

ALGER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mary Ann Froberg, Clerk
101 COURT STREET, MUNISING, MI 49862

RESOLUTION #2017-09

OPPOSING THE PROPOSED BACK FORTY MINE

WHEREAS: The Back Forty Project, a proposed open pit metallic sulfide mine would be located along the banks of the Menominee River, which empties into Lake Michigan and is one of the largest watersheds in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and Northern Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS: The Alger County Board opposes any mine site along the Menominee River as a potential for a disaster that may harm Menominee County's most valuable resource, **its water**.

WHEREAS: The Menominee River enters into Lake Michigan, the source of our drinking water, a significant food producing source through aquaculture and recreation provided to sportsmen; **our water resources cannot be risked**.

WHEREAS: The Alger County Board opposes any mine along the Menominee River as this proposed mine has the potential to cause significant environmental damage over a multi-generational span of time.

WHEREAS: We have a moral obligation to current and future generations to preserve quality of life by continually having clean water to use, and that the potential contamination of our water could have a negative health impact on the people of our county,

WHEREAS: Menominee County's strong tourism industry relies on maintaining the integrity of our rivers and their tributaries, lakes, forests and wildlife, and parks from potential pollutions (noise, air quality, and chemical).

WHEREAS: Potential economic losses including reduction in property values as well as loss of tourism revenue are not factored into the permitting review process; and

WHEREAS: The approval of this mine could result in the irreversible loss of significant cultural resources of the Menominee Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, including Native American gravesites and other areas of historical significance.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Alger County Board opposes any mine site near the Menominee River and stands by its past resolution opposing the use of cyanide in Menominee County for mining purposes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The Alger County Board opposes any mine that will use cyanide within Menominee County that could jeopardize the State's slogan of "Pure Michigan".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The County Clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to Governor Rick Snyder, Department of Natural Resources, Michigan Legislators representing Menominee County, Upper Peninsula Commissioners, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and Aquila Resources.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Alger County Board of Commissioners at the time, date, and place specified above pursuant to the required statutory procedures.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Ann Froberg, Alger County Clerk

Dated: August 21, 2017