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**Date:** April 22, 2015

**To:** Parties on the EAW Distribution List  
Other Interested Parties

**From:** Randall Doneen  
Environmental Review Supervisor, Environmental Review Unit  
Division of Ecological and Water Resources

**Re:** Northshore Mining Company Progression of the Ultimate Pit Limit  
St. Louis County, Minnesota

Record of Decision on Environmental Assessment Worksheet

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), as the Responsible Governmental Unit for environmental review of the Northshore Mining Company Progression of the Ultimate Pit Limit project in St. Louis County, Minnesota, has issued the attached Record of Decision regarding the Need for an Environmental Impact Statement for the project. The project's Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) notice was published in the EQB Monitor on September 15, 2014 (Vol. 38:19).

The DNR has concluded that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required because the project does not have the potential for significant environmental effects. The justification for this determination is contained in the Record of Decision. The Record of Decision also contains the Department's responses to all substantive written comments received on the Environmental Assessment Worksheet during the 30-day public review and comment period.

Issuing this Record of Decision concludes the state environmental review process for this project according to the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board rules, *Minnesota Rules*, part 4410.1000 to 4410.1700. This project can proceed to permitting and approvals.

For additional information, or copies of the Record of Decision, please call (651) 259-5156.

Attachment: Record of Decision (April 22, 2015)

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