

# The Annual Report of the Inspector of Mines

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## 2014

Terry O'Neil  
Mine Inspector  
St. Louis County  
307 South First Street  
Virginia, MN 55792  
218-742-9841

Joseph Austin  
Safety & Risk Mgmt. Director  
St. Louis County  
2503 Rice Lake Road  
Duluth, MN 55811  
218-726-2139

The  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
of the  
**INSPECTOR OF MINES**  
St. Louis County, Minnesota

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**2014**

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**INSPECTOR OF MINES**

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**SAFETY & RISK MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR**

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**ASSISTANT MINE INSPECTOR**

Paul Wier  
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**OFFICE PHONE: 218-742-9843**

**ASSISTANT MINE INSPECTOR**

Steve Manninen  
4502 Cedar Island Drive  
Eveleth, Minnesota 55734  
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**OFFICE PHONE: 218-742-9840**

**OFFICE AT**  
**NORTHLAND OFFICE BUILDING**  
307 South First Street, Virginia, Minnesota 55792  
**PHONE: 218-742-9841**

\*\*\*\*\*

**THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

District 1 ..... Frank Jewel, Duluth, Minnesota  
District 2 ..... Patrick Boyle, Duluth, Minnesota  
District 3 ..... Chris Dahlberg, Duluth, Minnesota  
District 4 ..... Mike Forsman, Ely, Minnesota  
District 5 ..... Pete Stauber, Hermantown, Minnesota  
District 6 ..... Keith Nelson, Virginia, Minnesota  
District 7 ..... Steve Raukar, Kelly Lake, Minnesota

**THE ITASCA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

District 1 ..... Davin Tinquist  
District 2 ..... Terry Snyder  
District 3 ..... Leo Trunt  
District 4 ..... Rusty Eichorn  
District 5 ..... Mark Mandich  
Jeff Walker ..... Itasca County Auditor  
Vic Williams ..... Itasca County Sheriff, Itasca County Mine Inspector

February 19, 2015

**THE HONORABLE BOARDS OF COMMISSIONERS**

**ST. LOUIS COUNTY  
COURT HOUSE  
DULUTH, MN 55802-1202**

**ITASCA COUNTY  
COURT HOUSE  
GRAND RAPIDS, MN 55744**

Dear Chairs Stauber, Tinquist and Commissioners:

The Annual Report of the Inspector of Mines for 2014 is herewith submitted.

Overall, 2014 turned out to be a strong economic year for mining in Northern Minnesota. A total of 41,301,098 tons of natural ore and taconite were shipped from area operations. Reported mining related employment in 2014 was 4,387 people, which is approximately 14 percent higher than the 10-year average. The work hours reported for area mining operations totaled 9,438,050 for the year.

Significant progress was made by several operations toward the objective of growth during the coming years. These include the Magnetation Plant #4 startup in Itasca County and Essar Steel's continued construction on their facility near Nashauk. On the copper/nickel/precious metal mining front, Polymet submitted its Environmental Impact Statement {EIS} to the DNR this year and is pursuing the final permits necessary for their North Met Project. Closer to Ely, Twin Metals completed the project's pre-feasibility study toward the objective of semi-precious metal mining.

Of note is the continued work by the MnDOT and stakeholders concerning the future relocation of Highway 53 in Virginia. In accordance with the provisions of a 1960 agreement, United Taconite and RGGGS Land and Minerals gave notice to the state concerning a previously established easement required for the current route of Highway 53 between Highway 135 and Second Avenue in Virginia. This year, after a study of several options, the E-2 alternative was recommended. This alternative will re-route the highway to the north and is scheduled to include a 1,100-foot bridge across the Rouchleau Pit.


(Continued on page 3)

During 2014, area mining operations reported a total of 29 lost time or serious accidents which is identical to the number experienced in 2013. Zero fatalities were reported in 2014. The continued commitment to the safety of all those who work in the mining industry is our shared goal.

St. Louis County Mine Inspectors successfully completed all required inspections of area operations, which are mandated by Minnesota State Law Chapter 180, Section 180.03 during 2014.

