

**Testimony regarding proposed Mining Moratorium, by Rodney Harrill,
October 14, 1997**

Crandon Mining Company is opposed to the mining moratorium because it is arbitrary, ambiguous and discriminatory. Most importantly, it would do absolutely nothing to strengthen Wisconsin's already tough environmental and mining laws. And, it would have a negative impact on the economy of this state and the nation.

The sole purpose of the moratorium is to establish a criteria that is impossible to meet or at least would tie us up in an endless debate about whether we met the test or not. It says, find me a "similar" mine that operated for 10 years and has been reclaimed for 10 years without causing "any pollution". But which mines would qualify and exactly what constitutes pollution are not well defined. When the first mining moratorium bill was proposed by Spencer Black a year or so ago, we commissioned a study to look at the environmental performance of modern mines. The study showed that environmentally responsible mining is occurring all across the country and many of these mines are in scenic, environmentally sensitive areas. We produced several examples of modern mines with impeccable environmental records, including the Flambeau mine right here in Wisconsin. When confronted with this information, our opponents dismissed the study since none of the mines were "exactly" like the Crandon mine. Since then, the moratorium language has been changed several times in an effort to make the test more difficult. It is clear from all of this that our opponents are not interested in a fair objective standard. Their true intent is to construct the language in the moratorium so that the only mine that would qualify is the Crandon Mine itself since no two orebodies are exactly alike and no two environmental settings are exactly alike. It is a very clever approach, such that, in order for us to get a permit to mine the Crandon ore body, we would have had to already mine it and have reclaimed it - a logical impossibility.

The moratorium's requirement to find a mine that has operated for 10 years and been closed for 10 years, would limit us to using technology that is at least 20 years old. What would that prove? We will use the best technology that is available to us when we open the mine and when it is closed 30 years from now. Any industry or group would have the same

problem with legislation like this aimed at them. For example, how about "no legislation can be introduced in the state until similar legislation has been enacted for 10 years and been allowed to lie dormant for 10 years with no negative effects during either period" or, "no protest group can operate in the state until a similar group has operated for 10 years and been shutdown for 10 years without misrepresenting the truth". Try it, you could shutdown any human endeavor with this tool. Applying such an absurd test to only the mining industry is clearly discriminatory.

The mining moratorium would pre-empt the regulatory process already underway which prompts me to ask, what are our opponents afraid of? Are they afraid that we will meet Wisconsin's tough environmental and mining regulations and thus get a permit? Are they afraid that we will build and operate this mine successfully just like the Flambeau mine in Ladysmith?. Applying for a mine permit in this state is a very rigorous, thorough process. We at Crandon Mining Company have been in this process since 1993 and the best guess is that we have another 2 or so years to go before a final permit decision is made. It is unfair to change the permitting process in midstream, especially when it does not strengthen existing environmental protection standards.

You have heard today how important mining is to the manufacturers of mining related equipment in the state of Wisconsin. Mining is also critically important to us as consumers and manufacturers of consumer goods because it provides the raw materials which go into the products which we use in our daily lives. How would the likes of Harley Davidson, General Motors, Briggs and Stratton, paper mills, building contractors, snowmobilers, boaters, fishermen and hunters do without mined metals. Zinc will be the primary product from the Crandon mine, copper the secondary product. Everyone in this room has used products containing these materials sometime today. Zinc and copper are used in our cars, busses, bikes, batteries, houses, buildings, wiring, electronics, brass fixtures, plumbing, paints, medicines, chemicals, the zippers on your blue jeans and so on. Worldwide demand for Zinc and Copper continue to grow steadily. The US currently imports approximately 40% of its zinc requirements. The percentage is much higher for refined zinc since the US has a shortage of smelter capacity and much of the Zinc concentrate produced in the US has to be shipped out of the country to be refined. Of course the state of

Wisconsin imports all of its zinc and with the closure of the Flambeau mine will import all of its copper and other metals, along with all of its energy. And yet the state has done its best to discourage mining. Sounds a bit hypocritical doesn't it.

Mining is in fact very important to this state. It is also very important that it be done in an environmentally responsible manner. The proposed mining moratorium will not help us do that. It is arbitrary, ambiguous, discriminatory and bad for the economy and should be rejected by this committee.

*Very important to Wisconsin economy
The proposed
Moratorium Bill
15*

Thank you for the opportunity to make these remarks.

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Mr. Duff,

I realize this issue remains very heated by both sides, but all the red flags are down. In the past we have made legislation we thought would protect our water ways, only to find out the damage has been far reaching. ~~My area is very opposed to the mine,~~ as I think so is the State.

It is really time to put on the breaks. We cannot continue to go into uncharted waters, only to find out we've made a terrible mistake.

Thank you for your consideration on this issue.

Donna Lohrey



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October 13, 1997

Donna Lohry
511 W. Bent Ave.
Oshkosh, WI 54901

Senator Carol Roessler
State Representative Greg Underheim
State Representative Judith Klusman
State Representative Carol Owens
State Representative Marc Duff, Chairman Assembly Environment Committee
State Representative Luther S. Olsen
Senator Michael Ellis
State Representative John Ainsworth
State Representative John Dobyns
State Representative Dean Kaufert
State Representative Steve Wiechert
State Representative William N. Vander Loop

Re: Mining Moratorium AB 70/SB 3

Honorable Legislators;

As newly appointed State Legislative Committee representative of AARP from area 5, which extends from Fond Du Lac to Appleton to Calumet to Ripon, Berlin, Waupun, I wish to express that AARP supports this bill.

As we all come to think this issue through, many facts come to the surface.

1. This method of mining has not been successful in the past without causing major pollution to ground water and adjoining water ways.
2. Would place the DNR unable to monitor the engineering practices because of the untried nature of the technology being used. There is no other successful mine of this type anywhere else in the world.
3. Locally the Fox River Valley is now struggling to clean up our waterways which are already polluted from the paper industry. Which was not suppose to happen.
4. The local ground water is already also polluted and running off into the area waterways.
Can we stand anymore?
5. The Wolf River is untouched by any pollution and is now a major draw to the tourist industry and needs to be protected.
6. Last summer saw the great effect water pollution had on our local waterways in the terrible algae growth that spoiled the recreation of these waters, not to mention the effect it had on the property owners living next to these waters.



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Donna Lohry
511 W. Bent Ave.
Oshkosh, WI 54901

7. Last year also saw those many families living on the West shore of Lake Winnebago losing their wells to ground water pollution. As you recall they were without all but bottled water for months, until the city could lay piping to bring city water to them.

These are just the points I can think of which speaks to the reason that we must not allow any more possible contamination to take place in the Fox River Vally or the State. We are already paying a dear price for the clean up we must already do.

As you vote on this bill please reflect on these above mentioned issues, and support AARP in the Mining Moratorium AB 70/SB 3.

Money cannot replace our clean water.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna Lohry".

Donna Lohry
AARP State Legislative Committee
Area 5

P.S. AARP of Wisconsin is having a state wide rally day November 18 th. in which we hope to have your constituents speak to you in regard to managed health care, environment and other issues we are closely watching.

cannot be put on the loss if our tourism industry is affected by harm to our resources. A waste spill could also cause expensive legal battles.

Supporters say that mines bring in tax revenues. Yet the state mining tax (and environmental law) was written full of loopholes, in an effort led by Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce (WMC) and Administration Secretary James Klausner, a former Exxon lobbyist. If the Crandon mine makes no profit, there would be no taxes to pay. Exxon Minerals operated at a loss every year from 1971-84, and a market glut is now driving down zinc prices. Metallic recycling is an economic alternative to mining, but companies like Exxon aren't even talking about it.

WHO ARE EXXON AND RIO ALGOM?

Exxon (once John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil Co.) is the world's biggest oil giant, with a budget that dwarfs that of most countries. But it is also one of the biggest miners of coal, copper, uranium, and other minerals. Exxon Minerals has invested heavily in copper in Chile. Its El Carréjón coal mine in the Wayuu Indian region of Colombia put it on Survival International's "Top Ten" list of corporate violators of Native rights. (It also called in troops and tanks against strikers. In 1986-90, 32 miners died of a strange disease.) CMC President *Godrich* was Vice President of Operations at El Carréjón.

