

**From:** [Mary.mraz@gmail.com](mailto:Mary.mraz@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Bertocci, Cynthia S](#)  
**Subject:** Please protect Maine's water quality and taxpayers  
**Date:** Thursday, September 01, 2016 2:02:46 PM

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September 1, 2016  
Cynthia Bertocci

Dear Cynthia Bertocci,

Please deliver these comments to the BEP.

Dear Chairman Parker and members of the Board of Environmental Protection:

I urge you to reject the latest version of DEP's weak mining rules. I am very concerned that these weak rules would allow mining corporations to pollute our water and harm our woods and wildlife for centuries. They also would not protect taxpayers from having to pay for the cleanup of mining disasters.

Maine's environment and economy are inextricably linked. Maine's rich outdoor heritage and natural scenic beauty are at the heart of our tourism industry, a critical part of our economy. Thousands of Maine people need our state's healthy environment to make their living and provide for their families. Guides, commercial fishermen, and sporting camp owners all depend on Maine's clean water and abundant fish and wildlife. Mining pollution would be a grave threat to these resources.

As a citizen of Maine, I have enjoyed the natural resources bestowed on this beautiful state. It makes no sense to jeopardize the health of the land and the people. While hiking in CA, we had to redirect our route due to heavy mining pollution in areas of Joshua tree national park. It was considered too harmful for us to enter the trails. This was years after mining had ceased in the area. We all know the history of these mining sites and it would be a sad day to add to these health hazards. We wish to leave a better legacy than that.

Please follow the lead of both the 126th and 127th Legislatures, and reject these rules.

Sincerely,

Mary Mraz  
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