From: <u>Kanelewisproductions@gmail.com</u>

To: Bertocci, Cynthia S

Subject: Please don't weaken Maine's mining rules

Date: Thursday, September 01, 2016 9:26:13 PM

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:

My cousin Susan Kominsky a prominent lawyer who Gov Jock McKernan asked to serve on Maine's Supreme Court and who lived downstream from the Callahan Mine on Weir Cove died of central nervous system lymphoma and suffered for five years before her death. Mining rules ought to be strict, not lax for the profit of Canadian companies.

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.

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

Sincerely,

Richard Kane, Sedgwick 189 Rope Ferry Rd Sedgwick, ME 04676-3410