The 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill severely damaged the fishing industry around Alaska's Prince William Sound. Commercial fishermen and Native villagers today say the setback haven't returned in adequate numbers. Exxon asserts that the spill has been cleaned up, but federal officials have challenged the claim. The first CMC public relations officer, *Wiley Bragg*, was an Exxon P.R. man in Alaska after the spill.

Wyoming officials found Exxon "unusually

uncooperative" in dealing with tailings pond leaks, worker safety, and economic impacts around its Highland uranium mine. Exxon had the worst mine safety record among the top 20 U.S. underground coal mining companies for 1989. The company often underestimates the technological risks of large projects. In 1981, the company abandoned a Nova Scotia mine after two years because of flooding. In 1983, it suddenly dropped a huge Colorado oil shale project, laying off over 2000 workers. The EPA fined Exxon in 1992 for not reporting chemical releases at a New Jersey oil refinery.

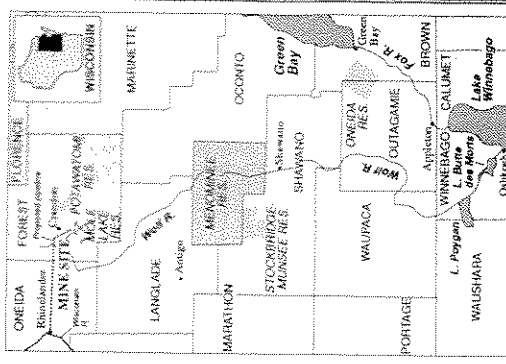
Rio Algom is best known worldwide for its disastrous Elliot Lake uranium mines in Ontario, which poisoned fish and other aquatic life in the Serpentine River. The Canadian government fined it for spreading high-level radioactivity in waterways. A nearby Ojibwa (Chippewa) reservation curtailed its fishing in the river, due to chronic diseases, fetal deaths, and abnormal births. CMC's current P.R. officer *Richard E. Diotte* previously worked for Rio Algom in Ontario.

Rio Algom used to be owned by Rio Tinto Zinc (RTZ), the British mining giant which has opened the Kemecott mine near Ladysmith. RTZ sold its shares in Rio Algom (according to the Canadian industry voice *The Northern Miner*) due to "potential liabilities" from the Elliot Lake clean-up, and it could find no single buyer. Can corporations like Rio Algom or Exxon be trusted to mine in anyone's backyard?

WHAT CAN I DO?

- * Inform your family and friends.
- * Attend hearings, rallies, and meetings.
- * Pass a resolution in your sport fishing group, church, snowmobile club, or community group.
- * Help environmental groups with time or money.
- * Form your own group, no matter how small.
- * Write to newspapers, and call or write officials.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT EXXON'S PROPOSED CRANDON MINE



"Ever since the days of old
Men would search for wealth untold
They'd dig for silver and for gold
And leave the empty holes..."
—John Anderson,
"Seminole Wind"

"You couldn't find a more
difficult place to mine"

—An Exxon Minerals engineer

Exxon Chairman Lee R. Raymond
225 E. Carpenter Freeway, Irving, TX 75062
Governor Tommy Thompson
Madison WI 53702 (608-266-1212)
Bill Tans and DNR Secretary George Meyer
Box 7921, Madison 53707 (608-267-7534/266-2121)
Your State Senator and Assembly Representative
Madison WI 53702 (1-800-362-9472 toll-free)
Wis. Tourism Bureau 1-800-432-8747 toll-free

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World Book, vol. 15, pg. B10a (1987)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact the producers of this brochure:
Wisconsin Resources Protection Council, 210 Avon St., #4,
La Crosse WI 54603; Tel/Fax (608) 784-4399;
or 6824 Hwy B West, Rhinelander WI 54501
Midwest Treaty Network, 731 State St., Madison WI 53703;
Tel/Fax (608) 246-2256; Hotline (608) 249-2390
Or also contact:
Auriferous Minerals, Box 2700, Hayward WI 54843
Niagara Mohawk Power Corp., Box 625, Cranston WI 54550
Ni Win Co. Poweshoke, Box 1, Beaver WI 54520
Oro Minerals, Box 810, Keshewa WI 54595
Oro Stockholders/Mineers, Rt. 1, Bowler WI 54416
Oro Minerals ERB, Box 365, Oshkosh WI 54155 (author of brochure)
Real Mining News, RCOAG, Rt. 3, Ladysmith WI 54849
W.A.T.E.R. Campaign, Box 811, Springbrook WI 54875
Wolf R. Watershed Alliance, 2810 Log Cabin, White Lk. 54491

WHAT IS EXXON'S CRANDON MINE?

In 1975, Exxon Minerals Co. found one of North America's largest zinc-copper sulphide deposits (with traces of lead, silver and gold), next to the Mole Lake Chippewa Reservation near Crandon, Wisconsin. Located at the headwaters of the Wolf River in Forest County, the underground mine would produce ore for about 25 years. After facing a decade of strong local opposition, Exxon withdrew in 1986, but returned in 1994 with its new Canadian partner Rio Algom, in their "Crandon Mining Co." (CMC).

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THE AREA?

The mine would disrupt far beyond its surface area of 550 acres. Over its lifetime, the mine would generate an estimated 44 million tons of wastes—the weight of eight Great Pyramids of Egypt. Metallic sulphide mining is very different from iron mining. When metallic sulphide wastes have contact with water or air, the potential result is sulphuric acids, and high levels of poisonous heavy metals like mercury, lead, zinc, arsenic, copper, and cadmium.

Half of the waste—rocky "coarse tailings"—would be dumped to fill up the mine shafts. The other half of the waste—powdery "fine tailings"—would be dumped into a waste pond, about 90 feet deep and covering 355 acres. At a size of about 340 football fields, it would be the largest toxic waste dump in Wisconsin history.

To control leakage into wells and streams, Exxon plans to place a cover on and liner under the waste pond. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) admits that tailings ponds are "regulated...loosely", and that leaks from even the best dumps "will inevitably occur". The U.S. Forest Service says that "there are currently no widely applicable technologies" to prevent acid mine drainage. The Interior Department's

Fish & Wildlife Service says the Crandon dump could poison groundwater with acid drainage for up to 9000 years, yet Exxon plans to monitor it for only 40 years after the mine closes. Future generations would face the threat of the tailings pond leaking, flooding, or collapsing. No U.S. copper sulphide mine has ever been successfully reclaimed (or returned to a natural state).

In addition, the half-mile-deep mine shafts would drain groundwater supplies, in much the same way that a syringe draws blood from a patient. The wastewater would be constantly pumped out of the shafts, "drawing down" water levels in a four-square-mile area. If not well-regulated, this "dewatering" could lower lakes by several feet, and dry up wells and springs. (Creeks affected are Swamp, Pickereel, Hemlock, Little Sand, Duck, Deep Hole, Skunk, Rollingstone, Rice, Ground Hemlock, Crane, and Pickereel.)



Dead fish in the Clark Fork River, Montana, killed by waste from a metallic sulphide mine.

HOW WOULD THE MINE AFFECT FISHING?

Exxon's original plan called for dumping up to 1000 gallons a minute into trout-rich streams that drain into the nearby Wolf River. The Wolf is a state Outstanding Resource Water (ORW)—allowing no degrading of its pristine quality—and its lower half is protected as a National Wild and Scenic River. Exxon strongly opposed the ORW status of the Wolf, which is the state's largest whitewater trout stream, supporting

brown, brook, and rainbow trout. Trout Unlimited's Wolf River chapter says "the mine as proposed would be a serious threat to the Wolf River as a trout stream...". The national conservation group American Rivers named the Wolf as one of the nation's 20 most threatened rivers because of the Exxon mine.

CMC President Jerry Goodrich said that "if we can't protect the Wolf, there'll be no Crandon mine." CMC has apparently decided the treated wastewater would not meet that standard, since it now plans to dump the liquid waste into the Wisconsin River—endangering another major river. Since the Wisconsin is less protected than the Wolf, it would be cheaper to treat the wastes. The Wolf would still be threatened by the tailings dump, and groundwater drawdown would actually increase due to the huge amount of water needed to pipe wastes to Rhineland.

