby confirm and ratify my designation of Michael B. Kapp, Administrator, Michigan Department of Transportation, as the person authorized and empowered to act in my stead for Michigan Strategic Fund meetings that I am unable to attend.

Sincerely,

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MEMORANDUM

Date: **April 16, 2024**

To: **Michigan Strategic Fund Board**

From: **Amber Westendorp, Capital Project & Portfolio Manager**

Subject: ***Private Activity Bond – Amend Inducement to Extend Expiration Date***
BerQ US Investments, LLC
Solid Waste - $165,000,000

Request:

BerQ US Investments, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("BerQ") is requesting an amendment to MSF's Inducement Resolution 2022-067 for private activity bond financing for the purpose of financing the acquisition, construction, installation, equipping and furnishing of certain solid waste disposal facilities (the "Facilities") relating to renewable natural gas projects to be constructed at four locations in Michigan (collectively, the "Project"):

- Brook View: 10560 Freeport Avenue, Freeport, MI 49325
- Scenic View: 1510 62nd Street, Fennville, MI 49408
- Monterey: 2730 130th Avenue, Hopkins, MI 49328
- Green Meadows: 9697 Rile Road, Elsie, MI 48831

MSF previously adopted Inducement Resolution 2022-067 on April 26, 2022 in connection with the BerQ project, and BerQ is requesting an extension of the inducement. Several factors have contributed to the delay in two of the project sites, including supply chain delays, permitting matters and a reevaluation of project designs.

Description of Project:

The Project will produce renewable natural gas ("RNG") for transportation fuel sourced from biomethane from dairy farms. The Project will use anaerobic digesters at the farms to capture raw biogas and then clean, upgrade, and compress it. RNG from the Project will be used to power trucks, buses, and other vehicles operating on compressed natural gas. The RNG will be transported through local, state, and/or interstate pipelines. The Project will consist of the acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, installation, development and equipping of solid waste disposal facilities related to the production of renewable natural gas, including, but not limited to, handling and sorting systems, conveyance systems, anaerobic digesters, purification and refinement systems, collection systems, pumps, pipes, monitoring control systems, site improvements, digestate handling and treatment systems and all other assets (including land) necessary to

support the foregoing improvements and to place them into service in the four locations in Michigan specified above.

The Project is expected to provide a significant economic benefit and job creation for the State of Michigan. BerQ expects to create directly and indirectly approximately 160 construction jobs and 30 operational jobs.

Background:

BerQ was incorporated in September of 2021 in the state of Delaware and is indirectly owned by Starwood Energy Group Global, LLC.

Since inducement in 2022, two of the project sites have been completed for the sites at Freeport and Fennville and commercial production of RNG has commenced at these facilities. The remaining projects for Elise and Hopkins locations anticipate commercial operation to begin in 2025. Several factors have contributed to the delay in these two project sites, including supply chain delays, permitting matters and a reevaluation of project designs.

The background review process was completed in accordance with the MSF Background Review Policy on March 18, 2024.

Recommendation:

After reviewing the request for an extension to the expiration date of the inducement resolution for BerQ, staff recommends the adoption of an amendment to Inducement Resolution 2022-067 extending the expiration date from April 26, 2024 to April 16, 2026.

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND

RESOLUTION 2024-063

BerQ US Investments, LLC

WHEREAS, the Fund has previously induced a Project for BerQ US Investments, LLC (the "Borrower") pursuant to Resolution 2022-067.

WHEREAS, the Borrower's inducement included to finance the costs of the acquisition, construction, installation, equipping, and furnishing of certain solid waste disposal facilities relating to renewable gas projects in the following four locations, in Michigan: Freeport, Barry County; Fennville, Allegan County; Hopkins, Allegan County; and Elsie, Clinton County (the "Project").

WHEREAS, the induced Project specified the cost of the Project would not exceed One Hundred Sixty-Five Million Dollars ($165,000,000); and

WHEREAS, the Borrower requests that the Fund amend Resolution 2022-067 to extend the expiration date of the inducement resolution from April 26, 2024 to April 16, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Michigan Strategic Fund that:

1. Resolution 2022-067 is amended to change the induced project expiration date from April 26, 2024 to April 16, 2026.

2. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner

Nays: None

Recused: None

Lansing Michigan
April 16, 2024

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
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January 21, 2022

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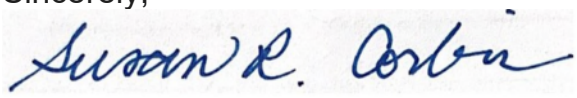
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Sincerely,

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MEMORANDUM

Date: **April 16, 2024**

To: **Michigan Strategic Fund Board**

From: **Rob Garza, Manager, Statutory Analysis**
Janay Jenkins, Tax Abatement Specialist

Subject: **Request for Approval of an Act 381 Work Plan Amendment #1**
Michigan International Technology Center Redevelopment Authority (BRA)
Parcel 9 (Western Portion Redevelopment) Redevelopment Project

---

REQUEST

The Michigan International Technology Center Redevelopment Authority (BRA) is requesting an amendment to a Brownfield Act 381 Work Plan previously approved for state tax capture for MSF eligible activities in the amount $15,637,752. The amendment proposes to add new eligible activities and increase the authorized capture to $16,401,326.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The project was originally approved for state tax capture for Act 381 eligible activities in the amount of $15,637,752 by the Michigan Strategic Fund Board (MSF) Board on February 22, 2022.

On October 1, 2018, the MITC was created via interlocal agreement between the Charter Township of Northville Brownfield Development Authority and the Plymouth Township Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to redevelop the properties that formerly housed the Detroit House of Corrections and assume the responsibilities of a joint Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. It was anticipated that individual projects would be submitted for consideration via Work Plan amendment in the future in order to facilitate development on this extremely challenging site. The original project consisted of the new construction of a 65,952 square foot, commercial flex space development and associated infrastructure improvements. The amendment request includes the development of a commercial lumber yard on the western approximately 27 acres of Parcel 9 that will further attract development of the MITC Redevelopment Area and serve as a buffer development between the other parcels and the large landfill west of Napier Road. Development of this new location for an expanded Northville Lumber Co. will involve the construction of an approximately 71,855-square-foot office, retail showroom, and warehouse building; an approximately 6,250-square-foot maintenance building; and approximately 10 acres of paved and gravel-covered outdoor lumber storage areas. The project is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2024.

Act 381 of 1996 (the "Act"), as amended, authorizes the MSF to approve Work Plans that include the capture of the School Operating Millage and State Education Tax millages for the purpose of supporting projects statewide. On March 23, 2021, the MSF Board approved the Brownfield Tax Increment Financing MSF Program Guidelines ("Guidelines"). As required under the Act, all statutory criteria for the project have been considered when making the recommendations in this memo. The project meets the Brownfield

TIF Guidelines and programmatic requirements, and a financial review has been completed. An MSF Eligible Activities and Tax Capture Summary are included in Appendix A.

Applicant Background / Qualifications

New Northville, LLC' s redevelopment of the western portion of MITC Parcel 9 as the new location of the Northville Lumber Company. Northville Lumber Company was established in 1827 and has been family owned since the mid-1860s. Northville Lumber has been a part of the Northville community since 1918 and still occupies the same location at 615 Base Line Road. They specialize in state-of-the-art wood composites and other low maintenance wood alternative products.

The background review process was completed in accordance with the MSF Background Review Policy on March 4, 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

MEDC staff recommends approval of state tax capture for Act 381 eligible activities capped at $16,401,326, utilizing the current state to local capture ratio.

APPENDIX A – MSF ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

TAX CAPTURE SUMMARY

In order to alleviate brownfield conditions and prepare the site for redevelopment, the Charter Township of Plymouth has duly approved a brownfield plan amendment for this property on January 23, 2024 and approved by the Charter Township of Northville on January 18, 2024. The property has been determined to be a facility as verified by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) on March 12, 2024.

There are currently a maximum of 49.2059 non-homestead mills available for capture, with State mills from school operating and SET millages equaling a maximum of 24 mills (48.77%) and local millage equaling a maximum of 25.2059 mills (51.23%). Tax increment capture began in 2021 and is estimated to continue for 30 years. The state tax capture is recommended to be capped at $16,401,326, which is the amount of tax increment revenue anticipated to be generated in 30 years. Total MSF eligible activities are estimated at $33,627,779, but a maximum of $33,503,744 is estimated to be reimbursed. The available millages have varied since the initial approval of this Work Plan, which has impacted the tax capture ratio and the blended ratio is shown below. MSF eligible activities breaks down as follows:

CURRENT PROJECT

State tax capture	(52.95%)	$	15,637,752
Local tax capture	(47.05%)	$	13,894,491
TOTAL		**$**	**29,894,491**

AMENDED PROJECT

State tax capture	(48.95%)	$	16,401,326
Local tax capture	(51.05%)	$	17,102,418
TOTAL		**$**	**33,503,744**

COST OF MSF ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES (CURRENT PROJECT)

Demolition (approved)	$	785,576
Infrastructure Improvements (approved)		22,586,415
Site Preparation (approved)	+	3,406,441
Sub-Total	$	26,778,432
Contingency	+	2,723,811
Sub-Total	$	29,502,243
Brownfield/Work Plan Preparation		15,000
Brownfield/Work Plan Implementation	+	15,000
TOTAL	**$**	**29,532,243**

COST OF MSF ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES (AMENDED PROJECT)

Demolition (approved)	$	785,576
Demolition (new)		57,236
Infrastructure Improvements (approved)		22,586,415
Infrastructure Improvements (new)		846,727
Site Preparation (approved)		3,406,441

Site Preparation (new)		2,649,153
Sub-Total	$	30,331,548
Contingency	+	3,238,731
Sub-Total	$	33,570,279
Brownfield/Work Plan Preparation		22,500
Brownfield/Work Plan Implementation	+	35,000
TOTAL	**$**	**33,627,779**

In addition, the project is requesting from EGLE $560,383 in TIF to assist with environmental eligible activities.

Key Statutory Criteria

Per section 15 of Act 381, the Michigan Strategic Fund shall consider the following criteria to the extent reasonably applicable to the type of activities proposed as part of that work plan when approving or denying a work plan:

a) Overall Benefit to the Public:
The new project will create additional jobs and allow a local business to expand its footprint and return a property formerly owned by the Wayne County Land Bank to the active tax rolls.

b) Jobs Created (Excluding Construction and other Indirect Jobs):
The Northville Lumber Company project will create a minimum of 30 full-time equivalent jobs with an average hourly rate of $22.75.

c) Area of High Unemployment:
The Detroit-Livonia-Dearborn seasonally unadjusted jobless rate was 4.0% in December 2023.

d) Level and Extent of Contamination Alleviated:
Contaminated soils will be excavated and encapsulated in onsite berms to alleviate contact risk with patrons of the new development.

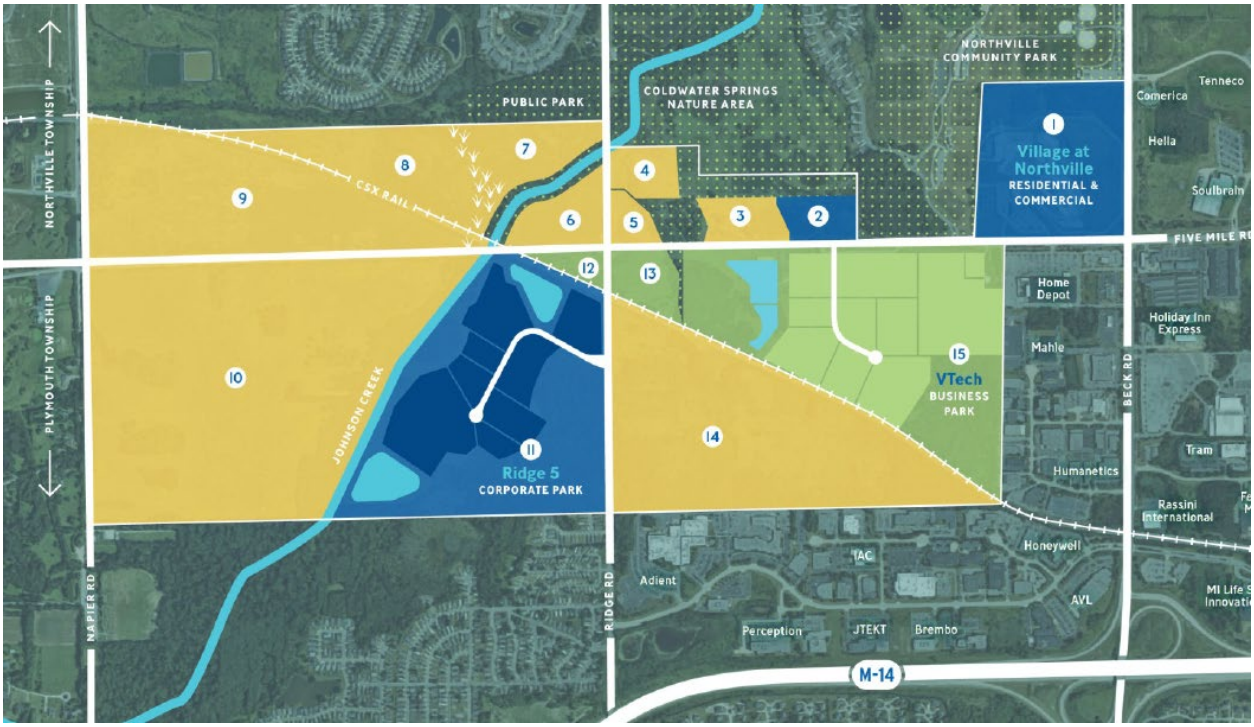
e) Reuse of Functionally Obsolete Buildings and/or Redevelopment of Blighted Property:
The project is not qualifying as functionally obsolete or blighted.

f) Whether Project will Create a New Brownfield Property in the State:
The current business location will continue to operate until this new location is ready to be occupied. Once the business leaves the current location, a new tenant will be sought.

g) Whether the Project is Financially and Economically Sound:
From the materials received, the MEDC infers that the project is financially and economically sound.

h) Other Factors Considered:
No additional factors need to be considered for this project.

APPENDIX B – MITC Map



MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND

RESOLUTION 2024-064

APPROVAL OF A BROWNFIELD ACT 381 WORK PLAN
MICHIGAN INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGY CENTER REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
PARCEL 9 (WESTERN PORTION REDEVELOPMENT) REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT
AMENDMENT #1

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Growth Authority ("MEGA") has been established by 1995 PA 24, as amended (the "Act");

WHEREAS, 2002 PA 727 amended 1996 PA 381, MCL 125.2651 et seq, to empower local brownfield redevelopment authorities to request the MEGA Board to approve a brownfield project work plan and, thereby, capture taxes levied for school operating purposes for the project;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 2012-9 transferred all the authority, powers, duties, functions, responsibilities, records, personnel, property, unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations or other funds of the MEGA to the Michigan Strategic Fund (the "MSF);

WHEREAS, the MSF Board approved a work plan ("Brownfield Work Plan") request for Parcel 13 Redevelopment Project (the "Project"), by Resolution 2022-034 on February 22, 2022, authorizing the Michigan International Technology Center Redevelopment Authority (the "Authority") to capture taxes levied for school operating purposes based on a maximum of $29,894,491 in eligible activities;

WHEREAS, the Authority wishes to amend the scope of the Project by including the new construction of an approximately 71,855-square-foot office, retail showroom, and warehouse building; an approximately 6,250-square-foot maintenance building; and approximately 10 acres of paved and gravel-covered outdoor lumber storage areas and increasing the maximum amount for eligible costs;

WHEREAS, the Authority is requesting MSF Board approval to capture additional taxes levied for school operating purposes to provide for the reimbursement of the cost of eligible activities on an eligible property; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation ("MEDC") provides administrative services to the MSF, and has reviewed the application and recommends approval of the amended Brownfield Work Plan by the MSF Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the MSF Board authorizes the Authority to capture taxes levied for school operating purposes in substantially the same proportion as 48.95 to 51.05% ratio currently existing between school and local taxes for non-homestead properties, to reimburse the cost of site preparation, demolition, and infrastructure improvements as presented in the revised Brownfield Work Plan dated March 19, 2024. Any change in millage that increases the capture percentage of school taxes in the ratio above by more than 5 percentage points must be approved by the MSF Board. The authorization is based on the Authority capturing all available local operating mills for the term of the capture period. The authorization for the capture of taxes

levied for school operating purposes is based on costs of MSF eligible activities with a maximum of $33,570,279 for the principal activity costs of non-environmental activities and a contingency, a maximum of $35,000 for brownfield and work plan implementation, and a maximum of $22,500 for brownfield and work plan preparation, and with the capture of taxes levied for school operating purposes being limited to a maximum of $16,401,326.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MSF Board authorizes the MSF Fund Manager, to provide written notification to the Authority, in the form of a letter which incorporates the terms set forth in this Resolution and consistent with the limitations of the Act, and that this approval is further conditioned upon the Authority, or the Townships as appropriate, maintaining adequate records regarding: a) all taxes captured for the project; and b) receipts or other appropriate documentation of the cost of eligible activities. The records shall be made available for review upon request by MSF or MEDC staff.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no taxes levied for school operating purposes shall be used to reimburse interest costs related to the eligible activities for the Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other provisions of Resolution 2022-034 are reaffirmed and the MSF authorizes the MSF Fund Manager to implement the terms of this resolution.

Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner

Nays: None

Recused: None

Lansing, Michigan
April 16, 2024

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
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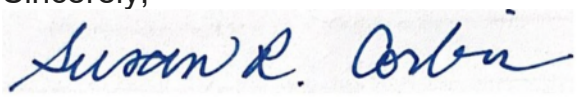
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Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MEMORANDUM

Date: **April 16, 2024**

To: **Michigan Strategic Fund Board**

From: **Christine Whitz, Managing Director, CD & Federal Programs Compliance**
Greg West, Manager, Federal Programs
Bill Povalla, Senior Specialist for CDBG Disaster Recovery

Subject: **Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program**
Disaster Recovery 2020 & 2021

Request

- MEDC staff is requesting up to $40,000,000. in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding for 2020 Disasters in Midland County, Saginaw County and Gladwin County for infrastructure/public facilities improvements as identified in the Action Plan and
- MEDC staff is also requesting up to $15,917,600. In CDBG-DR funding for 2021 Disasters in Wayne County, excluding the City of Detroit and City of Dearborn for infrastructure improvements as identified in the Action Plan.

Background

On May 23, 2023, the MSF board approved the 2020 & 2021 Disaster Recovery Action Plan ("Action Plan") by Resolution 2023-091. The Action Plan describes the State's analysis and our plan to allocate funding to a combination of infrastructure/ public facilities, planning related to mitigation and resiliency and multifamily housing tied back to the disasters.

On June 27, 2023, the MSF board approved an Amendment #1 to the Action Plan by Resolution 2023-095. This amendment was for an additional allocation of $7,864,000 in CDBG-DR funds, made by HUD to the State of Michigan for disasters occurring in 2021 in Wayne County. The City of Detroit and City of Dearborn are excluded from the State's CDBG-DR allocation because they received a direct CDBG-DR allocation from HUD.

Link to the Action Plan as related to "Grantee Proposed Use of Funds":

https://www.miplace.org/4916f7/globalassets/documents/cdbg/resources/medc-action-plan_508.pdf

On May 22, 2023, MEDC staff opened the application process to cities, counties, and townships to submit applications for infrastructure and public facilities related to the disasters occurring in 2020 and 2021. The deadline for application submittal was August 20, 2023

MEDC staff reviewed the applications along with its consultants ICF. After consultation with the various applicants who prioritized their projects most important to their community, a decision was made as to which project applications would be submitted for funding.

Information regarding application, program guidelines and scoring criteria can also be found on our website:

https://www.miplace.org/programs/community-development-block-grant/disaster-relief/

There were a total of 8 communities that applied for the 2020 CDBG-DR and 5 communities applied for 2021 CDBG-DR funding. **Exhibit A** includes the CBDG-DR applicants and grant amount requested.

The MEDC staff has concluded that the projects meet the minimum program requirements and screening guidelines to be eligible under the CDBG-DR program and recommends that the projects be awarded grant funds as detailed in Exhibit A.

CDBG-DR grant awards will be contingent on completion of due diligence and availability of funds.

Recommendation
MEDC Staff recommends the MSF approve:

- Up to $40,000,000. in CDBG-DR funding for infrastructure/public facilities improvements detailed in Exhibit A and required due to the 2020 Disasters in Midland County, Saginaw County and Gladwin County and

- Up to $15,917,600. in CDBG-DR funding for infrastructure improvements detailed in Exhibit A required due to the 2021 Disasters in Wayne County, excluding the City of Detroit and City of Dearborn.

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND

RESOLUTION 2024-065

APPROVAL OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM (CDBG-DR) 2020 & 2021 INFRASTRUCTURE/PUBLIC FACILITIES PROJECTS AND CDBG-DR MSF PRESIDENT OR MSF FUND MANAGER AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, Executive Order 1999-1, issued pursuant to Article V of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and the laws of State of Michigan, consolidated the State's economic development functions and programs and their accompanying powers of the Michigan Strategic Fund ("MSF");

WHEREAS, Executive Order 1999-1 transferred from the Michigan Jobs Commission to the MSF all authority, powers, duties, functions, grants, and responsibilities, including the functions of budgeting, procurement, personnel, and management related functions, of the Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") program;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 2023-1 stated that the MSF retain the administration of the CDBG Disaster Recovery Program, the CDBG Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act program and CDBG Program related to the 2022 CDBG annual program allocation and all prior year allocations;

WHEREAS, on May 23, 2023, by Resolution 2023-091, the MSF board approved the 2020 & 2021 Disaster Recovery Action Plan ("Action Plan").

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2023, by Resolution 2023-095, the MSF board approved an Amendment #1 to the Action Plan regarding an additional allocation of $7,864,000 in CDBG-DR funds for disasters occurring in 2021 in Wayne County

WHEREAS, the MEDC staff has reviewed all applications for eligibility under the CDBG-DR Action Plan and concluded that the projects in the attached **Exhibit A** meet the minimum program requirements and screening guidelines to be eligible under the CDBG-DR Action Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the MSF Board approves the grant awards identified in Exhibit A as eligible under the Action Plan and CDBG-DR guidelines subject to completion of due diligence and available CDBG-DR funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the MSF Fund Manager or the MSF President shall negotiate the terms and conditions and execute all final documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution and award the grants in accordance with the Action Plan and Exhibit A.

Ayes:	Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner
Nays:	None
Recused:	None

Lansing, Michigan
April 16, 2024

Exhibit A

2020 Disaster Recovery Projects

Applicant/Communities	Project Description	Requested Amount - Individual award amounts may be adjusted by the Fund Manager up to 5% to account for administrative/ environmental costs and up to 20% for project cost increases
City of Gladwin	Campground & Park Project**:** The project will provide erosion control, reconstruction, and relocation of campsites, shower facilities, and a ranger station to higher ground to mitigate future flooding and damage.	$1,904,243
City of Gladwin	Rebuild of a 4,148 square foot Community Center. The new facility will be utilized as a safety shelter in emergencies (cooling/warming center) as well as being open for community use.	$1,331,235
Village of Sanford	Building of a Community Center which will be utilized as an evacuation center and safety shelter.	$6.005,270
Village of Sanford	Tile extension as well as the installation of storm sewers throughout a major subdivision which saw major flooding during the 2020 disaster	$4,396,504
Saginaw Township	Construction of an access drive to the Center Road pump station to allow access during high water events. Installation of a natural gas generator replacing the electrical two feed generator which has gone off- line numerous times and has resulted in basement backups and sanitary sewer overflow.	$1,500,000
City of Beaverton	Ross Lake improvements: dredging of the lake and shoring up shoreline	$1,918,330
City of Beaverton	Tonkin Street and Brown Street infrastructure: sewer separation and culver improvement project.	$3,172,833

City of Midland	Woody Debris Project: Opening channel and streams for storm water conveyance system.	$2,665,000
City of Midland	Rebuilding degraded streets from flooding disaster project: Baker, Bookness, Algin, Fitzhugh, Glendale, Pine, Reardon, State, Union, and Walter Court	$7,373,888
Gladwin County	Construction of 8 fire wells to provide firefighting capacity in rural areas.	$1,500,000
Saginaw County Dept. of Public Works	King Street tile drain-flood protection project	$4,975,100
Saginaw County Dept. of Transportation	Rebuilding a bridge over Lamb Creek	$1,304,217
TOTAL Projected Actual amount not to exceed $40,000,000		**38,046,620**

2021 Disaster Recovery Projects

Applicant/Communities	Project Description	Requested Amount - Individual award amounts may be adjusted by the Fund Manager up to 5% to account for administrative/ environmental costs and up to 20% for project cost increases
Dearborn Heights	Replacement of 2 bridges which are dual steel pipe culverts with earthen fill with a single span bridge that properly accommodates the hydraulics of Ecorse Creek.	$2,091,000
Cityof Southgate	Sanitary sewer lining project: Argyle, Commonwealth, Chestnut, Phelps, Veronica, and Mercer Streets.	$1,610,706
City of Lincoln Park	Sanitary sewer lining project: 38 locations in the city, 9,275 linear feet of pipe.	$1,513,706

City of Lincoln Park	Sanitary sewer lining project: 55 locations in sewer segments, 13,737 linear feet of pipe.	$1,233,488
City of Melvindale	Sanitary sewer lining project: Robert St., Harmon St, Hannah St., Wood St., Coleman St., and Oakwood Blvd.	$1,233,488
City of Melvindale	Sanitary sewer lining project: Coleman St, Reed, Henry, Allen, and Ruth St.	$1,332,318
City of Ecorse	Pump station and backup generator installation: 4373 High St.	$711,070
City of Ecorse	Sanitary sewer rehabilitation project	$2,744,588
TOTAL Projected Actual amount not to exceed $15,917,600		**11,236,876**

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
DIRECTOR

January 21, 2022

Ms. Katelyn Wilcox
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

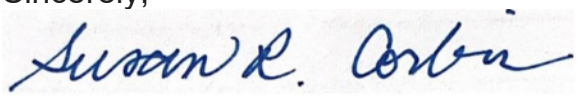
Re: Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Designees

Dear Ms. Wilcox:

Pursuant to MCLA 16.51, I hereby confirm my designation of John Groen and Jonathan Smith as the persons authorized and empowered to act in my stead as a member of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board for scheduled meetings or portions thereof that I am unable to attend.

