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February 7, 2017

Mike Liljegren
Supervisor – Mine Permitting and Coordination Unit
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040

RE: Poly Met Mining, Inc.'s Updated Water Appropriation Permit Application (Version 2) for the NorthMet Project

Dear Mr. Liljegren:

Please find enclosed Poly Met Mining, Inc.'s (PolyMet) updated consolidated application to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) for six individual water appropriation permits (Updated Application) for its NorthMet Project. This Updated Application is being submitted as Version 2, as discussed, because it includes a request for an additional water appropriation permit, an appropriation of water from Colby Lake.

Pursuant to Minnesota Rules, part 6115.0660, subpart 3(D), PolyMet is also sending notice of this Updated Application to the secretary of the Board of the North St. Louis SWCD and the mayors of Hoyt Lakes and Babbitt, with copies of the submittal letters attached in Appendix B.

Based on PolyMet's review of the applicable laws and content of this Updated Application, PolyMet believes that this Updated Application is complete and satisfies the state requirements relating to the content of a water appropriation permit application. PolyMet recognizes that the MDNR may request additional information during the course of its review.

Thank you in advance for your continued efforts to review PolyMet's Application. If any questions or concerns arise during MDNR's review of this Updated Application, please do not hesitate to contact me at 218-461-7746 or ckearney@polymetmining.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christie M. Kearney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Christie M. Kearney, P.E.
Environmental Site Director