The U.S. Bureau of Mines says that mine wastes have poisoned 10,000 miles of rivers. There are many instances of fish kills, such as the dramatic trout kill on Montana's Clark Fork River. The tourist industry along the Wolf River would be severely damaged even by the public perception of harm to the resources. The Wolf drains into lakes Poygan, Bute des Morts, and Winnebago, and then into the Fox River and Green Bay.

WOULD THE MINE AFFECT NATIVE CULTURES?

The planned mine lies on territory sold by the Chippewa Nation to the U.S. in 1842, and directly on a 12-square-mile tract of land promised to the Mole Lake Chippewa in 1855. Treaties guaranteed Chippewa access to wild rice, fish, and some wild game on ceded lands. The Mole Lake Reservation (formed in 1939) is a prime harvester of wild rice, which would be threatened by any water drawdown. Swamp Creek also flows directly into the

reservation's rice beds. Through wild rice is central to the Sokaogon Chippewa culture, the Exxon biologist called it "what has made"

The nearby Menominee, Peshigo, and Stockbridge-Munsee counties would also be affected by the mine pollution and the social upheaval brought by new conditions. EPA Secretary George Meyer admits that Native Americans "have a case" in asking people to prevent damage to natural resources. Tribal judge Fred Ackley says, "If they go ahead with their mine, our tribe is going to be devastated." This resolve against "environmental racism" preserves the Wolf River for Indians and non-Indian alike. Native Americans, sports groups, and environmentalists have joined hands to protect their resources from an outside threat.

WOULD MINING HELP THE ECONOMY?

The economic benefits of mining have been compared to drugs—giving a false high, followed by a terrible crash. This "boom-and-bust" cycle has ruined local economies from the U.P. to Appalachia. Mining companies promise local jobs, which would enable young people to stay in the area. But most jobs go to highly skilled outside workers (such as the 1100 recently laid-off U.P. workers at the White Pine copper complex). This large influx of miners brings local service costs (such as new sewers and schools), inflation in land and housing prices (especially affecting older residents), and huge social costs if the mine closes or the company decides to withdraw. USA Today reports that six out of the top ten counties with the largest population loss have gone through mining busts.

Future state taxpayers who live nowhere near the mine may have to foot the bill to maintain the toxic waste dump, at an estimated average cost of \$1.6 million a decade. A dollar amount

Gregory F. Bird
2230 South Woodward Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207-1316
414-481-7541 fax 414-481-7548

Thursday, October 16, 1997

Wisconsin Representative Mark Duff
State Capitol, P.O. Box 8952M
Madison, WI 53708

Re: SB 3 Mining Moratorium Bill

Thank you for holding a hearing on Tuesday last at the Trade Mart at State Fair Park. I was unable to stay past 2:30 pm to give my views orally, so please accept this letter as an expression of my views.

Clean water is a more valuable natural resource than the small fraction of ore that Crandon Mining wants to take away from the tens of thousands of poison tons of waste rock Crandon Mining proposes to leave behind. Unlike the minor amount of surface sulfide rock strata at the falls that the UW-LaCrosse geologist referred to (which has had the sulfide long ago leached out and a weathered petina seal the surface, thus permitting the development of a glorious biologic community in the absence of acidic water), the masses of un-weathered, pulverized waste rock from the proposed mine would generate huge amounts of poisonous sulfuric acid for centuries.

Clean water is an increasingly valuable natural resource. Worldwide, clean water is in shorter and shorter supply. The Wolf River Watershed, part of the Great Lakes, and the adjacent aquifers, is a world class asset that will provide money and spiritual returns to eons - if we keep it clean.

As I understand the Crandon Mining plan, with its waste rock left behind, it would require an investment for cleaning contaminants from waste rock water runoff for all the centuries of its existence. That investment would be required long after Crandon Mining, a corporation of convenience, received the last income form its purpose, the mining and sale of ore. As those expenses to keep acid from polluting keep coming, the balance sheet will go into default. How long will Crandon's owners keep a losing subsidiary?

The answer is to wait. Wait until mining technology limits extraction to just the valuable ore through the use of directional boring devices. Then the toxic waste rock will stay in place underground where it has been safe for eons.

Wait also for the return of citizen control of the DNR. Wait for the return of a people's advocate - the Public Intervenor - to stand up for the people's demand for clean natural resources in the face of partisan violations. All officials who say they represent the DNR

in fact represent the DNR's boss, Gov. Thompson. That's the way Gov. Thompson and the legislature controlled by his party wanted it. For DNR bureaucrats to say that the policy buck doesn't stop at the elected officials desk is a falsification - not by the bureaucrat, but by the bureaucrat's boss, the elected official in charge of the agency, in this case, Gov. Thompson.

As for all those whose employers paid for them to be at the hearing, I hope their company's owners will restructure their operations to recover the tons and tons of recyclable copper and other materials currently in landfills. There are alot of landfills and the machinery necessary to sift through it and recover the recyclables would be massive and an engineering challenge worthy of the Wisconsin companies now engaged in virgin ore mining. Another machine that those companies need to develop is a machine to strip off insulation from copper wire cutoffs, hundreds of pounds if not tons of which I personally have seen in the dumpster at Sterling, Inc. where I worked for many years.

I also hope companies' owners will redirect their manufacturing R&D investments into machinery systems for wind energy and photovoltaic surfaces.

There are many options for Wisconsin's development. The Crandon Mining Company's proposal is not a good one, and mining in dangerous sulfide deposits needs to be buffered by more stringent law such as SB 3, the Sulfide Mining Moratorium Bill. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gregory F. Bird

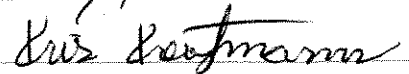
Cc: Rep. Barbara Notestein

10/15

Representative Duff,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed Exxon mine near Crandon, WI. This is a tragedy waiting to happen. We all know Exxon's environmental record - it's horrible. This mine could damage the water in this state for generations. It's not worth the risk. We need proof that there will be no long term harm to the state. Real proof - not just projections and theories. Please ~~send a Mining Monitoring Bill to the~~ ~~assembly floor~~ that will prevent such mines until we have proof they can operate safely. We need to see an existing mine operate safely for at least ten years before approving a mine here. Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,





Kris Kreutzmann
2836 N. Farwell Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53211

1910 E. Park Pl, #1
Milwaukee WI 53211
October 13, 1997

Rep. Marc Duff
P.O. Box 8952
Madison WI 53708

Dear Rep. Duff:

I am writing to urge you to ~~send~~
~~to the Assembly floor a strong mining~~
~~moratorium bill, one at least as strong~~
as the Senate bill.

Even though the mining industry
has never operated a sulfide mine
which has not caused significant
pollution, they are asking us to believe
their promises that a mine at the
headwaters of the pristine Wolf River
will somehow not pollute. Wisconsin's
scenic north country should not have to
participate in such a mining industry
experiment.

Sincerely,
Derald Ottone

MISSION with interest

An opportunity to invest in the
mission and ministry of the church

10-6-97

Rep. Marc Duff - ✓

I am regarding the stance of
members of the Wisconsin legislature
who do not seem concerned about the
proposed Cranston Mine as a betrayal to
the people of Wis. This does not just
affect the northern part of Wis. but
the whole area. If the Wolf River is polluted
you can say good bye to thousands
of jobs, heavy tourism, and most
importantly clean water. I really
would like to know what would be
done in Madison if all the Reps + Senators
lined in the proposed mine area. If
they had retirement homes there in Cranston
and area? There would be such a hurry
over destruction of home, river and every
thing else.

~~Please do not allow the Cranston
mine to operate~~

Lorraine Gentry
71100 Grand St Rd
Gull Lake, WI
54124

Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA
8765 W. Higgins Road Chicago, IL 60631 1-800/638-3522 ext. 2943



**Independent
Business
Association
of
Wisconsin**

Washington Square Building
1400 East Washington Ave., Ste. 282
Madison, WI 53703

608-251-5546
800-362-8027
608-251-5952 FAX
email: iba@execpc.com
http://www.execpc.com/~iba/

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Executive Director
Steven E. Sobiek

Affiliated with
Small Business Survival Committee
Washington, D.C.

