

ATTACHMENT A - MNDNR LETTER OF CONCURRENCE

Shanna R. Braun

From: Joyal, Lisa (DNR) <Lisa.Joyal@state.mn.us>
Sent: Saturday, October 26, 2013 8:41 AM
To: Shanna R. Braun
Cc: Reed, Rian H (DNR)
Subject: RE: NHIS Correspondence for Northshore Mining Amendment to Babbitt Mine Permit to Mine Limit
Attachments: Figure X - NHIS Evaluation.pdf

I have reviewed your assessment of the potential for the above project to impact rare features, and concur with your assessment. The reference number for this correspondence is ERDB #20140036-0003.

Thank you for notifying us of this project, and for the opportunity to provide comments.

Lisa Joyal

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Lisa Joyal  
Endangered Species Review Coordinator  
NHIS Data Distribution Coordinator  
Division of Ecological and Water Resources  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25  
St. Paul, MN 55155

phone: 651-259-5109  
[lisa.joyal@state.mn.us](mailto:lisa.joyal@state.mn.us)  
[www.mndnr.gov/eco](http://www.mndnr.gov/eco)

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**From:** Shanna R. Braun [<mailto:SBraun@barr.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 22, 2013 2:28 PM  
**To:** Joyal, Lisa (DNR)  
**Subject:** NHIS Correspondence for Northshore Mining Amendment to Babbitt Mine Permit to Mine Limit

Good Afternoon Lisa,  
We would like to submit the following information for your review/concurrence in lieu of completing the Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS) Data Request Form, due to Barr's license agreement.

Northshore Mining Company (Northshore) is seeking modification to its Permit to Mine Ultimate Pit Limit and Virginia Formation Stockpile Plan for mining operations in Babbitt, MN, Current evaluation of the ore resources requires the progression of the Ultimate Pit Limit to include additional areas. The proposed project is located in St. Louis County, as shown on the attached map.

An Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) Form is currently being prepared for submittal to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR). As such, this consultation is being facilitated to assist the agency with preparation of the EAW.

As part of the EAW effort, Barr has assessed the potential for impacts to resources identified in the MnDNR's NHIS database. Data from the NHIS database was reviewed for any known records of threatened, endangered, or other sensitive within one mile of the proposed project. Based on the NHIS, no records of these species exist within one mile of the proposed project (see attached map). Furthermore, the proposed project is located in a highly disturbed, actively mined setting that typically does not support listed species. Therefore, we have determined that the proposed project has little or no potential to impact state or federally listed species. Your concurrence with this determination is requested.

If you have any questions or would like additional information to assist you with your assessment of Barr's determination, please let me know.

Thank you,

Shanna R. Braun

Environmental Scientist

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ATTACHMENT B - ARCHAEOLOGICAL, ARCHITECTURAL, AND HISTORICAL REPORTS

**Wieland, Ronald (DNR)**

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**Subject:** FW: Communication with SHPO

**From:** Thomas Cinadr [<mailto:thomas.cinadr@mnhs.org>]

**Sent:** Monday, May 12, 2014 11:15 AM

**To:** Johnson, Bill H (DNR)

**Subject:** Re: FW: Northshore Mine Ultimate Pit Progression Project EAW - Request for SHPO Database Review

This note confirms that the reports in Bill's email were run by me on the report dates specified.

Tom Ciinadr

***Tom Cinadr***

Survey and Information Management Coordinator

Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office

Minnesota Historical Society

345 Kellogg Blvd. West

St. Paul, MN 55102

651-259-3453

On Fri, May 9, 2014 at 10:45 AM, Johnson, Bill H (DNR) <[bill.johnson@state.mn.us](mailto:bill.johnson@state.mn.us)> wrote:

Good morning Tom. Just confirming your receipt of this SHPO database review request. If you have responded and I missed it, I apologize. Thanks. Bill J.

Bill Johnson, Mining Section Lead

DNR/EWR Environmental Policy & Review Unit

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**From:** Johnson, Bill H (DNR)

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2014 11:09 AM

**To:** [thomas.cinadr@mnhs.org](mailto:thomas.cinadr@mnhs.org)

**Subject:** Northshore Mine Ultimate Pit Progression Project EAW - Request for SHPO Database Review

Good morning Tom. This is Bill Johnson at DNR with a request for SHPO to provide a database review of resources of archaeological, historical, or cultural significance within the vicinity of the Northshore Mine Ultimate Pit Progression Project. This procedure is part of developing an EAW for this project.

The proposer has identified previous contact with your offices in Oct-Nov 2013. We have provided the information supplied for your confirmation. Specifically, attached please find the following files:

File: "Northshore EAW\_SHPO Database Request\_043014.pdf"

This is the Department's cover letter for the request. We are providing it electronically only.

File: "Northshore EAW\_Proposer Item 14 Text\_043014.pdf"

This is the Item 14 text provided in the Proposer's Information Submittal.

File: "Northshore EAW\_Figure 05-3 – Site Plan\_043014.pdf"

This is a site figure detailing the project layout at the site.

File: "Northshore EAW\_Archaeology Database Printout.pdf"

This is the listing of archaeological resources within the project vicinity.

File: "Northshore EAW\_Historic Database Prinout.pdf"

This is the listing of historic resources within the project vicinity.

We appreciate your assistance with this part of the EAW's development. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks. Bill J.

Bill Johnson, Mining Section Lead  
Environmental Policy & Review Unit  
DNR Division of Ecological & Water Resources, Box 25  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-259-5126  
[bill.johnson@state.mn.us](mailto:bill.johnson@state.mn.us)

# Archaeological Site Locations

| Site Number                | Site Name           | Twp. | Range | Sec. | Quarter Sections | Acres | Phase | Site Description | Tradition | Context | Reports | NR | CEF | DOE |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------|-------|------|------------------|-------|-------|------------------|-----------|---------|---------|----|-----|-----|
| <b>County: Saint Louis</b> |                     |      |       |      |                  |       |       |                  |           |         |         |    |     |     |
| 21SL0920                   | Sturgeon Lake Beach | 60   | 12    | 20   | SE-NE-NW         | 1     | 1,2   | AS               | W-1       | Ps-1    |         |    |     |     |
|                            | Sturgeon Lake Beach | 60   | 12    | 20   | NE-SE-NW         | 1     | 1,2   | AS               | W-1       | Ps-1    |         |    |     |     |

# History/Architecture Inventory

| PROPERTY NAME                 | ADDRESS            | Twp | Range | Sec | Quarters | USGS    | Report   | NRHP | CEF | DOE | Inventory Number |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----|-------|-----|----------|---------|----------|------|-----|-----|------------------|
| <b>COUNTY:</b>                | <b>Saint Louis</b> |     |       |     |          |         |          |      |     |     |                  |
| <b>CITY/TOWNSHIP:</b>         | <b>Babbitt</b>     |     |       |     |          |         |          |      |     |     |                  |
| crusher building (demolished) | off Co. Hwy. 70    | 60  | 12    | 18  | NE-NE-NW | Babbitt | SL-88-2H |      |     |     | SL-BBC-002       |