

Carr, Tim

From: Becky Noyes <stateofmynd42@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 3:47 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Wolfden Rezoning Concerns

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I'm writing to you about my concern for the Pickett Mountain Mining Project attempting near Patten, Maine. As a long time resident of Patten and the surrounding communities, I have very deep concerns about the mine itself along with the company behind it.

Mines have a nasty habit of polluting the area in which they reside and Wolfden has provided no confidence in the belief this will not happen. They tout that treatment of the water which they use will be purified with a process called "reverse osmosis," which can clean the water, but leaves behind toxic sludge. Not to mention that this is an insanely costly process that mines in the past have only used when they were caught and found to be leaching toxins into the environment.

Wolfden does not currently operate a mine and the Katahdin area is not a place to be running experiments which could harm its natural beauty and the creatures that reside there. Patten is finally starting to make steps towards embracing the tourism community and moving from the dying extraction based economy (lumbering). We don't need to head back that way. Maine's beauty can last forever if we care for it. Mining is a boom/bust economy, one of which Wolfden themselves have said will only last 3-5yrs. Three to five years of "economic boom" for an eternity of destruction... doesn't sound like a good deal to me. People come from all over the world to experience Maine and the Katahdin region.

People come to hike, bike, climb, boat, fish, hunt, four-wheel, snow sled, camp, explore and all of this is based off a healthy environment of which to have these great adventures in. While these people are here they need places to shop for supplies and gear, places to stay, places to eat, places to fuel up, places to rent equipment, places to buy souvenirs, places to take their vehicles if they become damaged, people to run/operate all these businesses, people to help guide them to the best places and people to care for any injuries of themselves or their pets. If we want to look at this from a purely economic standpoint, embracing the tourism of this area is a far greater benefit to all the people of the area than a mine. Wolfden said they wouldn't be hiring local people to work at the proposed mine and really, why would they? We don't have anyone around with mining experience and/or knowledge and they don't have the ability to train anyone (and don't seem to want to) either. Wolfden touts having hundreds of trucks rolling through Patten like the "good ol' days" of lumbering. Why do we want that? Do we want that heavy traffic flying through our streets and destroying the roads that our taxes will have to pay to repair? If they bring people from out of town to work these jobs, even their taxes won't contribute to the repair of our roads. Our relaxed and quiet roads to explore will be filled with the rumbling of

trucks. Definitely not places you'll want your kids riding their bikes on, that's for sure, and most certainly no longer a tourist destination.

Wolfden argues we can have the land back after they take what they want from it. Who wants some polluted mountain that is continuing to leach toxic chemicals into the water table once they're gone? A water table that will lead to our wells at home. Water that runs into all the rivers and streams, killing our fish and wildlife, killing ourselves.

As I've said, I've lived and worked here nearly my entire life. It's not always been an easy thing to do. Life is a bit tough here at times, the pay isn't always great and the expenses are many, but I've always loved it here. I love the mountain and the forest, the lakes and the streams, the endless possibility for adventure, and all the wildlife in which it contains. I've fought to stay here and I'll continue to fight for as long as I can. If this mine does get approved... it breaks my heart, but that will be it and we will leave. I can't stand the thought of staying and watching my home be destroyed by pollution and people applaud them because they think they're going to get some money out of it.

I'm sorry for rambling, but please, help us embrace tourism and all the support system around it and decline the mine. Tourism will benefit us all as all services and jobs are needed for it. The mine will only salt the Earth, making sure nothing can grow and destroying our beautiful home.

Thank you,

Becky Noyes, LVT

Patten, ME

StateofMynd42@gmail.com

Carr, Tim

From: Louise Ellis <lou41ceg@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 4:20 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Cc: Melanie Sturm
Subject: Wolfden Pickett Mountain mining proposal

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

We believe that the major viable economic benefit for the future of Mt. Chase, along with the many adjacent rural communities in the northern Penobscot/southernAroostook counties, is in the preservation of our natural resources. Mt. Chase is the gateway to the northern entrances of both the state of Maine's renowned Baxter State Park and the US National Park Service's Katahdin Woods and Waters Monument.

We believe that the water quality of the nearby aqueducts could be gravely diminished by the processes involved in extracting zinc and copper. Mining not only requires millions of gallons of water in separating the minerals being mined but the process itself creates sulfuric acid which can pollute water for decades. The tailings/contaminated water needs to be forever sealed - to date the location for harboring the residue of mining has yet to be announced by the applicant.

We believe we owe future generations to seriously evaluate the potential consequences of mining Pickett Mountain and its long-term effect on our natural resources - any water quality problem would adversely affect the economic gains our communities have made in promoting our outdoor recreation programs.

We strongly oppose Wolfden's Picket Mountain rezoning request.

Don and Lou Grant, residents, Mount Chase, Maine.
August 25, 2023

Carr, Tim

From: Susan Adams <sugarloaf390@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 9:58 AM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Written testimony against Granting Wolfden permit

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear LUPC Commissioners:

I live and work in Patten ,Maine and the area Wolfden is pushing hard to get policy changes and approval to mine. Embracing and protecting our natural resources over the past 10 years has proven that we can have it all. Healthy environments to live and recreate in ,as well as jobs. The Best part is that these natural resource based jobs have brought young folks to town who are settling here, going to our community colleges and buying homes, starting families. Our towns need to grow and thrive with amenities such as healthy activities like hiking, fishing , paddling clean waters and biking and spaces to produce healthy children and excellent schools.

I grew up as a child at the far end of the Penobscot watershed in Penobscot bay. I am old enough to remember what industry upstream did to our clam flats and other fisheries . Those industries are gone now , and thankfully the watershed is beginning to make a clean comeback.

I question why some locals have been made to believe that it is a good idea to go backwards. I don't think anyone should come out for Wolfden without making a trip up to these headwaters of the Mattawamkeag that are at risk. I have been there and they are an incredible asset that we don't need to put at risk.

Maine has some decent mining regulations, stick to them.

Susan Adams
881 Shin Pond rd
Patten Maine 04765

☺

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Susan Adams
P.O. Box 662
Patten, ME 04765-0662
207-852-1291
Sugarloaf390@gmail.com

Please leave a message and best time to call.

Carr, Tim

From: Laura Farnsworth <laurafarnsworth@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 1:02 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Letter of opposition

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear LUPC Commissioners:

I'm a retired teacher living in the Southern Aroostook town of Island Falls. Island Falls has many natural assets, among them, two beautiful lakes. The West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River, Class A rated, runs through the middle of Island Falls, less than 5 minutes from Highway 95, Exit 276.

Under us, sometimes shallow and sometimes deep is a great aquifer. All our bodies of water above and below ground are part of an ancient, complex and poorly understood system with headwaters in the Pickett Mountain region. It gives me no pleasure to tell you that one seepage from the proposed mine or mine waste into the aquifer or into the headwaters of the Mattawamkeag River system has the potential to pollute drinking water for miles, could pop up in spring fed Pleasant Pond, could surface in Crystal Bog, and/or trickle it's way into the Penobscot on it's way to the Gulf of Maine.