November 12, 1997

TO: Members,
Wisconsin State Assembly

FROM: Chess Erwin, Chair
Environmental Committee

RE: Opposition to SB 3

The Independent Business Association of Wisconsin (IBA) *opposes* legislation, SB 3, currently before the Legislature imposing a temporary moratorium on the licensing of new metalliferous mining operations in the state until certain conditions are fulfilled by mining project applicants.

IBA *opposes* this bill because:

- It is wrongheaded economic and environmental policy.
- It fundamentally misapprehends the mission and responsibilities of Wisconsin environmental regulators.
- It has direct and quantifiable impacts on major Wisconsin-based mining equipment manufacturers.
- It would deny the opportunity, otherwise potentially available, to many northwoods residents for gainful employment in industries other than tourism and forest products.

In short, it sabotages a major opportunity for **economic diversification** in a region where such options are far and few between in the name of "technologically unattainable zero environmental impacts" on the region's air and water resources.

It is poor economic policy primarily because it would deny area residents and local units of government in the vicinity of the proposed mine even the option to make a living or fund local services out of revenues other than those derived from the region's narrow economic base of tourism and forest products. Concerns over "boom/bust" economic cycles and severe negative impacts on area water resources, particularly the Wolf River, are

after all the stock in trade of, for example, the Mining Investment and Local Impact Fund Board (a multi-agency body established for the express purpose of mitigating the known vagaries of the mining industry) and the DNR. Let those agencies, themselves creatures of the Legislature, do the jobs for which they were created in the first place based on the technical merits of the proposal submitted by the Crandon Mining Company, not on the basis of emotional appeals regarding the desecration of "Mother Earth" for Native peoples, among others.

DNR Secretary George Meyer opposes this bill not just because of his concerns over the merits of this approach to controversial development project, but instead, because he is acutely aware of the negative precedent it would establish for DNR decision making in other controversial development projects of the future. Quite apart from whether the technical standards required to be achieved by the bill ever can or would be, the legislation leads directly to the conclusion that somehow the process set up by the DNR to evaluate mining projects, arguably the toughest in the USA, is fundamentally biased in favor of mining and thereby fatally flawed. Nothing could be further from the truth. Proponents of the legislation know that is what George Meyer is getting at in opposing the bill.

Finally, this bill will have direct and potentially significant economic consequences on two of the largest mining equipment manufacturers in the world, Bucyrus Erie, of South Milwaukee and Harnischfeger Corporation, of St. Francis. Although obviously not owner managed businesses like most IBA members, these two Wisconsin companies have weathered the forces of change and restructuring in their industry. They have survived and even gotten stronger because of their responses to the wrenching changes worldwide in mining conditions and technology. It is a poor precedent, indeed, for the Wisconsin Legislature to preclude two major economic entities in Wisconsin from the opportunity to benefit from a major project in their own backyard when and if the Crandon mine is actually licensed.

In short, IBA respectfully **urges** you to VOTE "NO" on SB3, the Mining Moratorium bill.

Oct. 5, 1997

Rep. Marc Duff
306 North
P.O. Box 8950
State Capitol
Madison, Wi.



Dear Rep. Duff -

I am concerned about the EXXON proposal to mine copper and zinc in Northern Wisconsin.

I understand the Mining Moratorium Bill passed the Senate. ~~Please send a "strong mining moratorium bill" to the assembly floor.~~

When I grew up in central Wisconsin our family often traveled to the northern part of the state - God's Country. ~~my~~ father called it. Don't let EXXON wreck "God's Country."

Thank you.

Jane Villeneuve

Dear Mr Duff

I am sorry I will
Not Be able to attend this
meeting on Oct 14, 1997.

So I am asking you to
Send a ~~Strong mining~~
~~moratorium Bill to the assembly~~

I know the little people
will not win when it is for
Big money.

My well up North is
polluted now because of the
Large farming Co's taking
over the farms in Adams Co..
They aren't paying for my Well.
I have to. Then if the
ground is still polluted I
as a tax payer will have
to pay to clean it up.
So can't you make Exxon
(over)

Start a trust Fund and
put so much money away
Each year that they can
not put their hands on for
10-Ten-years and then
only if they do not do
~~put~~ any pollution to
the ground water or surface
water

I thank you
Mr Jacob A. Scholz
4451 S. Logan Ave
Miles

or
1611 No. Shore Dr
ArKdale

Rep. Marc Duff - ✓

The Wolf River is a part of the largest freshwater eco-system on the planet. It provides water, food and money for our community. It is considered one of the most endangered rivers in N. America. It is also considered one of the top fishing rivers in the Midwest. Fish feed other animals. Within the Wolf river headwaters there are over 20 bodies of surface water in addition to all of the wetlands and springs. According to the Grandon Mining Co's or studies, over 750 plants and animals make their home in, on, and around the Wolf River. More than 50 species are on the States threatened or endangered list.

This body of water flows through 250 miles of N. American land, to empty into the Atlantic Ocean. In addition to the water, fish, and tourist income this river creates, we grow some of the best wild rice in the country. Eagles thrive in this area, our national symbol is a good indicator that this is a pristine area. The Wolf River flows through the Menominee Nations reservation. The Menominee Indians are the oldest continuous residents of Wisconsin. Our breed may once again threaten the

Welfare of Native Americans.

EXXON - CRANDON DOESN'T EVEN own land rights for the entire site. Can Wisconsin afford a dump 90 ft deep and as long as 322 football fields? Can we afford to de-water an entire area so that we can waste 1 million gallons a day to process heavy metals? Then send the jobs to foreign countries. Can we afford to threaten the lives of our families with lead, carcinogens and various other toxic chemicals?

As a representative of my home state I expect you to protect our land and our livelihood. You represent the people and hundreds of farmers, fishermen, housewives, rice harvesters, children, students, voters ~~are asking you to vote down this mine.~~

Yours —
PS. I think that a test mine will prove about once a toxic area, well forever is a very long time.

Jasmine Hayes
2479 N. Fredrick #B
Milwaukee, WI
53211



P&H MINING EQUIPMENT
A Harnischfeger Industries Company

EXECUTIVE OFFICE
4400 W. National Avenue
P.O. Box 310
Milwaukee, WI 53201-0310
Phone (414) 671-7731
Fax (414) 671-7871

LOUISE HERMSEN
Vice President
Planning and Support Services

October 28, 1997

Representative Marc C. Duff
Room 306 North
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952

Dear Representative Duff,

The enclosed article, carried in International Paper's newsletter, summer 1997 issue, provides indication of how the current mining legislation under debate in the State Assembly is of concern to other industries in the state.

In their words, "Once we bypass these objective standards and begin banning entire segments of industry because public opinion can be swayed in such a direction, the livelihood of each of us will be jeopardized."

Please modify SB3 into a document that is based on science, or many industries and jobs in our state will certainly be threatened.

Sincerely,

As We See It— Crandon Mine Decisions Will Have Major Impact On Paper Industry

International Paper: Focus on Issues

Over the past decade, no Wisconsin environmental issue has undergone as much debate and public scrutiny as the proposed Crandon mine. The project has generated heated discussions within virtually every public and private arena: the State Legislature, county, village and town boards, conservation and environmental groups,

environment. "If we cannot prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the mine can be constructed and operated in an environmentally sensitive manner, the state will not allow us to proceed," is a statement commonly heard from mine supporters. In addition, they point to economic benefits as a reason to support the project. CMC claims that nearly 1,300 jobs will be created as a result of the mine. The company also estimates it would spend an additional \$43 million locally for goods and services during the three years of construction, and an average of \$1.2 million annually while the mine is in operation.

