



Protecting clean water, healthy communities, and the Boundary Waters
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March 10, 2014

Tamara Cameron
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
St. Paul District, Regulatory Branch
180 5th Street E, Suite 700
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Tim Dabney
USDA-Forest Service
Superior National Forest
8901 Grand Ave. Place
Duluth, MN 55606

Commissioner Tom Landwehr
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155

Lisa Fay
EIS Project Manager
MDNR Division of Ecological and Water Resources
Environmental Review Unit
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025

Re: ***Proposed NorthMet Mining Project and Land Exchange***
Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness Comments on Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS)

Dear Reader:

Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness (NMW) is pleased to submit the attached comments on the NorthMet Project SDEIS. NMW is a nonprofit regional conservation organization whose core mission is to advocate for the preservation and protection of public lands, designated wilderness areas, national parks, national forests, and other wild places in the Minnesota Arrowhead Region, especially the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, the Superior National Forest, and the Quetico-Superior ecosystem. Since its founding in 1996, NMW has grown to represent over 2400 members and supporters, almost all of whom live in Minnesota. The majority of our members and supporters reside year-round or seasonally in the three-county Minnesota Arrowhead Region, own property in the three-county area, and will be

directly impacted by the NorthMet Project. Our members and supporters also visit and recreate throughout the three-county Minnesota Arrowhead Region and will be directly impacted by the NorthMet Project.

More information is available at www.nmworg.org.

Our contact information is:

Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness

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Contact: Rebecca Rom, Vice Chair

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NMW is submitting comments relating specifically to the federal Clean Water Act Section 404 permit application directly to the Army Corps of Engineers under separate cover. These comments on the SDEIS should be read in conjunction with comments on the specific Army Corps of Engineers actions. A compact disc containing exhibits is included with the hard copy of this letter.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed project, which has enormous implications for the Superior National Forest, the Arrowhead region, the state of Minnesota, and the Lake Superior watershed.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Rom
Vice Chair