



Water Resource Institute



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Jeff Small, E.D. Congressional Western Caucus
Congressman Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
2057 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for H.R. 3905, the Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act (MINER Act),

Dear Jeff,

The Water Resource Institute supports HR 3905 the MINER Act. It's important for the US to use our natural resources in the US and avoid imported products that diminish our self reliance on materials for US consumption.

The previous administration published a 234,328-acre federal mineral withdrawal application in the Federal Register for a 20-year moratorium, on lands within the Superior National Forest in Northeast Minnesota.

In conjunction with this massive mineral withdrawal, the Obama Administration's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) inappropriately rejected Twin Metals Minnesota's application to renew two hard rock mineral leases in Minnesota's Superior National Forest – leases that were signed in 1966 and renewed without controversy in 1989 and 2004.

This action immediately placed this vast area off limits to future mineral leasing, exploration and potential development for two years while the 20-year withdrawal is being considered. This bureaucratic and arbitrary decision that is political in nature could decimate local economies, stifle job creation as well as cause significant harm to K-12 education and mining.

Please pass the MINER Act and save jobs in the US.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mark Lewis

Mark Lewis,
Ex. Director