Acknowledgement and appreciation is extended to both Labor and Management for their continued interest, efforts and cooperation in the field of safety and health throughout the mines and plants in St. Louis and Itasca counties.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JJA', is positioned below the text 'Respectfully submitted,'.

Joseph J. Austin MS, MIS, CHMM  
Inspector of Mines - Interim  
Director, Safety and Risk Management  
St. Louis County

Excerpts from the Law On

**INSPECTOR OF MINES**

**CHAPTER 180**

**MINNESOTA STATUTES**

**SECTION 180.05**

**INSPECTOR, POWERS; OWNER, DUTIES**

It shall be lawful for the inspector of mines or assistant inspector to enter, examine, and inspect any and all mining operations and machinery belonging to the mine owner, operator, or agent at all reasonable times by day or by night, but so as not to obstruct or hinder the necessary workings of the facility. At the request of the inspector of mines, the owner, operator, or agent of a mining operation shall furnish for inspection:

- (1) all maps, drawings, and plans of the mining facility, together with the plans of all contemplated changes;
- (2) a suitable person, who shall be chosen by the inspector from a list containing at least three candidates, submitted by a majority of employees of the mine, to accompany the inspector through the mining operation;
- (3) any necessary equipment to make a proper inspection; and
- (4) all necessary facilities for such entry, examination, and inspection.

Upon receipt of a written request made by the inspector of mines, refusal to permit the inspection, or to furnish the necessary facilities for entry, examination, and inspection, shall be deemed a gross misdemeanor.

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

2014

Number of Mining Companies .....	9
Number of Mines in Operation .....	9
Number of Plants in Operation .....	9
Number of Wash Plants .....	0
Number of Mines Inactive .....	285
Number of Abandoned Mine Shafts Inspected .....	66
Total Number of Mines and Plants .....	294
Total Taconite Products Shipped .....	39,805,560
Total Ore Shipped .....	1,495,538
Taconite Mined .....	135,490,809
Stripping and Waste Removal, Tons .....	140,862,001
Total Material Moved, Tons Estimate .....	276,352,810
Total People Employed .....	4,387
Number of Fatal Accidents, Open Pit .....	0
Number of Fatal Accidents, Plant .....	0
Total Number of Fatal Accidents .....	0
Fatalities per 1,000 People Employed .....	0
Number of Lost-time and Time Charged Accidents .....	29
Total Number of Man-hours Worked .....	9,438,050
Number of Investigations and Inspections .....	521

### 2014 WAGE RATES INCENTIVE INCLUDED

Labor Grade	Wage Rate
1 .....	\$23.49
2 .....	\$25.71
3 .....	\$28.28
4 .....	\$29.77
5 .....	\$31.61

Due to Contractual changes the wage structure from mine to mine has changed significantly in recent years resulting in differing methods of payment. This results in different pay scales and different average daily wages from mine to mine. This is an example of what the rates are for the mines in St. Louis and Itasca counties.