Once again, Maine is being asked to carry the risk for a Canadian venture but will receive little or no benefit. Zinc is not rare nor particularly valuable. The proposed mine will run out in about 10 years. Let's stop this project now. Mining at its best is a "boom or bust" extractive economic driver. For more information follow the link below:

ZOOM IN

THE KATAHDIN REGION IS NO PLACE FOR A MINE

7-8 PM | AUGUST 23



DAN KUSNIERZ
PENOBSCOT INDIAN NATION



SHARRI VENNO
HOULTON BAND OF
MALISEET INDIANS

Zoom in: The Katahdin Region is No Place for a Mine
[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

Laura Jones Farnsworth

- MELMAC Team Community Member Region Two
- Southern vice-chair Aroostook Dem committee
- Chair Regional Dem Committee Island Falls and Patten
- Board member Lumberman's Museum-education liaison
- Board member of SACS After School Program
- Board member Manes and Tales of Aroostook, farm life after school program, vacation and summer daycamp
- member of other groups concerned with education, history and rural economy.

Carr, Tim

From: Andrew Donaldson <al.brownscove@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2023 9:05 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Comment on proposed rezoning

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To the LUPC,

My name is Andrew Donaldson, and I live in Round Pond Maine. The proposed rezoning of the Pickett Mountain property for polymetallic mining will inevitably degrade the surrounding woods and waters with acidic mine runoff. There is simply no way to contain the damage created by a large scale metal ore mine - the history of mining is one of pollution and degradation, due to the simple fact that it rains, and that water will create acidic and toxic runoff. Wolfden can promise it will treat the water, but for how long? 50 years? 100 years? The history of mining is rife with broken promises, bankruptcies and dissolutions, followed by ongoing efforts to mitigate the damage, footed by the taxpayer. We need look no further than the old Black Hawk mine in Blue Hill or the Callahan mine in Brooksville. I used to live down there and knew a number of people employed by those outfits. The jobs were short lived but the damage remains to this day.

On top of all that, Wolfden has never run a mine. And we are supposed to trust them with our North Woods, where thousands of people go every year to hunt, fish, camp and hike? They promise jobs, but they fail to mention all the recreation based jobs they put in jeopardy.

Please do not permit this mine.

Andrew Donaldson
1178 State Route 32
Round Pond Maine 04564
207-350-6976

Carr, Tim

From: Robert Bond <rcbondeaux@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 9, 2023 12:14 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Mining in Maine

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Commission Members,

I am adamant in my opposition to mining in Maine. Being from Louisiana I am familiar with the extraction industry and the atrocious consequences associated with it. I moved to Maine 35 years ago because I wanted to live in a place where the environment was respected. So far that has generally been my experience. Please do not let mining interests get a foothold as their capacity for environmental damage and deceit is endless.

Regards

Bob Bond, Portland

Sent from my iPhone

Carr, Tim

From: Bryan Noyes <starwolf23@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 7:33 AM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Comment on Wolfden rezoning

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I live just outside of Patten, a few miles away from where Wolfden's proposed mine would be placed. My wife and I have been following the rezoning application process closely, and I feel very strongly that Wolfden should not be allowed to proceed with the rezoning and mine under any circumstances.

I tend not to speak out on most issues, hoping that the facts will speak for themselves. However, it appears that in this case, the application of money and community outreach seems to be heavily obscuring the truth. I have read nearly everything Wolfden has made public about their proposed mine, and listened to their commentary in the community. While I am no expert on the subject (far from it!), I have heard and read absolutely nothing that convinces me that Wolfden has the capability to run a safe, effective, and most importantly environmentally-friendly mining operation in this area. In fact, it seems that most of their community outreach has been focused not telling every interested party exactly what they want to hear - regardless of whether those statements contradict each other.

I've heard several stories from several people - "Wolfden will give us all jobs!" "Wolfden will make us rich!" "Wolfden won't hire anyone from around here, but will give our local businesses a boost!" ... and the list goes on. That, coupled with their aggressive program of community outreach - throwing constant events and parties while spreading their version of events - shows a company that is more interested in marketing than doing the right thing. As many others have stated, Wolfden is a company that appears to be attempting to "start the process" and hope to be bought out by a larger company more capable of mining - a company who will have no connection to these proceedings, no connections within the community, and no desire to give even a whiff of care to our area, the people who live here, and the environment. A company engaged in that process will (of course) say anything and do anything to get their money and get out of Dodge - er, Patten.

I personally believe after reading Wolfden's application and viewing their conduct in the community that they have no business running a mine in this area - or in fact anywhere near the state of Maine. I strongly hope that the Commission agrees and will reject the Wolfden rezoning application. Thank you for your time.

Bryan Noyes

Carr, Tim

From: Dark Sky Maine <darksourcemaine@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 16, 2023 8:42 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Preserve Maine's Dark Sky Heritage

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To the members of LUPC,

Dark Sky Maine is concerned about the influence of light pollution on the North Maine Woods. The North Maine Woods has the largest area of dark skies east of the Mississippi River. We can see stars here that few can see globally or even on the east coast.

Katahdin Woods and Waters and AMC land were designated as DARK SKY PLACES by the International Dark Sky Association.

Our skies are precious here. Please preserve Maine's dark sky heritage.

Thank you,
Nancy Hathaway, president
DarkSkyMaine.com



DarkSkyMaine.com

darksourcemaine@gmail.com

Carr, Tim

From: Green, Kiana
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 7:10 AM
To: Carr, Tim
Cc: Beyer, Stacie R
Subject: FW: Wolfden

From: Matt Keglovich <mkeglovich@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2023 6:04 PM
To: LUPC <LUPC@maine.gov>
Subject: Wolfden

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I am a former resident of Bangor. And I do not believe Wolfden should be allowed any involvement in the State of Maine.

This would degrade the quality of Maine's forests and land. It will bring jobs but at what price? Damage to the water aquifer, chemicals released out into the wilderness, etc. are not worth it.

"For the love of money is the root of all evil..."
-1 Timothy 6:10

Thanks for your time

Carr, Tim

From: Anthony Tuminello <anthonytuminello1611@proton.me>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2023 7:13 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: The earth is the LORD's, and the fulness thereof

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Psalms 24:1-2 (KJV) A Psalm of David. The earth *is* the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

I am not a Mainer, but I found out about this project through an online preacher. Even so, I am strongly opposed to this project. I care about the beautiful earth that the LORD has given us, and the well being of the wildlife which He made. Open-pit mines ALWAYS cause massive amounts of pollution, water contamination, and destruction of the beauty of the earth, and it's wildlife. They are absolutely HORRIBLE for the environment. The LORD gave man the earth to nourish and take care of it, NOT destroy it.

Genesis 2:15 (KJV) And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

Even so, the earth is the LORD'S, not man's. Wolfden does not have the right to destroy the land of Mt. Chase (which the LORD created) and ruin the people's lives who live there. People live and moved to that area to enjoy the purity and beautify of God's creation there, and to get away from the pollution and headache of city life. But Wolfden wants to bring that pollution and headache to their doorstep. There is no excuse for this. This is being done for one thing and one thing only: **money**.