So why should the mining issue, or the fate of the Crandon mine, be of any concern to a forest products company like International Paper? The environmental rules and regulations which industry must deal with are in place for two reasons: First, to protect our natural resources and physical environment; And, to provide all interested parties with a clear, scientifically grounded understanding of what types of business activities will be allowed in our state, and under what circumstances. Once we bypass these objective standards and begin banning entire segments of industry because public opinion can be swayed in such a direction, the livelihood of each of us will be jeopardized.

The purpose of this column is not to take sides on the Crandon mine issue. Its sole intent is to bring to light the hidden consequences of allowing subjective laws based on fear and emotion to replace objective, scientific regulations.

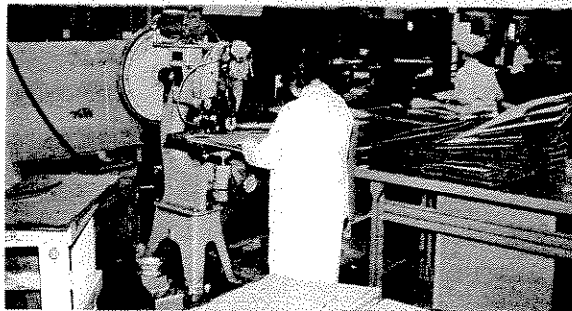
Native American tribes, businesses and business associations, and individual households across the state. Certainly, many of us find this debate to be interesting, and some of us may be personally involved on one side or the other.

However, we believe it's important for all of us to step back for a moment and look closely at how decisions are being made—decisions that will determine the fate of the Crandon mine. That decision-making process could ultimately have a major impact on Wisconsin's forest products industry.

First, a little background. The Crandon Mining Company (CMC) is proposing to develop an underground zinc and copper mine approximately five miles south of the village of Crandon in Forest County, near the headwaters of the Wolf River. According to the company, active mining operations would last for 28 years with 5,500 tons of ore extracted each day. The project would include protected collection basins for mine tailings, and a water treatment facility that would discharge into the Wisconsin River through a 38 mile-long buried pipeline.

Opponents of the project claim that state and federal mining laws are not stringent enough, and no similar mine has ever operated and closed without polluting its surrounding environment. They believe the Crandon mine would cause irreparable harm to the Wolf and Wisconsin rivers, as well as northern Wisconsin's multi-billion dollar tourism economy. Acting on these concerns, mine opponents have successfully pushed for state legislation that would circumvent the existing regulatory framework, and place an indefinite moratorium on all metallic mining in Wisconsin. Their bill has already passed the State Senate and is currently under consideration by the State Assembly.

On the other hand, supporters of the proposed mine believe existing environmental laws already ensure that any such project would have to be protective of the



For more than a decade, International Paper has helped the physically challenged overcome obstacles through jobs that provide training and build workplace skills. Today more than 20 physically challenged individuals are skilled, productive employees.

A Special Business Partnership in Fond du Lac

International Paper: Focus on Community

For nearly 15 years, International Paper has developed a special relationship with Brooke Industries, a sheltered workshop in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. This unique partnership provides training for physically challenged individuals, helping to develop their skills so they can become even more productive members of the community.

Today, International Paper purchases the services of more than 20 Brooke Industry people to glue, fold, stitch and re-work corrugated products. For several area businesses, the partnership has been a major factor in selecting International Paper as their supplier of choice. Among those companies that use products made by Brooke Industries are Mercury Marine, Kohler Company, and Bestt Rollr.

The partnership began when then plant manager Tom Wisner joined the Brooke Industries Board of Directors as an advisor. Wisner served on the board for several years before accepting another position within International Paper. Another International Paper employee, Linda Price, followed the tradition of support by succeeding Wisner on the board. Today, design manager Mike Ptaschinski continues International Paper's representation at Brooke Industries.

Brooke Industries' goal, as set by the Board of Directors and facility director Dave Thornburg, is to become a self-supporting operation, providing a place where physically challenged residents of the Fond du Lac area can gain skills that will help them to become part of the workforce. The program has been an unqualified success: every year for the past several years, Brooke has placed an average of 30 people into permanent positions.

The future continues to look bright for both International Paper and Brooke Industries—thanks in part to their long-standing, mutually beneficial partnership.

ResourceNet Opens New Distribution Facility

International Paper: Focus on Growth

ResourceNet's newly opened high tech distribution center, which includes both warehouse and office space, is located about 15 miles west of Milwaukee in the Town of Pewaukee.

Construction began on the 170,000 square foot facility in June of 1996. It was completed earlier this year, enabling ResourceNet's Great Lakes Group to complete its move into the new facility on March 16.

As with any move, the relocation from ResourceNet's Milwaukee facilities was a major undertaking. "Thanks to the many warehouse people, drivers and supervisors from throughout the Midwest Region, the monumental task of moving 220 truckloads of paper was achieved safely and ahead of schedule," says Gerry Phelan, vice president of operations for the Great Lakes Group.

The Great Lakes Group of ResourceNet distributes paper products and office supplies to customers throughout Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, North and South Dakota.

The \$10 million distribution facility is located in the Town of Pewaukee's Roundy Industrial Park and utilizes a state-of-the-art warehousing system. The new system features a very narrow aisle concept, and a five level racking system. A wire-guided turret-style lift truck lifts the turret driver up to the desired level. The aisles are only 70 inches wide, which allows the turret driver to remove



With the monumental task of moving 220 truckloads of paper—and ahead of schedule, ResourceNet's new high-tech distribution center is now open. Located in the Town of Pewaukee (outside of Milwaukee), the facility houses warehouse and office space, packaging supplies and equipment, and janitorial and sanitary maintenance products.

product from either row of racks very easily. Because a narrow aisle concept was selected, the warehouse required 22,000 square feet less space. It also allows team members to retrieve items in a highly efficient manner.

The facility also includes a state-of-the-art electronic inventory system that has decreased order turn-around time and improved the center's ability to stock needed items.

The Town of Pewaukee site was chosen because of its close proximity to both the markets it serves and accessibility for employees and the many trucks that arrive and depart daily. The distribution center

employs 120 people. The new facility allowed for the consolidation of smaller warehouses in Butler and Wauwatosa as well as the Great Lakes Group Headquarters.

The new distribution center will improve operational efficiencies and provide a base for future growth in Wisconsin and throughout the Midwest. ResourceNet is truly committed to providing its customers with excellent service, and is committed to growing in Wisconsin.

10-10-97

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE MARC DUFF,

I LOUIS J. MUELLER ~~OPPOSE~~
THE EXXON MINNING PROPOSAL
IN CRANDON WISCONSIN.

THANK YOU,

Louis J. Mueller
14001 W. DAKOTA ST.
NEW BERLIN WI 53151
414-860-0783

October 24, 1997

To: Representative Marc Duff;

This is a note to let you know my views on the proposed mining site near Crandon.

I ~~strongly disagree with the building of this mine.~~ This area of Wisconsin is beautiful & pristine. The water in this area is very clean. The mine would change all of this. Why would we want to run such an asset?

Now, as of yet, there has never been a similiar mine operated without polluting ground & surface waters. The operators of the mine need to be able to prove that they will not pollute the water before a mine is built. So far this has not been done.

Better yet, why not keep this area the beautiful recreational area it is?

Sincerely,

Roseanne Wilhelm

Representative Mark Duff,

I'm writing to you as a concerned member of your ~~assembly district~~. I am currently attending the University of Stevens Point and studying Environmental Education within the College of Natural Resources. My Goals as a person and as an educator are to help children and adults find their connection to the Natural world. Through outdoor education and hands-on learning I hope to achieve this goal.

I am in ~~Full support of the Mining Moratorium Bill~~ which was proposed by Senator Spencer Black and believe that if the Moratorium is passed we as members of the WI community will be greatly benefited. I ask for your support of the Bill and the "SB 3 and AB70" legislation which will prevent sulfide mining in WI ~~and~~ until it has been proven Environmentally safe!

We (as members of the whole country) have some Green places left and I hope that we as members of this large community do our part to protect and preserve what we have left in WI.

please, I ask for your support!

Darin Gillespie
Environmentally aware!



