

Anne Morrison

We, Americans, have dominated, stolen from, and controlled Native people across this continent for centuries. Little do most people know that such domination and theft are not historical, but are ongoing. The willingness of the Minnesota government to even consider permitting corporate activity that would cause further harm to a resource that is fundamental to the survival of Native culture is yet one more example of our culture's ongoing attitude that we have the right — that we are somehow entitled—to make decisions that imperil Indian cultures for the sake of (yet more) corporate/economic development.

Of course, there is also the issue of the environment. Floods, hurricanes, suffocating smoke, wildfires, the die-off of the organisms that sustain the world's ecology (and not incidentally, our food chain), the growing numbers of climate refugees... all indicate that we are entering into an era of self-created climate catastrophe. Yet our government and corporations CONTINUE to act as if we can continue to exploit and destroy the natural world with no ill effects, instead of figuring out how to sustain ourselves without wreaking yet more havoc... they continue on as if it is "business as usual.

Haha, the joke will be on us.

Needless to say, I am opposed to any changes in regulations which would allow mines and other industries to continue to discharge uncontrolled pollution the next 50 years.

Haha, we will soon be reaping the results of the environmental destruction we have sown for centuries.

Thank you for considering my opinion on this important issue.