1 Timothy 6:10 (KJV) For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Please put a stop to this. The Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ said that He will destroy those who destroy the earth. This is unacceptable in His sight, and it is unacceptable in the sight of all that love the LORD and His world that He made.

Revelation 11:18 (KJV) And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldst give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; **and shouldst destroy them which destroy the earth.**

*Sincerely,
A lowly servant of the Lord Jesus Christ*

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

Carr, Tim

From: Beyer, Chris
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 7:58 AM
To: Carr, Tim
Subject: FW: Wolfden mining (picket mountain)

FYI..... see email below. Just forwarding it along.

From: JeffShelton3 <JeffShelton3@protonmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2023 11:10 PM
To: Beyer, Chris <Chris.Beyer@maine.gov>
Subject: Wolfden mining (picket mountain)

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I strongly oppose the petition to work a new mine by Wolfden. It will destroy the environment and quality of life. This project will not bring jobs from the people of Maine . There isn't any local jobs created. They will bring in out of state workers in order to make a larger profit. This company will ruin the whole state. Please deny their permit to mine.

Thank you

Sent from [Proton Mail](#) for iOS

Jared Bornstein
Northern Star Lodge
Sherman, Maine

I am a new outfitter and guide located in Sherman, Maine. I started my business in the Katahdin region because it has a large amount of land to hunt, people who want to work and a friendly to business environment that I felt encouraged by. I have to assume that when Wolfden Resources bought land just north of Patten, they chose to invest in this community for similar reasons. I am a supporter of their efforts, so are most guides and outfitters that I know personally. They may not show up to these hearings, or write testimony, that's because they are busy in the woods with clients or spending their free time doing upkeep on their properties. It seems like usually it's the people with free time to get to advocate during these proceedings, not the folks who work for a living. I myself cannot testify at this hearing because I will be guiding a Moose hunt in Zone 5, the same zone where the proposed mine will go.

I support Wolfden's efforts for many reasons. Chief among them is our economic and political standing as a country when it comes to earth minerals. If we do not allow companies to mine minerals domestically, we leave ourselves dependent on countries like China to mine and manufacture critical components in technology that we all use every day, like cars and phones. This not only presents national security threats, should China or other adversaries cut off our supply, but it also is an unspoken about environmental hazard. You see, if Wolfden's mine is approved, they will be using the most up to date technology utilized by the world's foremost experts in the mining field. They will be beholden to a whole catalog of regulations, with the state and federal governments ever watchful eye over them. They can't make mistakes, and they can't do anything that will unjustly jeopardize our environment. Conversely, other countries like China do not have the rigorous environmental standards as we do. Their goal is purely profit, to make money for the Chinese Communist Party. They do whatever it takes to pull these very same minerals from the ground in the most cost-effective way possible. Additionally, the less we mine ourselves the more we rely on mineral mines in Africa, which utilize slave labor with no standards of working conditions. According to witnesses, laborers there mine in flip flops with babies strapped to their back, working for sometimes as little as a dollar a day. Virtual slave labor. In South America, it is well known that illegal gold mines use mercury to separate the gold from the ore, then allow the mercury to run into the Amazon Rainforests watershed.

If you have ever supported American made, or "Buy American" campaigns, you must support Wolfden's efforts here. They are going to bring over 250 much needed good paying jobs to the Katahdin region, bring industry and investment back to an area who's been economically left behind and support our national security and economy with domestically procured earth minerals. The choice is clear, you can support Wolfden's mine or the mines China, Africa and South America. If you condemn the abhorrent mines in these foreign places, the only logical position to take on Wolfden's mine is to support it.

Carr, Tim

From: Lance Neil De Leon <neilleonde@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2023 9:47 AM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Public Comment

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Sir:

Good Morning. I'm writing this message to let you know of my strong disapproval regarding Wolfden Resources doing mining in Northern Maine. I'm not sure if you have already seen these videos, proof of the destruction that Wolfden Resources brings to the lands that they mine. If not, please take a look at these:

[Wolfden Resources Mining Atrocities](#)

[Wolfden Resources Wants to Destroy Northern Maine](#)

I hope you take heed of these things. I'll leave you with these scriptures:

Genesis 1:28

28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Psalms 104:24-25

24 O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

25 So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts.

Psalms 24:1

A Psalm of David.

1 The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Psalms 50:10

For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.

Revelation 11:18

And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldst give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldst destroy them which destroy the earth.

Proverbs 12:10

A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.

Sincerely yours,

Lance De Leon

Alice Bolstridge, Ph. D.
19 State Street, Presque Isle, ME 04769
<https://alice1938.blogspot.com/>

Land Use Planning Commission members:

Every legislative session, from 2012 to 2017, I studied risks and benefits of metallic mineral mining at Bald Mountain near my home town, wrote letters to Editors, and traveled to Augusta once or twice each year to testify against efforts to weaken the 1991 mining regulations to make it less burdensome for the site owner to mine Bald Mountain. Now, Wolfden Resources is threatening the environment of the Katahdin region by taking advantage of the new law they believe will allow them to mine Pickett Mountain. I attended a recent meeting in Patten with Wolfden people to discuss the rezoning petition. Several members of the audience asked about risks of water pollution and plans to prevent it. Their response was that the issue was outside the parameters of the current discussion, and they would hold a future meeting to discuss it. They wouldn't say when, wouldn't promise when asked to do it before the public hearing or before LUPC makes its decision. So I did my own research and found that their petition calls for a total of 1,466,664 gallons of water per day (pp 630, 639, and 656) to be used in the proposed mining operations, all of it at risk of being exposed to toxic contaminants. But their water-treatment plant will only handle 288,000 gallons of water per day (p 293).

Sulfuric acid, produced when sulfide ores are exposed to air and water leaches out mercury and arsenic, produces acid mine drainage, and acidifies lakes and rivers. In addition, Wolfden's plans call for the use of toxic chemicals in the mining operation: more than 7 million pounds of cyanide, 10 million pounds of copper sulfite, and 12 million pounds of sulfur dioxide. That is a lot of toxic chemicals

Wolfden's claims about effectiveness of their plans to treat waste water so that there will be only clean drinkable water leaving the mining area are not supported by any evidence they offer or that I have found in research. There is no metallic mineral mine anywhere in the world that has not polluted surrounding water, poisoned fish, harmed human health, and left communities financially and spiritually devastated. A 2023 report says "Global Study Reveals Extensive Impact of Metal Mining Contamination on Rivers and Floodplains." "New results highlight the widespread reach of the contamination [. . .] on a global scale" Metallic mineral mining is a "hazard to the health of urban and rural communities in low-income countries and communities dependent on these rivers and floodplains, especially in regions already burdened with water-related diseases. In industrialised nations in Western Europe, including the UK, and the United States, this contamination constitutes a major and growing constraint to water and food security, compromises vital ecosystem services, and contributes to antimicrobial resistance in the environment."*

A mine at Pickett Mountain threatens not only the environment and human health but also the financial and spiritual health of surrounding communities. Please deny the rezoning petition.

