

EXHIBIT 9
DATE 2.18.05
HB 700

February 18, 2005

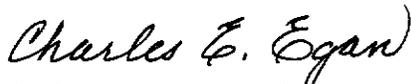
Representative Jim Peterson, Chair
House Natural Resources Committee, Rm 152
Montana House of Representatives
Helena, Montana

Chairman Peterson and Distinguished Members:

We, the undersigned Stillwater Board of County Commissioners wish to go on record as
unanimously supporting HB 700^{as amended}. We believe that the citizens of all Montana hard rock mine
counties would be better served under this proposal clarifying and revising the laws
governing the disposition and use of metalliferous mines license tax money. We urge the
House Natural Resources Committee to support this legislation.



Maureen Davey, Chair



Charles Egan, Member



Dennis R. Hoyem, Member