

April 15, 2024

Representative Aisha Gomez, Chair, House Tax Committee Representative Dave Lislegard, Chair, House Property Tax Division Senator Ann Rest, Chair, Senate Tax Committee Senator Grant Hauschild Minnesota State Capitol St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: House File 5198, Senate File 5435

Dear Chair Gomez, Chair Rest, Chair Lislegard and Senator Hauschild:

I am writing today in support of House File 5198, Rep. Lislegard's Property Tax Division Report, and Senate File 5435 (Hauschild).

We appreciate Rep. Lislegard and Sen. Hauschild including funding for Hibbing Public Utilities for clean drinking water infrastructure in the City of Hibbing. Our drinking water project, along with all the others in this proposed legislation are very important to the communities of the Iron Range.

Our water infrastructure needs are byproduct of the mining industry here on the Iron Range as we have needed to move drinking water wells and treatment facilities to accommodate mining expansion. The funds being directed toward these projects come from taxes paid by our local mining companies in lieu of property taxes, so it is a fitting use. We appreciate this money being reinvested into our local communities on the Iron Range and appreciate Rep. Lislegard and Sen. Hauschild for introducing this legislation.

Thank you

Luke ^J. Peterson General Manager

CC: Iron Range Legislative Delegation Members