



Resolution in Opposition to Metallic Sulfide Mining in Taylor County, Wisconsin, known as “Bend Deposit.”

WHEREAS, the mission of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited (WITU) is to conserve, protect, and restore the aquifers, cold waters, and water resources of Wisconsin; to support the national organization and twenty-one local chapters in their pursuit of that mission.

WHEREAS, there are known metallic sulfide copper, gold and silver bearing deposits in Westboro Township, Taylor County, Wisconsin, and GreenLight Wisconsin, LLC, a Wisconsin mining company, has been granted a license by Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to drill exploratory borings at the Westboro location in the Chequamegon National Forest with the intent of locating an open pit metallic sulfide mine at that location.

WHEREAS, the proposed mine site location is NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 35, T33N, R2W, Westboro Township, Taylor County, Wisconsin. The proposed mine is located in close proximity to the North Fork of the Yellow River and is contained within the Upper Chippewa River Basin.

WHEREAS, The North Fork Yellow River is a river within the Chippewa Basin. Over 3,000 stream and river miles flow within the Chippewa River basin and with 156,200 acres of freshwater lakes, 22,711 acres of flowages and more than 150 acres of freshwater springs. The river basin watershed provides significant habitat, recreation, navigation and is a significant drinking water resource for northwest Wisconsin people.

WHEREAS, Copper, gold and silver are not critical, strategic, or “green” minerals (metals necessary for renewable energy such as lithium) as defined by U.S. Geological Survey.

WHEREAS, mining of metallic sulfide ores and minerals has a consistent proven record of surface and ground water contamination and pollution. This potential source of pollution threatens the groundwater of Taylor County and the surface waters of the Chippewa Basin watershed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Wisconsin Council of Trout Unlimited opposes metallic sulfide mining in Taylor County and urges Wisconsin DNR to deny a mining permit to GreenLight Wisconsin, LLC, unless GreenLight LLC can prove through existing mining demonstration there is no threat to ground and surface waters through eternity.

Dated this 26th day of June 2023

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited, Inc.

By: Scott Allen, Chair

The Wisconsin Council of Trout Unlimited (“WITU”) is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization which consists of approximately 6,500 volunteer members in 21 chapters in Wisconsin working to ensure that future generations have access to cold, clean, fishable water. In a typical year, WITU and its Chapters report over 50,000 volunteer hours, working on conservation projects, youth education events, and service programs for veterans and first responders in our communities.