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The goal of the Kipawa Lake Preservation Society is to see the long term health of the Kipawa watershed. Our organization has many concerns about the possibility of allowing uranium mining in Quebec. Currently the largest threat to the environmental health of the Kipawa Watershed is the possibility of mining in the region. There is a fairly advanced proposal for a rare earth mine (rare earth ores are often associated with radioactive elements such as Uranium and Thorium). In addition, exploration for Uranium mining is currently being carried out. Uranium mining has been carried out extensively throughout Canada in the past with devastating results. The radioactivity associated with these ores leads to chronic health problems and the development of cancers in both humans and wildlife. In the past Uranium mining has caused severe environmental damage and elevated cancer rates in neighboring communities. Our association is very concerned about the possibility of rare earth mining and uranium mining in or around the Kipawa watershed. This is an important tourist destination and allowing mining in the watershed would negatively impact the tourism industry, air, soil and water quality and human health. It is our belief that the moratorium on Uranium mining should remain in effect and that a moratorium on rare earth mining should be instituted within the province of Quebec as well as all of Canada until it can be done in a completely safe manner. The current risk to the environment and human health of uranium and rare earth mining are too great and the environment and human health should be given priority over economic benefits.