If you need anything additional, please contact Diane Burton at (517) 230-5454. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Susan R. Corbin
Director

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

Ms. Rhonda Bishop
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund Office
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Bishop:

I hereby confirm and ratify my designation of Michael B. Kapp, Administrator, Michigan Department of Transportation, as the person authorized and empowered to act in my stead for Michigan Strategic Fund meetings that I am unable to attend.

Sincerely,

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MEMORANDUM

Date: **April 16, 2024**

To: **Michigan Strategic Fund Board**

From: **Debbie Stehlik, Commercial Real Estate Investment Manager**

Subject: **Request for Re-Approval of a Michigan Community Revitalization Program (MCRP) Grant and Direct Loan**
Albion Reinvestment Corporation and OZB Phase I, LLC – Phase I Big Albion Plan

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Request

Albion Reinvestment Corporation and OZB Phase I, LLC (the "Company") are requesting re-approval of a $1,500,000 Michigan Community Revitalization Program (the "MCRP") performance-based Grant award and a $2,380,000 MCRP performance-based Direct Loan award in order to allow additional time to finalize and execute the MCRP agreements.

Background

On March 28, 2023, the Michigan Strategic Fund Board (the "MSF") approved a $1,500,000 MCRP performance-based Grant award and a $2,380,000 MCRP performance-based Direct Loan award for the Company for the purpose of redeveloping nine functionally obsolete properties to create twenty residential units and nine new commercial spaces in downtown Albion. The project represents the first phase of a much broader revitalization plan which ultimately intends to redevelop over twenty buildings throughout the historic downtown district. Upon completion, the initial investment will transform almost an entire block of downtown Albion into vibrant, mixed-use spaces for new residents and small businesses.

Due to administration changes at Albion College and a longer than anticipated timeframe for finalizing the Part 2 application for historic tax credits, the parties have been unable to execute the final agreement in order to effectuate the approval; therefore, staff is requesting re-approval of the awards under the originally approved terms.

See attached "Original Approval" for the specific terms of the incentives and additional project information.

Recommendation

MEDC staff recommends re-authorization of the approval of the following for up to 180 days:

a) A MCRP performance-based Grant in an amount up to $1,500,000 for Albion Reinvestment Corporation and OZB Phase I, LLC.

b) A MCRP performance-based Direct Loan in an amount up to $2,380,000 for Albion Reinvestment Corporation and OZB Phase I, LLC, on terms and conditions outlined in Appendix C found in the original approval.

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

ORIGINAL APPROVAL

MEMORANDUM

Date: **March 28, 2023**

To: **Michigan Strategic Fund Board**

From: **Michelle Audette-Bauman, Senior Community Development Manager**
Julius L. Edwards, Director, Commercial Real Estate Investment
Debbie Stehlik, Commercial Real Estate Investment Manager
Lisa Edmonds, Senior Program Specialist, MCRP and Brownfield

Subject: **Request for Approval of a Michigan Community Revitalization Program (MCRP) Grant and Direct Loan and an Act 381 Work Plan**
Albion Reinvestment Corporation and OZB Phase I, LLC and City of Albion Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (BRA) – Phase I Big Albion Plan

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Project Summary & Request

Albion Reinvestment Corporation and OZB Phase I, LLC (the "Applicant" and the "Co-Applicant") are proposing to redevelop nine functionally obsolete properties to create twenty residential units and nine new commercial spaces in downtown Albion. In addition to activating almost 29,000 square feet of long-vacant space, the project will utilize Federal Historic Tax Credits to ensure historic rehabilitation of the buildings, many of which are over 150 years old. Due to the deteriorated condition of the properties, almost every surface will need to be restored or replaced. The project represents the first phase of a much broader revitalization plan which ultimately intends to redevelop over twenty buildings throughout the historic downtown district; bringing this effort to fruition has involved many years of planning and coordination among local partners and community stakeholders. Upon completion, the initial investment will transform almost an entire block of downtown Albion into vibrant, mixed-use spaces for new residents and small businesses. To realize this important community development project, the Applicants are requesting a Michigan Community Revitalization Program (the "MCRP") Performance-Based Grant of $1,500,000 and a Performance-Based Direct Loan of $2,380,000 for a total award of $3,880,000; additionally, the City of Albion Brownfield Redevelopment Authority is requesting approval of state tax capture of $806,580.

PROJECT SUMMARY	
Project Eligibility	Functionally Obsolete
Total Approximate Square Feet Revitalized	28,969
Estimated # of Residential Units	20
Estimated Commercial Square Footage	10,093
Current Taxable Value	$190,000
Projected Taxable Value at Completion	$2,900,000
Total Anticipated Capital Investment	$9,409,500
Total Anticipated Value of Local Support	$1,500,000
Brownfield TIF / State Capture Request	$806,580
MCRP Grant Request	$1,500,000

MCRP Loan Request	$2,380,000

The project is a very high priority for the City of Albion and Albion College as it will transform a mostly vacant block of downtown, activating nine prominent historic buildings, creating a significant number of new housing units, as well as new spaces for small businesses. The community has also prioritized this project because it continues positive momentum in the downtown district, complementing other nearby investments such as a downtown grocery, chocolate shop, bakery, brewery, and new residential units, including the Brick Street Lofts project supported by the Michigan Strategic Fund in 2020. The project supports the MEDC strategic focus area to develop attractive places by activating underutilized property and increasing density, as well as by leveraging investment in a Geographically Disadvantaged Business Location. The project aligns with MCRP program guidelines by contributing to a traditional downtown district in a Certified Redevelopment Ready Community, supporting priorities around housing options identified in the community Master Plan, and preserving important historic resources. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the project design and determined it will have no negative impact; additionally, the rehabilitation of the historic resource is anticipated to meet the federal Secretary of the Interior's standards for rehabilitation and guidelines for rehabilitating historic buildings (36 CFR 67).

On December 21, 2011, the MSF Board approved the Michigan Community Revitalization Program (the "MCRP") and on January 25, 2022, the MSF Board approved its restated program guidelines. As required under the MCRP, all statutory criteria for the project have been considered when making the recommendations in this memo. The project meets the MCRP Guidelines and programmatic requirements, and a financial review has been completed.

Act 381 of 1996 (the "Act"), as amended, authorizes the MSF to approve Work Plans that include the capture of the School Operating Millage and State Education Tax millages for the purpose of supporting projects statewide. On March 23, 2021, the MSF Board approved the Brownfield Tax Increment Financing MSF Program Guidelines (the "Guidelines"). As required under the Act, all statutory criteria for the project have been considered when making the recommendations in this memo. The project meets the Brownfield TIF Guidelines and programmatic requirements, and a financial review has been completed.

Demonstrated Needs

The project's financial gap is driven by the significant costs associated with historic rehabilitation of long-vacant properties, including replacement of all major building systems, restoration of historic features, addition of fire suppression and elevator, and environmental remediation activities. Market rate commercial and residential rents in downtown Albion limit the amount of cash flow the project can generate making it difficult to secure adequate private sources to fully fund the project, which in addition to high renovation costs, is driving the need for MCRP support. The development team is bringing approximately 44% equity in the form of an Opportunity Zone investment, as well as approximately $1,360,000 in Historic Tax Credit Equity or 14% of the project. In addition, the City of Albion has approved a local Brownfield plan valued at approximately $697,300 and anticipates approval of an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act (OPRA) abatement valued at approximately $793,672. Even with MCRP support, the development is projected to generate a return on equity of approximately 1.0% from operations over a 20-year period. Without financial support from the MCRP program, the project would not be financially viable.

Local Support

Local support for the project includes a 12-year Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act (OPRA) tax abatement with an estimate value of approximately $793,672 and the local portion of the Brownfield plan valued at approximately $697,300.

Applicant Background / Qualifications

Albion Reinvestment Corporation (ARC) and OZB Phase I, LLC are the "Applicant" and "Co-Applicant" for this project. Albion Reinvestment Corporation is a nonprofit organization founded with the mission to receive and administer funds and property to combat community deterioration in the downtown business district of the City of Albion and surrounding areas. OZB Phase I, LLC is a single purpose entity created to facilitate Opportunity Zone and Historic Tax Credit Equity investment into this project. Members of OZB Phase I, LLC include Albion Reinvestment Corporation and Albion College.

Albion Reinvestment Corporation is led by Dr. Samuel Shaheen, who among many other roles, is also CEO and President of Shaheen Development, a family-owned, community-based real estate development company which owns and manages more than two million square feet of residential, mixed-use, and commercial real estate in the Great Lakes Bay Region. In addition to many successful projects in the Great Lakes Bay Region, Dr. Shaheen has also been involved with prior investments in Albion, including the Downtown Albion Hotel project which brought a national flag hotel to the downtown core. In addition to his role as President of the Albion Reinvestment Corporation, Dr. Shaheen also serves on the Albion College Board of Trustees, Temple Arts Foundation Board (formerly the Saginaw Art Museum and the Temple Theatre Foundation), Great Lakes Region Advisory Board of Huntington National Bank, and is a past chair of Covenant Healthcare Mackinaw Surgery Center. Dr. Shaheen has been involved in a number of prior projects that have received support from the Michigan Strategic Fund, including:

- Uptown Block D Development – Bay City (MCRP/Brownfield TIF/MBT 2020)
- Downtown Albion Hotel Project – Albion (MCRP/Brownfield TIF 2017)
- 102 East Main Street – Midland (MCRP/Brownfield 2014)
- 900 Block South Washington – Saginaw (Brownfield MBT 2011)
- Uptown at Rivers Edge – Bay City (Brownfield MBT 2011)
- 999 South Washington – Saginaw (Small Brownfield Credit 2007)
- Michigan Cardio Institute – Saginaw (Small Brownfield Credit 2004)

Albion College is an undergraduate, liberal arts college founded in 1835. Today, there are approximately 1,500 students enrolled at the college, which is located just steps away from historic downtown Albion. The college is guided by a thirty-three-member Board of Trustees and has been involved with several community-focused initiatives in the past and present.

An Organizational Chart for Albion Reinvestment Corporation (ARC) and OZB Phase I, LLC is provided in Appendix A. Background checks have been completed in accordance with the MSF Background Review Policy and the project may proceed for MSF consideration.

Financial Highlights

- Construction cost per square foot is $298.44.
- Rental rates are projected between $775 and $925 for the 13 one-bedroom units and between $1,150 and $1,500 for the seven (7) two-bedroom units, with an average of $1.25 per square foot. These rates fall between 60-100% of Area Median Income (AMI) for Calhoun County.
- Commercial space is projected to lease between $7.00 and $10.00 per square foot.
- Owner equity contribution of approximately $4,169,500 or 44.3% and Federal Historic Tax Credit Equity estimated at $1,360,000 or just over 14%, for total equity of over 58%.
- Developer return over a 20-year timeframe is projected at 0.7% from operations.
- Albion College will be the primary investor in OZB Phase I, LLC.

From the materials received and reviewed, staff considers the project to be financially and economically sound. A detailed Sources and Uses and financial terms for the MCRP Incentive are included in Appendix C.

A project map and renderings are included in Appendix B and a MSF Eligible Activities and Tax Capture Summary are included in Appendix D.

Recommendation

MEDC staff recommends approval of the following (the "Recommendation"):

a) State tax capture for Act 381 eligible activities capped at $806,580, utilizing the current state to local capture ratio. Any change in millage that increases the capture percentage of school taxes in the ratio by more than five percentage points must be approved by the MSF Board.

b) A MCRP performance-based Grant in an amount up to $1,500,000 for Albion Reinvestment Corporation and OZB Phase I, LLC.

c) A MCRP performance-based Direct Loan in an amount up to $2,380,000 for Albion Reinvestment Corporation and OZB Phase I, LLC, on terms and conditions outlined in Exhibit A found in the resolution.

APPENDIX A – Organizational Chart

Organizational Structure

Company Name: Albion Reinvestment Corporation
Employer Identification Number: 81-0880143
MANAGER: Samuel Shaheen

Member	Ownership Interest Totals	EINs -No Soc Sec numbers	State of Organization
Albion Reinvestment Corporation	**100.00%**	81-0880143	Michigan
Appointee: Dr. Samuel Shaheen			
Appointee: Mr. Jeff Petherick			
Guarantee section is not required for TIF-only requests.	**100.00%**		

Key Principals/Guarantors:	**Amount of Guarantee**

Organizational Structure

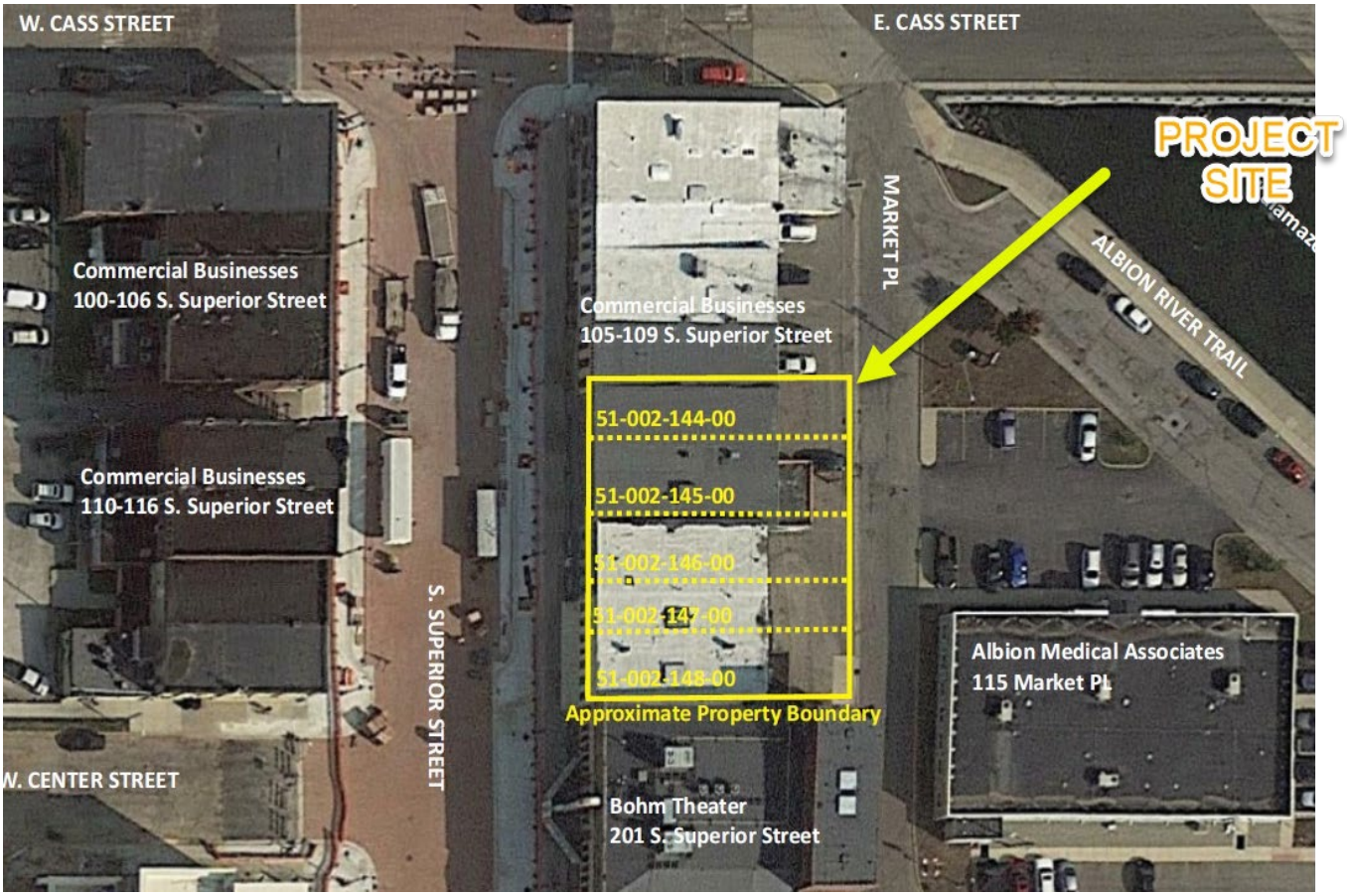
Company Name: OZB Phase I, LLC
Employer Identification Number: 84-4609699
MANAGER: Samuel Shaheen

Member	Ownership Interest Totals	EINs -No Soc Sec numbers	State of Organization
Albion Reinvestment Corporation	**6.00%**	81-0880143	Michigan
Appointee: Dr. Samuel Shaheen			
Appointee: Mr. Jeff Petherick			
Albion College	**94.00%**	38-1359081	Michigan
Appointee: Mr. Gary Black			
Guarantee section is not required for TIF-only requests.	**100.00%**		

Key Principals/Guarantors:	**Amount of Guarantee**
Albion Reinvestment Corporation	6%
Albion College	94%

APPENDIX B – Project Map and Renderings




W. CASS STREET
E. CASS STREET
PROJECT SITE
MARKET PL
ALBION RIVER TRAIL
Commercial Businesses
100-106 S. Superior Street
Commercial Businesses
105-109 S. Superior Street
Commercial Businesses
110-116 S. Superior Street
51-002-144-00
51-002-145-00
51-002-146-00
51-002-147-00
51-002-148-00
Approximate Property Boundary
S. SUPERIOR STREET
W. CENTER STREET
Albion Medical Associates
115 Market Pl
Bohm Theater
201 S. Superior Street


101 - 119 S. SUPERIOR

APPENDIX C – Financial Terms

Summary of Development Sources:

MSF Loan	$	2,380,000	25.29%
MSF Grant	$	1,500,000	15.94%
FHTC Equity	$	1,360,000	14.46%
Owner/Developer Equity	$	4,169,500	44.31%
TOTAL	**$**	**9,409,500**	**100.00%**

Summary of Development Uses:

Acquisition	$	0
Hard Construction Costs	$	8,645,500
Eligible Soft Costs	$	631,550
Other	$	132,450
TOTAL	**$**	**9,409,500**

Incentive Terms

Grantees/Borrowers: Albion Reinvestment Corporation and/or OZB Phase I, LLC

Total Capital Investment: Currently estimated at $9,409,500

MSF Eligible Investment: Currently estimated at $7,773,171

Minimum Eligible Investment: Currently estimated at $6,218,540

Total MSF Award: Up to the lesser of 50% of "Eligible Investment" or $3,880,000. The project is eligible for an award of up to 50% of eligible investment because the population of the City of Albion is less than 15,000.

Funding/Disbursement: The MSF will fund up to $3,880,000 to be disbursed following demonstration of the completion of all project investment for the Project as required by the MSF, including the issuance of a certificate of occupancy on terms and conditions satisfactory to the MSF. If requested, MSF may allow for the assignment of the Grant rights and responsibilities to a lender, per section 8.8 of the Grant Agreement.

Reserves: Currently anticipated to be over $765,000 in construction reserves and contingencies.

Other Conditions: The MSF's investment will be contingent upon the following:

- Executed Construction Documents (including a Fixed Price construction contract).
- Final Development Budget
- Documentation of National Park Service Historic Preservation Certification Part 2 Approval.
- Evidence of Historic Tax Credit final commitment, including Equity Pay-In schedule.
- Minimum owner equity contribution of $4,169,500.

- Other legal due diligence documentation, as may be required.

MSF Incentive #1:	MCRP Performance-Based Grant
Grant Amount:	$1,500,000
MSF Incentive #2:	Performance-Based Direct Loan
Loan Amount:	$2,380,000
Term:	Anticipated to be 120 months
Interest Rate:	0.50% per annum
Repayment Terms:	Monthly interest only payments for up to 120 months, with principal due at maturity
Collateral:	Anticipated to be a first priority security interest in all subject properties, an assignment of rents and leases, and a security interest in the TIF reimbursements.
Guarantees:	Anticipated to be the personal and/or corporate guaranties of managing members.
MSF Fees:	1.0% of the Loan Amount**.** In addition, the borrower will be responsible for any third-party costs incurred in closing the MSF Incentives.

APPENDIX D – MSF Eligible Activities Summary

In order to alleviate brownfield conditions and prepare the site for redevelopment, the City of Albion, a Qualified Local Governmental Unit, has duly approved a brownfield plan for this property on September 6, 2022. The property has been determined to be deemed functionally obsolete as verified by a Michigan Master Assessing Officer (MMAO) assessor on November 2, 2019.

There are 63.6076 non-homestead mills available for capture, with State mills from school operating and SET millages equaling 23.9424 mills (37.64%) and local millage equaling 39.66520 mills (62.36%). Tax increment capture will begin in 2024 and is estimated to continue for 22 years. The state tax capture is recommended to be capped at $806,580, which is the amount of tax increment revenue anticipated to be generated in 22 years. The tax capture ratio is impacted by the Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act (OPRA) tax abatement, and the blended ratio is included below. Total MSF eligible activities are estimated at $1,503,880. MSF eligible activities breaks down as follows:

Tax Capture Summary:

State tax capture	(53.63%)	$	806,580
Local tax capture	(46.37%)	$	697,300
TOTAL		**$**	**1,503,880**

Cost of MSF Eligible Activities

Demolition	$	1,225,983
Lead, Asbestos, or Mold Abatement		65,000
Sub-Total	$	1,290,983
Contingency (15%)	+	192,897
Sub-Total	$	1,483,880
Brownfield/Work Plan Preparation	+	20,000
TOTAL	**$**	**1,503,880**

Key Statutory Criteria

Per section 15 of Act 381, the Michigan Strategic Fund shall consider the following criteria to the extent reasonably applicable to the type of activities proposed as part of that work plan when approving or denying a work plan:

a) **Overall Benefit to the Public:**
The Project will transform an underutilized property into a mixed-use property. By doing so, this development will create jobs and further increase urban density in the City of Albion. Promoting a dense, urban environment benefits the community through more efficient delivery of goods and services in both the private and public sectors.

b) **Jobs Created (Excluding Construction and other Indirect Jobs):**
This project is expected to create approximately eight new, full-time equivalent jobs with an average hourly wage of $14.50.

c) Area of High Unemployment:
The City of Albion unadjusted jobless rate was 4.5% in December 2022.

d) Level and Extent of Contamination Alleviated:
The project is not qualifying as a facility and the presence, or lack of, contamination has not been determined.

e) Reuse of Functionally Obsolete Buildings and/or Redevelopment of Blighted Property:
On November 2, 2019 and August 15, 2022, the City of Albion Assessing Department determined the property to be "functionally obsolete" as the term defined in Section 2(c) of Act 381.

f) Whether Project will Create a New Brownfield Property in the State:
No new Brownfields will be created by this project.

g) Whether the Project is Financially and Economically Sound:
From the materials received, the MEDC infers that the project is financially and economically sound.

h) Other Factors Considered:
No additional factors need to be considered for this project.

MCRP Programmatic Requirements

MCRP Program and Guidelines

On December 21, 2011, the MSF Board approved the Michigan Community Revitalization Program (MCRP) and on January 25, 2022, the MSF Board approved its restated program guidelines. The primary intended objective of the MCRP is to provide incentives to persons that make eligible investments on eligible property in Michigan. It is the role of the MEDC staff to review for eligibility, completeness, and adherence to the program, the information provided by the applicant and to manage the MSF's investment. As required under the MCRP, all statutory criteria for the project have been considered. The project meets the MCRP Guidelines and a financial review has been completed.

As required under the MCRP, the following statutory criteria have been reviewed:

A. The importance of the project to the community in which it is located:
The project is a very high priority for the City of Albion as it will transform a mostly vacant block of downtown, activating nine prominent historic buildings and creating a significant number of new housing units, as well as new spaces for small businesses. The community has also prioritized this project because it continues positive momentum in the downtown district, complementing other nearby investments such as a downtown grocery, chocolate shop, bakery, brewery, and new residential units.