Respectfully,
Alice Bolstridge

* CThomas. 22 September 2023. <https://news.lincoln.ac.uk/2023/09/22/global-study-reveals-extensive-impact-of-metal-mining-contamination-on-rivers-and-floodplains/>

Carr, Tim

From: ginlawson <ginlawson@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2023 8:37 AM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Pickett Mountain Rezoning

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear LUPC,

The riches of our beautiful lands in Maine need our protection and guidance. There is no long term benefit to Maine to rezone Pickett Mountain for industrial mining. These things leave a terrible legacy of pollution and destruction. Please do not rezone this beautiful area.

Thank you,
Jennifer Lawson
Falmouth, Maine

JOHN F. LOYD, JR.
1768 HARPSWELL NECK ROAD
SOUTH HARPSWELL, MAINE 04079

Tel. (Home) 207.833.5007

Email Betja1978@gmail.com

September 25, 2023

Via US Mail and email to WolfdenRezoning.LUPC@maine.gov

Maine Land Use Planning Commission
Attention: Tim Carr
22 State House Station
18 Elkins Lane, Augusta, ME 04333-0022.

Re: Wolfden Mount Chase LLC Pickett Mountain Mine Rezoning Application

I am writing in opposition to the Wolfden Mount Chase, LLC application to rezone a portion of T6R6 WELS such that it could engage in sulfide mining of volcanogenic massive sulfide (VMS) ore deposits.

Historically, sulfide (hard rock) mining of VMS ore deposits is a sad story of severe environmental degradation, including the poisoning of lakes, ponds, streams and rivers, the destruction of critical fish, waterfowl and wading bird habitats, the pollution of deep aquifers and surface water recharge sites and lasting harm to human beings. Hard rock mine tailings and the handling and disposal of mining wastewater have posed immediate and continuing long-lasting environmental threats - for generations to come.

The Pickett Mountain project is geographically centered in the HUC 12, Rockabema Lake watershed which includes the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River, a tributary to the Penobscot River, the river that is vital to the recovery of Atlantic Salmon in Maine. The Rockabema watershed includes numerous lakes, ponds, and brooks and streams as well as critical wetlands (see <https://webapps2.cgis-solutions.com/MaineStreamViewer/>), including critical habitat for wild native brook trout.

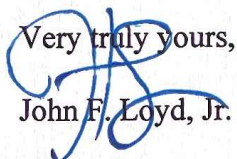
The proposed “deep” mining operation will generate millions of cubic yards of sulfide tailings that will be a continuing source of acidic and heavy metals contamination of the entire HUC 12 Rockabema watershed and its wetlands, brooks, streams, river, ponds and lakes. Mine wastewater pumped into the ground will contaminate entire aquifers and wastewater impounded above ground will be an environmental accident waiting to happen. The resulting mining pollution threatens not only Maine’s flora and fauna but the health of human beings living and working within the Rockabema watershed and downstream in the Penobscot River drainage.

Throughout recent history, time and again, the mining industry has touted engineering and technological advancements that, they say, allows hard rock mining – and associated tailings and wastewater disposal – to be conducted free of any negative environmental effects. As it turns out the hype is far outweighed by the fact that the risks of pollution and contamination have only been minimally reduced, let alone eliminated.

Maine Land Use Planning Commission
Re: Pickett Mountain Mine Rezoning Application
September 25, 2023
Page 2 of 2

Mining cannot be safely conducted except within a strong and comprehensive modern statutory and regulatory matrix. Maine's mining statutes and regulations are woefully inadequate, thus Maine is unprepared to provide adequate regulatory and practical oversight and monitoring before, during and forever after a hard rock mining operation.

For these reasons I urge the Land Use Planning Commission to reject the Wolfden Mount Chase, LLC application to rezone a portion T6R6 WELS from General Management (M-GN) to Planned Development (D-PD).

Very truly yours,

John F. Loyd, Jr.

September 25, 2023

Submitted via email to Wolfdenrezoning.LUPC@maine.gov.

Maine Land Use Planning Commission (LUPC)
22 State House Station,
Augusta, ME 04333

Re: Comment to Oppose Pickett Mountain Mine Rezoning Application, ZP 779A – Wolfden Mt. Chase LLC

Dear Commissioners,

My immediate family lives in Maine and many of our relatives live in the Katahdin area near the proposed mine. I have reviewed the information that has been made available on the LUPC Wolfden project website and remain very much opposed to Wolfden's proposed heavy metal mine.

As with any decision of this kind, the risks to the impacted region should not be so large as to outweigh the rewards offered to that region. The greatest rewards clearly lie in the profits to be made solely by the foreign corporation proponent with very little, limited benefit of a few additional, temporary low-wage jobs to the local people of the area and to the state. Clearly, the greatest risk with the least reward lies squarely upon local citizens, tourism businesses, and the region's future environment with a staggeringly large, foreseeable risk of catastrophic, long-term (identified & unidentified) permanent and/or detrimental degradation of the surrounding water, land, & wildlife resources of this region. Then there is the consideration of the risk to the Maine taxpayers who would have to foot the bill for cleanup of any off-site, downstream pollution that is remediable once the mine closes. The Katahdin area is world renowned for its vast contiguous forest, pristine streams, clean lakes, and aquatic species like wild brook trout and landlocked salmon. In this case the environmental and economic risks of this project as outlined below, far outweighs any temporary rewards being promised.

In addition to the extraction mine itself, Wolfden's proposed project also requires a concentrator facility for processing ore and a tailings management facility to permanently store the waste products. I agree with the majority of the previous commentors, the mine along with these facilities pose severe economic risk along with the risks to natural resources in the area including the following:

- High potential for irreparable harm to the three State Heritage Fishing Waters and the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River, which are critical habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon from the contamination of freshwater streams, lakes, and wetlands by heavy metal discharges in the mine effluent, seepage from tailings, processing chemicals, and waste rock impoundments leaching into groundwater, causing irreparable harm to aquatic ecosystems, fish and other organisms;
- Increases in noise pollution during the 5-10 years of ongoing mining operations, including the ingress and egress of the necessary heavy machinery and construction vehicles which negatively impacts the residence and the tourist industry;
- Increases of loss of native wildlife and habitat in the vicinity of Pickett Mountain including moose and threatened Canada lynx;
- Negative economic effects on the idyllic landscape and wilderness setting for which this region is widely known and appreciated. A mining operation entailing increased industrial traffic, noise, occupation of a large area of land, and light pollution discourages tourism as it threatens the reputation of the region as

a mecca for wilderness outdoor experiences and the local activities that fundamentally sustain the regional economy, such as guiding, fishing, hunting, rafting, hiking and safe conditions for human habitation.