1767 Pine St apt 2
Stevens Point WI
54481



**Wisconsin
Manufacturers
&
Commerce**

Memo

TO: Assembly Committee on Environment
FROM: Joan M. Hansen, Director Tax & Corporate Policy
DATE: May 12, 1997
RE: Engrossed 1997 Senate Bill 3/1997 Assembly Bill 70

Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce (WMC) **strongly opposes** 1997 Senate Bill 3 (and Assembly Bill 70) introduced by Senator Shibilski and Representative Black. Senate Bill 3 in effect places an indefinite moratorium on sulfide metallic mining in Wisconsin.

Senate Bill 3 states that before a mining permit can be issued in Wisconsin there must be proof that a mine has operated in the US or Canada for at least 10 years **without polluting** groundwater or surface water, and that the mine has been closed for 10 years **without polluting** groundwater or surface water.

SENATE BILL 3

Requires Old Technology

Senate Bill 3 is definitely a step in the wrong direction because it **requires** that old technology be examined for current or future mining projects in light of today's technology. Mining projects currently operating are using the most state-of-the-art technology of today, and continuously upgrade operations to ensure that the environment is being protected. The focus of SB 3 should be on present day science and technology, not past mining operations.

Neutralizing Geologies

The Senate revised the bill to require that applicants use examples of mines that have operated "in a sulfide ore body which is not capable of neutralizing acid mine drainage." This is extremely vague language and may be interpreted in many ways. Taken literally, virtually all ore bodies are capable of neutralizing acid mine drainage to some extent. The bill, therefore, creates a requirement that cannot be met, thus banning mining permanently.

Ambiguous

Although the Senate included language to define pollution as "degradation that results in any violation of any environmental law," it provides no standards for how an **alleged** violation should be determined. Without requiring an "adjudicated violation", a mining company would have to wait until the DNR clarified and interpreted this language. This opens the door for endless interpretation and potential litigation.

INDUSTRY IMPACT

Furthermore, Senate Bill 3 and Assembly Bill 70 send the message to the business and manufacturing community that industry and their investment in the state are not safe here in Wisconsin. The bill singles out one industry, the metallic mining industry, and basically one company, the Crandon Mining

Company. It is intended to stop mining in Wisconsin even though Wisconsin's strict laws mandate environmental protection of our pristine natural resources.

Although Senate Bill 3 seems reasonable on its face, it is in fact a ban on mining. As stated earlier, vague language contained in the bill will open the door to litigation for years to come, ultimately putting a halt to any mining project. It is in essence a ban because no mining company will spend millions of dollars in the application and permitting process without knowing what standards must first be met.

A ban on mining undoubtedly goes against the intent of the Wisconsin legislature. The laws are clear. The Wisconsin legislature specifically authorized mining in the state provided it's accomplished in an environmentally sound manner. In Wisconsin environmental protection has always been a priority, should always be a priority and will always be a priority.

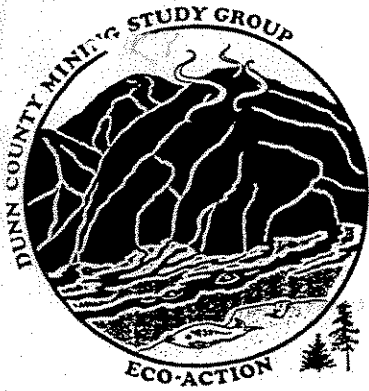
As you know, Wisconsin has long been regarded as having one of the most comprehensive and effective environmental regulatory programs in the country. For industry that has often meant having to comply with standards that exceed national norms or those in place in other states. This certainly holds true for mining.

The basic premise of mining opponents seems to be scientists, engineers, and regulatory agencies cannot be trusted to ensure the environment will be protected, and therefore a complete ban on a particular form of industrial activity is warranted. This can only be described as environmental extremism.

Who will be next if we begin to move down this path? Will it be the paper industry that draws heavily on Wisconsin's water resources or the timber industry that necessarily disturbs land in Northern Wisconsin. All industrial activity must comply with current laws and regulations which are based on protecting the environment through scientific methods.

The approach that has been taken with the mining industry is in sharp contrast to the historic approach taken in Wisconsin where the application and enforcement of a comprehensive regulatory program has fostered both a strong economy and clean environment.

Again, WMC urges you to oppose these bills.



Conte.

I am Marion Lang, resident of Menomonie, in Dunn County. I speak for myself as a citizen of Wisconsin and on behalf of the women and men who have registered their concerns through the Dunn County Mining Study Group, and they are many.

As we hear of the on-going search for mine sites across our area, we are dismayed!

Metallic sulfide mines, their operation and their residue are an additional and a very serious threat to our rivers and lakes, already fouled, some seriously, by industrial waste and mismanaged residential and agricultural run-off. Rather than allow another source of contamination, and this by a major polluter, we call for a greater effort to renew the life-giving health of Wisconsin's water-ways from it's present dangers.

Whether the water is flowing in northern streams or through our county of Dunn, it is part of a great life-sustaining net-work. All the waterways, large and small, above and underground are connected: the still fairly clean and the sadly contaminated.

The streams feed and are, in turn, fed by ground water. A contaminant in the surface water will invade the ground water. There are no barriers. Surface water carries toxins blown from factory chimneys and, if we don't prevent it, toxins from metallic slag-heaps, onto the soil, into lakes and into brooks until it is drawn again into our ground water.

While legislation has been enacted to regulate contaminant levels in our water, we need to examine these policies. As we all know, zinc levels are already unacceptably high. This is a disturbing occurrence to game fishing folk and a life-threatening hazard to those who depend upon fish taken from the Wisconsin Ceded Territories as a food source. And since acceptable levels of contamination are based on studying healthy adults, we question the effect of contaminants in the water on children, the sick and the elderly.

Our state and our people and our natural resources can't afford the bargain of being traded for cash profits for a few and for a time period of their reckoning.

The proposed moratorium and its ten year waiting period is brief compared to the years ahead that our grandchildren and their grandchildren will need pure water.

The ten year waiting period is brief compared to the danger to those who live near polluted water.

The ten year waiting period is brief compared to the cost of solving the problems we will face if we pollute the surface water and the ground water.

The ten year waiting period is a generous concession to an industry that can not presently demonstrate a metallic sulfide mine that has been operated for ten years and closed for ten years without polluting the environment.

We have learned that technology can aid in purifying dirty water, but technology has its limitations. That is why many people prefer drinking bottled spring water to chemically treated water from a pipe. Chippewa Falls spring water, sold internationally--is big business. Wisconsin purity has name recognition. Unfortunately fish and plants have no such choices.

Technology has its limitations. How can we accept the seventy year safety from sulfide wastes offered by the proposed plastic liner for the Crandon mine debris? What will happen to these wastes, when after seventy years the protection runs out? How can we accept that a plastic liner, even a special one, will contain toxins for seventy years when we've experienced our plastic garbage bag leaking as we carry trash to the can.

Technology has its limitations. We can control water that is moving in pipes, but what about the water that is natural-- flowing with a mind of its own, following myriad laws, of gravity, of soil structure and moisture content, geological shifts, and the unexpected.

Water is ancient: older and more vital to life itself than any individual or group. A continuing source of safe water has always been and will continue to be basic to our lives and to the lives of all plants and creatures. Surely we can support a ten year moratorium on metallic sulfide mining that would protect the health and well-being of people and all living things.

We strongly urge this committee to vote to bring the metallic sulfide moratorium bill to the assembly for a full debate and vote.

Dunn County Mining Study Group
Menomonie, Wisconsin
May 12, 1997

I

Forest County doesn't need a mining moratorium, Forest County and the surrounding area needs economic opportunity. We all know there rarely are enough jobs for everyone no matter where you live. This has been the case in Forest County for many years.

The casinos have provided jobs for a good number of people, especially Native Americans. However the jobs at the casinos and retail outlets do not pay the kind of wages necessary to allow workers the opportunity to buy new cars and new homes unless they are subsidized by some governmental agency.

Forest products jobs are fast disappearing due to environmental overregulation and the speed with which modern harvesting is accomplished.

There used to be 10 sawmills and/or wood products plants in Forest County, now there are 3. There used to be 20 dairy farms, now only 3 are active. There are fewer than half the number of taverns and resorts, - There used to be ~~a~~ ~~cathouse~~ but that is gone too. a place called Mrs. Murphy's pleasure emporium.