B. If the project will act as a catalyst for additional revitalization of the community in which it is located:
This project will act as a catalyst for additional revitalization in the community as new residents of the development spend dollars on goods and services in the surrounding area. Successful completion of the project is also anticipated to encourage investment in nearby properties that are underutilized or in need of revitalization.

C. The amount of local community and financial support for the project:
Local support for the project includes a 12-year Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act (OPRA) tax abatement with an estimate value of approximately $793,672 and the local portion of the Brownfield plan valued at approximately $697,300.

D. The applicant's financial need for a community revitalization incentive:
The project's financial need is driven by the extensive costs associated with the historic rehabilitation of long-vacant properties. In addition, market rate commercial and residential rents in downtown Albion limit the amount of cash flow the project can generate making it difficult to secure adequate private sources to fully fund the project, which in addition to high renovation costs, is driving the need for MCRP support. The development team is bringing approximately 44% equity in the form of Opportunity Zone investment, as well as anticipated to generate approximately $1,360,000 in Historic Tax Credit Equity or 14% of the project cost. In addition, the City of Albion has approved a local Brownfield plan valued at approximately $697,301 and anticipates approval of an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act (OPRA) abatement valued at approximately $793,671. Even with MCRP support, the projected return on equity is just above zero at 0.70% from operations over a 20-year period. The revitalization of these vacant historic properties into mixed-use developments that will create new housing units and commercial space for small businesses within the traditional downtown district would not be feasible without this support.

E. The extent of reuse of vacant buildings, reuse of historical buildings, and redevelopment of blighted property:
The project will reuse nine vacant and historic buildings in downtown Albion.

F. Creation of jobs:
The project is expected to create eight full-time equivalent jobs with an average hourly wage estimated to be $14.50.

G. The level of private sector and other contributions, including, but not limited to, federal funds and federal tax credits:
Total private sector and other contributions are anticipated to total $5,529,500.

H. Whether the project is financially and economically sound:
The development team is contributing equity of approximately $4,169,500 or 44.3%. Along with an estimated $1,360,000, or 14%, in Federal Historic Tax Credit Equity, total equity contribution will be over 58%. In addition, the proposed MSF loan incentive is the only anticipated debt on the project which will provide additional financial flexibility. The proposed rental rates are in line with comparable properties. Staff considers the project to be financially and economically sound.

I. Whether the project increases the density of the area:
The project increases density of the area by converting currently vacant space into new residential and commercial units that will bring new residents and small businesses to the downtown district. The improvements fully-activate nine underutilized buildings to provide a vibrant new mixed-use component to the downtown.

J. Whether the project promotes mixed-use development and walkable communities:
The project promotes mixed-use development and walkability by adding both residential and commercial space within walking distance to local businesses, downtown employers, cultural attractions, public spaces, and other community amenities.

K. Whether the project converts abandoned public buildings to private use:
The project does not involve abandoned public buildings.

L. Whether the project promotes sustainable development:
The project will promote sustainable development by incorporating environmentally responsible construction elements such as installing a cool roof with insulation, utilizing energy star appliances, high efficiency furnaces and mechanical systems, and water saving fixtures. Additionally, all Lead Based Paint (LBP) and Asbestos materials will be abated.

M. Whether the project involves the rehabilitation of a historic resource:
The project will rehabilitate nine historic buildings in downtown Albion. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the project design and determined it will have no negative impact; additionally, the rehabilitation of the historic resource is anticipated to meet the federal Secretary of the Interior's standards for rehabilitation and guidelines for rehabilitating historic buildings (36 CFR 67).

N. Whether the project addresses area-wide redevelopment:
The project will address area-wide redevelopment by creating new housing units that will help meet demand for diverse housing types in the City of Albion. Bringing more housing units to the downtown area will also help support existing small businesses and drive demand for new commercial enterprises in the district. Adding new housing and commercial spaces will also support area employers seeking to attract and retain talent that is looking for high quality housing within walking distance of vibrant and attractive places.

O. Whether the project addresses underserved markets of commerce:
The project addresses underserved markets of commerce by providing high quality housing in the City of Albion, which has identified diversification of their housing stock as a key need in their Master Plan. Additionally, the project leverages significant private investment in a Geographically Disadvantaged Business Location.

P. The level and extent of environmental contamination:
Based on the age of the buildings it is presumed they contain lead-based paint and asbestos containing materials (e.g. pipe wrap insulation, floor tile, mastic, window caulking and glazing) that will require abatement prior to interior demolition and renovation.

Q. If the rehabilitation of the historic resource will meet the federal Secretary of the Interior's standards for rehabilitation and guidelines for rehabilitating historic buildings (36 CFR 67):
The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the project design and determined it will have no negative impact; additionally, the rehabilitation of the historic resource is anticipated to meet the federal Secretary of the Interior’s standards for rehabilitation and guidelines for rehabilitating historic buildings (36 CFR 67).

R. Whether the project will compete with or affect existing Michigan businesses within the same industry:
The project will not compete with or affect existing Michigan businesses.

S. Any other additional criteria approved by the board that are specific to each individual project and are consistent with the findings and intent of this chapter:
There are no additional criteria associated with the project.

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND

RESOLUTION 2024-066

RE-APPROVAL OF MICHIGAN COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM PERFORMANCE-BASED GRANT AND DIRECT LOAN AWARDS TO ALBION REINVESTMENT CORPORATION AND OZB PHASE I, LLC

WHEREAS, the Michigan legislature amended the Michigan Strategic Fund Act, MCL 125.2001 et. seq. (the "Act"), to add Chapter 8C (being MCL 125.2090 – MCL 125.2090d) to enable the Michigan Strategic Fund (the "MSF") to create and operate the Michigan Community Revitalization Program (the "MCRP") to provide incentives in the form of grants, loans and other economic assistance for redevelopment of communities in Michigan;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (the "MEDC") provides administrative services to the MSF for the MCRP;

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2011, by Resolution 2011-185, the MSF (i) created the MCRP and (ii) adopted the guidelines for the MCRP, as later amended on January 25, 2022 (the "Guidelines");

WHEREAS, pursuant to SFCR 125.2090-1, (the "Delegation") the MSF approved the MSF Fund Manager or the MSF President to negotiate the terms and conditions and execute all final documents necessary to effectuate awards and decisions approved under the MCRP; (the "Transaction Documents");

WHEREAS, the Act and the Delegation require that MCRP awards over $1 million must be approved by the MSF Board;

WHEREAS, by Resolution 2023-058 on March 28, 2023, the MSF Board awarded a MCRP performance-based Grant award of $1,500,000 and a performance-based Direct Loan award of $2,380,000 to Albion Reinvestment Corporation and OZB Phase I, LLC (the "Company"), in furtherance of the project up to a total of $3,880,000 (the "Award");

WHEREAS, the Applicant was unable to execute the Transaction Documents and is requesting re-approval of the Award;

WHEREAS, the MEDC is recommending that the MSF re-approve the Award, with all requirements from the original approval remaining in place for the Award; and

WHEREAS, the Company is requesting and the MEDC is recommending the MSF re-approve the Award subject to: (i) available funding, (ii) final due diligence performed to the satisfaction of the MEDC; and (iii) execution of the Transaction Documents within 180 days of the date of this Resolution (the "Time Period"), or this Resolution shall have no effect (collectively, the "MCRP Award Recommendation").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the MSF Board approves the MCRP Award Recommendation.

Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner

Nays: None

Recused: None

Lansing, Michigan
April 16, 2024

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
DIRECTOR

January 21, 2022

Ms. Katelyn Wilcox
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

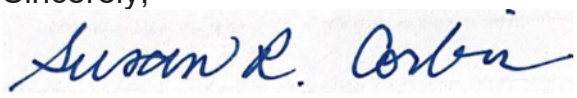
Re: Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Designees

Dear Ms. Wilcox:

Pursuant to MCLA 16.51, I hereby confirm my designation of John Groen and Jonathan Smith as the persons authorized and empowered to act in my stead as a member of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board for scheduled meetings or portions thereof that I am unable to attend.

If you need anything additional, please contact Diane Burton at (517) 230-5454. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Susan R. Corbin
Director

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

Ms. Rhonda Bishop
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund Office
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Bishop:

I hereby confirm and ratify my designation of Michael B. Kapp, Administrator, Michigan Department of Transportation, as the person authorized and empowered to act in my stead for Michigan Strategic Fund meetings that I am unable to attend.

Sincerely,

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MEMORANDUM

Date: **April 16, 2024**

To: **Michigan Strategic Fund Board**

From: **Jake Winder, Director of Community Development Incentives**

Subject: **Request for Approval of a Michigan Community Revitalization Program Grant Agreement Amendment #2**
1108 Water Street, LLC

Request

1108 Water Street, LLC ("Company") is requesting approval of an amendment to the Michigan Community Revitalization Program Grant Agreement ("Agreement") and any related ancillary agreements. The amendment request dated March 6, 2024, includes a request to extend Milestones Two and Three by 12 months, and extend the term of the agreement by 12 months. All other terms of the current Agreement will remain the same.

Background

The Michigan Strategic Fund Board approved a $1,499,301 Michigan Community Revitalization Program ("MCRP") Performance-Based Grant on April 26, 2022, to the Company for the purpose of rehabilitating two vacant, historic buildings in downtown Bay City, resulting in approximately 11,448 square feet of commercial space and three new residential apartments.

An amendment to the project was approved on August 23, 2022, to allow for an assignment of the Grant to the Bank of Ann Arbor.

During the course of construction, the development team discovered extensive environmental contamination that needed to be abated before they could move forward. The Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) contributed approximately $500,000 to help with the cleanup, and the project is back on track. However, due to the significant delay caused by the discovery of the contamination, the development team is requesting an extension of their remaining Milestones.

The project is moving forward and should be completed by early 2025. The company is current with reporting requirements.

Recommendation

The MEDC staff recommends approval of an amendment to the MCRP Grant Agreement and any related ancillary agreements to extend Milestones Two and Three by 12 months, and extend the term of the agreement by 12 months, per the Company's request dated March 6, 2024.

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND

RESOLUTION 2024-067

APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO A MICHIGAN COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM GRANT AWARD FOR 1108 WATER STREET, LLC

WHEREAS, the Michigan legislature amended the Michigan Strategic Fund Act, MCL 125.2001 et. seq. (the "Act"), to add Chapter 8C (being MCL 125.2090 – MCL 125.2090d) to enable the Michigan Strategic Fund (the "MSF") to create and operate the Michigan Community Revitalization Program (the "MCRP") to provide incentives in the form of grants, loans and other economic assistance for redevelopment of communities in Michigan;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (the "MEDC") provides administrative services to the MSF for the MCRP;

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2011, by Resolution 2011-185, the MSF (i) created the MCRP, (ii) adopted the guidelines for the MCRP, as later amended on January 25, 2022 (the "Guidelines");

WHEREAS, pursuant to SFCR 125.2090-1, (the "Delegation") the MSF approved the MSF Fund Manager or the MSF President to negotiate the terms and conditions and execute all final documents necessary to effectuate awards and decisions approved under the MCRP; (the "Transactional Documents")

WHEREAS, the Act and the Delegation require that MCRP awards over $1 million must be approved by the MSF Board;

WHEREAS, by Resolution 2022-063 on April 26, 2022, the MSF Board awarded a MCRP Grant award to 1108 Water Street, LLC (the "Company"), in furtherance of the project of up to $1,499,301 (the "Award");

WHEREAS, by Resolution 2022-118 on August 23, 2022, the MSF Board approved a MCRP amendment to allow for the assignment of the Company's Grant rights and responsibilities to the Bank of Ann Arbor;

WHEREAS, the Company is requesting and MEDC is recommending that the MSF amend the Award to extend the due dates for Milestones Two and Three by 12 months, and extend the term of the grant by 12 months, with all other requirements remaining in place for the Award (the "MCRP Amendment Recommendation").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the MSF Board approves the MCRP Amendment Recommendation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the MSF Board approves the MSF Fund Manager or the MSF President to negotiate the terms and conditions and execute all final documents necessary to effectuate the above approved MCRP Amendment Recommendation.

Ayes:	Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner
Nays:	None
Recused:	None

Lansing, Michigan
April 16, 2024

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
DIRECTOR

January 21, 2022

Ms. Katelyn Wilcox
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

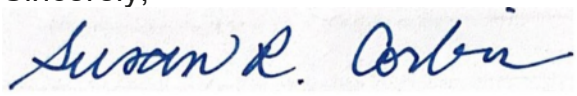
Re: Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Designees

Dear Ms. Wilcox:

Pursuant to MCLA 16.51, I hereby confirm my designation of John Groen and Jonathan Smith as the persons authorized and empowered to act in my stead as a member of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board for scheduled meetings or portions thereof that I am unable to attend.

If you need anything additional, please contact Diane Burton at (517) 230-5454. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Susan R. Corbin
Director

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

Ms. Rhonda Bishop
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund Office
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Bishop:

I hereby confirm and ratify my designation of Michael B. Kapp, Administrator, Michigan Department of Transportation, as the person authorized and empowered to act in my stead for Michigan Strategic Fund meetings that I am unable to attend.

Sincerely,

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MEMORANDUM

Date: **April 16, 2024**

To: **Michigan Strategic Fund Board**

From: **Julius L. Edwards, Director, Commercial Real Estate Investment**

Subject: **Request for Approval of a Michigan Community Revitalization Program Other Economic Assistance – Loan Participation Award Amendment #2 Veridea Group, LLC**

Request

Veridea Group, LLC (the "Company") and Nicolet National Bank (the "New Lender") are requesting to amend the Michigan Community Revitalization Program (MCRP) award. The request dated March 26, 2024, includes a request to replace the existing MCRP Loan Participation Agreement and other ancillary agreements (the "Agreement") with Bank First (formerly First National Bank) with a new Loan Participation Agreement (the "New Agreement") with the New Lender. As part of the New Agreement the maturity date will be extended approximately 48 months.

Project Background

The Michigan Strategic Fund Board approved a $1,857,131 Other Economic Assistance Loan Participation Award on November 28, 2012, as part of a $7,529,813 loan facility from Bank First for the demolition of an abandoned Sara Lee manufacturing facility. The project required extensive site preparation work and infrastructure improvements, and resulted in the construction of a new 30,900 square foot commercial building and a parking garage. The project was Phase I of a proposed three phase, high density, mixed-use development spread over an approximately 3.1-acre site located in the heart of the City of Marquette at 855-857 West Washington Street. The Veridea Group acquired the abandoned property in 2011. All three phases have been completed and successfully occupied, leading to over $35 million in investment. End uses include office, residential, restaurants, lodging, a 204-stall underground parking garage, and linkage to the City's walking/biking path. The overall development has been transformative to the area by bringing in a new national engineering firm, a new regional physical therapy rehabilitation center, improved restaurants, a new grocery store, and construction of a new health care facility that will house the new UP Health Systems Marquette Hospital.

An amendment was approved by the MSF Board on June 26, 2018, to reauthorize the Other Economic Assistance Loan Participation award and amend the Agreement with Bank First.

The subject project completed construction in 2013 and is fully occupied. The building houses commercial tenants that include: Nicolet National Bank, Myefski Architects, United States Senator Gary Peters, Petrucelli and Waara Law, and the Veridea Group headquarters.

MEDC staff is requesting to amend the MCRP Award to replace the existing Agreement with the New Agreement with Nicolet National Bank with an anticipated 48-month term and a new 20-amortization. Please see **Appendix A** for more detailed terms for the MCRP award amendment.

The Company is current with reporting requirements and payments have been made in accordance with the Agreement. As of June, the Company has made payments of approximately $587,567 in principal, interest and fees to the MSF.

Recommendation

The MEDC staff recommends approval of the amendment to reauthorize the MCRP Other Economic Assistance Loan Participation award to complete a refinancing per the Company's request dated March 26, 2024.

APPENDIX A

MSF Facility:	Other Economic Assistance Loan Participation
Borrower:	Veridea Group, LLC
Lender:	Nicolet National Bank ("New Lender")
Total Amount of Loans:	Anticipated to be up to $5,387,600
MSF Share:	Anticipated to be up to $1,134,905, not to exceed the total outstanding principal balance of the MCRP Notes at time of closing.
Interest Rate:	1.0% per annum.
MSF Fees:	0.25% of the principal balance at closing.
Term:	To match that of the New Lender, anticipated to be 48 months.
Amortization:	To match that of the New Lender, anticipated to be 240 months.
Repayment Terms:	Anticipated to be 48 equal monthly payments of principal and interest, with the remaining principal balance due at maturity.
Collateral:	To match that of the New Lender, anticipated being a mortgage lien on the property and assignment of leases and rents. MSF Share of collateral will be subordinated to that of the New Lender.
Guarantor(s):	To match that of the New Lender, anticipated to be the unlimited, unsecured personal guarantees of Robert and Mary Mahaney. The MSF share of guarantee will be subordinated to the New Lender.

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND

RESOLUTION 2024-068

APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO A MICHIGAN COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM OTHER ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE LOAN PARTICIPATION AWARD FOR VERIDEA GROUP, LLC

WHEREAS, the Michigan legislature amended the Michigan Strategic Fund Act, MCL 125.2001 et. seq. (the "Act"), to add Chapter 8C (being MCL 125.2090 – MCL 125.2090d) to enable the Michigan Strategic Fund (the "MSF") to create and operate the Michigan Community Revitalization Program (the "MCRP") to provide incentives in the form of grants, loans and other economic assistance for redevelopment of communities in Michigan;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (the "MEDC") provides administrative services to the MSF for the MCRP;

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2011, by Resolution 2011-185, the MSF (i) created the MCRP, (ii) adopted the guidelines for the MCRP, as later amended on January 25, 2022 (the "Guidelines");

WHEREAS, pursuant to SFCR 125.2090-1, (the "Delegation") the MSF approved the MSF Fund Manager or the MSF President to negotiate the terms and conditions and execute all final documents necessary to effectuate awards and decisions approved under the MCRP; (the "Transactional Documents")

WHEREAS, the Act and the Delegation require that MCRP awards over $1 million must be approved by the MSF Board;

WHEREAS, by Resolution 2012-168 on November 28, 2012, the MSF Board awarded a MCRP Other Economic Assistance Loan Participation award to Veridea Group, LLC (the "Company"), in furtherance of the project of up to $1,857,131 (the "Award");

WHEREAS, by Resolution 2018-089 on June 26, 2018, the MSF Board approved a MCRP amendment to: 1) allow for an extension of the Award maturity date up to 90 days; and 2) reauthorization of the Award;

WHEREAS, the Company is requesting and MEDC is recommending that the MSF Board approve an amendment to reauthorize the Award and enter into a new Loan Participation Agreement with Nicolet Bank in accordance with the terms detail in Exhibit A (the "MCRP Amendment Recommendation").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the MSF Board approves the MCRP Amendment Recommendation.

Ayes:	Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner
Nays:	None

Recused: None

Lansing, Michigan
April 16, 2024

EXHIBIT A

MSF Facility:	Other Economic Assistance Loan Participation
Borrower:	Veridea Group, LLC
Lender:	Nicolet National Bank ("New Lender")
Total Amount of Loans:	Anticipated to be up to $5,387,600
MSF Share:	Anticipated to be up to $1,134,905, not to exceed the total outstanding principal balance of the MCRP Notes at time of closing.
Interest Rate:	1.0% per annum.
MSF Fees:	0.25% of the principal balance at closing.
Term:	To match that of the New Lender, anticipated to be 48 months.
Amortization:	To match that of the New Lender, anticipated to be 240 months.
Repayment Terms:	Anticipated to be 48 equal monthly payments of principal and interest, with the remaining principal balance due at maturity.
Collateral:	To match that of the New Lender, anticipated being a mortgage lien on the property and assignment of leases and rents. MSF Share of collateral will be subordinated to that of the New Lender.
Guarantor(s):	To match that of the New Lender, anticipated to be the unlimited, unsecured personal guarantees of Robert and Mary Mahaney. The MSF share of guarantee will be subordinated to the New Lender.

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
DIRECTOR

January 21, 2022

Ms. Katelyn Wilcox
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

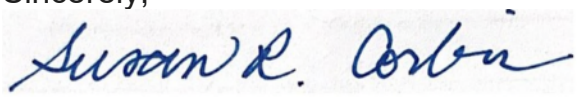
Re: Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Designees

Dear Ms. Wilcox:

Pursuant to MCLA 16.51, I hereby confirm my designation of John Groen and Jonathan Smith as the persons authorized and empowered to act in my stead as a member of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board for scheduled meetings or portions thereof that I am unable to attend.

If you need anything additional, please contact Diane Burton at (517) 230-5454. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Susan R. Corbin
Director

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

Ms. Rhonda Bishop
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund Office
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Bishop:

I hereby confirm and ratify my designation of Michael B. Kapp, Administrator, Michigan Department of Transportation, as the person authorized and empowered to act in my stead for Michigan Strategic Fund meetings that I am unable to attend.

Sincerely,

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND
RESOLUTION

2024-060

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 16, 2024, CONSENT AGENDA FOR THE MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND BOARD

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2013, Michigan Strategic Fund ("MSF") approved use of consent agendas at MSF Board meetings, pursuant to defined consent agenda guidelines (the "Consent Agenda");

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2014, the MSF Board approved Guidelines for Preparation and Approval of Consent Agendas for the MSF, which were subsequently amended and restated by the MSF Board on October 24, 2023,

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (the "MEDC") provides administrative services to the MSF and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the recommendation of the MEDC, the MSF Board wishes to approve the Consent Agenda items listed below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the MSF approves the Consent Agenda items listed below and identified in the final Consent Agenda for this MSF Board meeting:

Consent Agenda Items:

a. Proposed March 26, 2024, Meeting Minutes
b. Suniva, Inc.: MBDP Write-Off Request
c. Greenfield Die & Manufacturing, Corp: MBDP Write-Off Request
d. BerQ US Investments, LLC: Private Activity Bond Inducement Extension
e. Michigan International Technology Center Redevelopment Authority: Act 381 Work Plan Amendment
f. CDBG-DR Infrastructure Projects
g. Albion Reinvestment Corporation and OZB Phase I, LLC: Phase I Big Albion Plan
h. 1108 Water Street, LLC: MCRP Amendment
i. Veridea Group, LLC: MCRP Amendment

Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner

Nays: None

Recused: None

Lansing, Michigan
April 16, 2024

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
DIRECTOR

January 21, 2022

Ms. Katelyn Wilcox
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

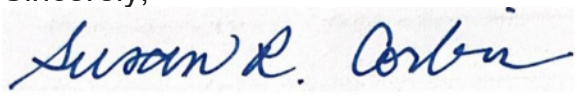
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If you need anything additional, please contact Diane Burton at (517) 230-5454. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Susan R. Corbin
Director

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

Ms. Rhonda Bishop
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund Office
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Bishop:

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Sincerely,

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MEMORANDUM

Date: **April 16, 2024**

To: **Michigan Strategic Fund Board**

From: **Paul O'Connell, Vice President of Real Estate Development**
Nicole Whitehead, Director Real Estate and Outreach

Subject: **Flint and Genesee Group Foundation -** Request for Strategic Site Readiness Program Grant

---

Request

This is a request from the Flint and Genesee Group Foundation (the "Applicant") for incentive assistance in the amount of $9,247,683 of Strategic Site Readiness Program ("SSRP") for site readiness activities to support land acquisition, extension of land options, and site and infrastructure development activities at the Advanced Manufacturing District of Genesee County site in the Township of Mundy, Genesee County, Michigan (the "Request").

Background

Public Act 134 of 2021 established the and its purpose was to create a state-wide inventory of investment-ready sites of all sizes to attract and promote investment in Michigan for activities on, or related to, strategic sites. On January 11, 2022, the MSF Board established the SSRP pursuant to the requirements of PA 134 of 2021 and approved the SSRP Guidelines (the "SSRP Guidelines").

On October 4, 2022, the Public Act 194 of 2022 was signed into law, which authorized $350,000,000 be deposited in the Strategic Outreach and Attraction Reserve Fund ("SOAR Fund"), of which $75,000,000 was directed to make grants to Eligible Applicants for land assembly and improvements of mega-strategic sites for which an end user has not been identified. The MSF Board approved the amended SSRP Guidelines to reflect these additions on January 24, 2023. Legislative approval of the transfer of funds from the SOAR Fund to MSF was completed on June 28, 2023.

Project Description

The Advanced Manufacturing District ("AMD") of Genesee County site land control and development has been in process for several years. The site is situated between Elms Road (West), Linden Road (East), W. Hill Road (South), and Maple Road (North). As of 2022, the Applicant embarked on a significant initiative aimed at establishing a mega site for utilization by the State. This includes gaining control of 20 parcels to date, spanning over 1,000 acres of land by way of option agreements.

To ensure the viability and attractiveness of this development, it has become evident that adding to and consolidating these parcels into a contiguous mega site is essential. This consolidation will bolster the capacity to attract business investment. The Applicant is seeking funding support to create and maintain the contiguous mega site. This strategic step will enable the Applicant to maintain control over the existing parcels and facilitate the cohesive development necessary to meet the requirements and expectations of potential partners and businesses.