- Ironically, Wolfden engineers revealed their plans to use PFAS chemicals and compared their proposed spraying of mining operation wastewater on 31 acres containing large wetland areas to a town's water treatment plant spraying of treated sewage sludge onto fields which has had disastrous long-term consequences in Maine due to the unforeseen contamination of the disposed industrial waste with PFAS. The statewide PFAS sludge debacle perpetrated by past decisions of state agencies to allow long-term disposal of treated waste by the same proposed methodology of spreading/spraying on fields should warrant a precautionary decision by LUPC that does not set a dangerous precedent for future similar metal mine proposals. LUPC should not go out of its way to unnecessarily change state zoning just to appease and enhance a private entity's profits while allowing an enhanced, unnecessary risk to the health and welfare of the land and Maine citizens.
- Another detrimental risk to a major economically beneficial asset of this region as was also pointed out by a previous commentor, is its designation as the only International Dark Sky Sanctuary in the eastern United States (<https://www.darksky.org/our-work/conservation/idsp/sanctuaries/katahdin-woods-and-waters-national-monument/>). Light pollution from this mine threatens the uniqueness of this area and the important designation which could affect the entire region making the natural appearance of the night sky & stars invisible to the naked eye.

Like other previous commentors, I am also concerned that this project fails to meet a major requirement outlined in 12 M.R.S.A., Section 685-A(8-A) paragraph b., which states the requirement that the proposal not have any adverse impacts to natural resources when re-districted zones: "The change in districting will have no undue adverse impact on existing uses or resources or a new district designation is more appropriate for the protection and management of existing uses and resources within the affected area." A heavy metals extraction mine clearly has undue impacts on the exacted resources and is certainly not a more appropriate for the protection of existing resources within the affected area.

I also agree with the majority that filed comments in this case who are against allowing this re-zoning along with the "more than 700 hundred Mainers and local businesses, including Bradford Camps, Chandler Lakes Camps and Lodge, and the Maine Wilderness Guides Organization, [who] have spoken out against Wolfden's plans" and with the "residents of Pembroke [who] voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there" as mentioned in the Intervenor, NRCM's filed petition (see petition to intervene by Maine tribes and NRCM <https://earthjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/petition-to-intervene-wolfdens-mine-final-2023-06-28-for-filing.pdf>)/

I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning proposal and instead choose to put Maine's unique natural resources, long-term safety, and well-being of the people of Maine, before short-term industry profits.

Thank you for your work and consideration.

Dianne Wilkins
9 Lakeside Drive
Falmouth, ME 04105
Email: dianne.wilkins@maine.edu



September 26, 2023

Dear Chairman Worcester and members of the Land Use Planning Commission (LUPC):

We are **Citizens Against Residential Mining Activity (CARMA)**, a Maine non-profit corporation with a board comprised of Warren, Union, and Hope residents. Please visit our website at <https://carmamaine.com/>. We represent our hundreds of members, volunteers and supporters in protecting our towns from a Canadian mining company (Exiro Minerals) seeking to mine metallic minerals in Knox County. We join with residents and groups opposing Wolfden Resources' petition to rezone nearly 400 acres near Pickett Mountain in Penobscot County to allow for a mining operation.

1. Background.

Last winter Canadian mining company Exiro Minerals came to Warren and Union attempting to garner support for metallic mineral mining within a thirty-square-mile area that encompasses our towns. Like the areas around Pickett Mountain, our towns are rich in life-sustaining natural resources -- in particular, clean water and forested and arable land. While some in Maine's north consider the Midcoast a world away, these Canadian companies are using the same false narrative with both our communities and are asking both of us to weigh the value of using and preserving our life-sustaining natural resources against the value of extracting, processing, and transporting another one of our natural resources, our metallic minerals. This is not Wolfden's first rodeo in Maine. They tried the same thing in Pembroke before residents there mobilized to drive them out.

2. The Decision on Wolfden's Appeal Impacts the Entire State of Maine.

It is important to see that the LUPC's decision on Wolfden's petition will impact other parts of Maine outside of the Pickett Mountain area. Mining interests and their investors are closely watching the State's willingness to loosen its protections, change its laws, and make exceptions to accommodate and buy into the false narrative being promoted by mining companies. Your decision on Wolfden's petition will communicate to these companies what the State values and whether it places greater weight on its natural beauty and traditional economies than on the development of metal mining and processing.

3. Mining Companies Promote a False Narrative.

Let's look at the common false narrative Wolfden and Exiro promote. **First**, these mining companies say that new mining techniques are safe for people and the environment.

“This is not the mining that your parents knew,” they assert. **Second**, they promise good jobs to local people. **Third**, they say they want to partner with the local community. Exiro’s presentation in Union is online and is worth watching for the responses of its CEO.¹ Asked about the risks of today’s mining, the CEO (Shastri Ramnath) was stunningly candid:

“Tailings dam failures where people have died, hundreds have died . . . There are a lot of bad things that could happen . . . we are people who do not want to do that . . . but you hear about it . . . the worst case is loss of life and also environmental damage.”

In her introductory presentation, Ms. Ramnath talked about the potential for job growth in “peripheral roles” including truck driving, catering and “camp services” — all relatively low pay work. She also said that nurses would be needed, presumably to address the injury and health risks associated with working in mines. Asked in the Q&A about jobs for mine workers themselves, she replied that the mines in Canada:

“often have rotational positions and what happens is that at the mine, people rotate in for two weeks and rotate out . . . there is always that possibility . . . and maybe there are certain aspects of the mine we’d have to bring people in.”

At the Warren meeting, Ms. Ramnath was asked who would profit from a mine. She responded: Exiro would “make in the millions,” property owners who have deposits and who allow mining on their land “would make a lot,” and townspeople could invest in company shares if they wanted to.² Maybe by “partnering with the community” these companies mean sponsoring little league teams and holding cookouts because they certainly do not mean sharing the wealth.

In the time since Exiro approached our communities eight months ago, the residents of Union, Hope and Warren have opposed them loudly. Union voters overwhelmingly passed an ordinance by citizens’ petition restricting metallic mineral mining. We anticipate the Town of Hope to put a similarly restrictive ordinance to a vote soon. The Town of Warren has implemented a moratorium on metallic mineral exploration and mining while it revises its existing metallic mineral mining ordinance. The overwhelming opposition to metallic mineral extraction and processing in the Midcoast comes from concerns over human health and environmental impact, as well as a mining operation’s effect on local business and our small-town, rural culture. Our existing local economy is based on agribusiness and our natural amenities. We have farms of all types, craft breweries, and organic wineries, and our economies rely on the draw of our land, water, and scenic amenities for fishermen, hunters,

¹ Videotape of Exiro presentation in Union February 15, 2023. https://townhallstreams.com/stream.php?location_id=140&id=51043

² Notes of Peter Croce from the Exiro meeting in Warren, February 16, 2023.

families with generational seasonal homes, and summer visitors to our campgrounds and youth summer camps. Please see the Penobscot Bay Pilot's Letter to the Editor "Forty-five local Union, Warren business owners endorse public letter opposing metallic mining in their towns" linked below.³

4. We Cannot Have Both Beautiful Natural Resources and Mining in the Same Place.

Let's turn to the big dilemma Exiro and Wolfden pose to the State of Maine itself. Their advances force us to articulate what we value. Do we want to protect our life-sustaining natural resources and the local and state economies that rely on those resources, or do we want to open the door to metallic mineral extraction, processing, and transportation? We cannot have both. No matter how voluminous a mining application is or how strongly mining companies assert that they will do everything in their power not to pollute, the risk is too high of permanently destroying what our local and State economies have relied on for hundreds of years.