YEAR	MINES	TONS SHIPPED	EMPLOYEE	INJURED	FATALS	FAT/1000	WAGES
1905-10	(Average per year)		13,320		73	5.44	2.110
1910-11			19,918		78	3.91	2.640
1911-12			15,286		51	3.31	2.575
1912-13			16,048		44	2.74	2.705
1913-14			16,000		43	2.59	2.310
1914-15			11,430		24	2.10	2.421
1915-16			14,639		34	2.32	2.923
1916-17			14,779		22	1.51	3.391
1917-18	(Sliver Cave Disaster)		15,307		60	3.92	4.347
1918-19			14,212		33	2.32	5.645
1919-20	114	25,349,924	14,121		36	2.55	6.010
1920-21	102	27,165,386	12,043		26	2.16	6.037
1921-22	84	13,398,525	9,688		24	3.48	4.062
1923	90	33,147,517	11,896		27	2.27	5.076
1924	75	22,808,875	11,538		21	1.82	5.144
1925	76	29,077,679	10,180		18	1.77	5.126
1926	66	32,583,943	9,225		15	1.63	5.283
1927	70	28,052,363	9,038		22	2.43	5.305
1928	59	29,704,774	8,022		9	1.12	5.230
1929	57	35,680,720	8,008		17	2.12	5.340
1930	50	25,196,155	7,752		13	1.68	5.280
1931	32	12,270,886	4,824		4	0.83	5.260
1932	30	1,773,750	2,243		2	0.89	4.308
1933	35	10,809,167	2,843		1	0.35	4.433
1934	42	11,781,226	4,272		2	0.47	4.830
1935	40	13,703,715	4,079		6	1.47	5.060
1936	42	23,322,975	4,694		6	1.28	4.800
1937	52	36,536,326	6,356		5	0.79	6.200
1938	38	10,976,760	3,773		4	1.06	5.816
1939	43	24,156,258	4,589		3	0.65	6.080
1940	47	36,493,781	5,547		1	0.18	6.400
1941	63	45,874,218	7,097	60	5	0.70	6.820
1942	60	53,923,635	8,101	107	14	1.70	7.030
1943	62	51,753,320	9,597	156	7	0.73	7.440
1944	66	50,532,679	9,390	247	6	0.64	7.750
1945	56	47,544,509	8,495	175	12	1.41	7.720
1946	60	38,380,361	7,100	167	6	0.84	7.720
1947	79	47,293,918	8,715	153	9	1.03	8.720
1948	80	52,020,563	10,286	178	5	0.49	9.480
1949	94	42,406,528	9,680	187	7	0.72	9.480
1950	109	48,671,966	10,257	159	4	0.38	10.480
1951	116	60,249,538	11,884	188	8	0.66	10.480
1952	122	48,192,132	10,838	160	2	0.18	11.480
1953	122	60,776,174	12,079	215	4	0.33	12.160
1954	121	49,845,118	9,925	157	4	0.40	12.560
1955	127	36,137,304	10,381	151	2	0.19	14.850
1956	127	44,493,944	11,017	134	6	0.54	17.560

YEAR	MINES	TONS SHIPPED	EMPLOYE	INJURED	FATALS	FAT/1000	WAGES
1957	124	50,093,275	12,804	144	6	0.47	17.560
1958	90	30,495,093	10,250	83	0	0.00	18.400
1959	89	16,055,353	9,256	93	4	0.43	22.480
1960	95	39,526,879	11,797	132	2	0.16	22.430
1961	85	33,169,291	9,200	51	4	0.43	22.430
1962	46	23,269,349	8,676	57	1	0.11	22.430
1963	61	35,255,178	7,671	30	2	0.26	22.430
1964	42	39,115,088	8,102	26	1	0.12	22.430
1965	54	40,891,345	8,305	53	0	0.00	22.430
1966	49	44,412,473	9,445	56	4	0.43	22.430
1967	51	41,216,870	8,825	52	4	0.44	23.760
1968	53	43,078,879	9,125	55	2	0.22	25.640
1969	51	34,628,234	9,394	58	0	0.00	27.430
1970	49	33,648,268	9,631	71	5	0.52	28.520
1971	50	32,687,511	9,441	58	0	0.00	32.480
1972	46	35,100,156	9,431	63	0	0.00	34.096
1973	47	46,076,814	10,131	58	4	0.40	35.352
1974	49	51,745,763	10,667	60	1	0.09	44.360
1975	51	45,394,814	10,864	71	0	0.00	45.842
1976	52	41,425,833	11,514	77	1	0.09	47.368
1977	24	26,556,566	10,840	82	2	0.19	56.682
1978	26	50,806,547	13,056	138	1	0.08	64.344
1979	26	54,530,338	13,267	164	0	0.00	70.832
1980	18	42,076,497	11,441	107	1	0.09	80.112
1981	12	47,300,056	11,630	96	0	0.00	89.472
1982	11	22,335,570	7,626	44	0	0.00	94.192
1983	9	26,843,983	5,935	50	2	0.34	84.19
1984	9	30,463,941	6,305	55	0	0.00	87.39
1985	9	31,948,722	5,539	29	0	0.00	90.60
1986	9	26,608,769	5,250	33	0	0.00	94.19
1987	9	30,063,909	4,857	26	1	0.21	94.19
1988	9	37,250,243	4,546	41	1	0.18	94.19
1989	9	38,421,803	5,664	55	2	0.35	94.19
1990	9	41,441,888	6,379	40	1	0.16	94.19
1991	10	38,420,014	6,468	49	0	0.00	94.19
1992	10	37,684,439	6,325	110	0	0.00	106.94
1993	9	39,338,920	5,953	133	0	0.00	106.94
1994	9	43,976,323	6,051	97	1	0.17	93.936
1995	9	47,030,820	6,005	87	0	0.00	97.936
1996	8	46,144,621	6,032	96	0	0.00	101.936
1997	8	46,978,014	6,129	84	0	0.00	103.616
1998	8	46,862,734	5,962	114	1	0.17	105.936
1999	9	43,136,042	5,633	99	0	0.00	105.936
2000	9	44,806,128	5,611	77	1	0.18	109.936
2001	8	34,144,559	4,212	60	0	0.00	113.936
2002	8	39,087,907	4,036	60	0	0.00	113.936