Applicant History

The Applicant aims to strengthen the local economy and create a place where people thrive, and businesses invest and grow. The team works to accomplish this through targeted programs and services and strong partnerships.

- Flint & Genesee Chamber, which adds capacity to small businesses

- Flint & Genesee Economic Alliance, which offers business development support
- Flint & Genesee Education & Talent, which prepares youth and adults for academic and career success
- Explore Flint & Genesee, which promotes the region and enhances tourism

The Applicant has been working collaboratively with the MEDC to develop the AMD site for several years. Currently the site is the most advanced large-scale site in Michigan, in the highly competitive market for mega sites across the country. Funding the land assemblage and site due diligence will create a more attractive site for business attraction and expansion opportunities. The MEDC has pitched this site to several transformational projects to date and the site has been selected for near term site visits by prospects.

The background review process for the Applicant was completed in accordance with the MSF Background Review Policy on January 24, 2024, and the project may proceed for MSF consideration.

Appendix A addresses the SSRP statutory and programmatic considerations.

Recommendation

MEDC Staff recommends approval of the Request as outlined in the attached resolution.

APPENDIX A – SSRP Programmatic Considerations

Key Statutory Criteria

Per section 88t of the MSF Act, to the extent reasonably applicable as reasonably determined by the MSF board to the type of project proposed, the MSF shall consider and document at least all of the following criteria for all SSRP awards before entering into a written agreement:

- **What is the importance of the project or Eligible Activities to the community in which is located and Michigan?** The AMD of Genesee County is in the heart of Genesee County, Michigan, a vibrant community centered around the birthplace of General Motors, Flint Michigan. The area boasts a rich manufacturing heritage, a ready workforce, strong talent pipelines, and all the infrastructure assets an industrial user requires. Additional financial support of AMD is a strategic step that will enable maintained control over the existing parcels, acquisition of additional properties, and facilitate further due diligence and public awareness campaigns required for success. The AMD provides the opportunity to bring a transformational advanced manufacturing business to the area. This will have an overwhelmingly positive impact on the community by providing new and more employment opportunities for individuals and pumping millions of dollars into the local economy and area small businesses.
- **Will the project act as a catalyst for additional revitalization of the community where it is located and Michigan?** Yes, development of this site will be transformational to the Genesee County Community and overwhelmingly positive. Genesee County has suffered large jobs losses and economic distress. The AMD will attract significant business investment and create thousands of direct and indirect jobs, contributing to more economic growth and prosperity to a hard-hit community.
- **What is the amount of local community and financial support for the project?** No local public dollars have been committed at this time. Mundy Township municipal leaders have laid the foundation for rapid development on the site and are ready to work with potential end users to navigate challenges and support their timelines. The local community has agreed to provide significant incentives for any user that should locate here as well. Community sentiment polling conducted in August 2023 among registered voters in Genesee County and over sampled in the townships that surround AMD shows residents support developing a major manufacturing project in Mundy Township by a 72-22 margin. Additionally, many leading businesses and organizations Genesee County's have publicly expressed their support for AMD (see list here).
- **Has there been any other economic assistance or support provided by Michigan for the project? If yes, what is the amount?** $250,000 through the Build Ready Sites Program.
- **Has there been any other economic assistance or support provided by the federal government for the project, including without limitation, federal appropriations, or tax credits? If yes, what is the amount?** No
- **Has there been any private funds or investments for the project, including the Eligible Applicant's own investments in the project? If yes, what is the amount?** $750,000 through the C.S. Mott Foundation
- **What is the Eligible Applicant's financial need for a grant, loan, or other economic assistance under the SSRP?** The Applicant is in need of $9,247,683 to support the ongoing land assembly and site development work for the AMD.
- **What is the extent of reuse of vacant buildings, public or private, reuse of historic resources and redevelopment of blighted property?** Based on a Historic Preservation study conducted by Kidorf Preservation Consulting, it is their opinion that no historic properties will be affected by any future manufacturing plant on the current site plan. However, there are existing structures on the site. Future funding will be needed to clear and grade the site.
- **Is the project financially and economically sound? If yes, please explain.** Yes, the total financial need at this time is $9,247,683. Extensive work has been done with Plante Moran to ensure the financial stability of the project.

- **Will the project convert an abandoned public building(s) to private use? If yes, please explain.** No
- **Will the project promote sustainable development? If yes, please explain.** The AMD is one of the largest sites currently being assembled in Michigan, which will offer a wealth of benefits to the entire Detroit Region. Overall, a robust job market creates a cycle of economic activity that significantly bolsters public and private revenue streams. Further, by developing the AMD the region will have more opportunities to diversify the economy and gain more resiliency and sustainability for its communities.
- **Will the project involve the rehabilitation of a historic resource? If yes, please explain.** No
- **Will the project address areawide redevelopment? If yes, please explain.** Yes, Genesee County is in the middle of a transformation that has attracted more than $1 billion dollars in manufacturing investment in recent years. An ambitious vision to capitalize on assets, continue to invest in growth, and turn community into a thriving hub for advanced manufacturing has been a driving force for this development effort. The development of the AMD will eventually lead to the creation of thousands of more jobs and billions of more dollars of investment in Genesee County.
- **Will the project address underserved markets of commerce? If yes, please explain.** Yes, Genesee County is an underserved market of commerce due to several factors that have hindered its economic development in recent years. Flint, the county seat, has faced a declining population and a loss of manufacturing jobs, impacting the city's economic vitality. The water crisis exacerbated the challenges by eroding trust in public institutions and further discouraging business investments. High poverty rates, limited access to quality education, and a lack of investment in infrastructure have created significant challenges for businesses and entrepreneurs. These factors, coupled with a need for revitalization, make Flint and the surrounding Genesee County an underserved market, lacking the resources and opportunities necessary to foster robust commercial growth. Efforts to address these challenges are crucial to unlocking the county's economic potential and providing opportunities for both businesses and residents.
- **What is the level and extent of environmental contamination?** None identified in completed Phase 1.
- **Whether and how the project will compete with or affect existing Michigan businesses within the same industry?** The site is targeting advanced manufacturing companies. In the short-term creating thousands of jobs at the site may be a challenge for other businesses hiring in the area, however, a more robust job market will be easier for all to attract talent. Further, this investment will lead to millions of dollars coming into the local economy; this will provide great opportunities for area small businesses.
- **Whether and how the project's proximity to rail and utility will impact the performance of the project and will maximize energy and logistics needs in the community in which it is located, and in Michigan.** The site's adjacent CN rail, access to I-69, US 23, I-75 via 7 interstate interchanges within 5 miles, and the proximity to Bishop International Airport are all logistical assets for an eventual end user of the site.
- **The risk of obsolescence that the project, products, and investments in the future.** The clients targeted for using the AMD are leading in next generation technologies, delaying the risk of obsolescence in the future.
- **The overall return on investment to Michigan.** Positioning this site for investment is anticipated to generate a positive return on investment for the State.
- **Is the proposed Strategic Site or Mega-Strategic Site incorporated into a strategic plan of a political subdivision of Michigan; and if yes, please explain and provide documentation.** Yes, Mundy Township has identified the northern part of the township as an ideal location for the expansion labor activities for decades as references in the Townships Master Plan from 2010 (see attached). More recently in 2023, the township approved a zoning ordinance change to add an advanced manufacturing overlay to the northwestern portion of the township, which is where the

AMD site is located. Mundy Township is currently developing their newest Master Plan and has indicated this site will be included.

Additionally, under Section 88t of the MSF Act, since the end user of the mega-strategic site is not identified, the MSF Board shall also consider:

- **Explain how the requested funds will be used to advance an individual site to an investment ready status, with specific costs, timelines, and deliverables for business attraction purposes.** As of 2022, theApplicant embarked on a significant initiative aimed at establishing a large site to large project opportunities. This includes gaining control of over 20 parcels to date, spanning over 1,000 acres of land by way of option agreements. To ensure the viability and attractiveness of this development, it has become evident that adding to and consolidating these parcels into a contiguous large site is essential. This consolidation will bolster FGEA's capacity to attract and accommodate prospective companies effectively. The FGEA is seeking funding support to create and maintain the contiguous large site. This strategic step will enable the FGEA to maintain control over the existing parcels and facilitate the cohesive development necessary to meet the requirements and expectations of potential partners and businesses.
- **What is the current capacity to the site for Electric, gas, water, and sewer?**

  Water
  a. The site has a pipeline adjacent to the site to supply 5 MGD of potable water immediately via the Genesee County Water System.
  b. The Genesee County Water System can provide a new user up to 64 MGD of raw, based on existing permits and current peak usage.
  c. The Genesee County Water System has approximately 9 MGD potable water available without any additional treatment infrastructure needed.

  Sewer
  a. Genesee County wastewater system meets the needs of a heavily industrialized community, complies with all Federal and State regulations, and protects the local watershed. The system currently has excess capacity and is ready to meet the needs of the future.
  b. The site has an interceptor sewer line within 1 mile of site with 10 MGD available capacity immediately.
  c. The Genesee County Wastewater Treatment Plan has approximately 30 MGD capacity immediately available.

  Electric
  a. Very robust and able to meet the demands and timelines of heavy transformational projects.

  Gas
  b. Very robust and able to meet the demands and timelines of heavy transformational projects.
- **What is the maximum feasible capacity to the site within 36 months for Electric, gas, water and sewer?**
  a. 55 MGD potable water
  b. 41 MGD of sewer
  c. 1,300 MW (Consumers Energy has more detailed information)
  d. Sufficient Gas (Consumers Energy has more detailed information)

Speed to Market

- **How will the proposed project improve the level of competitiveness for business attraction (status of assemblage, site control, and status of site readiness)?** The proposed project will allow FGEA to maintain control of existing parcels through 2025 (via option renewal payments in 2024).
- **What percentage of the overall site is currently assembled?** 89.6%

- **What percentage of the site is currently controlled by the applicant via ownership, option agreement, development, or other agreement with the landowner?** 89.6%

Investment

- **What is the overall projected return on investment to the state?** Positioning this site for investment is anticipated to generate a positive return on investment for the State.

Talent Jobs and Wages

- **What workforce training facilities or agencies could service the site?**
  Immediately in the county:
  a. Kettering University (10-minute drive)
  b. University of Michigan – Flint (10-minute drive)
  c. Mott Community College (10-minute drive)

  Within a 60-minute drive of the site:
  a. Michigan State University
  b. University of Michigan – Dearborn
  c. University of Michigan – Ann Arbor
  d. Oakland University
- **What is the available workforce that would support this site?** There are approximately 690,000 workers (a denser concentration than US average) with relevant experience for advanced manufacturing jobs within 60 minutes of site. The MEDC works closely with talent and workforce partners to ensure that any company is able to attract and retain the necessary workforce to make their investment successful.
- **What impact will development of the site have on qualified jobs at the site location and within the state?** The development of this site will have a tremendous positive impact on the community and state. Genesee County is an economically hard-hit community that has long suffered job losses. At the same time, the County has a rich heritage of manufacturing and strong talent pipelines to support industry. Further, Genesee County is a part of the dynamic Detroit Region one of the nation's best regions for engineering, technology, and advanced manufacturing talent. This site provides the opportunity to attract thousands of new jobs in new industries and next generation technology to add resilience to the community, regional, and state of Michigan economies. Ultimately, a large investment at this site will dramatically increase the prosperity of the community, region, and state for generations.
- **Will the projected wages equal or exceed the average wage for the county in which the site is located?** It is expected that wages of employees of a company locating on this site would exceed the average wage for the county.
- **What are the projected primary SOC Codes for the most likely end users of the site?** The FGEA is marketing the site to next generation technologies in the advanced manufacturing space.
- **What industries is the community targeting for the site?** The FGEA is marketing the site to next generation technologies in the advanced manufacturing space. This includes semiconductor fabrication, EV battery assembly, and aerospace.

Regional Community Support and Impact

- **Is the site zoned or master planned with a classification that would allow for its projected end use?** Yes, the site is appropriately zoned.
- **Explain the regional and local support for the site, including the strategic importance and prioritization of the site to the community.** The development of this site will have a tremendous positive impact on the community and state. Genesee County is an economically hard-hit community that has long suffered job losses. At the same time, the County has a rich heritage of manufacturing and strong talent pipelines to support industry. Further, Genesee County is a part of the dynamic Detroit Region one of the nation's best regions for engineering, technology, and advanced manufacturing talent. This site provides the opportunity to attract new industries and next generation technology to add resilience to the community, regional, and state of Michigan economies. Ultimately, a large investment at this site will dramatically increase the prosperity of the community, region, and state for generations.
- **Is the site supported by a strategic or other plan addressing business attraction and investment in the region?** Yes.

Sustainable Development, Blight Elimination and Historical Reuse

- **Will the proposed investment result in the elimination of blight and the redevelopment of blighted properties?** On the site, no it will not result in the elimination of blight or redevelopment or blighted properties. However, given the transformational impact this development will have

on the community and Genesee County's status as an economically hard-hit community, it is expected that many blighted properties in the area will be eliminated or redeveloped.

- **Will the funds, if awarded, address the necessary site improvements specifically pertaining to environmental and topographical conditions?** These funds will not address any necessary physical site improvements at this time. A phase 1 study did not identify any needs for environmental improvements required. Any topographical conditions to be upgraded for development would require a site plan from a user.

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND
RESOLUTION 2024-069

APPROVAL OF MICHIGAN STRATEGIC SITE READINESS PROGRAM GRANT TO FLINT AND GENESEE GROUP FOUNDATION

WHEREAS, the Michigan Legislature enacted the Michigan Strategic Fund Act, MCL 125.2001 et. seq., (the "MSF Act") to authorize the Michigan Strategic Fund ("MSF") to provide incentives in the form of grants, loans, and other economic assistance for the development and improvement of Michigan's economy;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation ("MEDC") provides administrative services to the MSF;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 88t of the MSF Act, MCL 125.2088t, the MSF shall create and operate the Michigan strategic site readiness program to provide grants, loans, and other economic assistance for eligible applicants to conduct eligible activities for the purpose of creating investment-ready sites to attract and promote investment in this state for eligible activities on, or related to, strategic sites and mega-strategic sites (the "Strategic Site Readiness Program");

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2022, the MSF Board created the Strategic Site Readiness Program and approved the guidelines, which have been updated from time to time, for the implementation and operation of the Strategic Site Readiness Program (the "Strategic Site Readiness Program Guidelines");

WHEREAS, pursuant to Public Act 194 of 2022 ("2023 Supplemental), among other things, funds were appropriated to Strategic Outreach and Attraction Reserve ("SOAR") Fund created by Public Act 137 of 2021;

WHEREAS, under Section 408 of the 2023 Supplemental, an aggregate of $350 million is to be used for the Strategic Site Readiness Program ("$350 million 2023 SSRP Supplemental"), subject to the transfer of SOAR funds by the legislature;

WHEREAS, under Section 408(4) of the $350 million 2023 SSRP Supplemental, $75 million is to be used for SSRP activities for mega-strategic sites;

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2023, the legislature approved the transfer of $250 million of the $350 million 2023 SSRP Supplemental to the MSF for the Strategic Site Readiness Program;

WHEREAS, the Flint and Genesee Group Foundation submitted an application seeking a Strategic Site Readiness Program grant in the amount of $9.25 million for land assembly and site improvement activities for portions of the Mundy Township mega-strategic site where an end-user has not been identified as permitted under Section 408(4) of the 350 million 2023 SSRP Supplemental, in accordance with the Strategic Site Readiness Program and the Strategic Site

Readiness Program Guidelines, and in accordance with the terms and conditions outlined in the term sheet attached as Exhibit A to this Resolution (the "Grant Request");

WHEREAS, the MEDC recommends the MSF approve the Grant Request; and

WHEREAS, the MSF Board wishes to approve the Grant Request.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the MSF Board approves the Grant Request;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the MSF Fund Manager is authorized to negotiate final terms and conditions of the Grant Request and to execute all documents necessary to effectuate the Grant Request.

Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner

Nays: None

Recused: None

Lansing, Michigan
April 16, 2024

EXHIBIT A

TERM SHEET

Strategic Site Readiness Program Grant

Summary of Terms

This document summarizes the key terms and conditions of the potential Strategic Site Readiness Program ("SSRP") Award for Flint and Genesee Group Foundation (the "Applicant"). The proposed terms and conditions herein will not be construed as binding upon either party until the mutual execution of a written grant agreement. Any obligations that may be deemed to arise under this Term Sheet are contingent on the Applicant obtaining all necessary approvals, and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation ("MEDC") obtaining all necessary Michigan Strategic Fund ("MSF") Board and State of Michigan Legislature approvals.

SSRP Award: Up to $9,247,683 to the Applicant for Eligible Activities, as defined in the SSRP Guidelines approved by the MSF Board on August 22, 2023 as amended (the "SSRP Award"), to support the development of the Advanced Manufacturing District of Genesee County site (the "Site") located in Mundy Township. The Eligible Activities, as defined below, are necessary to support the development of the Mega Site . Preparing the Site will create a "site-ready" mega site, to attract large-scale national/global investments into Michigan's economy (the "Project").

Term of the Agreement: Effective Date through the earlier of: (i) April 16, 2024; (ii) the grant manager's approval of the Project Completion Milestone; or (iii) when the Parties agree in writing.

Disbursement of Grant Funds: The SSRP Award will be disbursed based on the Applicant's achievement of the following key milestones and, except as to Key Milestone One, only after the Applicant has actually expended or encumbered at least seventy percent (70%) of the grant funds disbursed under the immediately preceding Key Milestone in accordance with the Project budget:

- Key Milestone One: Not to exceed $8,264,714
  - Disbursement request in the form determined by the MEDC;
  - Copies of currently executed written agreements between the Applicant and any contractor engaged to perform the Eligible Activities for the Project;
  - Copies of all purchase agreements necessary for the Applicant to facilitate the transfer of all parcels related to the Project; and
  - Copies of land option agreements necessary for the Applicant to facilitate the control of all parcels related to the Project.

- Key Milestone Two: Not to exceed $982,969
  - Disbursement request in the form determined by the MEDC;
  - A spreadsheet describing and itemizing the actual expenditure for Eligible Activities of grant disbursements received under Key Milestone Number One. The spreadsheet shall include the corresponding category of the budget, identify the name of actual vendor or recipient of each expenditure, and be accompanied by supporting documentation;
  - Copies of currently executed written agreements between the Applicant and any contractor engaged to perform the Eligible Activities for the Project not previously submitted in Key Milestone One;
  - Demonstrated verification that all parcels from any source associated with the Project have been acquired and/or transferred to the Applicant; and
  - A narrative describing in detail the Eligible Activities to be completed with the grant disbursement received under Key Milestone Two.

- Project Completion Milestone, due on or before April 17, 2026
  - A final milestone certificate in the form determined by the MEDC;
  - A spreadsheet describing and itemizing the actual expenditure of grant disbursements for all Eligible Activities completed during the Term. The spreadsheet shall include the corresponding reference category of the budget, identify the name of actual vendor or recipient of each expenditure, and be accompanied by supporting documentation;
  - Copies of currently executed written agreements between the Applicant and any contractor engaged to perform the Eligible Activities for the Project not previously

submitted in Key Milestone One and Key Milestone Two;
- Demonstrated verification that 100 percent of the funds disbursed in have been expended for Eligible Activities;
- Copies of any and all studies completed on the Site; and
- Documentation satisfactory to the grant manager that the Project is complete.

Eligible Activities: activities include, but are not limited to, site development, land acquisition, and any activities outlined in the SSRP Guidelines necessary to support the development of the Site incurred after April 16, 2024 related to the Site. The Applicant and the MSF will develop a detailed budget for the Site that includes budget categories for the Eligible Activities. The budget will be incorporated into the written agreement signed by the parties.

Security Interest: Security interests in favor of the MSF must comply with Section 88(s)(4) of the MSF Act, MCL 125.2088s(4). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the Applicant shall maintain a separate account (the "Project Funds Account") into which the grant funds will be disbursed, and the Applicant shall grant the MSF a security interest in the Project Funds Account. MSF security interests may also include security in the real and/or personal property at the Site, such as a mortgage, right of first offer, reverter rights, equipment, intangibles, inventory, or other such personal property interests. The Applicant shall facilitate granting of such real and/or personal property interests in favor of the MSF as part of the transfer of Parcels necessary at the Site. Such security interests will be used to secure repayment, as applicable, of any amounts owed to the MSF under the SSRP grant agreement with the Applicant.

Suspension of Disbursements: The MSF may immediately suspend making disbursements of the SSRP Award upon the occurrence of: (i) an event resulting in a Repayment Amount, (ii) an event of default, which shall be defined in the grant agreement, but shall include, without limitation, material noncompliance with the terms of the grant agreement, (iii) default in any other agreement with the State of Michigan or (iv) the occurrence of an event which, with the giving notice or the passage of time, or both, would constitute an event of default.

Clawback Provisions: The Applicant will be required to repay all, or a portion of the grant disbursements made under the SSRP Award upon the occurrence of one or more of the following events (each resulting in a "Repayment Amount"), and repayment is subject to the highest applicable Repayment Amount if one or more of the same circumstances give rise to such events. The Applicant and the MSF agree to collaborate on any defaults by third parties under any of the Applicant's contracts for the Project for the purpose of recovery of SSRP Award funds, including without limitation, any of the Applicant's agreements with Vendors and/or Property Owners, and such may include assignments in favor of the MSF. All Repayment Amounts must be paid within 90 days of written notification by the MSF. Any Repayment Amount not paid within 90 days is subject to a penalty of 1% per month, prorated on a daily basis:

- **Land Acquisition:** If the Applicant fails to provide the Property Owners with funding necessary for the transfer and acquisition of the parcels necessary for the Site, it will be required to repay up to 100% of grant disbursements made under the SSRP Award.
- **Project Abandonment**: if the Applicant voluntarily abandons the project after the SSRP Award is disbursed and on or before the end of the Term it will be required to repay 100% of grant disbursements made under the SSRP Award.
- **Bankruptcy or Insolvency** – If the Applicant files for bankruptcy or otherwise becomes insolvent on or before the end of the Term, with any such proceedings against the Applicant not being set aside within sixty (60) calendar days from the date of institution thereof and results in the material reduction to the Applicant's operations for the Site, it will be required to repay 100% of grant disbursements made under the SSRP Award. The MSF would be entitled to foreclose on any security interest and, in the case of bankruptcy, submit a proof of claim in any such bankruptcy proceedings and seek recovery of the SSRP Award.
- **Material Misrepresentation.** If the Applicant makes a material misrepresentation under the grant agreement, any required submissions thereunder, or any reimbursement request to the MSF on or before the end of the Term it will be required to repay 100% of grant disbursements made under the SSRP Award.

- **Misuse of Funds**: if the Applicant uses the SSRP Award for a prohibited purpose during the Term it will be required to repay 100% of grant disbursements made under the SSRP Award.
- **Default of Project Contracts:** The fully executed written agreement will include repayment language for events of default, which shall include but not limited to the Company's failure to comply with any contracts arising out of the Project.
- **Material Failure to Comply**. If the Applicant fails to materially comply with its obligations under the grant agreement, including the failure submit materials required under the (i) Key Milestones, (ii) annual progress reports, or (iii) annual compliance certificates under the grant agreement, it may be required to repay up to 100% of grant disbursements made under the SSRP Award.
- **Project Funds Account Balance**. In the event there is any remaining balance in the Project Funds Account upon the earlier of: (i) the Applicant's submission of the Final Milestone Certificate or (ii) April 17, 2026, the Applicant shall pay the MSF the balance of funds in the Project Funds Account.

Additional State Required Terms:

- **Amendments** – As required under Section 88t(8) of the MSF Act, MCL 125.2088t(8) ("Section 88t"), the MSF will provide written notice to the Legislature of any requests to modify the fully executed written grant agreement and will otherwise comply with requirements of Section 88t(8) prior to taking any action on such amendment request.
- **Annual Compliance Certificate** – During the Term, the Applicant will be required to sign and submit an annual compliance certificate certifying that the Applicant is in compliance with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement.
- **Annual Progress Report** – During the Term, the Applicant will be required to submit annual progress reports. This information will be transmitted by the MSF to the Legislature as required under Section 9 of the MSF Act, MCL 125.2009.
- **Access to Records & Audit Rights** – During the Term, and for a period of three years after the expiration of the Term, and upon reasonable advance notice, the Applicant is required to permit the MSF, MEDC, the Office of the Auditor General, the Department of Technology, Management and Budget, and the MSF Chief Compliance Officer to visit the Applicant, and any other location where books and records of the Applicant are normally kept, to inspect the books and records, including financial records and all other information and data relevant to the terms of the grant, all at times and locations mutually agreed upon by the parties.
- **Other provisions.** The grant agreement will include standard representations, covenants, and other provisions required by the MSF, including without limitation, non- discrimination and unfair labor practices, termination of funding, any other requirements of the SSRP Guidelines, as approved by the MSF, and any requirements of the Michigan Strategic Fund Act, including without limitation, cross default, and any other provisions of Section 88t.