Moreover, while we can have clean water, uncontaminated land, and transformative beauty now and decide later that we want to mine, we cannot have the reverse. By statute, a metallic mineral mine must remediate after closure, and a century later that area *may* look the way it used to, but the maintenance into perpetuity of tailings facilities and water treatment plants poses perpetual risk to soil and water resources. The area cannot return to its original state and must be under human care forever. Asking mining companies and their financial investors -- the majority of whom have no connection to the local area or to the State of Maine -- to commit to long-term monitoring and remediation is unrealistic.

5. Maine's Natural Beauty Offers More Economic Value Than Mining Does.

Consider in this calculation the value of wilderness in the Pickett Mountain area. The State's website "visitmaine.com" touts the Maine Highlands (of which the proposed mine would be a part) as a place of "sheer natural beauty" with a "level of adventure, discovery, and serenity you'll encounter nowhere else." Maine uses the area's stunning vistas, pristine water, and forested mountains to lure businesses, workers, and tourists to the state. If Wolfden's mine is like other metallic mineral mines, it would be a massive, noisy, stadium-lit, eyesore running 24/7/365 complete with periodic ground rumbling from the underground blasting. And that is not counting the trucks going to and from the processing facility and tailings holding facility, both likely to be in the Maine Highlands as well.

Metallic mineral mining is incompatible with what the Maine Department of Tourism holds the area out to be. There would be no more "scenic" in the Aroostook Scenic Highway

³ Penobscot Bay Pilot, August 2, 2023. <https://www.penbaypilot.com/article/forty-five-local-union-warren-business-owners-endorse-public-letter-opposing-mining-t/172169>

which runs beside Pickett Mountain, and there would be no more “dark sky” for the International Dark Sky Sanctuary in Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument. There is no hiding a metallic mineral mining complex and its truck traffic.

Consider also the future economic opportunities that will be eliminated if mining is allowed. Wilderness areas make money, and they will make even more money in the future as they become rarer. Look at how the local community around Acadia National Park has profited in just the last ten years. In 2012, Acadia created 3,140 local jobs and contributed an estimated \$201 million to the local economy. In 2022, Acadia created 6,920 jobs and contributed \$483 million to the local economy.⁴ We are not arguing that the Pickett Mountain area will be the next Acadia, but with its forests and pristine cold water fish habitat, the Katahdin/Pickett Mountain area is particularly suited to the development of adventure tourism. Senators King and Collins are on record saying this same thing.⁵ It would be economically shortsighted to put an industrial complex — especially a metal mine — in the middle of an area with this much potential for substantial, sustained revenue from adventure tourism.

Opening the lens wider, consider also that aquifers across the United States are at historically low levels because of over-pumping by ever-expanding cities and big agriculture. What we thought would never run out, is running out. Of note, at a critically low level is the Ogallala Aquifer which underlies eight midwestern states and which is the U.S.’s largest aquifer.⁶ Maine is exceptional for its abundant, clean water, and the water around Pickett Mountain is pristine. It is hard to predict what water scarcity will do to where Americans live, where businesses locate, and how we get our water, but, for certain, Maine needs to do everything in its power to protect its fresh water and avoid anything that risks harming it.

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Thank you for reading our letter. Send the right message to all mining interests watching Wolfden’s petition unfold. Declare loudly that the great State of Maine will not

⁴ “Tourism to Acadia National Park contributed \$479 million to Local economy in 2022,” National Park Service, August 30, 2023. <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/socialscience/vse.htm>

⁵ “Legislation Would Allow Expansion of Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument,” National Parks Traveler, September, 2022. <https://www.nationalparkstraveler.org/2022/09/legislation-would-allow-expansion-katahdin-woods-and-waters-national-monument>

⁶ “America Is Using Up Its Groundwater Like There’s No Tomorrow,” *Uncharted Waters* series, The New York Times, September 2, 2023. This article is available without subscription from WaterWatch <https://waterwatch.org/america-is-using-up-its-groundwater-like-theres-no-tomorrow/>

sacrifice its most valuable resources — its water and natural beauty — in order to profit mining companies.

Respectfully,

The Board of Directors and Founders of CARMA

Janan Archibald (Union)	Jake Stamp (Warren)
Lori Bailey (Union)	Bill Stinson (Union)
Chris Fierro (Union)	Dave and Peggy Stuart (Warren)
Stuart Finkelstein (Warren)	Joe Tassi (Hope)
Ike Johnson (Warren)	Kathy and Bob Wellen (Union)
Arleigh Krauss (Warren)	

Copies to:

The Honorable Janet Mills
 The Honorable Chellie Pingree
 The Honorable Susan Collins
 The Honorable Angus King
 The Honorable William Pluecker
 The Honorable Pinny Beebe-Center
 Maine Legislature Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
 Maine Legislature Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business
 Maine Legislature Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
 Ms. Sherry Howard, Warren Town Manager
 Mr. Jay Feyler, Union Town Manager
 Ms. Samantha Mank, Hope Town Administrator

Carr, Tim

From: Esther Gass <stellaluna20@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 9:56 AM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Mining at Pickett Mountain

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

My opinion: I am absolutely opposed! It's long past time to start prioritizing our natural resources over corporate money making. Seems like a no brainer to me!

Esther Gass
273 Highland Ave.
Millinocket, ME 04462
207-723-6206

Carr, Tim

From: Madeleine Purcell <maddie.purcell@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 8:12 AM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Environmental disaster

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Esteemed Land Use Planning Committee,

Thank you so much for your hard work to make the best decisions for Maine. I'm writing today to urge you to protect our wonderful territory by blocking Wolfden Mining's LUPC application.

Keeping sites like Pickett Mountain clean is essential, sitting as it does at the top of the Penobscot River, as no sulfide mining endeavor has ever managed not to contaminate surrounding waters. It's simply never been done.

When hiking in California while there for work for several weeks, there were No Swimming signs by every natural pool and river crossing, explaining that the water was too contaminated for humans to enter. It was such a sick landscape and environment to move through and made me so grateful for the protectors of our land and water here in Maine.

Please say no to toxic mining contracts like Wolfden's and protect our state and our people from likely, if not inevitable, environmental disaster. Thank you so much for your care in this matter.

Wishing you a wonderful fall season in our beautiful Maine outdoors.

Best,
Madeleine Purcell
Buxton, ME

Carr, Tim

From: Tawney Jacobs <tawneynicole@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 8:15 AM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Pickett mountain pond

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to advocate for the plan to mine at Pickett mountain pond to be halted. Our water and waterways are far too vital to let a foreign company come and ruin our lands for a profit.

Please stop this before it starts and impacts future generations of Mainers.

Carr, Tim

From: Esperanza Stancioff <esp@maine.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 10:54 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

I urge you to reject Wolfden Resources' second rezoning proposal for its Pickett Mountain property.

A mine in the Katahdin region is far too big of a risk to the water quality, fisheries, and outdoor economy that the area is known for. The watershed the company is proposing to mine includes three State Heritage Fishing Waters and the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River, which is sacred to the Penobscot Nation and critical habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon. A mine would threaten many of the activities that sustain the regional economy, such as guiding, fishing, hunting, and hiking.