YEAR	MINES	TONS SHIPPED	EMPLOYEE	INJURED	FATALS	FAT/1000	WAGES
2003	8	35,282,267	4,177	35	0	0.00	121.936
2004	8	42,059,597	3,444	24	0	0.00	145.384
2005	8	40,464,089	3,568	29	0	0.00	178.40
2006	7	39,617,873	3,714	14	1	0.27	178.40
2007	7	38,041,616	3,724	13	2	0.54	187.848
2008	7	40,599,311	3,732	26	0	0.00	182.40
2009	7	18,025,710	2,687	39	0	0.00	201.44
2010	7	37,996,765	3,761	27	0	0.00	238.44
2011	7	40,395,202	4,215	24	0	0.00	188.40
2012	9	41,099,022	4,441	17	0	0.00	221.85
2013	9	40,221,204	4,371	29	0	0.00	226.24
2014	9	41,301,098	4,387	29	0	0.00	226.24

**REPORT OF THE COUNTY INSPECTOR OF MINES — PER MS 180.11  
OPERATIONAL SUMMARY  
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014**

MINES	TONS OF NATURAL ORE SHIPPED	TONS OF TACONITE PRODUCTS SHIPPED	TOTAL TACONITE MINED	TOTAL IRON ORE TAILINGS MINED	TONS STRIPPING WASTE (Rock & Overburden)	AVERAGE NUMBER PEOPLE EMPLOYED PLANTS / PITS	MAN HOURS	MONTH WORKE
UNITED TACONITE LLC		4,944,361	14,341,614		17,460,351	535	1,120,851	12
KEEWATIN TACONITE CO. DIVISION OF USS M.O.O.	St. Louis Itasca	5,249,958	86,384 18,967,317		12,978,047 589,521	420	905,824	12
HIBBING TACONITE CO.		7,674,119	27,281,207		36,385,070	789	1,666,631	12
ARCELORMITTAL MINORCA MINE, INC.	Pellets- Pellet Chips-	2,661,809 65,978	8,710,206		6,033,081	354	782,687	12

**REPORT OF THE COUNTY INSPECTOR OF MINES — PER MS 180.11  
OPERATIONAL SUMMARY  
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014**

MINES	TONS OF NATURAL ORE SHIPPED	TONS OF TACONITE PRODUCTS SHIPPED	TOTAL TACONITE MINED	TOTAL IRON ORE TAILINGS MINED	TONS STRIPPING WASTE (Rock & Overburden)	AVERAGE NUMBER PEOPLE EMPLOYED PLANTS / PITS	MAN HOURS	MONTH WORKE
NORTH SHORE MINING CO. BABBITT AND SILVER BAY		5,005,307	15,099,584		11,183,565	576	1,199,481	12
USS CORPORATION M.O.O. MINNTAC		14,204,028	51,004,497		56,232,366	1,448	3,220,197	12
TOTALS ST. LOUIS COUNTY		39,805,560	116,523,492		140,272,480			
TOTALS ITASCA COUNTY			18,967,317		589,521			
TOTALS		39,805,560	135,490,809		140,862,001	4,122	8,895,671	

