



Invitation to Tamarack Water Alliance Community Zoom Meeting - Wed. April 6, 2022, 10am CT

Welcome to the Tamarack Water Alliance fourth monthly newsletter. We thank you for signing up for these updates. Everyone is invited to attend our open community virtual Zoom meeting on Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 10am CT. This is an opportunity for you to be informed about what we have learned about the risks of the proposed Talon Metals Mine and to discuss some organizing priorities. Please bring your questions, concerns, and ideas. We will provide a list of Op-Eds we'd like to encourage people to write and/or further research.

For this month's newsletter, we focus on the question of whether Talon Metals is really green or do they only intend to create that impression as part of their marketing campaign?

We hope you will share this information with others and keep in touch as we build a community that can protect water and health from the dangers of sulfide mining.



By Didier Descouens - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=14680998>

Is Talon Metals Green or "Just Kidding?"

Talon makes a "big deal" about how the Tamarack mine will be "green" (Green Nickel for EV Batteries). It is true of course that Nickel ore can be "green".

However, this green ore is more a result of the copper oxide embedded in the ore rather than any environmentally safe and sustainable practices. But maybe this is what they really mean since Talon has shown no indication that they intend to apply environmentally sound sustainable mining practices.

For example:

- Talon has **NOT** included any green capabilities like a water filtration plant in their PEA economic analysis (see page 262 of the Talon Preliminary Economic Analysis - https://talonmetals.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Talon-Tamarack-PEA3_2021.pdf). Note that Page 228 of the PEA indicates average water pumping requirements during steady state-mining of about 2.3 million gallons a day. Given that water filtration is a key component in providing a clean mining operation and given the amount of water that must be filtered, a water filtration is a critical function – yet Talon is speechless on this topic. We also note that sulfide mining has a 100% track record of failure to protect water quality in water-rich environments (while meeting Federal standards).

- They do not want to filter dirty water pumped from the mine itself (<https://talonmetals.com/commonly-asked-questions/>) claiming that it is "clean". However, the PEA goes into great detail describing how water will be used to cut down on dust created in the mine due to blasting and for other equipment operation (for example, for drilling into the ore deposits). Clearly, both of these applications will result in sulfide ore being dissolved into the water contaminating this water with high acidity levels and toxic minerals such as cobalt. This is definitely **NOT GREEN!**
- They intend to leave the highly toxic tailings pile (75 acres by 80 foot high) with just a thin cover making Tamarack a permanent toxic acid mine waste site (see page 274 of Talon's PEA).
- They have not addressed the impact of pumping 2.3 million gallons of water **PER DAY** from local aquifers.

Learn more about the concerns of the Talon Metals mine at <https://tamarackmine.org> and <https://tamarackwateralliance.org/>.



WHY MINE NICKEL FOR EV's WHEN MINNESOTA ALREADY MINES FERROUS (IRON) ORE THAT CAN BE USED FOR NON-NICKEL LFP EV BATTERIES?

Recent Articles:

This is Why I Want an EV With an LFP Battery Pack (LFP is Lithium Ferrous Phosphate- No Nickel!) <https://www.autoevolution.com/news/this-is-why-i-want-an-ev-with-an-lfp-battery-pack-and-battery-swapping-capacity/>

[177928.html](#)

LFP Batteries Are Winning The Race (No Nickel!)

<https://investingwhisperer.com/lfp-batteries-are-winning-the-ev-race-but-where-the-ex-china-supply/>

Breakthrough in Cathode Chemistry Clears Path for Lithium-Sulfur Batteries Commercial Viability

<https://drexel.edu/news/archive/2022/february/lithium-sulfur-cathode-carbonate-electrolyte>

"After more than a year of testing, the sulfur cathode remains stable and, as the team reported, its performance has not degraded in 4,000 charge-discharge cycles, which is equivalent to 10 years of regular use. And, as predicted, the battery's capacity is more than three-fold that of a Li-ion battery (Nickel and Cobalt based)."

Image: Tom Anderson

Who We Are

Tamarack Water Alliance (tamarackwateralliance.org) is a group of local residents and landowners working together with others from across Minnesota to protect water and community health from the dangers of sulfide mining near our beloved lakes and wild rice beds, at the headwaters of the Kettle River and in the Mississippi River watershed.

A proposal by a foreign owned mining company to mine nickel and other metals near Tamarack in Aitkin County threatens the health of our communities. This kind of sulfide mining, especially in water-rich environments, has never been done without severe impacts to water and the health of those downstream. Mining here is also a threat to environmental justice and the long-term economic security of nearby native and rural communities.

We will be sending this monthly newsletter to keep you informed about this project, to share information and opportunities to act, and to invite you to gatherings where you can connect with others who share a passion for clean water and community health.



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