



## Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4025

**Date:** July 20, 2010

**To:** Parties on the EAW Distribution List  
Recipients of the Minnesota Steel Final EIS  
Other Interested Parties

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**RE:** Essar Steel Minnesota Modifications Project  
Final SEIS Preparation Notice

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has issued its Final Preparation Notice for the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to be prepared for Essar Steel Minnesota's proposal to increase the production capacity of its Nashwauk facility's crusher, concentrator, and pellet plant from 4.1 million tons per year (mtpy) to 6.5 mtpy. The Final Preparation Notice, Responses to Comments, and comment letters received are enclosed. The entire set may also be viewed on DNR's website at:

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/essar/index.html>

The SEIS Preparation Notice was published in the EQB Monitor March 22, 2010 and distributed according to the EQB EAW Distribution List, to recipients of the original Minnesota Steel EIS (Final EIS August 2007), and to other interested parties. In addition, a public informational meeting was held at the Nashwauk-Keewatin High School, 400 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Nashwauk, MN, from 5:30 – 7:30 P.M. on March 25, 2010. Written comments submitted to the DNR were accepted through Monday, April 12, 2010.

The DNR received 24 comment letters on the SEIS Preparation Notice during the 21-day review and comment period. Comments received were considered with respect to the proposed scope of the SEIS in accordance with Minnesota Rules part 4410.3000, subp. 5. The enclosed Final Preparation Notice has been revised in three areas (Section III.B.1, Section III.B.12, and Section III.C.10) based on comments received; however, no significant changes in scope were determined to be warranted. Responses to comments and the comments received are being distributed at this time and will also be included with the Draft SEIS, as required in accordance with Minnesota Rules.

Questions may be directed to Lisa Fay, SEIS Project Manager, at 651-259-5110 or [lisa.fay@state.mn.us](mailto:lisa.fay@state.mn.us).

Thank you for your interest in the SEIS.