



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road

St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4025

Date: September 4, 2008

To: Parties on the EAW Distribution List
Other Interested Parties

From: Erik Carlson, EIS Project Manager
Environmental Policy and Review Unit
Division of Ecological Resources, Box 25

Re: Keetac Expansion Project
Scoping EAW/Draft Scoping Decisions Document

Enclosed is the Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and Draft Scoping Decision Document the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has prepared to assist in identifying the issues and analyses to include in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposal to expand the existing mine pit and re-start an idle production line at the Keetac mine near Keewatin, Minnesota.

The DNR and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are going to prepare a joint EIS that satisfies both state and federal environmental review requirements for the proposed project. The DNR and USACE invite comments on the proposed EIS scope during the 30-day scoping period that concludes Wednesday, October 8, 2008 at 4:30 PM. Comments should address the accuracy and completeness of information presented and suggest issues for investigation in the EIS. The DNR will hold a public scoping meeting Wednesday, October 1, 2008, beginning at 6:30 PM, at the Nashwauk-Keewatin High School, 400 Second Street, Nashwauk, Minnesota.

The Scoping EAW discloses information about the project and its setting, and identifies potentially significant impacts. The Draft Scoping Decision Document gives the public a preliminary view of the intended EIS scope and only reflects information available at this time. The DNR and USACE will revise the documented based on the full scoping record and will issue a Final Scoping Decision to serve as the “blueprint” for the EIS preparation.

Please submit comments to me at the address provided in the EAW, or send an email to environmental.review@dnr.state.mn.us. Please include the words, “Keetac Mine Expansion Project” in the subject line of the email. All emails should include a name and legal mailing address.

Thank you for your interest.

Enclosure: Scoping EAW/Draft Scoping Decision Document

DNR Information: 651-296-6157 • 1-888-646-6367 • TTY: 651-296-5484 • 1-800-657-3929

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