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
DIRECTOR

January 21, 2022

Ms. Katelyn Wilcox
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

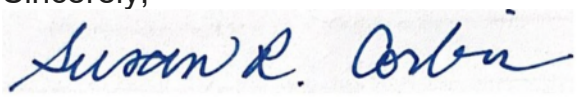
Re: Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Designees

Dear Ms. Wilcox:

Pursuant to MCLA 16.51, I hereby confirm my designation of John Groen and Jonathan Smith as the persons authorized and empowered to act in my stead as a member of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board for scheduled meetings or portions thereof that I am unable to attend.

If you need anything additional, please contact Diane Burton at (517) 230-5454. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Susan R. Corbin
Director

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

Ms. Rhonda Bishop
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund Office
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Bishop:

I hereby confirm and ratify my designation of Michael B. Kapp, Administrator, Michigan Department of Transportation, as the person authorized and empowered to act in my stead for Michigan Strategic Fund meetings that I am unable to attend.

Sincerely,

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MEMORANDUM

Date: **April 16, 2024**

To: **Michigan Strategic Fund ("MSF") Board Members**

From: **Jeremy Webb, Strategic Projects Advisor**
Debbie Stehlik, Commercial Real Estate Investment Manager

Subject: **Incentive Request**
MSF Designated Renaissance Zone ("MSFRZ")
City of Detroit ("City") - Atwater & Second Associates LLC ("Company") (collectively, the "Applicants")

Request

This is a request from the Applicants for an MSFRZ for a period of 30 years, as outlined in the attached resolution ("MSFRZ Request"). This project involves a capital investment of up to $396,733,890 and the creation of approximately 350 new jobs generated by the hotel in the city of Detroit, Wayne County.

Company Background

The Company, an affiliate of Sterling Group, was identified as the developer for the project. Sterling Group is a privately held investment and real estate firm that acquires and manages high potential properties and companies. Founded in 1988, Sterling Group takes a fresh and creative approach to investing and business building. The Sterling Group team is dedicated to creating real estate and business environments that meet the needs of the people they serve, and contribute to the community at large. Successfully achieving the balance between high performance and civic contribution has earned Sterling Group a reputation as a leader with integrity. Sterling Group has held a presence in Detroit and most notably undertook the construction and successful redevelopment of the Marquette Building and Huntington Tower which is home to the Huntington National Bank Detroit Headquarters and was the first office tower built in downtown Detroit in more than 30 years.

The background review process was completed in accordance with the MSF Background Review Policy on January 19, 2024, and the project may proceed for MSF consideration.

Project Description

The Company is looking to construct a new, approximately 630,000 square foot, 25-story convention style hotel at the former Joe Louis Arena site in downtown Detroit. It is anticipated that the hotel will boast 600 hotel rooms with two restaurants, 50,000 square feet of meeting space, lobby bar, market, and fitness center. Additionally, the hotel will be linked to the Huntington Place convention center through a pedestrian bridge and is anticipated to commence construction mid-2024. The development anticipates an investment of nearly $400 million with the potential for approximately 350 employees created by the hotel.

In 2018, the MSF approved a Performance-Based Loan from the Investment Fund (the "Loan") in the amount of $10,000,000 and a Brownfield Act 381 Work Plan (the "Work Plan") including local and school tax capture for MSF eligible activities in the amount of $13,172,392, to support the demolition of the vacant Joe Louis Arena in preparation for future development. The demolition costs were proposed to be paid for by the City using the proceeds of the requested Performance-Based Loan and funding from other sources available to the City. The City is repaying the MSF over 20 years. The Brownfield 381 work plan allows

for tax increment revenues from the development of the site to be used to reimburse the city for Joe Louis Arena demolition costs which were $13,172,398.

Situated downtown, just south of Huntington Place and north of several high-rise riverfront residential buildings with direct access to the People Mover, the 2018 project prepared the site for several commercial redevelopment uses that redeveloped the site and led to increased tax base, jobs and residential units. Fast forward to 2024, The Residences at Water Square, a 25-story high-rise opened its doors just two years after workers broke ground providing 496 market-rate units directly next to the proposed project before you.

In conversations with the Company, City, and the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation, the MSFRZ Request will not impede the repayment requirement of the Loan. The tax increment revenues from The Residences at Water Square are sufficient for the Loan repayment. Additionally, the Loan is secured by the full faith and credit of the city of Detroit.

Demonstrated Need

The Company is looking to help fill a void in the hotel market. Huntington Place is the 16th largest convention center in the U.S. and has the ability to host 20-25 citywide conventions; currently only hosting 10-12 per year on average. Conventions, conferences, and consumer shows, among others, frequently choose other sites where a headquarter hotel is attached to the convention center. Additionally, events have been tentatively scheduled for the convention center and ultimately chose an outside location noting a general lack of hotel supply in downtown Detroit. Visit Detroit, an organization that promotes metro Detroit regionally, nationally, and internationally as a convention, business meeting and tourism destination, noted that the convention center bid on 160 citywide events in 2023 that preferred a connected hotel and wasn't able to bid on 37 additional events that required a connected hotel. Visit Detroit conducted a five-year study from 2018-2022 of conventions that wanted to host events in Detroit, but ultimately needed more hotel capacity in the area. Over that five-year period, Detroit lost out on an estimated one million visitors, 650,000 room nights, $524 million in spending, and 10 citywide conventions each year.

The lack of a connected hotel puts Huntington Place and the city of Detroit at a significant disadvantage. Cities like Chicago, Minneapolis, Columbus, Indianapolis, Cleveland, and even Grand Rapids and Lansing, all have hotels connected to the convention center. With MSF support, this development will become a reality.

Request

In order to secure the project, the Applicants are requesting a 30-year MSFRZ designation. The MSFRZ request will help the expansive development costs by reducing the Company's overhead throughout the term of the designation. This project aligns with the MEDC's strategic focus area of supporting a development in the regional impact industry of tourism and outdoor recreation and builds on the state's work to collaborate with local communities and partners to create places in which people and talent want to live, work, visit, and play. The project will also play a significant role in promoting Michigan's image as a world-class business and travel destination. The proposed project will also impact the local region with significant job growth potential and investment. With the potential to house over 350 new employees and bring in nearly $400 million of investment in a geographically disadvantaged area in the State of Michigan, this project will help solidify further tourism in Detroit and Michigan.

Visit Detroit has worked diligently to secure a developer to build a hotel connected to the convention center in Detroit. However, conversations with countless developers lead to the economics of the hotel providing more benefit to the community than the developer. Now, the partnership between the Company, City,

Detroit Economic Growth Corporation, and Visit Detroit is poised to bring a community asset that will ensure Detroit is positioned to secure more events.

Financial Highlights

- Construction Cost of $485 per square foot.
- Projected starting average daily rate of $345.
- Stabilized debt service coverage ratio of 1.38 to 1.00.
- Expected equity contribution of over $144,000,000 or 36% of the total development cost.
- Projected return of 4.2% over 20-year time horizon.
- Without the proposed incentive, the projected return drops below zero at -.8% and the debt service coverage ratio drops to 1.21 to 1.0, well below what would be considered acceptable for a hotel operation of this size and scope.

Recommendation

MEDC Staff recommends approval of the MSFRZ Request, as outlined in the attached resolution.

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND
RESOLUTION
2024-070

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND DESIGNATED RENAISSANCE ZONE
ATWATER & SECOND ASSOCIATES LLC

WHEREAS, Section 8a(2) of the Michigan Renaissance Zone Act (the "Act"), 1996 PA 376, as amended, authorizes the Michigan Strategic Fund (the "MSF") to designate up to twenty seven (27) renaissance zones (an "MSF-Designated Renaissance Zone") at the application of a qualified local governmental unit and with the consent of the city, village, or township within which the boundaries of the MSF-Designated Renaissance Zone reside;

WHEREAS, the MSF has designated twenty-six (26) of the twenty-seven (27) MSF-Designated Renaissance Zones available under the Act;

WHEREAS, Section 6(5) of the Act allows the MSF Board to choose the beginning date of an MSF-Designated Renaissance Zone designation made pursuant to Section 8a(2) of the Act, provided that the beginning date must not be more than five (5) years after the date of designation;

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2016, via MSF Resolution 2016-091, the MSF adopted guidelines for MSF-Designated Renaissance Zones (the "Guidelines"), which include a requirement that the term of an MSF-Designated Renaissance Zone not exceed fifteen (15) years (the "Term Limit");

WHEREAS, the MSF desires to foster economic opportunities in an area identified in the City of Detroit, as more particularly depicted in the map attached as Exhibit A (the "Property");

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (the "MEDC") provides administrative services to the MSF for the renaissance zone program;

WHEREAS, the MEDC recommends that the MSF approve: (i) waiver of the Term Limit, and (ii) the designation of an MSF-Designated Renaissance Zone for Atwater & Second Associates LLC (the "Company") at the Property for a term of thirty (30) years, to begin on December 31, 2026 for property tax purposes and January 1, 2027 for all other purposes, conditioned upon the occurrence of certain requirements (collectively, the "Renaissance Zone Recommendation").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the MSF Board approves the Renaissance Zone Recommendation, conditioned upon the occurrence of all the following on or before December 31, 2026:

1. The City of Detroit has submitted an MSF Application for creating a Michigan Strategic Fund Designated Renaissance Zone to the MEDC, which includes a resolution of the governing body for the City of Detroit consenting to the MSF-Designated Renaissance Zone designation, and such application has been approved by the MSF Fund Manager; and

2. A development agreement has been executed between the MSF and the Company, which will either own, lease, or operate on the Property, to govern the terms and conditions of the renaissance zone benefits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MSF Board authorizes the Fund Manager to negotiate the final terms and conditions of and to execute all documents necessary to effectuate the Renaissance Zone Recommendation, consistent with the terms of this Resolution.

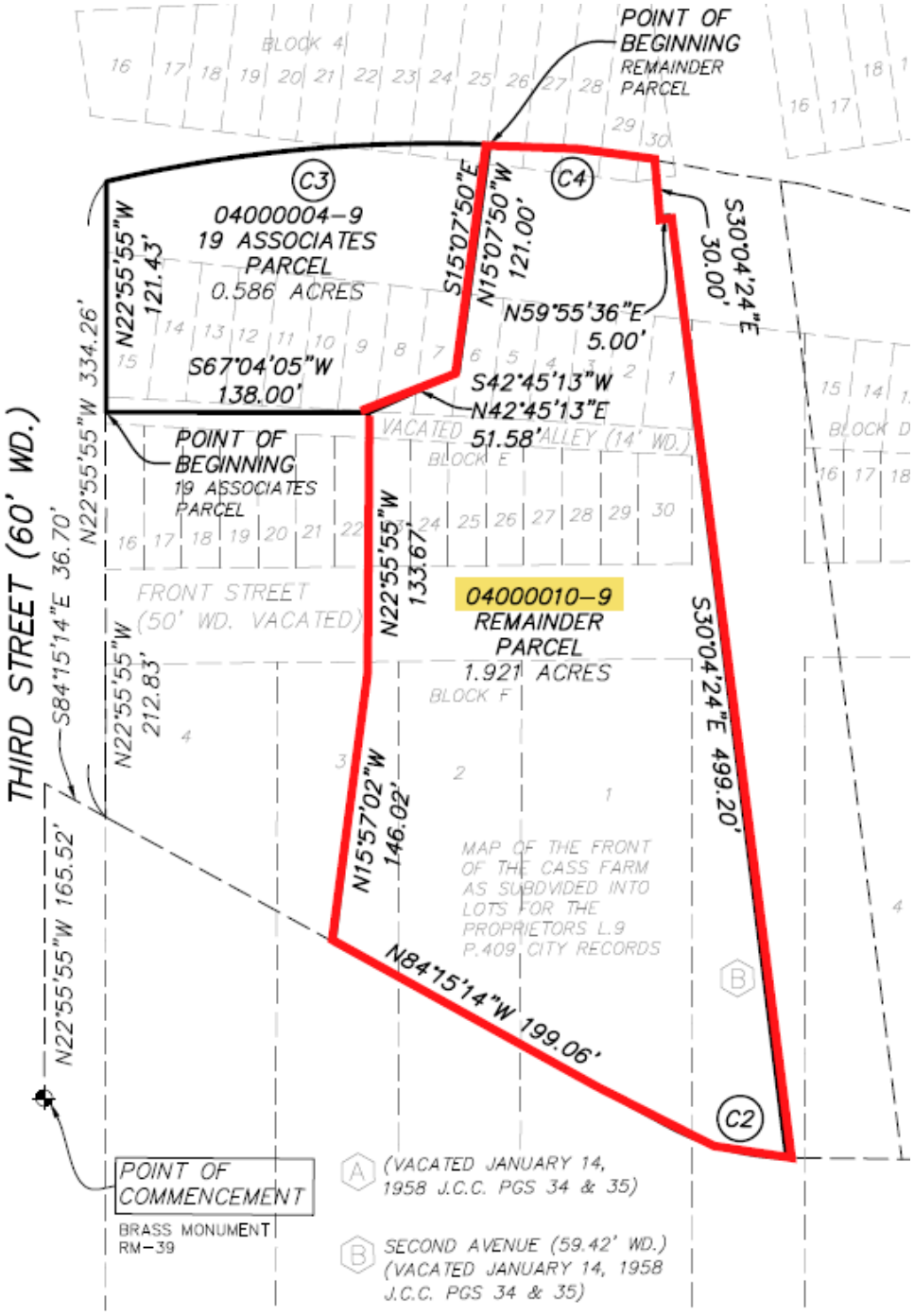
Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner

Nays: None

Recused: None

Lansing, Michigan
April 16, 2024

EXHIBIT A



PARCEL CURVE DATA					
CURVE #	LENGTH	RADIUS	DELTA	CH. BEARING	CHORD
C2	66.64'	142.40'	26°48'46"	S82°20'25"W	66.03'
C3	203.00'	756.00'	15°23'06"	N61°29'07"E	202.39'
C4	86.85'	756.00'	06°34'55"	N72°28'07"E	86.80'

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
DIRECTOR

January 21, 2022

Ms. Katelyn Wilcox
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

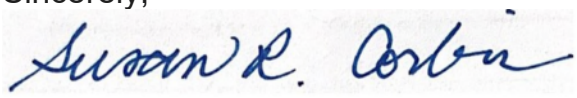
Re: Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Designees

Dear Ms. Wilcox:

Pursuant to MCLA 16.51, I hereby confirm my designation of John Groen and Jonathan Smith as the persons authorized and empowered to act in my stead as a member of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board for scheduled meetings or portions thereof that I am unable to attend.

If you need anything additional, please contact Diane Burton at (517) 230-5454. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Susan R. Corbin
Director

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

Ms. Rhonda Bishop
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund Office
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Bishop:

I hereby confirm and ratify my designation of Michael B. Kapp, Administrator, Michigan Department of Transportation, as the person authorized and empowered to act in my stead for Michigan Strategic Fund meetings that I am unable to attend.

Sincerely,

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MEMORANDUM

Date: **April 16, 2024**

To: **Michigan Strategic Fund Board**

From: **Julius Edwards, Director, Commercial Real Estate Investment**
Rob Garza, Director, Statutory Analysis

Subject: **Request for Approval of a Transformational Brownfield Plan**
City of Detroit Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (BRA)
Palace Sports & Entertainment, LLC, DP Amsterdam, LLC, Henry Ford Health System, and Michigan State University
The Future of Health Transformational Brownfield Plan

Project Summary & Request

The proposed Transformational Brownfield Plan (the "Plan") consists of more than $773 million in investment within the New Center area of Detroit near the Henry Ford Hospital campus. The scope of the Plan includes new construction of an eight-story medical research center, the renovation of the One Ford Place office building into a mixed-use building containing residential and commercial space, new construction of two, six-story, mixed-use buildings containing residential and commercial space, and the new construction of a six-story parking garage (the "Project").

A project map and project renderings are included in Appendix C

PROJECT SUMMARY	
Project Eligibility	Facility
Total Approximate Square Feet Revitalized	1,544,914
Total Approximate Acres Activated	15.46
Total Full-Time Equivalent Jobs Created	735
Estimated # of Residential Units	662
Estimated Residential Square Footage	451,365
Estimated Commercial Square Footage	534,029
Current Taxable Value	$0
Projected Taxable Value at Completion	$60,146,797
Total Anticipated Capital Investment	$773,000,000
Transformational Brownfield Revenue Request	$231,774,802

Palace Sports & Entertainment, LLC, DP Amsterdam, LLC, Henry Ford Health System, and Michigan State University (collectively the "Developer") and the City of Detroit Brownfield Redevelopment Authority ("BRA") are requesting approval of a TBP incentive package in the aggregate amount of $231,774,802 and divided by revenue type as follows:

a. Local and school property tax capture in the amount of $117,370,929, with state tax capture limited to $43,970,210;
b. A maximum of $5,590,801 in construction period tax capture revenues;
c. A maximum of $8,229,444 in construction period sales and use tax exemptions; and
d. A maximum of $100,583,628 in income tax capture revenues and withholding tax capture revenues (post-construction)

The reimagined Henry Ford Health academic healthcare campus will include a new, leading edge medical research center, in partnership with a world-class university, alongside 3 mixed-use residential and commercial buildings and is anticipated to continue turning Detroit's New Center neighborhood into a vibrant and walkable destination community. In total, the entire series of projects are planned to generate 735 post construction full time equivalent jobs which are anticipated to be a catalyst for additional investment and significantly boost the tax base for both the city and state.

All three mixed-use, residential projects will have affordable housing and 20% (133) of the total number of rental units developed through this Project will be deeply affordable, averaging 50% of Area Median Income. The Developer anticipates pursuing Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) through the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA). If approved, MSHDA will conduct regular income and compliance monitoring.

Following construction completion and occupancy of the completed buildings, the Project will undergo a re-evaluation based on the certified construction costs which may require the incentive to be adjusted down ("true up"). The incentive award will be decreased if the actual construction costs are less than 90 percent of the amount estimated in the Act 381 Work Plan. The associated MSF Board resolution includes the authorization for this modification per Section 14a(8) of Act 381.

Statutory and Policy Considerations

Act 381 of 1996 (the "Act"), as amended, authorizes the MSF to approve Transformational Brownfield Plans that include state and local property tax capture in conjunction with the Local Unit of Government, sales and use tax exemptions, construction period tax capture revenues, income tax capture revenues, and withholding tax capture revenues for the purpose of supporting projects statewide. On July 25, 2017, the MSF Board approved the Transformational Brownfield Program Guidelines ("Guidelines"). The Guidelines have been amended by the MSF Board on September 26, 2017, April 23, 2019, March 22, 2022, July 25, 2023, and December 12, 2023, respectively. As required under the Act, all statutory criteria for the Project have been considered when making the recommendations in this memo. The Project meets the Guidelines and programmatic requirements, and an underwriting analysis has been completed MEDC staff. A summary of the completed underwriting analysis is included in Appendix A. An MSF Eligible Activities Table, Transformational Brownfield Plan ("TBP") Revenue Summary, and key statutory criteria are included in Appendix D.

The Project qualifies as a TBP as defined under Act 381 as it exceeds the threshold for capital investment (based on the population of the city, which in this case is $500 million) and will have a transformational impact on local economic development and community revitalization based on the extent of brownfield redevelopment and growth in population, commercial activity, and employment that will result from the

plan. The Project is a mixed-use development with planned integration of commercial, retail, office, and residential use.

The request includes the use of up to 100% of income tax capture revenues, which is allowed under statute and Guidelines, subject to a written affordable housing agreement between the local governmental unit and the developer. This affordable housing agreement will be fully executed upon approval of the TBP request by the MSF Board.

The request also includes a safe harbor calculation for income and withholding tax capture revenues, which may be elected for an individual project or the entire series of projects. The developer must elect whether to use the safe harbor calculation prior to the first disbursement of income tax capture revenues for a particular project. Once disbursement of income and withholding tax capture revenues commences, the Developer may not change the election for that individual project.

Demonstrated Needs

MEDC staff has determined that the full approximately $232 million in TBP assistance is required after conducting a thorough analysis of the Project. With the TBP assistance and other identified public support the Project's projected Leveraged Internal Rate of Return (IRR) is approximately 6.09% and its Unleveraged IRR is approximately 5.39% based on the underwriting analysis guided by the MSF approved TBP Guidelines which include the following assessment criteria:

- Assessment of how much traditional debt the project should be able to support/attract.
- Developer and consultant fees limited to 4% of the total development cost of the project.
- Reasonableness assessment of any related-party costs and expenses.
- Minimum Owner Equity Investment: 20% of Total Development Costs (net of developer and consulting fees).
- Minimum Debt Service Coverage Ratio: 1.20:1.00, calculated based on all scheduled debt service requirements following stabilization and conversion to permanent financing.
- Returns in relation to the land use mix, location, size and complexity of the project and the risk involved. Unleveraged IRR and yield on cost are to be evaluated if financing is preliminary.
- Reasonableness assessment of the proposed rental structure and assumptions.
- Reasonableness assessment of the proposed operating expenses.
- Reasonableness assessment of the proposed development costs.
- Process conducted to analyze and determine the project's economic viability.

Staff considers a projected return of 15% or less to be acceptable for projects of this size, scope and complexity. MEDC staff reviewed numerous documents provided by the development team including pro formas, studies, construction documents, etc. Using the assumptions provided during the underwriting of the Project and market analysis, it was determined that the Developer could achieve a projected Levered IRR exclusive of the Research Center and Parking Garage (being 100% funded by Michigan State University and Henry Ford Health) of 6.09% and Unlevered IRR of 5.39% over a 20-year horizon with the requested financial support. These returns would be considered below the market appropriate rate of return identified for a project of this size and complexity. Any sensitivity analysis performed by staff did not provide an impact that would increase the levered return above the 15% threshold considered acceptable. Staff also ran scenarios based on a reduced level of assistance to assess impact on cash flow and return numbers in order to support the current request and determined the proposed level of assistance appears necessary to be able to attract the required investment and keep the Project financially feasible. The executive summary is included in Appendix A.

Local Support

The Developer is seeking additional local support for the projects through a Commercial Facilities Exemption (PA 255) and Neighborhood Enterprise Zone (NEZ) tax abatements. A Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) is also being pursued. The total value of all abatements across all properties is estimated at $54,929,856. The project also includes the local portion of the property tax capture, valued at $73,400,719.

Applicant Background / Qualifications

Palace Sports & Entertainment, LLC's experience includes the renovation and operation of its previous headquarters, the Palace of Auburn Hills, followed by the construction and operation of the recently completed Henry Ford Detroit Pistons Performance Center, which serves as the organization's practice facility and corporate headquarters and a community asset with year-round retail tenants, public spaces and programming. DP Amsterdam, LLC is the development entity related to Palace Sports & Entertainment, LLC for the purposes of this project.

Michigan State University (MSU) is one of the largest property and facility owners in Michigan. Operating from its main campus in East Lansing, the campus is comprised of over 5200 acres and operates more than 560 buildings encompassing almost 25 million square feet of facilities that reach beyond East Lansing with significant property and operations in Detroit, Flint, and Grand Rapids.

Henry Ford Health (HFH) is the largest healthcare provider in Detroit and as such has developed and operated many facilities. Henry Ford Health's internal Finance, Facility Development, and Planning departments are fully engaged in the partnership with Michigan State and are assisting in all development requirements related to the research center.

The three main development entities will create single purpose LLCs to incur eligible costs for the project.

An Organizational Chart for DP Amsterdam, LLC is provided in Appendix B. The background review process was completed in accordance with the MSF Background Review Policy on March 18, 2024, and March 20, 2024.

Financial Highlights

- Mixed-use construction costs range from $303 to $498 per square foot
- Research Center constructions costs are $1,203 per square foot
    - Research Center construction costs are high, but due to the specialized nature and requirements of the lab use these costs are considered reasonable.
- Parking Garage constructions costs are $71,824 per space
    - Parking Garage construction costs are high, but these are elevated due to the infrastructure costs associated with this portion of the Project.
    - Hard costs for the Parking Garage are $39,655 per space.
- Average residential rental rates between $2.30 and $4.00 per square foot
- 20% of the residential units are targeted at affordable rent with an average rate of $1.09 per square foot
- Anticipated equity contribution of 66.35%
- Projected unleveraged developer return of 5.39% based on underwriting analyses
- Projected levered developer return of 6.09% based on underwriting analyses

Recommendation
MEDC staff recommends approval of the following (the "Recommendation"):

a) Approval of a TBP in the aggregate amount of $231,774,802 which consists of the following revenue maximums:
   1) Local and state property tax capture in the amount of $117,370,929, with state tax capture limited to $43,970,210;
   2) A maximum of $5,590,801 in construction period tax capture revenues;
   3) A maximum of $8,229,444 in construction period sales and use tax exemptions; and
   4) A maximum of $100,583,628 in income tax capture revenues and withholding tax capture revenues (post-construction), contingent upon final execution of the affordable housing agreement.
b) Approval of the factors that will be used to calculate the safe harbor amounts for income tax capture and withholding tax capture if elected by the developer. The factors will align with all parameters within the TBP Guidelines approved by the MSF on December 12, 2023. This election may be made on an individual project site or all project sites and must be made prior to the first distribution of income tax capture or withholding tax capture revenues.