**REPORT OF THE COUNTY INSPECTOR OF MINES — PER MS 180.11  
OPERATIONAL SUMMARY  
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014**

MINES	TONS OF NATURAL ORE SHIPPED	TONS OF TACONITE PRODUCTS SHIPPED	TOTAL TACONITE MINED	TOTAL IRON ORE TAILINGS MINED	TONS STRIPPING WASTE (Rock & Overburden)	AVERAGE NUMBER PEOPLE EMPLOYED PLANTS / PITS	MAN HOURS	MONTHS WORKED
MAGNETATION LLC								
PLANT 1 - KEEWATIN	309,149			1,839,883		55	99,794	12
PLANT 2 - TACONITE	786,543			5,168,902		130	264,576	12
MINING RESOURCES, INC.	399,846			2,670,000		80	178,009	12
TOTALS ST. LOUIS COUNTY	399,846			2,670,000		80	178,009	
TOTALS ITASCA COUNTY	1,095,692			7,008,785		185	364,370	
TOTALS	1,495,538			9,678,785		265	542,379	
GRAND TOTALS	1,495,538	39,805,560	135,490,809	9,678,785	140,862,001	4,387	9,438,050	

**MINING COMPANIES, MINE OPERATIONS,  
SAFETY PERSONNEL AND OTHER AGENCIES**

**UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION**

Minnesota Ore Operations  
KEEWATIN TACONITE  
P.O. Box 217  
Keewatin, Minnesota 55753  
Phone: 218-778-8798

Lawrence Sutherland ..... General Manager  
Travis Kolari ..... Plant Manager  
Michael Bakk ..... Area Manager - Electrical & Mine Maintenance  
Sarrah Mattila ..... Area Manager, Mine Operations & Crusher  
Kraig Raiber ..... Area Manager - Plant Operations & Maintenance  
Doug Johnson ..... Division Manager - Ore Movement & ISO  
John Skube ..... Manager - Employee Relations  
Angelo Sgro ..... Manager - Safety & Industrial Hygiene  
Kent Swanson ..... Industrial Hygiene Specialist  
Melody Balke ..... Management Associate Safety & IH

\* \* \* \* \*

**UNITED TACONITE LLC**

P.O. Box 180  
Eveleth, MN 55734  
Phone: 218-744-7800

Santi Romani ..... General Manager  
Ryan Korpela ..... Area Manager - Plant  
Nick Beukema ..... Area Manager - Mine  
Jacelyn Govender ..... Area Manager - Maintenance  
Dean Weiberg ..... Area Manager - Asset Management  
Todd Nelson ..... Area Manager - Finance  
John Baxter ..... Area Manager - Human Resources  
Bryan Baird ..... Area Manager - Safety  
Candice Maxwell ..... Section Manager - Environmental  
Jon Lamusga ..... Section Manager - Materials

**HIBBING TACONITE COMPANY**

P.O. Box 589  
Hibbing, Minnesota 55746  
Phone: 218-262-5950

Jack T. Croswell ..... General Manager  
Dana Koth ..... Manager - Asset Management  
Tim Tomsich ..... Manager - Financial Control  
Jared Lubben ..... Manager - Mining  
Rally Hess ..... Manager - Plants  
Michael P. Kern ..... Manager - Human Resources  
Andrea J. Bakk ..... Manager - Safety & Loss Control  
Julie C. Lucas ..... Manager - Environmental  
Tim Angelo ..... Manager - Procurement

\* \* \* \* \*

**MINING RESOURCES, LLC**

P.O. Box 151  
Chisholm, Minnesota 55719  
Phone: 218-254-0163  
Fax: 218-254-9987

