

From: [William Leavenworth](#)
To: [DEP, MiningComments2016](#)
Subject: Mining regulations
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To whom it may concern. As a Ph.D. historical ecologist, and one-time geology major with some experience exploring old mining sites in New Mexico and upstate New York, I vehemently oppose any permit allowing any sort of hard-rock mining anywhere in Maine. Our renewable natural resources, from headwaters to coastal waters, are far more valuable than any finite mineral in our bedrock. There is not a hard-rock metal mine in the country that has not poisoned all the downstream waters for miles. The Blue Hill mine is already a superfund site, and should that occur again in Maine upstream, we will lose not only the salmonids in our downstream waters, but eventually even the shellfish and crustaceans in our coastal waters. Only an amoral fool would support a mine in Maine--let them mine in the west, where there are no commercially valuable and renewable marine species.

Very truly yours,

Dr. William Burgess Leavenworth, Ph.D.