APPENDIX A – Underwriting Analysis Executive Summary

Underwriting Analysis

The Developer requested assistance under the Transformational Brownfield Plan (TBP) amendment to the Michigan Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act. MEDC staff conducted an underwriting review of the Project. The underwriting analysis was guided by the MSF approved TBP Guidelines which include the following assessment criteria:

- Assessment of how much traditional debt the project should be able to support/attract.
- Developer and consultant fees limited to 4% of the total development cost of the project.
- Reasonableness assessment of any related-party costs and expenses.
- Minimum Owner Equity Investment: 20% of Total Development Costs (net of developer and consulting fees).
- Minimum Debt Service Coverage Ratio: 1.20:1.00, calculated based on all scheduled debt service requirements following stabilization and conversion to permanent financing.
- Returns in relation to the land use mix, location, size and complexity of the project and the risk involved. Unleveraged IRR and yield on cost are to be evaluated if financing is preliminary.
- Reasonableness assessment of the proposed rental structure and assumptions.
- Reasonableness assessment of the proposed operating expenses.
- Reasonableness assessment of the proposed development costs.
- Process conducted to analyze and determine the project's economic viability.

The assumptions provided during the underwriting of the Project determined that the Developer could achieve a projected Levered Internal Rate of Return (IRR) exclusive of the Research Center and Parking Garage (being 100% funded by MSU and HFH) of 6.09% and Unlevered Internal Rate of Return of 5.39% over a 20-year horizon with the requested financial support. These returns would be considered below the market appropriate rate of return identified for a project of this size and complexity. Staff performed sensitivity analysis on Project returns to determine the impacts of actual rents varying from assumptions using a mid-case and high case. The mid-case assumed mid-range market rental data assumptions. The high case assumptions included the high-end range of market rental data. These analyses resulted in an IRR within the underwriting guidelines for the Project of 15% and that the anticipated revenue generated by the Project will be adequate to meet its debt service requirements.

The Project sources include a variety of financial instruments. The total $773 million Project consists of over 66% equity financing from the Developer. The proposed debt structure includes HUD financing supporting over 22% of the project. Equity raised from tax credits provide 9% of the Project's sources. The remaining 3% come from deferred building acquisition as a result of ground leases for four of the Project components and other to be determined public support. Given the anticipated rental structure and debt service coverage ratios of HUD financing, staff have determined that the Project is maximizing available debt.

To build accurate estimates for commercial and residential rents and operating expenses, the Developer engaged CBRE, Inc. to provide a market study with a comprehensive analysis of market conditions. The Developer's assumptions regarding operating income and expenses of various components of the Project appear to be reasonable, falling within a typical range based on industry data and MEDC staff experience with similar projects.

The funding sources for the Research Center and Parking Garage components are anticipated to come from funding provided by MSU and HFH. Based on the anticipated debt service requirements of the underlying general obligations bonds the debt service coverage ratios (DSCRs) for the Research Center and Parking Garage would be 1.01 and 1.05, respectively. The proceeds from HFH and MSU are anticipated to come from general bond issuances by the respective entities as well as potential philanthropic contributions. The contributions from MSU and HFH are considered equity equivalents and will not be direct obligations of the Project. The average DSCRs for the remaining components is 1.17 to 1.00. The debt financing for the other components is anticipated to come through HUD financing which typically has a minimum 1.15 DSCR requirement. Overall, the average DSCR is below 1.20 to 1.00, but staff is comfortable with this deviation due to the above and consider the project to be financially feasible.

Development costs are considered to be higher than comparable projects in the market. The higher development costs are attributable to several factors, including: 1) higher contingencies and escalation costs being set aside due the Project being in the early stages of design and the extended development timeline to complete the project; 2) additional cost burdens associated with City of Detroit executive order compliance, elements associated with a local community benefits package, and public infrastructure improvements; and 3) the highly specialized nature of the Henry Ford and MSU Research Center, which requires specialized interiors, equipment and systems. A “true-up” will be performed at the time of construction completion for the overall Project at the point at which certificates of occupancy have been issued and actual construction costs can be verified.

The Developer’s proposed Project is likely to be transformative to the New Center area of Detroit, bringing a density of new construction and renovated product that is expected to attract new employees and residents to this region. While the projected operating revenues associated with the Project are generally expected to meet or come near rents/revenues currently achieved in existing downtown area developments, the Project rents appear to be insufficient to support the significant construction costs associated with the Project’s mix of uses, parking, affordable housing efforts and extraordinary infrastructure and public improvement costs. MEDC staff has found Developer assumptions to be reasonable based on information provided to date and the level of TBP assistance requested appears reasonable and appropriate to ensure the financial feasibility of the proposed Project.

Staff recommends that a single post construction re-evaluation be conducted per Section 14a(8) of Act 381 to adjust for the actual construction costs. The proposed Project is in preliminary stages of pre-development, with all Project components in the development design phase. Given this, it is likely development costs will continue to evolve as the Project moves through the development phases. Following construction completion, the project will undergo a re-evaluation based on the certified construction costs which may require the incentive to be adjusted down (“true up”). The incentive award will be decreased if the actual construction costs are less than 90% of the amount estimated in the Act 381 Work Plan.

APPENDIX B – Organizational Charts

Organizational Structure

Company Name: DP Amsterdam, LLC
Employer Identification Number: 92-1589299
MANAGER: Mary Ann Sigler

Member	Member		Ownership Interest Totals	EINs -No Soc Sec numbers	State of Organization
Member/Company name and manager	DSPH, LLC, a Delaware LLC		**100.00%**		
See note below*	100.00%				
		100%			
			100.00%		

***The beneficial owner of the member(s) of DSPH, LLC is Tom Gores and his estate planning vehicles**

APPENDIX C – Project Map and Renderings





6175 Third Street



6005 Second Avenue



725 Amsterdam Street



675 Amsterdam Street



6205 Third Street



APPENDIX D – MSF Eligible Activities Summary

In order to alleviate brownfield conditions and prepare the site for redevelopment, the City of Detroit, a Qualified Local Governmental Unit, has duly approved a combined Transformational Brownfield Plan for this property on February 27, 2024. The property has been determined to be a facility as verified by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) on November 29, 2023.

There are 64.2532 non-homestead mills available for capture, with State mills from school operating and SET millages equaling 23.0430 mills (35.86%) and local millage equaling 41.2102 mills (64.14%). Tax increment capture will begin in 2028 and is estimated to continue for 30 years on each individual eligible property. The state tax capture is recommended to be capped at $167,739,071, which is the amount of tax increment revenue anticipated to be generated in 30 years on each individual eligible property. Total MSF eligible activities are estimated at $231,774,802. The tax capture ratio is impacted by the various tax abatements for the project and the blended ratio is shown below. The property tax reimbursement only represents a portion of the award needed to fully reimburse for eligible activity costs. MSF eligible activities breaks down as follows:

Tax Capture Summary:

State tax capture	(37.46%)	$	43,970,210
Local tax capture	(62.54%)	$	73,400,719
TOTAL		**$**	**117,370,929**

Total TBP Revenue Breakdown

Property Tax Capture	$	117,370,929
Construction Period Sales and Use Tax Exemption		8,229,444
Construction Period Tax Capture		5,590,801
Income Tax Capture (post-construction)		60,747,590
Withholding Tax Capture (post-construction)	+	39,836,038
ANTICIPATED TOTAL	**$**	**231,774,802**

Cost of MSF Eligible Activities

Per Act 381 Section 2(o)(*iv*), any demolition, construction, restoration, alterations, renovation, or improvement of buildings or site improvements on eligible property, including infrastructure improvements that benefit eligible property are considered eligible activities for TBP's. This project will have an estimated over $231,774,802 in hard costs which will be certified at project completion.

Statutory Criteria

It is the role of the Project Management staff (MEDC Staff) to review the information provided by the applicant for eligibility, completeness, and adherence to program guidelines, and to manage the MSF's investment. Explanatory and background information is supplied in summary form to provide context for the request and is drawn exclusively from materials submitted by the applicant, and, as applicable, from other relevant third-party sources utilized by staff.

As required under Act 381, the following statutory criteria is being considered by the MSF:

A. The importance of the project to the community in which it is located:
The project is critically important to both the New Center neighborhood and the City of Detroit and will create new mixed-income housing, increase walkability, and add opportunities for local businesses through the addition of ground floor retail. In addition, the project will drive innovation through the development of a best-in-class biomedical research center in the City of Detroit. The projects are anticipated to create 735 full-time equivalent jobs, help to expand economic opportunities for the City's residents, and support economic revitalization of the surrounding area.

B. If the project will act as a catalyst for additional revitalization of the community in which it is located:
The Project would create additional density through the additional 662 residential units, research center, and new commercial space. This density will have the effect of catalyzing new jobs, generating significant commercial activity, increasing the city's population, and provide housing for different income levels.

C. The amount of local community and financial support for the project:
The City of Detroit is contributing to the Project with the local portion of the property tax capture , valued at $73,400,719, and through NEZ and PA 255 tax abatements as well as a PILOT with a value of approximately $54,929,856. The abatements were approved in February and March of 2024.

D. The applicant's financial need for a community revitalization incentive:
The TBP proposes that the Developer will invest over $773 million to develop the combined proposed TBP Project. Based on the MEDC staff underwriting analysis the full $232 million in TBP assistance is required. With the full incentive, the projected leveraged IRR is 6.09% and unleveraged IRR at 5.39% over a 20-year horizon. Any sensitivity analysis performed by staff did not provide an impact that would increase the levered return above the 15% threshold considered acceptable.

E. The extent of reuse of vacant buildings, reuse of historical buildings, and redevelopment of blighted property:
. One Ford Place is in the process of being proposed for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The building is currently qualifying as a facility obsolete, rather than historic, and is anticipating that the historic designation will occur in 2024.

F. Creation of jobs:
The developer has identified the creation of 735 full-time equivalent jobs as a result of businesses anticipated to occupy the completed projects. The developer anticipates the jobs will have an average hourly wage of $53.

G. The level of private sector and other contributions, including, but not limited to, federal funds and federal tax credits:
The Developer is providing substantial equity in excess of what is required under the TBP Guidelines of 20%. It is anticipated that the developer's equity contribution will be over 66% of the projected total development cost. It is also anticipated that the Project will be able generate

over $41.1 million in Low Income Housing Tax Credit equity and nearly $28.9 million in Federal Historic Tax Credit equity.

H. Whether the project is financially and economically sound:
The Project has been thoroughly analyzed and is believed to be financially and economically sound.

I. Whether the project increases the density of the area:
All of the projects contemplated in this TBP are proposed to be constructed on vacant or underutilized Brownfield sites shifting them to an intensive high-density use. The resulting developments are expected to attract new commercial users and a significant number of new residents.

J. Whether the project promotes mixed-use development and walkable communities:
The development of the Projects will enhance the area by redeveloping large parking lots and an existing office building into a vibrant medical research facility and mixed-use housing/commercial buildings, thus creating an expanded walkable community in conjunction with the Henry Ford Detroit Pistons Performance Center and the nearby Henry Ford Health Main Campus. The addition of substantial numbers of new residents, thousands of square feet of new retail/commercial space and hundreds of new workers promises to create a vibrancy not currently experienced at the Property.

K. Whether the project converts abandoned public buildings to private use:
No public buildings will be converted to private use as a part of the TBP.

L. Whether the project promotes sustainable development:
The plan promotes sustainable development through several methods. The research center will be designed in keeping with the LEED Gold Certification standards and the selection of 20 or more materials with Environmental Product Declarations in the research center will support the endeavor to provide transparency of global warming impacts, encouraging a positive environmental impact. The landscape will feature plants and trees that are native to the Detroit / Southeast Michigan region to support the bird migratory fly zones and pollinators that are critical to the region's habitat health. Hardscaped areas will be paired with deciduous trees to balance urban heat island effect and provide shade during peak summer months. The landscape approach will be closely linked to the civil engineering site water approach to achieve target metrics for on-site water management, control, and reuse.

M. Whether the project involves the rehabilitation of a historic resource:
The Project is not qualifying as a historic resource.

N. Whether the project addresses area-wide redevelopment:
The projects address the goals of the City of Detroit Master Plan of Policies relating to the New Center area because it will increase residential density, provide additional retail to the area, improve the area's appearance, and provide more inviting green and open spaces. In addition, a substantial Research Center, coupled with adjacent new and adaptively reused residential apartment and retail/commercial buildings, will add to the growing New Center community and will create attractive opportunities for people and businesses that live and work there.

O. Whether the project addresses underserved markets of commerce:
The area surrounding the projects parcels is a historically underserved market of commerce, and these projects will expand the available commercial choices. The TBP and other associated tax incentives are critical to creating new opportunities in affordable housing for Detroit's residents as well as enabling the Developer to offer lower rents to commercial tenants than what would otherwise be possible, increasing the potential to work with local and small businesses.

P. The level and extent of environmental contamination:
Contaminated soils will be removed and disposed of to make the developments suitable for occupancy.

Q. If the rehabilitation of the historic resource will meet the federal Secretary of the Interior's standards for rehabilitation and guidelines for rehabilitating historic buildings (36 CFR 67):
The Project is not qualifying as a historic resource.

R. Whether the project will compete with or affect existing Michigan businesses within the same industry:
This TBP is not anticipated to compete with or adversely affect existing Michigan businesses.

S. Any other additional criteria approved by the board that are specific to each individual project and are consistent with the findings and intent of this chapter:
None.

T. Describe how does the TBP includes provisions for affordable housing:
The City of Detroit and the Developer intend to enter into an affordable housing agreement prior to the approval of the TBP. This agreement will be effective upon approval of this Transformational Brownfield Plan by the MSF. All three residential projects will have affordable housing and 20% (139) of the total number of rental units developed through this Project will be deeply affordable at 50% of Area Median Income. It is anticipated that these units will be supported in part by Michigan State Housing Development Authority, who would also conduct income monitoring.

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND

RESOLUTION 2024-071

APPROVAL OF A BROWNFIELD ACT 381 COMBINED TRANSFORMATIONAL BROWNFIELD PLAN
CITY OF DETROIT BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
FUTURE OF HEALTH TRANSFORMATIONAL BROWNFIELD PLAN

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Growth Authority ("MEGA") has been established by 1995 PA 24, as amended (the "Act");

WHEREAS, 2002 PA 727 amended 1996 PA 381, MCL 125.2651 et seq ("Act 381"), to empower local brownfield redevelopment authorities to request the MEGA Board to approve a brownfield project work plan and, thereby, capture taxes levied for school operating purposes for the project;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 2012-9 transferred all the authority, powers, duties, functions, responsibilities, records, personnel, property, unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations or other funds of the MEGA to the Michigan Strategic Fund ("MSF");

WHEREAS, Public Act 46 of 2017 amended Act 381 to allow a governing body and the MSF to approve transformational brownfield plans ("TBP") and was further amended by Public Act 135 of 2021 modifying criteria for transformational brownfield plans;

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2017, the MSF Board adopted the Transformational Brownfield Plan Guidelines (the "TBP Guidelines") by Resolution 2017-109;

WHEREAS, the MSF Board amended the TBP Guidelines by Resolution 2017-152 on September 26, 2017, by Resolution 2019-062 on April 23, 2019, by Resolution 2022-055 on March 22, 2022, by Resolution 2023-132 on July 25, 2023, and by Resolution 2023-194 on December 12, 2023;

WHEREAS, captured school operating tax revenues, construction period tax capture revenues, sales and use tax exemption, income tax capture revenues, withholding tax capture revenues, may be used under 1996 PA 381 as amended, for demolition, construction, restoration, alteration, renovation or improvement of buildings, or site improvements on eligible property, including infrastructure improvements that directly benefit eligible property, or for lead, asbestos, or mold abatement, and for demolition and that are not response activities under the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451;

WHEREAS, the City of Detroit Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (the "Authority") has submitted a combined transformational brownfield plan (the "Plan") for property located at 6175 Third Street, 6005 Second Avenue, 725 Amsterdam Street, 675 Amsterdam Street, and 6205 Third Street within the City of Detroit, known as The Future of Health Transformational Brownfield Plan (the "Project");

WHEREAS, the City of Detroit is a "qualified local governmental unit" and is eligible to provide for a) demolition; b) lead, asbestos, or mold abatement; c) public infrastructure improvements; d) site preparation; e) brownfield and work plan preparation; f) brownfield and work plan implementation and g) interest as provided under 2007 PA 204;

WHEREAS, the Authority, Michigan State University, Henry Ford Health, Palace Sports & Entertainment, LLC and DP Amsterdam, LLC (the "Developer") are requesting MSF approval of the following actions:

1) capture of $117,370,929 in local and school property tax capture revenues, with state tax capture limited to $43,970,210;
2) a sales and use tax exemption of up to $8,229,444 during the construction period of the Project;
3) capture up to $5,590,801 in construction period tax capture revenues; and
4) capture up to $100,583,628 in post-construction income tax capture revenues and post-construction withholding tax capture revenues.

(the aforementioned, collectively, the "Transformational Brownfield Plan Designation");

WHEREAS, the factors that will be used to calculate the safe harbor amounts for income tax capture and withholding tax capture, if elected by the Developer, are included in the Plan;

WHEREAS, capture of up to 100% of income tax capture revenues may occur subject to a written binding affordable housing agreement between the local governmental unit and the Developer; and

WHEREAS, following construction completion and occupancy of the completed buildings, the Project will undergo a re-evaluation based on the certified construction costs which may require the incentive to be adjusted down ("true up"). The incentive award will be decreased if the actual construction costs are less than 90 percent of the amount estimated in the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation ("MEDC") provides administrative services to the MSF, and has reviewed the application and recommends approval of the Transformational Brownfield Plan Designation by the MSF Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the MSF Board authorizes the Transformational Brownfield Plan Designation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no taxes levied for school operating purposes shall be used to reimburse interest costs related to the eligible activities for the Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the MSF Fund Manager is authorized to authorized negotiate all final terms and conditions and execute all documents necessary to effectuate the Transformational Brownfield Plan Designation in accordance with the terms set forth in this Resolution and consistent with the requirements of Act 381, as amended.

Ayes:	Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner
Nays:	None
Recused:	Britany L. Affolter-Caine

Lansing, Michigan
April 16, 2024

APPENDIX A - Income and Withholding Tax Capture Safe Harbor Revenue Tables

Year	Future of Health Portfolio - Safe Harbor Income/Withholding Reconciliation Table				
	Eligible Reimb. Account BOP	Total Potential Inc/Wth Capture	Reduction for Safe Harbor	Safe Harbor Inc/Wth Capture	Eligible Reimb. Account EOP
2024	$ -	$ -	90%	$ -	$ -
2025	$ -	$ -	90%	$ -	$ -
2026	$ -	$ -	90%	$ -	$ -
2027	$ -	$ -	90%	$ -	$ -
2028	$ -	$ 1,972,532	90%	$ 1,775,279	$ (1,775,279)
2029	$ (1,775,279)	$ 2,031,708	90%	$ 1,828,538	$ (3,603,817)
2030	$ (3,603,817)	$ 3,868,568	90%	$ 3,481,711	$ (7,085,528)
2031	$ (7,085,528)	$ 3,984,625	90%	$ 3,586,162	$ (10,671,690)
2032	$ (10,671,690)	$ 4,104,164	90%	$ 3,693,747	$ (14,365,438)
2033	$ (14,365,438)	$ 4,227,289	90%	$ 3,804,560	$ (18,169,997)
2034	$ (18,169,997)	$ 4,354,107	90%	$ 3,918,696	$ (22,088,694)
2035	$ (22,088,694)	$ 4,484,730	90%	$ 4,036,257	$ (26,124,951)
2036	$ (26,124,951)	$ 4,619,272	90%	$ 4,157,345	$ (30,282,296)
2037	$ (30,282,296)	$ 4,757,850	90%	$ 4,282,065	$ (34,564,362)
2038	$ (34,564,362)	$ 4,900,586	90%	$ 4,410,527	$ (38,974,889)
2039	$ (38,974,889)	$ 5,047,604	90%	$ 4,542,843	$ (43,517,732)
2040	$ (43,517,732)	$ 5,199,032	90%	$ 4,679,129	$ (48,196,861)
2041	$ (48,196,861)	$ 5,355,003	90%	$ 4,819,502	$ (53,016,363)
2042	$ (53,016,363)	$ 5,515,653	90%	$ 4,964,087	$ (57,980,451)
2043	$ (57,980,451)	$ 5,681,122	90%	$ 5,113,010	$ (63,093,461)
2044	$ (63,093,461)	$ 5,851,556	90%	$ 5,266,400	$ (68,359,861)
2045	$ (68,359,861)	$ 6,027,103	90%	$ 5,424,392	$ (73,784,254)
2046	$ (73,784,254)	$ 6,139,751	90%	$ 5,525,776	$ (79,310,029)
2047	$ (79,310,029)	$ 6,323,944	90%	$ 5,691,549	$ (85,001,579)
2048	$ (85,001,579)	$ 3,023,365	90%	$ 2,721,028	$ (87,722,607)
2049	$ (87,722,607)	$ 3,114,066	90%	$ 2,802,659	$ (90,525,266)
2050	$ -	$ -	90%	$ -	$ -
2051	$ -	$ -	90%	$ -	$ -
2052	$ -	$ -	90%	$ -	$ -
2053	$ -	$ -	90%	$ -	$ -
2054	$ -	$ -	90%	$ -	$ -
2055	$ -	$ -	90%	$ -	$ -
2056	$ -	$ -	90%	$ -	$ -
2057	$ -	$ -	90%	$ -	$ -
2058	$ -	$ -	90%	$ -	$ -
TOTAL (35 Yrs)		$ 100,583,629		$ 90,525,266	

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
DIRECTOR

January 21, 2022

Ms. Katelyn Wilcox
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

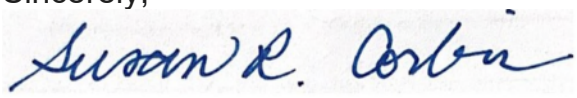
Re: Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Designees

Dear Ms. Wilcox:

Pursuant to MCLA 16.51, I hereby confirm my designation of John Groen and Jonathan Smith as the persons authorized and empowered to act in my stead as a member of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board for scheduled meetings or portions thereof that I am unable to attend.

If you need anything additional, please contact Diane Burton at (517) 230-5454. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Susan R. Corbin
Director

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

Ms. Rhonda Bishop
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund Office
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Bishop:

I hereby confirm and ratify my designation of Michael B. Kapp, Administrator, Michigan Department of Transportation, as the person authorized and empowered to act in my stead for Michigan Strategic Fund meetings that I am unable to attend.

Sincerely,

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

April 11, 2024

MSF Fund Manager
MEDC
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Fund Manager,

This is to advise that I am recusing myself from voting and excuse myself during the discussion of the following item on the Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Agenda on Tuesday, April 16, 2024.

- Future of Health Transformational Brownfield Plan

The reason for my recusal is that I have a potential conflict of interest with respect to one of the recipients of this investment.

Sincerely,

Britany Affolter-Caine
Executive Director
Michigan's University Research Corridor

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MEMORANDUM

Date: **April 16, 2024**

To: **Michigan Strategic Fund Board**

From: **Hannah Yurk, Community Development Manager**
Debbie Stehlik, Commercial Real Estate Investment Manager
Lisa Edmonds, Senior Program Specialist

Subject: **Request for Approval of a Michigan Community Revitalization Program (MCRP) Performance-based Direct Loan and Request for Approval of an Act 381 Work Plan**
Maple Block Flats LLC and Emmet County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (BRA) – Maple Block Flats

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Project Summary & Request

Maple Block Flats LLC (the "Applicant") is proposing to redevelop the former Michigan Maple Block Manufacturing building located at 1410 Standish Avenue in Petoskey into an eight building, 204-unit multi-family development. The Michigan Maple Block Factory produced butcher blocks for over 100 years on site but due to COVID-19 they closed their doors in 2020. This site has been designated as a priority site for the city to focus on redevelopment through MEDC's Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC). The current facility will be demolished including asbestos abatement and contaminated soil removal. The applicant is seeking a MCRP direct loan award in the amount of $2,000,000 and state tax capture for Act 381 eligible activities, including lead and asbestos abatement, demolition, preparation, and infrastructure improvements. Locally, this project will benefit the city with the construction of new attainable housing, where 50% of the units will be income restricted to under 120% of the area median income (AMI) for a period of 22 years. The community will also benefit from the addition of a bike/walking trail along the site's east side to connect to downtown, and an easement to the City on the south end of the property for a pedestrian bridge to be built over the Bear River providing a connection to the North Country Trail. With the recommended support, the project is anticipated to be completed in Spring 2026.

