http://newiprogressive.com/images/stories/S5/green_bay_citydeck_fox_river-s5.jpg



Michigan action opens the door to the use of industrial acids 150 feet from the Menominee River and represents a danger to the waters of Green Bay.

UPPER MICHIGAN - The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) issued the Back Forty Mine Company a wetlands, lakes, and streams permit on Monday that also includes conditions requested by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Wetlands Permit is the final permit required to build and operate the mine.



Sen. **Dave Hansen** (D-Green Bay) and local conservation groups have opposed the threat to our wetlands posed by the Aquila Mine Back Forty Project just across our border. Republicans in Madison have been peeling back laws that protect our clean air and drinking water, and the Michigan action will allow the further destruction of wetlands that feed into the Green Bay area.

“I am very disappointed in the State of Michigan’s approval of the Back Forty Mine that will be located just 150 feet from the Menominee River," said Hansen in a statement issued Wednesday. “Their decision flies in, the face of the large majority of residents in Wisconsin and Michigan who live near the mine or who will be negatively affected by its operation."

“Allowing a mining process that involves the use of industrial acids so close to the Menominee River and the Bay of Green Bay is not only irresponsible, but represents a danger to the health

of the river itself, the Bay, our economy, our families and our quality of life," Hansen says. “Our representatives in Congress and the President need to step in and stop this ill-advised and dangerous mine.”