TAWNYA GUSTAFSON

I currently work at Keetac as a trainer and have been a Union Leader of some sort for many years, which allows me to raise by children and stay on the Iron Range. I have been pretty involved in the articles and public meetings for the law and standard. What happens after you make US Steel do this? Move to smaller companies that can't afford this? Give them grants, loans etc. until that is exhausted. If it's truly to keep the water clean for the rice that makes no sense. There is no way all the companies will be able to withhold this for your law.

Next, how is Minnesota and Keetac the 1st? I will be neutral; I understand that someone has to be 1st but it seems like no other area or business are in question. No one is under the stress of financial ruins expect US Steel. How is this right?

As far as science I heard many verbal comments at the meeting that there is science. Well, it must not be documented correctly. Why isn't this information out to the public if it is so true. What is the process for that? This information should be proven before a company should by law spend this money and follow a law.

Lastly no one talked about the science to help the companies out to follow the law and to afford it. So, we have reverse osmosis and no proof that it will help when the money is spent, and the job is done. There was a recorded speaker that was from Babbitt and had some sort of environmental company. He had talked about natural healthy science that could get this amount to where you want it. How do we not have this information for a cheaper option or environmentally friendly options.

If the MPCA is forced upon this law from the EPA and the Clean water act. How are we not getting comments or feedback from them and starting this from the start if it is such a grey area for both sides. I do not understand the process from our head government. It seems that this crisis should be on the president's table.

Lastly, I have great respect for our indigenous people and their culture and ways of life and living. there has to be a better way for both sides, and this is not the right way. Please make this right for both sides equally and fairly.

I guess my comment in a nutshell is I think we need more time not just Keetac but everyone. Scientists, companies, government, EPA and the MPCA need to have more solid information from all sources.