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# Swamp

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who argue the project would threaten the hydrology of the largest black-water swamp in North America, applauded the Corps' decision.

"Thanks to everyone who has supported the Okefenokee Swamp and the Suwannee and St. Marys Rivers during this long permitting process," said John Quarterman, executive director of the Hahira-based environmental advocacy group Suwannee Riverkeeper.

"Special thanks to the

Valdosta mayor and council for their resolution of Sept. 11, 2021, supporting the swamp and opposing the mine. This recent decision was one of the requests of that resolution."

U.S. Sen. Jon Ossoff, D-Ga., who visited the swamp last year, has lobbied the Corps and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to stop the mine.

"The Okefenokee is a sacred natural resource," Ossoff said. "It is a wildlife resource that must be protected."

Twin Pines officials have indicated they plan to continue pursuing the project despite the Corps' decision.