PROJECT SUMMARY	
Project Eligibility	Blighted
Total Approximate Square Feet Revitalized	196,470
Total Approximate Acres Activated	11
Estimated # of Residential Units	204
Current Taxable Value	$442,680
Projected Taxable Value at Completion	$17,000,000
Total Anticipated Capital Investment	$49,373,533
Brownfield TIF / MSF Eligible Activities or State Capture Request	$3,670,646
MCRP Loan	$2,000,000

This project is supportive of the community's goal by redeveloping an industrial space, that has been vacant for four years, into much needed workforce housing for the community. The city of Petoskey is a certified Redevelopment Ready Community and has designated the property as a priority site for redevelopment. With the support of the MEDC's Redevelopment Service Team, the project was able to receive predevelopment funding. This project received eight letters

of support from the community including the City of Petoskey, Emmet County, Housing North, the Petoskey Chamber, Moeller Aerospace, McLaren Northern Michigan Hospital, North Central Michigan College, and Petoskey Plastics. This project is utilizing the new Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) Housing TIF program where 102 units (50%) will be income restricted to under 120% AMI for a period of 22 years. These improvements align with the MEDC strategic plan by developing attractive places, adding housing units, and making public infrastructure improvements.

On December 21, 2011, the MSF Board approved the Michigan Community Revitalization Program (MCRP) and on January 25, 2022, the MSF Board approved its restated program guidelines. As required under the MCRP, all statutory criteria for the project have been considered when making the recommendations in this memo. The project meets the MCRP Guidelines and programmatic requirements, and a financial review has been completed.

Act 381 of 1996 (the "Act"), as amended, authorizes the MSF to approve Work Plans that include the capture of the School Operating Millage and State Education Tax millages for the purpose of supporting projects statewide. On March 23, 2021, the MSF Board approved the Brownfield Tax Increment Financing MSF Program Guidelines ("Guidelines"). As required under the Act, all statutory criteria for the project have been considered when making the recommendations in this memo. The project meets the Brownfield TIF Guidelines and programmatic requirements, and a financial review has been completed.

Demonstrated Needs

A financing need exists due to increasing construction costs, site conditions related to the demolition of an existing building and environmental remediation costs. Environmental concerns are due to the length of time the subject property had been operated as a large manufacturing facility, from approximately 1881 through 2020. Additionally, the project is incurring substantial costs related to infrastructure improvements including stormwater management, pedestrian improvements, water and wastewater improvements and road improvements. Pedestrian improvements include a non-motorized greenway trail to connect the eligible property and downtown. In addition, the project's financial need is further exacerbated by the goal of providing attainable housing, which limits the revenue that can be generated. Multiple financing sources have been explored and maximized, including all available traditional financing, with senior debt of $28,280,000, and the development team contributing approximately $6,537,000 of equity. The project has received a loan and grant through EGLE, a grant through the State Land Bank Authority, and the largest Missing Middle grant from MSHDA. The project would not be financially viable without the proposed MCRP and Act 381 Brownfield TIF support. Even with this support, the anticipated return over a 20-year time horizon is just over 8.0%.

Local Support

The City of Petoskey has approved a Residential Facilities Act tax abatement for the property, which abates 25% of taxes for 12 years, with a projected value of $3,684,000. The city and county have approved a 22-year-old Brownfield Reimbursement plan with the local portion of the brownfield TIF valued at $4,829,707.

Applicant Background / Qualifications

Maple Block Flats LLC is a related entity to Great Lake Capital (GLC) which is the developer on this project. They are based in South Bend, Indiana. GLC has developed over $1 billion in assets that range from $10 million to $85 million. In 2023, they completed 124 West Front Street, a mixed-use project in Traverse City that received MSF support.

An Organizational Chart for Maple Block Flats LLC is provided in Appendix A. The background review process was completed in accordance with the MSF Background Review Policy on March 19, 2024.

Financial Highlights

- Total cost per square foot is estimated at $251.30.
- Projected residential rental rates range from $975 for a studio unit to $1,850 for two-bedroom units with an average of $1.84 per square foot.
- Half of the project's 204 residential units will be income restricted to 120% or less of Area Median Income (AMI) for Emmet County. The residential rental rates will not exceed 120% of AMI for a duration of 22 years per the terms of the MSDHA Housing TIF program. In addition, the terms of the Freddie Forward permanent loan commitment require a minimum of 20% of the units to be further restricted to 80% or less of county AMI.

- Average debt service coverage ratio of 1.43 to 1.0. Years 1 through 4 and proforma debt service coverage ratios are projected to dip slightly below 1.20 to 1.0, however, these do not take into account the initial interest only periods or operating reserves in place as the project stabilizes.
- Owner equity contribution of approximately $6,537,000 or 13%.
- Developer return over a 20-year timeframe is projected at 8.0%.

From the materials received and reviewed, staff consider the project to be financially and economically sound. A detailed Sources and Uses and financial terms for the MCRP Incentive are included in Appendix C. An MSF Eligible Activities and Tax Capture Summary are included in Appendix D.

Recommendation

MEDC staff recommends approval of the following (the "Recommendation"):

a) State tax capture for Act 381 eligible activities capped at $3,670,646, utilizing the current state to local capture ratio.

b) A MCRP performance-based Direct Loan in an amount up to $2,000,000 for Maple Block Flat LLC on terms and conditions outlined in Exhibit A found in the resolution.

c) Approval of funds to be transferred from the Investment Fund for the specific purpose of this project through MCL 125.2088h(3)(e) to the MCRP Program for the purpose of the program authorized under MCL 125.2088b(2)(c) as long as the program provides for repayment for breach of the written agreement or the failure to meet measurable outcomes.

APPENDIX A – Organizational Chart

Company Name: Maple Block Flats
Employer Identification Number:92-3010547

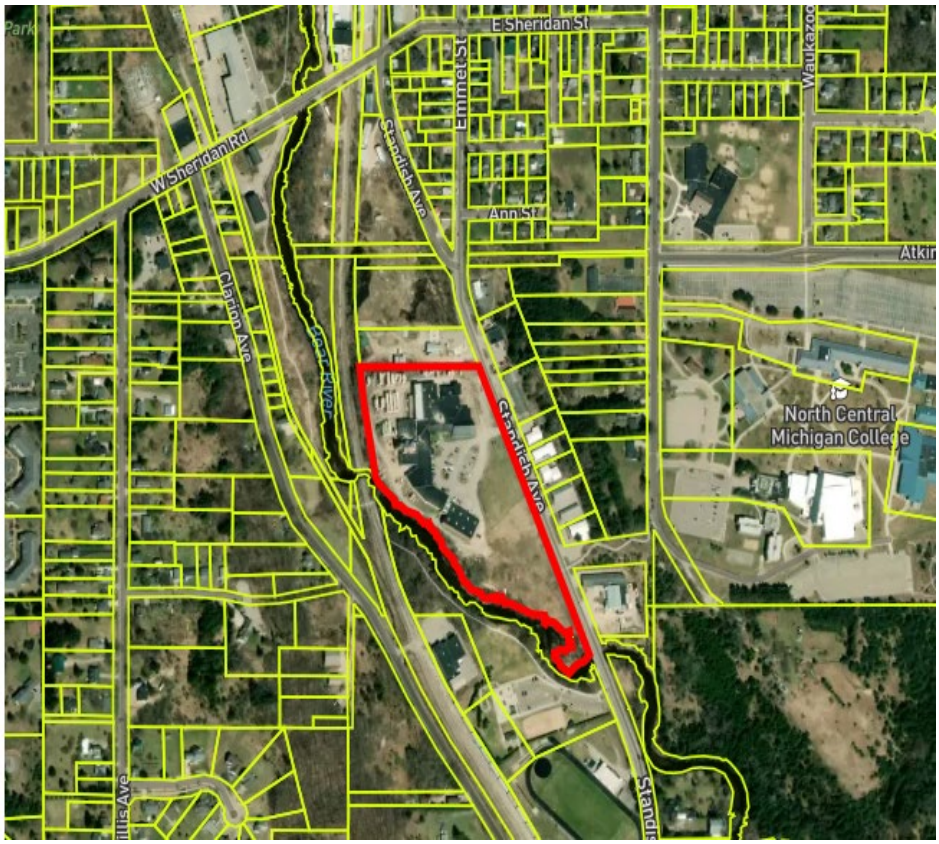
MANAGER: Jeffrey Smoke

Member		Ownership Interest Totals	EINs -No Soc Sec numbers	State of Organization
Maple Block Holdings, LLC		**100.00%**	99-1442593 99-1442754	Michigan
GLC Petoskey Holdings, LLC	100.00%			
		100.00%		

Guarantee section is not required for TIF-only requests.

Key Principals/Guarantors:	**Amount of Guarantee**
Ryan Rans	100%
Brad Toothaker	100%
Jeffrey Smoke	100%

APPENDIX B – Project Map and Renderings





APPENDIX C – Financial Terms

Summary of Development Sources:

Bank Loan	$	28.280.000	57.28%
MSF Loan	$	2.000.000	04.05%
EGLE Loan	$	1,000,000	02.03%
EGLE Grant	$	1,000,000	02.03%
State Land Bank Grant	$	1,000,000	02.03%
MSHDA MM Grant	$	7,140,000	14.46%
Developer Fees	$	1,850,000	03.74%
Deposit/LOC	$	565,600	01.14%
Developer Equity	$	6,537,933	13.24%
TOTAL	**$**	49,373,533	**100.00%**

Summary of Development Uses:

Acquisition	$	2,500,000
Hard Construction Costs	$	38,917,944
Eligible Soft Costs	$	889,500
Other	$	7,066,089
TOTAL	**$**	49,373,533

Loan Terms

MSF Incentive: MCRP Performance-based Direct Loan

Borrower: Maple Block Flats LLC

Senior Lender: Construction Lender currently anticipated to be Merchants Bank or Merchants Capital and Permanent Lender currently anticipated to be the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("Freddie Mac") (or other federally insured lenders acceptable to the MSF)

Total Capital Investment: Currently estimated at $49,373,533

MSF Eligible Investment: Currently estimated at $33,455,452

Minimum Eligible Investment: Currently estimated at $26,765,000

MSF Share: Up to the lesser of 50% of "Eligible Investment" or $2,000,000.

Term: Currently anticipated to be up to 120 months. Includes an interest only period of up to 36 months.

Amortization: Currently anticipated to be up to 360 months, following the interest only period.

Interest Rate: 1.0% per annum

Repayment Terms: Currently anticipated to be monthly interest only payments for up to 36 months, followed by principal and interest payments, with principal due at maturity, subject to the requirements and limitations of subordination agreement and terms to be negotiated with the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation's (Freddie Mac) Affordable Housing Unfunded Forward Loan Program.

Collateral:	Currently anticipated to be a second priority security interest in the subject real estate, assignment of rents and leases, and assignment of other contracts and documents deemed necessary to the MSF, subject to the requirements and limitations of subordination agreement and terms to be negotiated with the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation's (Freddie Mac) Affordable Housing Unfunded Forward Loan Program.
Guarantee:	Currently anticipated to be the personal guaranties of the LLC members, subject to the requirements and limitations of subordination agreement and terms to be negotiated with the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation's (Freddie Mac) Affordable Housing Unfunded Forward Loan Program.
MSF Fees:	The MSF shall be paid a one-time fee equal to 1.0% of the Loan Amount.
Reserves/Contingencies:	Currently anticipated to be approximately $3,300,000 in reserves and contingencies.
Funding:	The MSF will fund up to $2,000,000 to be disbursed following closing of the financing and other performance criteria.
Other Conditions:	The MSF's investment will be contingent upon the following: - Receipt of final construction documents, including a "Guaranteed Maximum Price" or Fixed Price construction contract - Final Development Budget - Anticipated minimum owner equity investment of $6,537,000 - Other legal due diligence, as required

MCRP Programmatic Requirements

MCRP Program and Guidelines

On December 21, 2011, the MSF Board approved the Michigan Community Revitalization Program (MCRP) and on January 25, 2022, the MSF Board approved its restated program guidelines. The primary intended objective of the MCRP is to provide incentives to persons that make eligible investments on eligible property in Michigan. It is the role of the MEDC staff to review for eligibility, completeness, and adherence to the program, the information provided by the applicant and to manage the MSF's investment. As required under the MCRP, all statutory criteria for the project have been considered. The project meets the MCRP Guidelines and a financial review has been completed.

As required under the MCRP, the following statutory criteria have been reviewed:

A. The importance of the project to the community in which it is located:
Housing North, the community housing partnership for the region, has completed several plans related to housing. One was a survey that was conducted from January 2023 to April 2023. Emmet County employers responded back the most out of the 10 counties, when asked if it was difficult attracting or retaining employees due to housing related issues, 73% of them said yes. The top 2 most common housing issues for employers included lack of available housing and unaffordable rental housing. This project is addressing these issues with providing new housing with AMI ranges from 80% to 120%. Emmet county has a rental gap of 865 rental units which is stated in Housing North's housing need assessment. Additionally, a survey was completed for a total of six apartment properties comprising a total of 424 units. Overall, the multifamily apartments surveyed are operating at an occupancy rate of 100.0%. Typically, healthy, well-balanced markets have rental housing vacancy rates generally between 4% and 6% as stated in their report. As such, it appears the Petoskey market has a shortage of multifamily apartments, and this project will help supply the needed housing for the community.

B. If the project will act as a catalyst for additional revitalization of the community in which it is located:
The project will add 204 rental housing units into the City of Petoskey, bringing new residents while revitalizing a blighted and abandoned building.

C. The amount of local community and financial support for the project:
The city of Petoskey has approved a Residential Facilities Act tax abatement for the property, which abates 25% of taxes for 12 years. The city and county have approved a 22-year Brownfield Reimbursement plan.

D. The applicant's financial need for a community revitalization incentive:
A financing need exists due to increasing construction costs, site conditions related to the demolition of an existing building, and environmental remediation costs. Additionally, the project is incurring substantial costs related to infrastructure improvements including stormwater management, pedestrian improvements, water and wastewater improvements and road improvements. This includes a non-motorized greenway trail to connect the eligible property and downtown. In addition, the need is further exacerbated by the goal of providing attainable housing, which limits the revenue that can be generated. Multiple financing sources have been explored and maximized, including all available traditional financing, with senior debt of $28,280,000, and the development team contributing over $6,537,000 of equity. The project has received a loan and grant through EGLE, a grant through the State Land Bank Authority, and the largest Missing Middle grant from MSHDA. The project would not be financially viable without the proposed MCRP and Act 381 Brownfield TIF support. Even with this support, the anticipated return over a 20-year time horizon is just over 8.0%.

E. The extent of reuse of vacant buildings, reuse of historical buildings, and redevelopment of blighted property:
This project will be demolishing a blighted building that was left vacant in 2020.

F. Creation of jobs:
This project is anticipating the creation of 4 full time jobs with the average hourly wage is estimated to be $30.

G. The level of private sector and other contributions, including, but not limited to, federal funds and federal tax credits:
The developers are utilizing a senior lender for a $28,280,000 loan and $7,100,000 equity for this project, which is about 70% of the total development costs. The developer is deferring developer fees for this project.

H. Whether the project is financially and economically sound:
Staff consider the project to be financially and economically sound.

I. Whether the project increases the density of the area:
This project will be demolishing a blighted structure on an 11-acre parcel and create 8 buildings consisting of housing and shared resident space. There is phase II planned for redevelopment, that will add additional commercial space at a later date.

J. Whether the project promotes mixed-use development and walkable communities:
This project promotes walkable communities by providing infrastructure funding through the brownfield plan to support the city's effort to extend the Greenway pedestrian trail from downtown to this parcel. The developers have granted an easement to the city to allow for the expansion of the trail.

K. Whether the project converts abandoned public buildings to private use:
The subject project is not utilizing public buildings for their development plan.

L. Whether the project promotes sustainable development:
This project will promote sustainable development by including extra insulation which is the most impactful way to build green due to using less energy. In addition, the project will have a green roof component on part of the roof area. The project will utilize Low VOC paints, Energy star appliances and HVAC systems with a seer rating.

M. Whether the project involves the rehabilitation of a historic resource:
This project does not involve rehabilitation of a historic resource.

N. Whether the project addresses area-wide redevelopment:
The city of Petoskey is a certified RRC community and identified this site as a priority site for development. The development of the blighted building into housing units will allow for more residents within the city limits to work, live, and play in the city.

O. Whether the project addresses underserved markets of commerce:
This project will have 50% of units income restricted that will include 102 units under 120% AMI and of those, 20% will be further restricted to 80% or less of county AMI.

P. The level and extent of environmental contamination:
A third-party environmental assessment was performed through the property to identify the contamination. Due to the use of the large manufacturing facility of wood butcher blocks, Recognized Environmental Conditions (RECs) were identified. Phase II was recommended and was completed for the level of contamination.

Q. If the rehabilitation of the historic resource will meet the federal Secretary of the Interior's standards for rehabilitation and guidelines for rehabilitating historic buildings (36 CFR 67):
The subject property is not subject to the Secretary of the Interior's standards.

R. Whether the project will compete with or affect existing Michigan businesses within the same industry:
Given the current need for housing, the proposed project will not compete or affect other existing Michigan businesses.

S. Any other additional criteria approved by the board that are specific to each individual project and are consistent with the findings and intent of this chapter:
There are no additional criteria necessary for consideration by the MSF Board.

APPENDIX D – MSF Eligible Activities Summary

Tax Capture Summary

In order to alleviate brownfield conditions and prepare the site for redevelopment, the City of Petoskey, a Qualified Local Governmental Unit, has duly approved a brownfield plan for this property on November 6, 2023. The property has been deemed blighted by the City of Petoskey on November 28, 2023.

There are 51.7310 non-homestead mills available for capture, with State mills from school operating and SET millages equaling 24.0000 mills (46.39%) and local millage equaling 27.7310 mills (53.61%). Tax increment capture will begin in 2025 and is estimated to continue for 22 years. Total MSF eligible activities are estimated at $12,552,545, however the work plan projects the maximum capture to be $8,500,353. The state tax capture is recommended to be capped at $3,670,646, which is the amount of tax increment revenue anticipated to be generated in 22 years. MSF eligible activities breaks down as follows:

Tax Capture Summary:

State tax capture	(43.18%)	$	3,670,646
Local tax capture	(56.82%)	$	4,829,707
TOTAL		**$**	**8,500,353**

Cost of MSF Eligible Activities

Demolition	$	85,000
Lead, Asbestos, or Mold Abatement		86,300
Infrastructure Improvements		3,159,955
Site Preparation	+	4,197,655
Sub-Total	$	7,528,910
Contingency (15%)	+	1,129,337
Sub-Total	$	8,658,247
Interest (5%)	+	3,854,300
Sub-Total	$	12,512,547
Brownfield/Work Plan Preparation	+	25,000
Brownfield/Work Plan Implementation	+	15,000
TOTAL	**$**	**12,552,545**

In addition, the project is requesting $1,496,202 in TIF from EGLE to assist with environmental eligible activities.

Brownfield Act 381 Program Additional Project Information:

A. **Area of High Unemployment:**
The County of Emmet's seasonally adjusted jobless rate was 6.8% in January 2024.

B. **Reuse of functionally obsolete buildings and/or redevelopment of blighted property:**
The project will remove a vacant, functionally obsolete, and blighted building and redevelop a blighted property.

C. **Whether project will create a new brownfield property in the State:**
No new Brownfields will be created by this project.

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND

RESOLUTION 2024-072

APPROVAL OF A MICHIGAN COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM PERFORMANCE BASED DIRECT LOAN AWARD TO MAPLE BLOCK FLATS LLC

WHEREAS, the Michigan legislature amended the Michigan Strategic Fund Act, MCL 125.2001 et. seq. (the "Act"), to add Chapter 8C (being MCL 125.2090 – MCL 125.2090d), to enable the Michigan Strategic Fund (the "MSF") to create and operate the Michigan Community Revitalization Program (the "MCRP") to provide incentives in the form of grants, loans and other economic assistance for redevelopment of communities in Michigan;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (the "MEDC") provides administrative services to the MSF for 21st Century Jobs Trust Fund programs and activities and for the MCRP;

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2011, by Resolution 2011-185, the MSF (i) created the MCRP and (ii) adopted the guidelines for the MCRP, as later amended on January 25, 2022 (the "Guidelines");

WHEREAS, pursuant to SFCR 125.2090-1 (the "Delegation"), the MSF approved the MSF Fund Manager or the MSF President to negotiate the terms and conditions and execute all final documents necessary to effectuate awards and decisions approved under the MCRP, (the "Transaction Documents");

WHEREAS, the Act and the Delegation require that MCRP awards over $1 million must be approved by the MSF Board;

WHEREAS, as part of the 21st Century Jobs Trust Fund initiative, and pursuant to MCL 125.2088h(1), the Jobs for Michigan investment fund was created as a permanent fund authorized by the state constitution (the "Investment Fund");

WHEREAS, pursuant to MCL 125.2088h(3)(e), the MSF Board shall direct the investment and reinvestment of the Investment Fund as authorized under Chapter 8A for incentives, including, but not limited to, for the purposes of creating incentives in this state for revitalizing Michigan communities;

WHEREAS, pursuant to MCL 125.2088b(2)(c), the MSF Board may allocate money for authorized programs to make expenditures or investments from the Investment Fund for programs or activities authorized pursuant to the 21st Century Jobs Trust Fund legislation as long as those programs or activities provide for repayment for breach of the written agreement or the failure to meet measurable outcomes;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the MSF Act, specifically, MCL 125.2007(c), the MSF has, among other things, the power to make loans and investments;

WHEREAS, Maple Block Flats LLC (the "Company") has requested an MCRP performance -based Direct Loan award of up to $2,000,000 (the "Award Request"), along with other general terms and conditions, which are outlined in the term sheet attached as Exhibit A (the "Term Sheet");

WHEREAS, the MEDC recommends that the MSF Board approve funding of $2,000,000 from the Investment Fund to fund the Award Request (the "Funding"); and

WHEREAS, the MEDC has recommended that the MSF approve the Funding and the Award Request in accordance with the Term Sheet, subject to: (i) available funding; (ii) final due diligence performed to the satisfaction of the MEDC; and (iii) execution of the Transaction Documents within 180 days of the date of this Resolution (the "Time Period"), or this Resolution shall have no effect; provided however, at the sole discretion of the MSF Fund Manager, the Time Period may be extended for up to an additional 180 days (collectively, the "MCRP Award Recommendation").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the MSF Board approves the MCRP Award Recommendation.

Ayes:	Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen
Nays:	None
Recused:	Cindy Warner

Lansing, Michigan
April 16, 2024

EXHIBIT A

"TERM SHEET"

Loan Terms

MSF Incentive:	MCRP Performance-Based Direct Loan
Borrower:	Maple Block Flats LLC
Senior Lender:	Construction Lender currently anticipated to be Merchants Bank or Merchants Capital and Permanent Lender currently anticipated to be the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("Freddie Mac") (or other federally insured lenders acceptable to the MSF)
Total Capital Investment:	Currently estimated at $49,373,533
MSF Eligible Investment:	Currently estimated at $33,455,452
Minimum Eligible Investment:	Currently estimated at $26,765,000
MSF Share:	Up to the lesser of 50% of "Eligible Investment" or $2,000,000.
Term:	Currently anticipated to be up to 120 months. Includes an interest only period of up to 36 months.
Amortization:	Currently anticipated to be up to 360 months, following the interest only period
Interest Rate:	1.0% per annum
Repayment Terms:	Currently anticipated to be monthly interest only payments for up to 36 months, followed by principal and interest payments, with principal due at maturity, subject to the requirements and limitations of subordination agreement and terms to be negotiated with the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation's (Freddie Mac) Affordable Housing Unfunded Forward Loan Program.
Collateral:	Currently anticipated to be a second priority security interest in the subject real estate, assignment of rents and leases, and assignment of other contracts and documents deemed necessary to the MSF, subject to the requirements and limitations of subordination agreement and terms to be negotiated with the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation's (Freddie Mac) Affordable Housing Unfunded Forward Loan Program.
Guarantee:	Currently anticipated to be the personal guaranties of the LLC members, subject to the requirements and limitations of subordination agreement and terms to be negotiated with the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation's (Freddie Mac) Affordable Housing Unfunded Forward Loan Program.

.

MSF Fees:	The MSF shall be paid a one-time fee equal to 1.0% of the Loan Amount.
Reserves/Contingencies:	Currently anticipated to be approximately $3,300,000 in reserves and contingencies.
Funding:	The MSF will fund up to $2,000,000 to be disbursed following closing of the financing and other performance criteria.
Other Conditions:	The MSF's investment will be contingent upon the following: - Receipt of final construction documents, including a "Guaranteed Maximum Price" or Fixed Price construction contract - Final Development Budget - Anticipated minimum owner equity investment of $6,537,000 - Other legal due diligence, as required

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
DIRECTOR

January 21, 2022

Ms. Katelyn Wilcox
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

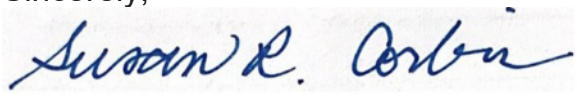
Re: Michigan Strategic Fund Board Meeting Designees

Dear Ms. Wilcox:

Pursuant to MCLA 16.51, I hereby confirm my designation of John Groen and Jonathan Smith as the persons authorized and empowered to act in my stead as a member of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board for scheduled meetings or portions thereof that I am unable to attend.