David Bednarz ..... Vice President  
Mark Lorenz ..... Manager - Plant  
Amy Berns ..... Environmental Health & Safety Coordinator

**ARCELORMITTAL MINORCA MINE, INC.**  
5950 Old U.S. Highway 53 North  
P.O. Box 1  
Virginia, MN 55792  
Phone: 218-305-3353  
Fax: 218-749-3420  
E-mail: [jonathan.holmes@arcelormittal.com](mailto:jonathan.holmes@arcelormittal.com)

**Officers**

Andy Harshaw ..... President and CEO, Flat Carbon  
P.S. Venkat ..... CEO, Long Products  
Daniel Mull ..... Executive Vice President, Sales & Marketing  
Paul Liebenson ..... General Counsel & Assistant Secretary  
John Brett ..... Executive Vice President, Finance & Planning and  
Procurement  
R. Brian Knaley ..... Controller  
Om Mandhana ..... Vice President, Procurement  
Dale Laidlaw ..... Vice President, Human Resources, FCA  
Vaidya Sethuraman ..... Vice President, Finance/CFO, FCA  
Pat Parker ..... Vice President, Labor Relations  
Marc Jeske ..... Associate General Counsel  
Thomas McCue ..... Treasurer  
Ken E. Walker ..... Director, State & Local Taxes  
Christine F. Fleps ..... Director, Pensions & Investments  
Joseph P. Wallace ..... Tax Director

**Managers**

Jonathan H. Holmes ..... Vice President/Operations Manager -  
ArcelorMittal Minorca Mine  
William Bond ..... Manager - Operating Technology  
Scott Harrison ..... Manager - Pit  
Darrell Maki ..... Manager - Plant  
Gary Kleffman ..... Manager - Human Resources/Labor Relations  
Karla Heritage-McKenzie ..... Manager - Safety  
Thomas Cossalter ..... Manager - Purchasing  
Ross Phенning ..... Manager - Electrical/Systems

\* \* \* \* \*

**NORTHSHORE MINING COMPANY**

10 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota 55614  
Phone: 218-226-4125  
Fax: 218-226-6037

**NORTHSHORE MINING BABBITT MINE  
BABBITT, MINNESOTA 55706**

Phone: 218-827-2101

Ed Latendresse ..... General Manager  
Chuck Rennwald ..... Plant Manager  
Connor McCue ..... Mine Manager  
Bryon Rusco ..... Railroad Manager  
Ron Holm ..... Safety Manager  
Andrea Hayden ..... Environmental Manager  
Bill Bundschuh ..... Silver Bay Power Manager  
Ken Stocco ..... Reliability Manager  
Carl Kerschen ..... Human Resource Manager  
Alis Stevens ..... Purchasing Manager  
Scott Deming ..... Finance Manager  
Scott Blood ..... Plant Safety Representative  
Maria Strand ..... Plant Safety Associate  
Rod Lampton ..... Mine Safety Representative

**UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION**

Minnesota Ore Operations  
Minntac  
P.O. Box 417  
Mt. Iron, MN 55768  
Phone: 218-749-7299

Lawrence Sutherland ..... General Manager  
Mike Patton ..... Plant Manager  
Scott Vagle ..... Division Manager - Mining, Maintenance  
Ron Flick ..... Division Manager - Concentrating and Crushing  
Tim Kalisch ..... Division Manager - Agglomerating  
Doug Johnson ..... Division Manager, Ore Movement & ISO  
John Skube ..... Manager - Employee Relations  
Angelo Sgro ..... Manager - Safety & Industrial Hygiene  
Kent Swanson ..... Industrial Hygiene Specialist  
Robert Youngman ..... Safety & IH Specialist  
Mike Levar ..... Safety & IH Specialist  
Jerry Orrell ..... Safety & IH Specialist  
Andrew Schwab ..... Management Associate - Safety & IH



