March 10, 2014

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St. Paul District, Regulatory Branch
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Tim Dabney
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Superior National Forest
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Commissioner Tom Landwehr
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
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Lisa Fay
EIS Project Manager
MDNR Division of Ecological and Water Resources
Environmental Review Unit
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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:

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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