If you need anything additional, please contact Diane Burton at (517) 230-5454. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Susan R. Corbin
Director

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

Ms. Rhonda Bishop
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund Office
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Bishop:

I hereby confirm and ratify my designation of Michael B. Kapp, Administrator, Michigan Department of Transportation, as the person authorized and empowered to act in my stead for Michigan Strategic Fund meetings that I am unable to attend.

Sincerely,

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

From: Cindy Warner
To: Matthew Casby (MEDC)
Cc: Natalie Davenport (MEDC)
Subject: Re: Maple Block Flats recusal
Date: Friday, April 12, 2024 3:34:08 PM
Attachments: image001.png

Thanks Matt.

MSF Fund Manager.

Please let this serve as my recusal for the Maple Block Flats project that is on the April MSF Board agenda. As I live in Northern Michigan, and know this developer from his project in Traverse City, I believe it is best that I do not vote on this project or any funding that he would/could receive from the MSF Board.

All the best,
Cindy

Cindy Warner
CEO/Founder
360ofMe.com
1-844-360-ofme x700
cindy.warner@360ofme.com



"When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace. Jimi Hendrix"

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND

RESOLUTION 2024-073

APPROVAL OF A BROWNFIELD ACT 381 WORK PLAN
COUNTY OF EMMET BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MAPLE BLOCK FLATS

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Growth Authority ("MEGA") has been established by 1995 PA 24, as amended (the "Act");

WHEREAS, 2002 PA 727 amended 1996 PA 381, MCL 125.2651 et seq, to empower local brownfield redevelopment authorities to request the MEGA Board to approve a brownfield project work plan and, thereby, capture taxes levied for school operating purposes for the project;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 2012-9 transferred all the authority, powers, duties, functions, responsibilities, records, personnel, property, unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations or other funds of the MEGA to the Michigan Strategic Fund ("MSF");

WHEREAS, captured school operating tax revenues may be used under 1996 PA 381 as amended, for infrastructure improvements that directly benefit eligible property, for lead, asbestos, or mold abatement, and for demolition and site preparation that are not response activities under the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451;

WHEREAS, the County of Emmet Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (the "Authority") has submitted a work plan (the "Brownfield Work Plan") dated February 2024 for property located at 1420 Standish Avenue within the City of Petoskey, known as Maple Block Flats (the "Project");

WHEREAS, the City of Petoskey is a "qualified local governmental unit" and is eligible to provide for a) demolition; b) lead, asbestos, or mold abatement; c) public infrastructure improvements; d) site preparation; e) brownfield and work plan preparation; f) brownfield and work plan implementation and g) interest as provided under 2007 PA 204; and

WHEREAS, the Authority is requesting MSF approval to capture additional taxes levied for school operating purposes to provide for the reimbursement of the cost of eligible activities on an eligible property; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation ("MEDC") provides administrative services to the MSF, and has reviewed the application and recommends approval of the Brownfield Work Plan by the MSF Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the MSF Board approves the Brownfield Work Plan and authorizes the Authority to capture taxes levied for school operating purposes in substantially the same proportion as 43.18% to 56.82% ratio currently existing between school and local taxes for non-homestead properties, to reimburse the cost of site preparation, demolition, lead, asbestos, or mold abatement and infrastructure improvements as presented in the Brownfield Work Plan. Any change in millage that increases the capture percentage of school taxes in the ratio above by more than 5 percentage points must be approved by the MSF Board. The authorization is based on the Authority capturing all available local operating mills for the term of the capture period.

The authorization for the capture of taxes levied for school operating purposes is based on costs of MSF eligible activities with a maximum of $8,658,247 for the principal activity costs of non-environmental activities and a contingency, a maximum of $3,854,300 in interest, a maximum of $25,000 for brownfield and work plan preparation, and a maximum of $15,000 for brownfield and work plan implementation, and with the total capture of state school taxes capped at a maximum of $3,670,646

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MSF Board authorizes the MSF Fund Manager, to provide written notification to the Authority, in the form of a letter which incorporates the terms set forth in this Resolution and consistent with the limitations of the Act, and that this approval is further conditioned upon the Authority, or the County, as appropriate, maintaining adequate records regarding: a) all taxes captured for the project; and b) receipts or other appropriate documentation of the cost of eligible activities. The records shall be made available for review upon request by MSF or MEDC staff.

Ayes:	Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen
Nays:	None
Recused:	Cindy Warner

Lansing, Michigan
April 16, 2024

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
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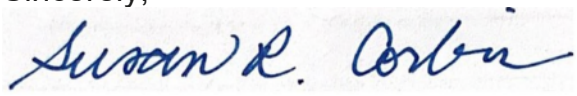
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All the best,
Cindy

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"When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace. Jimi Hendrix"

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MEMORANDUM

Date: **April 16, 2024**

To: **Michigan Strategic Fund Board**

From: **Amber Westendorp, Capital Project & Portfolio Manager – Capital Access**

Subject: ***Private Activity Bond – Inducement***
Meadowbrook Ag-Grid LLC
Sewage/Solid Waste - $40,000,000

Request

Meadowbrook Ag-Grid LLC ("Meadowbrook" or the "Company") is seeking financing in connection with the Company's renewable natural gas ("RNG") facility to be located in Lake Odessa, Michigan. The Company was formed in 2021 as a joint venture between Ag-Grid Energy LLC (51% ownership interests) and Dutch Meadows Dairy L.L.C. , dba Meadowbrook Dairy (49% ownership interests).

The project will be co-located on Meadowbrook Dairy in Ionia County in Lake Odessa, Michigan and will consist of the acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, installation, development and equipping of solid waste disposal facilities related to the production of renewable natural gas and renewable electricity. The project is anticipated to be completed in Q2 2025, with start-up in Q3 2025.

The end resulting product is renewable natural gas and renewable electricity which results from digesting manure and food waste through anaerobic digesting equipment. The Project is anticipated to generate approximately 120,000 MMBTU/year of renewable natural gas (RNG) and 4.8 million kWhs of renewable electricity. All RNG generated by the Project will be exported via a high-pressure Consumers Energy pipeline. 100% of the physical RNG will remain in state, available to use by customers in the Consumers Energy territory.

The project will generate several full-time positions once operational and a number of full-time jobs during construction. Meadowbrook Ag-Grid LLC intends to have two full-time operators who tend to the digester facility and associated upgrading system during operations. Additionally, the project will generate three to four full-time trucking jobs to local haulers that will be bringing food waste to the site. Food waste will be a regular feedstock for the project, and will be hauled in daily to the project site.

Background

Ag-Grid Energy LLC was founded in 2016 by Rashi Akki. Ag-Grid Energy has helped five farms remain economically viable and environmentally sustainable, while also helping reduce the greenhouse emissions stemming from food waste going to landfills. Each Ag-Grid project accepts local food waste and converts food waste to either electricity or RNG.

Meadowbrook Dairy was purchased and established in 2016 by Tony and Patti Jandernoa. The farm has grown to 2,100 head of milking cows and 20 full-time employees while maintaining farming excellence.

The background review process was completed in accordance with the MSF Background Review Policy on February 29, 2024.

Plan of Finance:

Barclays Capital, Inc. has indicated an interest in underwriting and marketing this bond issue.

Recommendation

After reviewing the private activity bond application for the Company, staff finds this project meets the requirements and recommends the adoption of an Inducement Resolution in the amount of $40,000,000.

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND

INDUCEMENT RESOLUTION
2024-074

MEADOWBROOK AG-GRID LLC

WHEREAS, Meadowbrook Ag-Grid LLC (the "Company"), a Michigan limited liability company qualified to do business in Michigan, is presently located at 7 Greenbriar Lane, Kennet Square, PA 19348;

WHEREAS, the Company desires to build a renewable natural gas (RNG) facility in Lake Odessa, Michigan, which will include the acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, installation, development and equipping of solid waste disposal facilities related to the production of renewable natural gas and renewable electricity (the "Project");

WHEREAS, the Company has applied to the Michigan Strategic Fund (the "MSF") for a loan (the "Loan") to finance all or a portion of the costs the Project as defined in 1984 PA 270 (the "Act");

WHEREAS, the Company has advised the MSF that the cost of the Project will be approximately Forty Million Dollars ($40,000,000);

WHEREAS, the Act authorizes the MSF to loan moneys to business enterprises for the purpose of financing projects and to obtain the moneys for such loans by the issuance of bonds pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution has the purpose of providing the necessary official intent of the MSF to meet the requirements of Sections 141, 142(a)(5), 142(a)(6) and 150 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") and the regulations promulgated in connection therewith and, in particular, Section 1.150-2 of the Income Tax Regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Michigan Strategic Fund that:

1. The MSF intends to provide the Loan to the Company subject to the conditions of this Resolution.

2. The Loan shall be designated for the Project in accordance with the Company's Tax-Exempt Application Form dated February 27, 2024.

3. The maximum principal amount of the bonds (the "Bonds") expected to be issued to provide the Loan to finance all or a portion of the costs the Project shall not exceed Forty Million Dollars ($40,000,000). The Company shall be obligated to make loan repayments in an amount sufficient to assure full repayment of the Bonds, establish appropriate reserves and pay costs and expenses relating to the issuance of the Bonds and the making of the Loan.

4. The MSF's obligation to issue the Bonds and make the Loan shall be conditioned upon a) the ability of the MSF to issue, sell and deliver the Bonds under applicable federal and state laws, b) receipt of an allocation from the State Treasurer pursuant to 1988 PA 496 as it relates to limitations on the issuance by states of private activity bonds under the Code, and c) any prioritization, fee schedules or other requirements or limitations implemented by the MSF or the State Treasurer.

5. The MSF's obligation to make the Loan and issue the Bonds contemplated by this Resolution shall expire two years after the date of this Resolution.

6. The Loan may be evidenced by a promissory note and secured by such instruments as are in form and substance satisfactory to the MSF, the Attorney General of the State of Michigan (the "Attorney General") and bond counsel to the MSF, including a loan agreement, indenture, first mortgage, security agreement and such additional security as may be required by the MSF or purchaser of the Bonds.

7. Subject to compliance with this Resolution, the MSF will authorize a bond resolution approving the issuance of the Bonds (the "Bond Resolution") for the purpose of making the Loan and funding the reserves and costs associated with the issuance and administration of the Bonds, and enter into a loan agreement and related documents with the Company and a bond purchase agreement with a bond purchaser, which documents shall be subject to the approval of the Attorney General

and bond counsel to the MSF.

8. The Bonds shall not be general obligations of the MSF but shall be payable as to principal and interest solely from the proceeds of the payments to be made by the Company to the MSF (or to a trustee appointed by the MSF pursuant to the Bond Resolution), as provided in the Bond Resolution. The agreements relating to the Loan and the issuance of the Bonds shall contain such provisions as will be necessary to make absolutely certain that under no circumstances will the Bonds or this Resolution be a debt or obligation of the State of Michigan or a general obligation of the Michigan Strategic Fund, nor will the State of Michigan be liable on the Bonds.

9. All costs and expenses involved in the authorization, issuance, sale, and delivery of the Bonds and in the making of the Loan shall be paid from the Bond proceeds or, if they are insufficient, by the Company.

10. The staff of the MSF is authorized and directed to initiate the proceedings described in this Resolution and to enter into negotiations, subject to the approval of the MSF, with a bond purchaser for the sale of the Bonds. Any authorized signatory is authorized to prepare and file with the Michigan Department of Treasury a request for allocation as it relates to the State limitations on the issuance of private activity bonds.

11. Bond counsel to the MSF and the Attorney General are authorized and directed to prepare and submit to the appropriate parties all proceedings, agreements and other documents as shall be necessary or appropriate in connection with the issuance of the Bonds and to make applications on behalf of the MSF to the United States Internal Revenue Service and to other governmental agencies for such income tax and other rulings and approvals as may be necessary in relation to the issuance of the Bonds. Any authorized signatory is authorized to execute such powers of attorney and other documents as may be appropriate in connection with the foregoing. All costs and expenses pertaining to the above matter shall be paid from the bond proceeds or by the Company.

12. A preliminary official statement or other offering materials may be used in connection with the sale of the Bonds; provided, however, that no preliminary official statement or other offering materials shall be circulated unless any description of the MSF, the Bonds and documents to which the MSF is a party shall have been approved by bond counsel to the MSF and the Attorney General.

13. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with this Resolution are rescinded.

ADOPTED

Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, John Groen (in lieu of Director Corbin), Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Randy Thelen, Cindy Warner

Nays: None

Recused: None

Lansing, Michigan
April 16, 2024

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
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January 21, 2022

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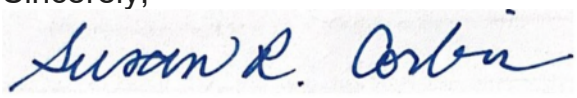
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Sincerely,



Susan R. Corbin
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STATE OF MICHIGAN
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BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
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Michigan Strategic Fund Office
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Sincerely,

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 16, 2024

To: Michigan Strategic Fund (“MSF”) Board Members

From: Quentin Messer, Jr., Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Monthly MSF Delegated Authority and Activities Report

We are pleased to present our monthly report to the MSF Board,featuring a review of our delegated authority activity over the previous month. The following pages provide a narrative centered around the types of projects supported through delegated approval from March1, 2024, to March 31, 2024, as well as information about the impact that those projects have had on communities across the state.

We remain committed to maintaining transparency in our efforts to communicate with you all about our work to create equitable opportunities throughout the state. Over time, we will continue identifying ways to evolve and grow this report based on the feedback and requests we receive from Board members.

As always, we are committed to evaluating the ways in which we can continue to ensure we are transparent and accountable to Board members moving forward. Please let me or Matt Casby know if you have any questions or comments about the content of these reports.

Monthly Impacts

To continue providing transparent, intentional, and impactful reporting to the MSF Board members on delegated project approvals and activities, the following report details delegated approval updates from March 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024.

Throughout the Fiscal Year, MSF delegates – with authority granted by the MSF Board – approve various projects within MSF programs in accordance with each program's guidelines, as approved by the MSF Board. Under no circumstances will MSF delegates approve a project that does not meet the Board- approved guidelines for the program. Furthermore, each project approved through delegated authority must undergo the same rigorous vetting and verification process as do projects that come before the MSF Board for approval. By ensuring consistent safeguards are in place for both delegate-approved and Board-approved projects, we are ensuring fairness and uniformity in our process, as we work to enable long-term economic prosperity for the people of our state.

MONTHLY IMPACTS

We are pleased to share March delegate-approved projects continue to represent our emphasis on supporting underserved populations in geographically disadvantaged areas. Throughout March 2024, 11% of the projects approved through delegated authority are in geographically disadvantaged areas. Additionally, all March approved projects through delegated authority have committed to creating just over 900 jobs and over $8 million in private investment.

MSF Report
Delegate Approvals

Under the authority delegated by the MSF Board, the MSF delegates approved the following projects during March 2024, which satisfy Board-approved guidelines for each program and have been vetted and approved through the same safeguards as those projects that come before the Board for consideration.

Michigan Business Development Program (MBDP)

The Michigan Business Development Program is available from the MSF, in cooperation with MEDC. The program is designed to provide grants, loans, or other economic assistanceto businesses for highly competitive projects in Michigan that create jobs and/or provide investment.

Project Name	Approval Date	Location	Incentive Amount	Project Highlights
Ceva Logistics U.S., Inc.	3/5/2024	Romulus	$1,000,000	The Company is considering plans to lease approximately 349,500 square feet in a newly constructed building located in the Romulus Trade Center. The project will provide distribution and logistics support to one of its automotive company client's electric vehicle manufacturing facilities. The Company anticipates investing approximately $3,800,000 in leasehold improvements and another $6,400,000 in machinery and equipment over 5 years with $7,640,000 being invested in the first 3 years. The project is supported by a $1,000,000 MBDP Grant and involves the creation of up to 214 Qualified New Jobs (QNJs) and a capital investment of up to $7,640,000 in the City of Romulus, Wayne County.
Packaging Compliance Labs	3/11/2024	Grand Rapids	$200,000	Packaging Compliance Labs, LLC was established in 2014 & is a rapidly growing medical device manufacturing service provider, employing 52 full-time Michigan residents, at locations in Kentwood & Grand Rapids, Michigan. The Company supports over 600 medical manufacturers with packaging engineering, regulatory validation testing & contract packaging services. Due to recent growth, the Company is considering purchasing new equipment, expanding its workforce, & investing in specialized training for new test methods, engineering services, & technology competencies. This project involves the creation of up to 50 Qualified New Jobs & a capital investment of up to $4,500,000 in Cascade Charter Township & the City of Kentwood, Kent County with the support of a $200,000 Michigan Business Development Program performance-based grant. Michigan was chosen for the project over multiple competing states with medical device hubs and large talent pools due to the company's history in the State.

Michigan Business Development Program (MBDP) Continued

Project Name	Approval Date	Location	Incentive Amount	Project Highlights
Schreiber Foods	3/15/2024	Wyoming	$198,000	Schreiber Foods, Inc. is a global, employee-owned dairy processor, established in 1945 and is headquartered in Green Bay, Wisconsin with a footprint that includes more than 30 locations across five continents. The Company's Wyoming, Michigan plant was acquired in 2021 and employs more than 200 people. The Company is experiencing a significant increase in customer demands, particularly for its consumer beverage products, and must increase its Company-managed cold storage space, which requires new machinery and equipment, as well as building renovations. This project involves the creation of up to 32 Qualified New Jobs and a capital investment of up to $59,367,000 in the City of Wyoming, Kent County with the support of a $198,000 Michigan Business Development Program performance-based grant. Michigan was chosen for the project over several of the Company's other facilities throughout the United States.
Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing, N.A. Inc.	3/19/2024	Saline	$500,000	The Company is considering a plan to construct a new 24,000 square foot laboratory facility to evaluate batteries for electric and electrified vehicles in North America. As part of its evaluation process, the new battery lab will ensure that Toyota's batteries meet North American customer requirements by confirming performance, quality and durability of automotive batteries made by Toyota. The building is expected to cost nearly $29 million, with an additional investment of $19 million for equipment. Beyond battery development, other lab activities are expected to include evaluations using Level 2 and Level 3 charging as well as connectivity to power sources and infrastructure. Operations at the new battery lab are expected to begin in 2025. The project is supported with a $500,000 MBDP Grant and involves the retention of up to 20 high wage jobs and a capital investment of up to $47,680,000 in the Charter Township of York, Washtenaw County.
Autosystems America, Inc. Division of Magna Closures, Inc. Magna Lighting	3/21/2024	Novi	$600,000	The Company is looking for leased space that will be used for developing and testing new products before bringing them into the production environment, constituting the Company's expanding engineering department and testing labs. This site will not replace the Company's existing manufacturing facility but will provide additional space for engineering and testing purposes. The Company is considering Novi for the project and anticipates the project will result in capital investment of up to $2,450,000. The project will also result in the creation of up to 97 new jobs paying an average wage of $75 per hour, above the regional median wage of $23.26 per hour.
Certus Medical LLC	3/21/2024	East Lansing	$125,000	The Company is looking to renovate an existing building for the purpose of adding a dry lab to the current space, enabling growth in the Michigan marketplace, and adding 25 new jobs over five years. The Company is considering East Lansing for the project and anticipates the project will result in capital investment of up to $202,000. The project will also result in the creation of up to 25 new jobs paying an average wage of $65.30 per hour plus benefits, which is above the Regional Median Wage of $23.02 per hour.
Magna New Mobility USA	3/21/2024	Troy	$1,000,000	The Company is looking to set up a new group office, and research facility to produce and assemble autonomous delivery devices. The expansion will comprise manufacturing and laboratory space as well as administrative offices. The Company is considering Troy for the project and anticipates the project will result in capital investment of up to $1,200,000. The project will also result in the creation of up to 100 new jobs paying an average wage of over $47 per hour, which exceeds the regional median wage of $23.26 per hour.

Michigan Business Development Program (MBDP) Continued

Project Name	Approval Date	Location	Incentive Amount	Project Highlights
Marada Industries Inc. dba Cosma Body Assembly Michigan	3/21/2024	New Hudson	$830,000	Cosma Body Assembly MI is considering a 123,296 Sq. Ft. expansion at its current facility due to new business from a customer. This new addition will allow increased production capacity and enable job creation. The Company is considering Lyon Township for the project and anticipates the project will result in capital investment of up to $35,271,000 and 166 new jobs. The 166 new jobs will be a mix of professional, technical, clerical, skilled and semi-skilled craftsmen, and unskilled laborers.
SkillReal	3/22/2024	Livonia	$420,000	The Company is an engineering, research and development company based in Israel that is successfully reducing the gap between virtual and physical manufacturing operations by offering Digital Twin Alignment (DTA) inspection technologies. This technology is the first of its kind and offers manufacturing companies a safe and convenient inspection system to support its processes, shortening production times, and offer efficiencies from design to production. Among the Company's customers and partners are leading global manufacturers in the automotive, aerospace and defense, and machinery manufacturing industries. The Company is looking to lease a facility to establish its US headquarters. This project involves the creation of up to 20 Qualified New Jobs and a capital investment of up to $418,000 in the city of Livonia, Wayne County.

Build Michigan Community Grant Initiative

The Build MI Community Grant is an initiative designed to promote private investment in Michigan communities. This tool provides access to real estate development gap financing for small scale, incremental redevelopment projects.

Project Name	Approval Date	Location	Incentive Amount	Project Highlights
Synergy Acquisitions 906, LLC	3/26/2024	Pickford	$226,000	A two-story mixed-use building in downtown Pickford will undergo rehab to activate the first-floor space, creating a coffee shop, fitness center and ice cream parlor. The project will activate 8,000 sq feet of vacant commercial space on the first floor.

Capital Access

The Capital Access team partners with lenders to assist in helping small businesses obtain financing that would otherwise not be available.

State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) 2.0 – Collateral Support Program (CSP)

Project Name	Approval Date	Location	Incentive Amount	Project Highlights
PlasTechs, of Michigan LLC	3/8/2024	Saline	$400,000	Citizens Bank is working with PlasTechs of Michigan to refinance and increase their existing line of credit. Due to a collateral shortfall, the bank is requesting collateral support.
Medical Devices, Inc.	3/14/2024	Romulus	$249,500	Chelsea State Bank is working with Medical Devices Inc. on a new working capital line of credit. Due to the lack of collateral the Bank is asking for SSBCI collateral support.

State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) 2.0 – Loan Guaranty Program (LGP)

Project Name	Approval Date	Location	Incentive Amount	Project Highlights
Energy Mat Alliance, LLC	3/28/2024	Brighton	$2,495,000	The State Bank is working with Energy Mat Alliance to provide them with a term note to refinance outstanding vehicle and equipment debt. To reduce bank exposure, the bank is requesting a participation with the SSBCI 2.0 LPP.

Michigan State Trade Expansion Program (MI-STEP)

The MI-STEP program is designed to spur job creation by empowering Michigan small businesses that meet U.S. Small Business Administration guidelines and size standards to export their products.

Project Name	Approval Date	Location	Incentive Amount
Casemer Tool & Machine Eurosatory - Paris	3/4/2024	Oxford Charter Township	$4,540
Detroit Axle ExporTech Michigan Winter 2024 Program	3/6/2024	Ferndale	$600
Atom Technology Trade Mission UK/Netherlands	3/12/2024	Clarkston	$3,162
OASIS Advanced Engineering Incorporated - Eurosatory, France.	3/12/2024	Lake Orion	$6,166
Great Lakes Stainless, Incorporated UK and Netherlands Trade Mission	3/18/2024	Traverse City	$5,924

Program Amendments



For a variety of reasons, projects may return to the MSF requesting an amendment to their previous approvals, at which point the Economic Development Incentives teams evaluate whether those projects would qualify for those amendments. These amendments include, but are not limited to, changes of scope for projects; adjusted milestones; extended or contracted timelines; redefined project sites; and modified award amounts. See below for a list of program amendments that received delegated approval from March 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024.

Michigan Business Development Program (MBDP)

Project Name	MSF Delegate Amended Date	Project Location	Type of Request
Shannon Precision Fastener, LLC - Expansion - FY 2018	3/26/2024	Holly	Extend Milestone 1 due date from October 31, 2023, to December 31, 2024.
Stealth Enterprises LLC dba Stealth Trailers- New Location - FY2023	3/27/2024	Berrien Springs	Extends Milestone 1 due date from 01/31/2024 to 06/30/2024; adds Milestone 2 with a due date of 06/30/2025 to create a minimum of 50 QNJs; changes the Project Location from Berrien Springs to Sturgis and extends the grant term from 07/31/2024 to 12/30/2025.

Financial Data Overview and Terminations

Michigan Business Development Program - Terminations

From March 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024, the Business Development Program had no terminations.