Wolfden has never operated a mine before and has failed to demonstrate the financial and technical capability to develop a mine safely. Wolfden withdrew its initial request to rezone because the proposal was riddled with errors. This is a big problem for an industry like mining where small errors can lead to big disasters.

Wolfden also continues to claim falsely that it would be able to discharge wastewater that would be as clean as natural groundwater. However, Wolfden still hasn't provided an example of a mine that can do this. If the company can't even provide an example of such a mine, the Commission should not believe Wolfden's claims.

Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Esperanza Stancioff
53 Start Rd
Camden, ME 04843

Carr, Tim

From: Wendy Green <wendy@outcastinternational.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 6:17 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

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Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

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Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Wendy Green
734 W Shore Rd
Wiscasset, ME 04578

Carr, Tim

From: Mariellen Whelan <mfwwhelan@tidewater.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 4:09 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

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Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

I urge you to reject Wolfden Resources' second rezoning proposal for its Pickett Mountain property.

A mine in the Katahdin region is far too big of a risk to the water quality, fisheries, and outdoor economy that the area is known for. The watershed the company is proposing to mine includes three State Heritage Fishing Waters and the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River, which is sacred to the Penobscot Nation and critical habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon. A mine would threaten many of the activities that sustain the regional economy, such as guiding, fishing, hunting, and hiking.

Wolfden has never operated a mine before and has failed to demonstrate the financial and technical capability to develop a mine safely. Wolfden withdrew its initial request to rezone because the proposal was riddled with errors. This is a big problem for an industry like mining where small errors can lead to big disasters.

Wolfden also continues to claim falsely that it would be able to discharge wastewater that would be as clean as natural groundwater. However, Wolfden still hasn't provided an example of a mine that can do this. If the company can't even provide an example of such a mine, the Commission should not believe Wolfden's claims.

Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Mariellen Whelan
68 Glidden Street
Newcastle, ME 04553

Carr, Tim

From: Diana Jagde <djagde@nrcm.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 12:16 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

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Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

I urge you to reject Wolfden Resources' second rezoning proposal for its Pickett Mountain property.

A mine in the Katahdin region is far too big of a risk to the water quality, fisheries, and outdoor economy that the area is known for. The watershed the company is proposing to mine includes three State Heritage Fishing Waters and the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River, which is sacred to the Penobscot Nation and critical habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon. A mine would threaten many of the activities that sustain the regional economy, such as guiding, fishing, hunting, and hiking.

Wolfden has never operated a mine before and has failed to demonstrate the financial and technical capability to develop a mine safely. Wolfden withdrew its initial request to rezone because the proposal was riddled with errors. This is a big problem for an industry like mining where small errors can lead to big disasters.

Wolfden also continues to claim falsely that it would be able to discharge wastewater that would be as clean as natural groundwater. However, Wolfden still hasn't provided an example of a mine that can do this. If the company can't even provide an example of such a mine, the Commission should not believe Wolfden's claims.

Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Diana Jagde
23 Daniel Drive
Gardiner, ME 04345

Carr, Tim

From: Kate Harris <kate@earthlovers.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 8:13 AM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

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Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

I urge you to reject Wolfden Resources' second rezoning proposal for its Pickett Mountain property.

A mine in the Katahdin region poses an unacceptable threat to the water quality, fisheries, and outdoor economy of this region. The watershed the company is proposing to mine includes three State Heritage Fishing Waters and the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River, which is sacred to the Penobscot Nation and critical habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon. A mine would threaten many of the activities that sustain the regional economy, such as guiding, fishing, hunting, hiking and camping.

Wolfden has never operated a mine before and has failed to demonstrate the financial and technical capability to develop a mine safely. Wolfden withdrew its initial request to rezone because the proposal was riddled with errors. This is a big problem for an industry like mining where small errors can lead to big disasters.

Wolfden continues to falsely claim that it would be able to discharge wastewater that would be as clean as natural groundwater. However, Wolfden has yet to provide even one example of a mine that is capable of this. If the company is unable provide one single example of such a mine, the Commission should not believe Wolfden's claims.

Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Kate Harris
7 Harborview Ct Unit 1G
Blue Hill, ME 04614

Carr, Tim

From: Ian MacKinnon <ian.mackinnon@maine.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 5:10 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

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Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

I urge you to reject Wolfden Resources' second rezoning proposal for its Pickett Mountain property.

A mine in the Katahdin region is far too big of a risk to the water quality, fisheries, and outdoor economy that the area is known for. The watershed the company is proposing to mine includes three State Heritage Fishing Waters and the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River, which is sacred to the Penobscot Nation and critical habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon. A mine would threaten many of the activities that sustain the regional economy, such as guiding, fishing, hunting, and hiking.

Wolfden has never operated a mine before and has failed to demonstrate the financial and technical capability to develop a mine safely. Wolfden withdrew its initial request to rezone because the proposal was riddled with errors. This is a big problem for an industry like mining where small errors can lead to big disasters.

Wolfden also continues to claim falsely that it would be able to discharge wastewater that would be as clean as natural groundwater. However, Wolfden still hasn't provided an example of a mine that can do this. If the company can't even provide an example of such a mine, the Commission should not believe Wolfden's claims.

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For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Ian MacKinnon
32 River Village Dr
Milford, ME 04461

Carr, Tim

From: Susan Downes Borko <campserenity@myfairpoint.net>
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 10:05 AM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

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I urge you to reject Wolfden Resources' second rezoning proposal for its Pickett Mountain property.

A mine in the Katahdin region is far too big of a risk to the water quality, fisheries, and outdoor economy that the area is known for. The watershed the company is proposing to mine includes three State Heritage Fishing Waters and the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River, which is sacred to the Penobscot Nation and critical habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon. A mine would threaten many of the activities that sustain the regional economy, such as guiding, fishing, hunting, and hiking.

Wolfden has never operated a mine before and has failed to demonstrate the financial and technical capability to develop a mine safely. Wolfden withdrew its initial request to rezone because the proposal was riddled with errors. This is a big problem for an industry like mining where small errors can lead to big disasters.

Wolfden also continues to claim falsely that it would be able to discharge wastewater that would be as clean as natural groundwater. However, Wolfden still hasn't provided an example of a mine that can do this. If the company can't even provide an example of such a mine, the Commission should not believe Wolfden's claims.

Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Susan Downes Borko
PO Box 1237
Rangeley, ME 04970

Carr, Tim

From: Judith Sobol <jsobol@ibgcf.org>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 2:17 AM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

I urge you to reject Wolfden Resources' second rezoning proposal for its Pickett Mountain property.

A mine in the Katahdin region is far too big a risk to the water quality, fisheries, and outdoor economy that the area is known for. The watershed the company is proposing to mine includes three State Heritage Fishing Waters and the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River, which is sacred to the Penobscot Nation and critical habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon. A mine would threaten many of the activities that sustain the regional economy, such as guiding, fishing, hunting, and hiking.

Wolfden has never operated a mine before and has failed to demonstrate the financial and technical capability to develop one safely. Wolfden withdrew its initial request to rezone because the proposal was riddled with errors. This is a big problem in an industry like mining because small errors can lead to big disasters.

