

Garrett Lappi

Hello my name is Garrett Lappi.

Mining runs deep in my family. My grandpas grandfathers family arrived on the iron range in the late 1880's and started working in the mines. My grandpa put in 30 years working for the DM&IR under U.S. Steel ownership. My father and I worked at the Minorca mine before we were both laid off this last spring.

Mining has made the iron range what it is today and if this standard goes through and these mines shut down it doesn't only affect the workers working directly under the mine. It also affects all the contractors and ALL the local businesses around the range. Workers will pack up and leave the range, bringing their families and future generations of rangers with them.

The sulphate standard is not backed by modern science and is outdated. Anybody can go to Hay lake and physically see wild rice growing in waters with "high sulfate".

We have been mining on the range for 100 years and we still have the cleanest waters around that attract so many tourists each year. We are the ones who live here and we wouldn't want these companies polluting our backyards but they simply are not.

If the mines become a thing of the past so do all the local towns and tax money that gets distributed throughout the whole state.

Myself personally would love to stay living on the iron range it is where my family is located and where I want to settle down and start a family one day. If the mines close it won't be possible for me to stay up here and have an income that supports a growing family.

Respectfully, Garrett Lappi