Resolution No. 2017-49

IN OPPOSITION TO THE AQUILA RESOURCES, INC.
PROPOSED BACK FORTY MINE PROJECT

TO THE DOOR COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

WHEREAS, Aquila Resources, Inc. Back Forty Project, a proposed open pit metallic sulfide mine, would be located on the banks of the Menominee River, which empties into Lake Michigan and is one of the largest watersheds in Northern Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula and;

WHEREAS, the Menominee River provides a unique habitat for species of special concern such as lake sturgeon and freshwater mussels, which would be negatively impacted by discharges into the water and;

WHEREAS, the potential impacts of the mine include long term leaching of acid-producing wastes into the groundwater and the river and;

WHEREAS, the hazardous wastes generated by the mine would potentially degrade water quality and present risks to human health and the environment in Wisconsin as well as Michigan and;

WHEREAS, potential economic losses including reduction in property values and loss of tourism revenue are not factored into the permitting review process and;

WHEREAS, the approval of this mine will result in the irreversible loss of significant cultural resources of the Menominee Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, including Native American gravesites and other areas of historical significance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Door County Board of Supervisors opposes Aquila Resources, Inc. Back Forty Mine Project and urges the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to deny any further permitting for the project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, to the Department of Natural Resources Secretary Cathy Stepp, to legislators representing Door County constituents, to the Wisconsin Counties Association and all Wisconsin Counties, to the Governor of Michigan Rick Snyder, to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

SUBMITTED BY: LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Susan Kohout, Chairman
Helen Bacon
Helen Bacon
Roy Englebert

Reviewed by: Corp. Counsel
Reviewed by: Administrator

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact to County of Door or its annual budget associated with the adoption of this resolution. MEJ

Certification:
1. Jill M. Lau, Clerk of Door County, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution that was adopted on the 26th day of July, 2017 by the Door County Board of Supervisors.

Jill M. Lau
County Clerk, Door County