BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE AREA WILDERNESS
LANDS AND WATERS PROTECTED FOR OVER 100 YEARS FOR THE
WORLD’S GREATEST CANOE COUNTRY

● THE BOUNDARY WATERS IS A UNIQUE LAKELAND - BOREAL FOREST WILDERNESS
THAT IS THE MOST VISITED WILDERNESS IN AMERICA

● OVERWHELMING SCIENTIFIC AND ECONOMIC EVIDENCE SHOWS THAT SULFIDE ORE
COPPER MINING IN THE WATERSHED OF THE BOUNDARY WATERS WOULD
PERMANENTLY DAMAGE THE WILDERNESS AND HARM THE COMMUNITY

● SEVENTY PERCENT OF MINNESOTANS OPPOSE COPPER MINING NEAR THE BOUNDARY
WATERS; 56% OF MN CD 8 CITIZENS OPPOSE THIS MINING

● FOR OUR GOVERNMENT TO FUNCTION PROPERLY, POLICY DECISIONS MUST BE
BASED ON THE BEST AVAILABLE EVIDENCE AND THE VALUES AND VIEWS OF THE
AMERICAN PEOPLE

● THE SYSTEM HAS BEEN CORRUPTED BY THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

HERE’S HOW:

FOREST SERVICE CONSENT:
● By law the U.S. Forest Service must
  consent to any mining approvals; in
  2016 it withheld its consent to the
  renewal of the only two federal mining
  leases in the watershed
● U.S. Forest Service Decision of
  December 14th, 2016 found that
  copper mining in the watershed was
  an unacceptable risk to the
  Boundary Waters and the Superior
  National Forest
  ○ Scientific evidence applied
  ○ 2 public hearings with 2,900
    people attending
  ○ 74,000 people said no to
    copper mining

VOIDED
BY TRUMP
ADMINISTRATION
### Forest Service Mineral Withdrawal Study:
- U.S. Forest Service initiated the legal process to consider a 20-year mining ban because the area is too valuable and too vulnerable for mining
- Under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act mining approvals were suspended for 24 months during the study and decision period
  - Scientific evidence submitted; 55 high quality science and economic reports detailing the harm mining would cause
  - 3 public hearings with 2,700 people attending
  - 180,000 people said no to copper mining

### TWIN METAL MINES LEASE RENEWAL:
- Cancelled leases reinstated unlawfully; challenged in U.S. District Court
- Environmental Assessment (short form assessment) for renewal issued over the holidays and during the federal government shutdown; intended to limit public engagement
  - Scientific evidence submitted
  - 94,000 people said no to copper mining

**CANCELLED BY TRUMP ADMINISTRATION**

**TRUMP ADMINISTRATION REFUSED TO READ ANY SCIENTIFIC REPORTS, CONSIDERED NO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS, AND DISMISSED PUBLIC CONCERNS; LEASES RENEWED**
The State/ Federal Review Process for a Mine Plan and State/ Federal Standards Will Not Protect the Boundary Waters

**STATE /FEDERAL EIS ON PROJECT:**
- New Trump administration policy requires a federal EIS to be completed in 1 year and be less than 150 pages long
- In contrast, the federal EIS on prospecting permits took 6 years and hundreds of pages; the PolyMet EIS took 12 years and thousands of pages

**TRUMP ADMINISTRATION HAS NO INTENTION OF CONSIDERING SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE OR THE PUBLIC’S VIEWS**

**STATE/ FEDERAL PERMITTING PROCESS:**
- By law only limited scientific information from EIS is considered in permitting process; most scientific information is deemed irrelevant, including
  - Economics
  - Human health impacts
  - Impacts on the Boundary Waters, including on the forests, wetlands, and plants, fish, birds, animals, and wilderness character
- Operating assumption is that impacts can be mitigated or fixed; **damage to the Boundary Waters cannot be fixed or mitigated**
- Permitting standards allow pollution of air and water; **no pollution is allowed within the Boundary Waters**

**THE PERMITTING SYSTEM IS NOT PROTECTIVE OF THE BOUNDARY WATERS**