

Eric Schneider

Unless I am mistaken, the permit at issue here only covers the mine area itself, and not the public roadways and the adjacent lands and waters that will be affected. That is a mistake. The waste management plan needs to include the entire corridor, including dust and road runoff that may be contaminated through both routine use (tire and brake dust; dust from the ore; engine exhaust) and accidental spills (collisions, rollovers, vehicle malfunction).

This permit process is one opportunity to force a look at reasonable alternatives for transporting ore, including rail for the majority of the transit miles, or processing ore closer to the mine site; with analysis about which option poses the smallest risk for contaminating lands and water.

Thank you.