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The release of sulfates and other contaminants in wastewater represent socialized and ecological costs of doing business. These costs are borne by people, and the plant and animal life living in the surrounding area, and beyond, since water travels. Humans are a highly creative and adaptable species, who can develop processes and technology to mitigate these socialized and ecological costs. A quick search of technologies shows that there are available approaches to remove these contaminants. It's just that US Steel appears to think they cost too much to meet the pollution standards set by science. Tough. Get it done and cut the salaries of the suits until they figure it out. Drinkable, swimmable, fishable, and riceable should be the standard of the water when it leaves these mining areas. Nothing less should be acceptable for the use of the land and the profit being made. Written by a Minnesotan who loves to come home to the land of sky blue (and clean) waters.