



100 King Street West, Suite 5700, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5X 1C7
Tel: +1 (416) 915-4149

444 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55101, Tel: +1 (651) 389-4100

6500 County Road 666, Hoyt Lakes, MN 55750-0475
Tel: +1 (218) 471-2150 / Fax: +1 (218) 225-4429

www.polymetmining.com

VIA HAND DELIVERY (HARD COPY AND ELECTRONIC VERSION)

November 3, 2016

Tom Landwehr
Commissioner
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-3864

RE: Poly Met Mining, Inc.'s Permit to Mine Application for the NorthMet Project

Dear Commissioner Landwehr:

Please find enclosed Poly Met Mining, Inc.'s (PolyMet) application to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) for a Permit to Mine (Application) for its NorthMet Project. This Application comprehensively addresses the permit requirements, reclamation standards, and other requirements for nonferrous metallic mineral mining, as set forth in Minnesota law, including Minnesota Statutes Chapter 93 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 6132. Table 1-1 in the Application provides a cross reference between the permit requirements and the location in the Application where these items can be found.

This Application is based primarily on the extensive data collection and technical analyses conducted as part of the development of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the NorthMet Project and Land Exchange. When necessary for the Permit to Mine permitting process, the Application expands upon such information.

Based on PolyMet's review of the applicable laws and regulations, and the content of this Application, including the FEIS, PolyMet believes that this Application meets state requirements relating to the content to be included in a Permit to Mine application. PolyMet recognizes that MDNR may request additional information during the course of its review, and looks forward to working with MDNR in that regard.

Thank you in advance for your efforts to review PolyMet's Application. If any questions or concerns arise during MDNR's review of the Application, please do not hesitate to contact me or Jennifer Saran at 651-389-4108 or jsaran@polymetmining.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Cherry', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jon Cherry
President and CEO

Letter to Tom Landwehr, MDNR
Page 2 of 2

cc: Jess Richards, MDNR
Jennifer Engstrom, MDNR
Mike Kunz, MDNR
Julie Jordan, MDNR