



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

APR 04 2016

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

WN-16J

Rebecca Flood, Assistant Commissioner
Water Policy
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4194

Re: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Request for Documents Pertaining to EPA's Investigation of Allegations Presented in the WaterLegacy Petition for Withdrawal of Program Delegation from the State of Minnesota for NPDES Permits Related to Mining Facilities

Dear Ms. Flood:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency received in July 2015 a petition from Water Legacy that alleges that Minnesota lacks the authority to implement its authorized National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program under the Clean Water Act (CWA). Part of responding to the petition is to conduct a file review. We would like to visit your offices during the week of July 11, 2016 to conduct the file review. We plan to return the week of September 12, 2016 if it is determined that a second visit is necessary. We appreciate your cooperation as we conduct this investigation. In advance of our visit, we are specifically requesting the records pertaining to the following permits be made available to EPA. While we do plan to visit the MPCA's offices, we encourage MPCA to provide the documents to EPA electronically prior to the visit, if feasible.

The following list is subject to change and EPA may request additional documents relevant to the investigation of the petition allegations at any time.

We request the complete permit files for the following permits:

Permit No.	Permittee – Facility Name	Major/ Minor	Issue date	Expiration date
MN0001465	Hibbing Taconite Co - Mining Area	Minor		5/31/2013
MN0020249	Midland Research Center	Minor		7/31/2016
MN0042536	CLEVELAND CLIFFS LLC	Minor	5/4/2001	11/30/2005
MN0042579	CLIFFS ERIE LLC-DUNKA	Minor	8/3/2000	6/30/2005
MN0044946	United Taconite LLC - Thunderbird Mine or Eveleth Mines LLC	Minor		5/31/2004
MN0046981	Northshore Mining Co - Peter Mitchell	Minor		7/31/2014

Permit No.	Permittee – Facility Name	Major/ Minor	Issue date	Expiration date
MN0049760	Hibbing Taconite Co – Tails Basin Area	Minor	7/12/1995	4/30/2000
MN0050504	US STEEL CORP-MINNTAC WWTF	Minor	12/31/1984	12/31/1989
MN0052116	UNITED TACONITE, LLC	Minor	8/25/2005	7/31/2010
MN0052493	US STEEL CORP-RESERVOIR	Minor	1/7/2004	11/30/2008
MN0054089	CLIFFS ERIE, LLC-HOYT LAKES	Minor	5/4/2001	11/30/2005
MN0055301	NORTHSHORE MINING/SILVER BAY P	Major	1/26/2004	9/30/2008
MN0055964	ISPAT INLAND MINING CO-MINORCA	Minor	9/29/2000	7/31/2005
MN0057207	US STEEL/MINNTAC TAILINGS BASI	Minor	9/30/1987	7/31/1992
MN0059633	ArcelorMittal Minorca Mine Inc. – Laurentian	Minor		12/31/2011
MN0060151	MDNR Soudan State Park	Minor		9/30/2008
MN0069078	MESABI MINING/STEEL DYNAMICS	Minor	11/30/2007	6/30/2010
MN0067687	Mesabi Nugget Delaware LLC	Minor	12/28/2012	11/30/2017
MN0069221	Magnetation Plant 1 & Mesabi Chief Tailings Basins	SDS		6/30/2013
MN0069400	Northshore Mining Co – Silver Bay Dredge Disposal	Minor		2/28/2014
MN0069868	Magnetation Plant 2	SDS		9/30/2015
MN0070050	Mining Resources LLC	Minor		10/31/2016
MN0070378	Magnetation LLC – Plant 4 MODIFICATION	SDS	5/22/2013	4/30/2018
MN0046744	Metro council/Minneapolis	Minor	2/26/1997	6/30/2001
MN0056022	GENERAL MILLS INC-E HENNEPIN	Minor	5/11/2000	4/30/2005

If you have any questions, please contact me or Krista McKim of my staff. Ms. McKim can be reached at 312-353-8270 or McKim.Krista@epa.gov. Legal questions should be directed to Barbara L. Wester, Associate Regional Counsel, at wester.barbara@epa.gov or 312.353.8514.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Pierard, Chief
NPDES Programs Branch

Cc: Jeff Stollenwerk, MPCA – Duluth
Ann Foss, MPCA – St. Paul