## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## Minerals Exploration Plan on State Nonferrous Metallic Minerals Leases

Submitted by Vermillion Gold, Inc. on September 25, 2018 and summarized here by the DNR Division of Lands and Minerals

**Narrative:** Vermillion Gold Inc. (VGI) proposes to explore for metallic mineral deposits on State Nonferrous Metallic Minerals Leases beginning fall of 2018. The exploration area includes portions of 6 sections of land in the vicinity of the cities of Gilbert and Virginia, Minnesota, in Saint Louis County. Exploration activities will occur on foot and consist of mapping and collection of soil samples. Soil samples will be collected with hand tools. VGI will not create or improve any trails, cut lines, drill, or trench to do the exploration, according to the exploration plan.

State nonferrous metallic mineral lease ids: Exploration is proposed on 7 leases: MM-10180, MM-10181, MM-10182, MM-10184, MM-10185, MM-10372N, and MM-10455.

**Public Land Survey location:** Exploration may occur in Sections 12, 14, 15, 16, 21, and 22 of T58N R17W.

Types of exploration activity: Soil sampling with hand tools and mapping.

**Expected time period of activity:** The proposed exploration program would commence in fall 2018 and continue for up to one year.

**Access:** VGI will use existing public roads, state forest access roads, and other access trails to access the exploration sites. The plans indicates that no trails will be improved and no new trails will be developed. VGI will obtain advance permission from the trail authority if they decide to use vehicles on the Mesabi Bike Trail.

**Surface ownership:** Upon DNR approval, which may include stipulations, VGI will have the right to explore as described in the exploration plan on state-owned surface lands and other lands covered by state leases after coordinating with the affected private landowners for access.

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This report is posted on the <u>DNR's exploration plan webpage</u>.

## Maps and Data Disclaimer

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DNR Summary Report for AngloGold Ashanti Minnesota, Exploration Plan Submitted on September 25, 2018 and Published by DNR's Lands and Minerals Division on October 1, 2018