

From: [Robert Hayes](#)
To: [DEP, MiningComments2016](#)
Subject: Say NO to Weak Mining Rules!
Date: Friday, September 09, 2016 9:15:04 PM

I can't believe that the LePage Administration is again pushing weak mining rules even though thousands of citizens and many local organizations opposed these rules and the Maine Legislature defeated them. These proposed rules are a serious threat to Maine's clean water and our economy. It is a reckless move on the part of our Governor who has shown such poor judgement in so many ways -- especially in recent months.

At a time when Mainers are struggling to rebuild our economy, we cannot risk endangering some of Maine's most iconic places, like Moosehead Lake and the Down East coast. Over Labor Day weekend, we, along with many other Mainers and out-of-staters, spent our vacation Downeast, enjoying the beauty of our glorious state and spending money that is sorely needed in Washington County. We depend on clean water to support our tourism, fishing, hunting, and recreation industries. Not only does our clean water directly and indirectly support thousands of jobs across the state, it is a part of our way of life.

As you are aware, the proposed rules would allow mining on and under our incredible Public Reserved Lands. They would allow dangerous disposal facilities that contain toxic mine waste and processing chemicals, and they would allow all of this to take place in floodplains and flood hazard areas. And – with so much at risk – they would leave Maine taxpayers stuck with the clean up bill if something goes wrong. **THIS IS ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPTABLE!**

I urge you to do what is best for our state and our people. Say “NO” to these weak mining rules once again and putting an end to these attacks on Maine's clean water, and the industries it supports.

Maine deserves strong laws that protect our water, wildlife, natural resources, and people.

Thank you,

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Sent from my iPad