All these (used to be) mean lost jobs! jobs that are necessary to sustain our quality of life as there used to be. ←

The people of Forest County love children as much as anybody but they have to practice birth control more than others because they know the opportunity to earn enough to care for them are very limited and once they have completed high school they will most likely have to go elsewhere to find employment. This can be a very traumatic experience! ~~It is~~.

I know a mine won't cure all of the ~~ills~~ economic ills of Forest County and the surrounding area but it will certainly be a beginning and go a long way in relieving some of the problems.

IM I respectfully urge you to oppose bill HB7.

Honorable committee members, if you are pressured into supporting the mining moratorium bill I would like you to consider sponsoring a bill that would double the property taxes on vacation homes. This additional tax would be used as a means of guaranteeing each high school graduate an opportunity to live in his or her home town, if they so choose, without having to worry about finding a job.

Thank you!

Chester Gryczkowski

8223 Old W Road

Crandon WI 54520-9708



GLEN GRUNSETH
W5924 HAPPY ACRES RD
TONY WI 54563

Wisconsin State Mining
Hearing Ladysmith WI
May 12 1997.

My name is Glen E
Grunseth. My address is
W5924 Happy Acres
Tony WI 54563. I was
born in Ingram Wis
6-29-20 and graduated
from the Ingram High
School Nov 20, 1941
I married Dorothy
Hilbertson from Barron
Dec 7th WWII started
I went in service



GLEN GRUNSETH
W5924 HAPPY ACRES RD
TONY WI 54563

II
(June 12th 1942 till
Oct 1945. I served in Army
1 year in England and
made the Normandy
~~invasion~~ France and met
the Russians in 1945
In 1947 I bought
a farm on Highway P
between ^{Town of GRANT} Co. H. and 27.
I was there until 1970
The Kendeott Copper
Company was flying
over my land with
their planes looking
for minerals for

Months ^{III} and years
in the late 60's and
after that. They then
strung wire along
Hwy A by me and
south along Hwy Co L.
and eventually leased
most land south
on Co L, and south
of Co P. My land
was never asked
to lease - as well as
the land east of Co L.
Some people were
sorry they didn't get
to lease their land too.



GLEN GRUNSETH
W5924 HAPPY ACRES RD
TONY WI 54563



GLEN GRUNSETH
W5924 HAPPY ACRES RD
TONY WI 54563

10

And hope to get even
With Hendcutt Co - I
Sold my farm and
Moved to Town.

I Was at #3 on
Co P from the start
of the mine activity
And have seen many
things the mine Co.
Kendcutt has done
for the City of Ladysmith
And town of Granton
Rusk Co. And the increase
of employment for our
People in Rusk County
With good wages.



GLEN GRUNSETH
W5924 HAPPY ACRES RD
TONY WI 54563

V

I am also a avid
outdoorsman, hunt
and fish. I believe
the DNR and Wis
Rules & Regulations
have lived up to my
expectations that I
the mine agreed to do.
I think they will
protect our Community
according to Wis Law.
I recommend the Hearing
Committee will continue
to allow Mining in
Wisconsin under the
DNR Regulations
as has been done
over



GLEN GRUNSETH
W5924 HAPPY ACRES RD
TONY WI 54563

VI

With the foundecoth
mine in the town
of Grant and Ladysmith.

I am a Retired
Prudential Insurance
Agent. I Also Was
Rusk County Veterans
Service officer 1960-1970
And served on Rusk
County board for 4 yrs
in the 70's - And was
on when the 1st action
was taken on the proposed
mine Glen E Grunseth

May 12 1997 W5924 Happy acres
Tony Wis 54563



GLEN GRUNSETH
W5924 HAPPY ACRES RD
TONY WI 54563

VII

I also want to say
I've never ever
Received any gifts
Money or any promise
of any thing from
any Mining Co.
or any Gov't Agency
for writing this
statement to the Wis
Commission on
Mining at Ludysmith
Wis on 5-12-97.
The mine was just
great for many people
Glen Grunseth.

Mr. Marc Duff, Chairman
Assembly Environment Committee
Madison, WI 53708



Mr. Frank Zuern
1040 Maricopa Dr.
Oshkosh, WI 54904

3/14/97

Dear Rep. Duff and Committee members

Re: Crandon Mine on the
headwaters of the Wolf River.

I was born in Marinette County in 1927 and have for my entire life treasured the water resources of this area of Wisconsin. Ever since early Roman Law, and thence to the Magna Carta of 1215, the right of citizens to clean water has been upheld as a legal cornerstone of Liberty.

For nearly 200 years Americans have through their own indifference given up that right (temporarily) to polluting corporations like Exxon and their corrupting influence of lobbying money.

The issue here is: Will you and your committee strike a blow against polluters?

Will you act so as to regard the pure water of the Wolf River as a priceless commodity to be preserved and protected for all the citizens of this State?

Sincerely, Frank A. Zuern

(1) Enclosure

The battle to bury Exxon mine crosses state lines

Our Environment

**Spencer
Black**



Conservationists in Wisconsin are getting some help from our neighbors to the east in the fight to protect our environment from Exxon's proposed Wolf River Mine. The National Wildlife Federation and the Michigan United Conservation Clubs have recently asked the Governor of Michigan to block Exxon's plan to divert billions of gallons of water from the Great Lakes in connection with their proposed Wolf River Mine.

The groups recently asked Michigan Governor Engler to invoke a federal law to block Exxon's mine and thus prevent water from being diverted away from the Great Lakes. The federal law requires the Governors of all the Great Lake states to approve proposals to take water away from the Great Lakes watershed. Exxon's proposed diversion could have a major impact on the Wolf River, from which the water is to be taken, and on the Wisconsin River, where the waste water is to be dumped.

Exxon is currently asking the state of Wisconsin for a permit to open a massive copper and zinc mine in the headwaters of the Wolf River near Crandon. This is one of several potential mines in sulfide ore bodies throughout northern Wisconsin. The Exxon mine will create Wisconsin's largest toxic waste dump. This toxic waste dump will be 90 feet high and cover an area equivalent to 350 football fields. The dump will be filled with waste sulfide rock called tailings. When these sulfide tailings mix with air and water, sulfuric acid is created. Acid drainage from sulfide mining wastes have caused extensive environmental damage elsewhere. Many rivers and streams

have been severely polluted from acid drainage from sulfide mines similar to the Wolf River mine.

The wastewater from the mine will be too polluted to legally dump into the Wolf River. In order to avoid the cost of cleaning up their dirty water to the standards for the Wolf River, Exxon is instead planning to pump up to 1,700,000 gallons of wastewater a day through a 38 mile long pipeline and dump it into the Wisconsin river near Rhinelander. Exxon plans to exploit a loophole in waste water rules that they say will allow it to dump waste water into the Wisconsin River which would be too dirty to legally dump into the Wolf River.

Water in the Wolf River eventually runs into the Fox River and then into Green Bay in Lake Michigan. The Wisconsin River, where Exxon wants to dump the waste water, drains into the Mississippi River and then into the Gulf of Mexico. Over the life of the proposed mine, up to 10 billion gallons of water would be taken away from the Great Lakes and sent to the Gulf of Mexico.

Protecting our environment from Exxon's proposed Wolf River Mine will continue to be a major concern for not only conservationists in Wisconsin, but also throughout the Great Lakes states.

April 7, 1997

Chairman Marc Duff
Natural Resources Committee
Room 306 N
State Capitol
Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Chairman Duff,

I'm writing in regard to the Mining Moratorium bill, which I feel is a vitally important piece of legislation. Passage of this bill gives us a fighting chance to keep the high quality of life people associate with the fresh waters and woods of northern Wisconsin.

As a citizen and resident of northern Wisconsin, I urge you to vote Yes for the moratorium. It makes good sense to slow down the process and put the burden of proof on the extractive industries

who have been responsible for the
degradation of so many other areas.

