

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road • St. Paul, MN • 55155-40



Date: August 2, 2012

To: Parties on the EAW Distribution List
Other Interested Parties

From: Lisa Fay, Planner Principal *LPF*
Environmental Review Unit
MDNR Division of Ecological and Water Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
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Phone: (651) 259-5110

RE: Minntac Mine Extension Project
Environmental Assessment Worksheet

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) has prepared the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the proposed Minntac Mine Extension Project, located in Mountain Iron, MN. The EAW describes the environmental effects associated with the proposed project and has been prepared pursuant to Minnesota Rules Part 4410.4300, subpart 11, item B. The MDNR is the Responsible Government Unit (RGU) for environmental review of the project. United States Steel Corporation, Minnesota Ore Operations (U.S. Steel) is the Project Proposer.

The proposed project consists of a 483-acre extension of the Minntac open pit mining facilities in Mountain Iron. The extension will extend mine life and taconite production to 2031. Taconite produced from the extension will continue to be processed at the existing Minntac facility at the current levels of production.

The MDNR invites comments on the EAW during the public comment period that begins with publication of the Notice of Availability in the EQB Monitor August 6, 2012, and ends September 5, 2012 at 4:30 P.M.

The EAW is available electronically at:
<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/minntac/index.html>.

A copy of the EAW is also available at:

- MDNR Central Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155
- MDNR Northeast Regional Office Library, 1201 East Hwy 2, Grand Rapids, MN 55744
- Minneapolis Public Library, Government Documents, 2nd Floor, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401
- Duluth Public Library, 520 West Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55802
- Mountain Iron Public Library, 5742 Mountain Ave, 55768
- Virginia Public Library, 215 5th Ave South, Virginia, MN 55792

Please submit comments to Lisa Fay at the address in the header, or send an email to environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us. You must include the words "Minntac EAW" in the subject line of the email. All emails should include a name and legal mailing address. Comments may also be faxed to (651) 297-1500.

Written comments must be received no later than **Wednesday, September 5, 2012 at 4:30 P.M.**

Enclosure: Minntac Mine Extension Project Environmental Assessment Worksheet