

Dear representative/senator/chief/etc:

I am writing on behalf of myself and the rest of Kids for the Boundary Waters to request that you please stand with us in defense of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness against the Twin Metals mining project. This is an issue that I care very deeply about. I hope you will take the time to read and consider my letter.

The Boundary Waters is a unique wilderness area and if polluted by a sulfide-ore mine it will be irrevocably damaged. ***[Insert personal anecdote here. I would use a lesson, healing experience, etc. The rest of the paragraph is an example of what that could look like.]*** During my time in the Boundary Waters I have found a sense of peace and belonging that no other place in the world has offered me. It has given me lessons on perseverance and it was my memories of the Boundary Waters that I drew upon for strength throughout my cancer treatments. I am not alone in this; I know many people from all walks of life who have experienced similar healing from the Boundary Waters.

Insert a paragraph focusing on a specific negative environmental, economic, etc. impact that the Twin Metals mine would have.

Express your displeasure with the recent decisions made by the government surrounding the twin metals mine.

Recent decisions by the Departments of Agriculture and Interior have been made to reinstate and renew long-expired federal mineral leases, and prematurely end the environmental study of the area while simultaneously opening the area to mining. These decisions have no basis in fact or science, and instead appear to be made out of political interest and for the profit of the foreign mining conglomerate Antofagasta. Furthermore, they contradict the overwhelming public sentiment that sulfide-ore copper mining should not be allowed within the Rainy-River Basin Watershed.

Make your ask (This may differ depending on what is currently happening around the issue. Below are our typical asks since the reinstatement of the mineral leases in 2018).

I am extremely disappointed that these departments have chosen to ignore both their duties to the American people as well as to American wilderness and so I ask that congress take both of the following actions to correct these decisions and ensure that the Boundary Waters is protected.

- Provide rigorous oversight of the Departments of Interior and Agriculture, the BLM, and the Forest Service to protect the Boundary Waters and to halt decisions based on politics and lobbying by a foreign mining company

- Protect the Boundary Waters by banning sulfide-ore copper mining in the watershed of the Boundary Waters

Finish by tying back to your anecdote, restating the damage the mining will do, and assuring that you and the rest of Kids4BW will continue to fight to protect the Boundary Waters.

Thank you again for meeting with us and please join us in our fight.

Sincerely,

Print first and last name

Signature