Any new rules for mining in Maine should be written so as to protect the land, water, water and people of our state and the larger environment.

I object to open pit mining; this would destroy geologoical features and destroy the habitat of animals, including humans. Without intact habitat animals, including the humans, get sick and die.

There should be NO smelting or beneficiation of ores by sintering, calcining roasting and briquetting. These processes are unacceptably hazardous to the environment.

The long term costs of illnesses and birth defects, in addition to any direct compensation that would be required for workers within the mining industry, should be included in any rules that are developed in the future.

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