Wolfden also continues to claim falsely that it will be able to discharge wastewater that will be as clean as natural groundwater. Not amazingly, Wolfden still hasn't provided an example of a mine that can do this. If the company can't even provide an example of such a mine, the Commission should not believe Wolfden's claims.

Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Judith Sobol
75 Clearwater Drive, Unit 301
Falmouth, ME 04105

Carr, Tim

From: Russ Vickery <russ@wsemerson.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 2:15 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

I urge you to reject Wolfden Resources' second rezoning proposal for its Pickett Mountain property.

A mine in the Katahdin region is far too big of a risk to the water quality, fisheries, and outdoor economy that the area is known for. The watershed the company is proposing to mine includes three State Heritage Fishing Waters and the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River, which is sacred to the Penobscot Nation and critical habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon. A mine would threaten many of the activities that sustain the regional economy, such as guiding, fishing, hunting, and hiking.

Wolfden has never operated a mine before and has failed to demonstrate the financial and technical capability to develop a mine safely. Wolfden withdrew its initial request to rezone because the proposal was riddled with errors. This is a big problem for an industry like mining where small errors can lead to big disasters.

Wolfden also continues to claim falsely that it would be able to discharge wastewater that would be as clean as natural groundwater. However, Wolfden still hasn't provided an example of a mine that can do this. If the company can't even provide an example of such a mine, the Commission should not believe Wolfden's claims.

Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Russ Vickery
3 Hickory ct
Brewer, ME 04412

Carr, Tim

From: Wendy Crosier <wendy.crosier@maine.edu>
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 12:35 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

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Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

I urge you to reject Wolfden Resources' second rezoning proposal for its Pickett Mountain property.

A mine in the Katahdin region is far too big of a risk to the water quality, fisheries, and outdoor economy that the area is known for. The watershed the company is proposing to mine includes three State Heritage Fishing Waters and the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River, which is sacred to the Penobscot Nation and critical habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon. A mine would threaten many of the activities that sustain the regional economy, such as guiding, fishing, hunting, and hiking.

Wolfden has never operated a mine before and has failed to demonstrate the financial and technical capability to develop a mine safely. Wolfden withdrew its initial request to rezone because the proposal was riddled with errors. This is a big problem for an industry like mining where small errors can lead to big disasters.

Wolfden also continues to claim falsely that it would be able to discharge wastewater that would be as clean as natural groundwater. However, Wolfden still hasn't provided an example of a mine that can do this. If the company can't even provide an example of such a mine, the Commission should not believe Wolfden's claims.

Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Wendy Crosier
66 Holm Ave
Portland, ME 04102

Carr, Tim

From: Audrey Brown <audreybrown@myfairpoint.net>
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 9:38 AM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

I urge you to reject Wolfden Resources' second rezoning proposal for its Pickett Mountain property.

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Wolfden has never operated a mine before and has failed to demonstrate the financial and technical capability to develop a mine safely. Wolfden withdrew its initial request to rezone because the proposal was riddled with errors. This is a big problem for an industry like mining where small errors can lead to big disasters.

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Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Audrey Brown
505 Kimball Pond Road
New Sharon, ME 04955

Carr, Tim

From: william wood <wnw10@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 6:20 AM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

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Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

I urge you to reject Wolfden Resources' second rezoning proposal for its Pickett Mountain property.

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Wolfden has never operated a mine before and has failed to demonstrate the financial and technical capability to develop a mine safely. Wolfden withdrew its initial request to rezone because the proposal was riddled with errors. This is a big problem for an industry like mining where small errors can lead to big disasters.

Wolfden also continues to claim falsely that it would be able to discharge wastewater that would be as clean as natural groundwater. However, Wolfden still hasn't provided an example of a mine that can do this. If the company can't even provide an example of such a mine, the Commission should not believe Wolfden's claims.

Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
william wood
664 hollywood blvd
alna, ME 04535

Carr, Tim

From: Gail Knowles <gailknowles@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 6:41 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

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Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

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Wolfden has never operated a mine before and has failed to demonstrate the financial and technical capability to develop a mine safely. Wolfden withdrew its initial request to rezone because the proposal was riddled with errors. This is a big problem for an industry like mining where small errors can lead to big disasters.

Wolfden also continues to claim falsely that it would be able to discharge wastewater that would be as clean as natural groundwater. However, Wolfden still hasn't provided an example of a mine that can do this. If the company can't even provide an example of such a mine, the Commission should not believe Wolfden's claims.

Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Gail Knowles
234 Sherburne Road
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Carr, Tim

From: Kathleen Hanning <hanninggk@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 5:06 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

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Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

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Wolfden has never operated a mine before and has failed to demonstrate the financial and technical capability to develop a mine safely. Wolfden withdrew its initial request to rezone because the proposal was riddled with errors. This is a big problem for an industry like mining where small errors can lead to big disasters.

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Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Hanning
172 Old Stage Road
Woolwich, ME 04579

Carr, Tim

From: James Handy <jrhandy@megalink.net>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 3:58 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

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Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

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Wolfden has never operated a mine before and has failed to demonstrate the financial and technical capability to develop a mine safely. Wolfden withdrew its initial request to rezone because the proposal was riddled with errors. This is a big problem for an industry like mining where small errors can lead to big disasters.

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Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
James Handy
9 Maplewood Rd
Lewiston, ME 04240

Carr, Tim

From: Melissa Dearborn <melissa.dearborn@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 9:19 AM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

I urge you to reject Wolfden Resources' second rezoning proposal for its Pickett Mountain property.

A mine in the Katahdin region is far too big of a risk to the water quality, fisheries, and outdoor economy that the area is known for. The watershed the company is proposing to mine includes three State Heritage Fishing Waters and the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River, which is sacred to the Penobscot Nation and critical habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon. A mine would threaten many of the activities that sustain the regional economy, such as guiding, fishing, hunting, and hiking.

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Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Melissa Dearborn
763 Dutch Neck
Waldoboro, ME 04572

Carr, Tim

From: Molly MacLean <molly.maclea@maine.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 8:30 PM
To: LUPC, Wolfden Rezoning
Subject: Reject Wolfden's disastrous mine proposal at Pickett Mountain

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Members of the Land Use Planning Commission,

I urge you to reject Wolfden Resources' second rezoning proposal for its Pickett Mountain property.

A mine in the Katahdin region is far too big of a risk to the water quality, fisheries, and outdoor economy that the area is known for. The watershed the company is proposing to mine includes three State Heritage Fishing Waters and the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River, which is sacred to the Penobscot Nation and critical habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon. A mine would threaten many of the activities that sustain the regional economy, such as guiding, fishing, hunting, and hiking.

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Hundreds of Mainers and local businesses have already spoken out against Wolfden's plans, and the residents of Pembroke voted overwhelmingly to ban industrial-scale metallic mineral mining in their town in response to Wolfden's plans to develop a mine there. Pickett Mountain is no place for a metal mine, especially one operated by an inexperienced and untrustworthy company like Wolfden.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to deny Wolfden's rezoning petition.

Sincerely,
Molly MacLean
10 Old Mill Rd
Old Town, ME 04468