I hope you care enough about
the people of northern Wisconsin, and
for our waters, land, and way of
life, to bring a speedy and
favorable vote on this issue.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Linda Cree

9657 Elm Rd.

Poplar, WI 54864

April 7, 1997

Chairman Marc Duff
Natural Resources Committee

Mr. Chairman Marc Duff,

Please vote for the Mining
Moratorium Bill and please do not let it
sit in committee. The moratorium
only makes logical sense - it is
wisest to take one's time and digest
the various ramifications of
metallic sulfide mining.

As was shown to us in the town
of Nashville at the beginning of this
month, voters are very concerned
about this type of mining.

Act well; act wisely please. Thank
you.

Jimée Dunn

9657 E Elm Rd / PO Box 22
Poplar, WI 54864

Representative Marc Duff
306 North State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

May 13, 1997
N30924 Trump Coulee Rd
Taylor, WI 54659

Dear Representative Duff:

Thank you for holding a hearing on SB3, The Sulfide Metallic Mining Moratorium Bill, on May 12. However, I feel that I must express my disprove of the hearing on several points.

First, there should have been some anticipation of the large crowd in attendance. The hearing set-up was very inadequate for this large crowd. First, a larger building should have been the setting. Secondly, the members of the committee should have been seated to the (your) right of where they were so that the windows and glare were not into the audience, This would have allowed a bit more seating for the audience.

Second, all ground rules should have been stated clearly at the very beginning. You stated that the speaking time would be five minuets, then immediately ignored this ground rule with the second and third speakers. You set a precedence that allowed the hearing to be prolonged from the start. Other hearings that I have attended had a time keeper who raised a small white card when one minuet was left, then a red card when time was up. The chair of the meeting did not sit glancing at the timer. This was left to a time keeper so that the chair could politely listen to the speakers.

The last point brings me to another complaint. Your distraction with the cards for the list of speakers should have been left to an aide, not you as the chair of the hearing. Your lack of attention to what some of the speakers had to say was very obvious. I know that you are against any laws that would regulate mining, but your bias and disinterest for what some speakers had to say was very blatant. The other committee members, however their feelings may have been, were much more attentive to all of the speakers.

I wish that I could have had the opportunity to speak, rather than just submit written comments. However, we were placed far down on the speaking list. The length of our trip home necessitated our leaving before our allotted speaking time. It appeared odd that speakers from the industry and Ladysmith were high on the list, perhaps that was the "luck of the draw".

I have seen the list of "safe mines" the industry person spoke of. First they are not similar to geological conditions here in Wisconsin. Also, the tailing sites are

not near the mines, as in the case of the Henderson Mine and Mill. It is processing and the tailings that produce the most hazardous wastes in mining, not the mine shaft or open pit! A survey via the phone of mine managers and mine environmental monitoring personnel is hardly an unbiased scientific survey.

The Ladysmith mine does not have the tailings that other mines in Wisconsin will have. The mine operated a mere four years, while processing took place in Canada. Nor has it been closed for even a year. Let us see what their water quality is like when Flambeau is not being watched so closely by the media. Better yet, have some independent monitoring take place. When monitoring points are closed due to "lack of funds" the public can not be given a true picture of what is being dispensed into the river. Where are the chemicals that are being removed going? Is that site being monitored?

The most telling of this entire process has been the millions of dollars and lobbying by the mining interests over the last 15 to 20 years in having Wisconsin's laws weakened so that they do not have to have the expense of protecting water quality and local citizens, paying taxes and observing environmental concerns. Shareholders come before those of us who are being asked to live near these mines. If there is this safe technology that mining interests are claiming, why should I believe that they will use it over cutting expenses to increase their profits? It has not happened in the past, and frankly I do not believe it will happen in the future.

I am more than disappointed that you feel that mining company profits exceed concern for citizens who will live near these mines. Your comments during the hearing May 12 clearly showed me that you view those of us with concerns about an industry with such a terrible track record a domesdayers, fanatics, and just plain ignorant on this subject. I assure you that when the industry can show me ONE mine that meets the requirements of SB3 I will rest more easily.

Sincerely,

Dianna Brown

Dianna Brown

June 25, 1997

D. L. AMICH
P.O. Box 28
HATLEY, WI
54440

Dear Representative Huff -

While we appreciate the recent Environment Committee hearing in Ladysmith on Senate Bill 3, it might be a worthwhile idea to schedule another hearing on the Mining Monoborium Bill in Northeast Wisconsin in Rhinelander or Shawano.

It makes sense to schedule a hearing near the area that would be impacted by the proposed mine - impacted psychologically, economically & environmentally - I am sure the State Assembly Environment Committee wants to be fair & just & to hear from the people most involved.

I believe after all that is the thought behind our government. By the people & for the people. It's like in a county where there is a big murder trial & to get a fair impartial jury & trial the judge moves everything to a neighboring county. Like the Oklahoma bombing. But in this case - there is no murder this isn't a trial & it is common sense to go & get the info right from the horse's mouth so to speak.

I look forward to your reply & enjoy our nice Wisconsin summer.

Aimee D. Diana, D. Amich



**MARC
DUFF**

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Chair: Environment & Utilities
Vice Chair: Urban Education
Co-Chair: Joint Legislative Council

July 8, 1997

*file
copy*

Diane Lamich
PO Box 28
Hatley, WI 54440

Dear Ms. Lamich:

Thank you for your letter suggesting another public hearing in northeastern Wisconsin on the mining moratorium bill.

Many people fail to realize that Senate Bill 3 deals with all future metallic mining permit applications, not just the proposed Crandon Mine. As a result, I chose Ladysmith as a central location to allow people from different parts of northern Wisconsin, and various areas containing ore bodies, to testify. The Ladysmith hearing provided the added benefit of allowing committee members to tour the Flambeau Mine site.

You should be aware that SB 3 had a Green Bay public hearing in February, when the bill was before the Senate. Citizens testifying at the Green Bay and Ladysmith hearings came from the regions of Green Bay, the Fox Valley, Crandon, and Minocqua as well as other Northern Wisconsin communities. In addition, the DNR has held and will hold more hearings on the specific Crandon mine proposal in the Crandon/Rhineland area.

Frequently, only one hearing is scheduled on a bill, and it is usually held in Madison. Because of the broad interest in the mining issue, I decided to hold two hearings in different parts of the state. I intend to schedule the second hearing on SB 3 in the Milwaukee area later in summer, following the state budget session. Holding a third hearing on SB 3 would further delay action on the bill and open the process to undue criticism. I do expect to hold public hearings in Madison on other mining-related bills this summer as well.

Again, thank you for writing. I'm glad you were able to make it to the Ladysmith hearing in May.

Sincerely

Marc Duff
State Representative
98th Assembly District

OFFICE: State Capitol
PO. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952
608-266-1190
HOME: 1811 South Elm Grove Road
New Berlin, WI 53151
414-782-0763
TOLL-FREE HOTLINE: 1-800-362-9472
E-MAIL: USWLSA98@IBMMAIL.COM



May 10, 1997

Flambeau Mine
Ludysmith, Wis.

To Whom it May Concern:

From the beginning of the Flambeau Mine I have been a supporter. Great financial benefits have been realized from Flambeau Mine some of which are: restoration of Kiddie Gym, major help in financing the library, Enterprise Center, Conoved Relocation, Weathershield Expansion, Theatrical Enterprises, plus more. The Flambeau River has not become polluted. The blasts at the mine did not cause noise pollution, nor chunks of flying rock. The dust from vehicles hauling from the mine was completely controlled. It is my firm belief that mining

is the most environmentally safe.

Sincerely,
Betty Silburne
275 E. O. Rd.
Ludysmith, Wis.
54948

April 26, 1997

Chairman Marc Ruff:

The mining moratorium bill AB 70 should come to the Assembly floor for debate and passed unchanged. Exxon should be held accountable and have the burden of proof given their disastrous environmental track record.

The water belongs to the people of WI not the government and surely not Exxon. I resent the fact our water has become a corporate resource which will be compromised. Exxon is not my neighbor, given the chance they will simply close shop after exploiting our resources and leave us with memories of what we had.

Nancy Deussen
Rt 1 Box 662
Wabeno WI