**MAGNETATION LLC**  
102 NE 3rd Street  
Suite 120  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744  
Phone: 218-999-5165  
Fax: 218-999-5827

Larry Lehtinen ..... Chairman & CEO  
Matt Lehtinen ..... President & COO  
Danilo Bibancos ..... VP - Concentrate Operations  
Joe Broking ..... CFO  
Steve Ellison ..... Safety Manager

\* \* \* \* \*

**POLYMET MINING**  
P.O. Box 475  
6500 County Road 666  
Hoyt Lakes, MN 55750  
Phone: 218-471-2150

Jon Cherry ..... President and Chief Executive Officer  
LaTisha Gietzen ..... Director of Public and Community Relations  
James Tieberg ..... Division Manager - Mining  
Paul Brunfelt ..... Division Manager - Plant  
Kevin Pylka ..... Manager of Environmental Permitting & Compliance

\* \* \* \* \*

**ALWORTH LAND & IMPROVEMENT COMPANY**

306 W. Superior Street, Suite 1605

Duluth, Minnesota 55802-1816

Phone: 218-722-0816

Nicholas B. Alworth ..... Chairman  
John Signorelli ..... Vice Chairman  
Steven G. LaFlamme ..... President  
Terry F. Netzel ..... Assistant Vice President  
George W. Kratzner ..... Treasurer  
Thea M. Barnes ..... Secretary  
Patricia S. McGaffey ..... Assistant Secretary/Assistant Treasurer

\* \* \* \* \*

**CONGDON MINERAL MANAGEMENT INC.**

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David C. Adams ..... President  
David G. Meineke ..... Vice President  
Ann L. Albrecht ..... Assistant Secretary and Treasurer

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**EVELETH FEE OFFICE, INC.**

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Thomas J. Malkovich ..... Vice President/Manager of Mines  
Lisa A. Williams ..... Administrative Assistant

\* \* \* \* \*

**GREAT NORTHERN IRON ORE PROPERTIES**

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332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1361  
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Hibbing, Minnesota 55746-0429  
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J.S. Micallef ..... President and CEO  
J.A. Swearingen ..... Trustee  
R.W. Staehle ..... Trustee  
R.A. Stein ..... Trustee  
T.A. Janochoski ..... Vice President and CFO  
R.P. Johnson ..... Manager of Mines  
K.A. Baehr ..... Manager of Accounting

\* \* \* \* \*

**HARTLEY OFFICE**  
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Mark Myles ..... Trust Manager

\* \* \* \* \*

## IRON MINING ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA

324 West Superior Street

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www.taconite.org

### 2014 IMA Staff

Craig Pagel ..... President and Treasurer  
Katy Kohlhasse ..... Administrative Assistant

### 2014 IMA Board of Directors

William Bond ..... ArcelorMittal  
Jonathan Holmes ..... ArcelorMittal  
Marci Knight ..... American Bank of the North  
Patrick Bloom ..... Cliffs Natural Resources  
Sandy Karnowski ..... Cliffs Natural Resources  
Jack Crowell ..... Cliffs Natural Resources - Hibbing Taconite  
Tim Tomsich ..... Cliffs Natural Resources - Hibbing Taconite  
Ed LaTendresse ..... Cliffs Natural Resources -  
Northshore Mining Co. .... (Board Chair)  
Santi Romani ..... Cliffs Natural Resources - United Taconite  
Jim Hoolihan ..... Industrial Lubricant  
Randy Abernathy ..... Industrial Weldors and Machinists  
Tom Jamar ..... Jasper Engineering  
Larry Lehtinen ..... Magnetation, Inc.  
Matt Lehtinen ..... Magnetation, Inc.  
Jeff Washburn ..... ME Elecmetal  
Greg Elmquist ..... Metso Minerals  
Margaret Hodnik ..... Minnesota Power  
Steve Harms ..... Pit & Quarry Supply  
Tom Lutes ..... Steel Dynamics - Mesabi Nugget Delaware LLC  
David Bednarz ..... Steel Dynamics - Mining Resources LLC  
Mark Lorenz ..... Steel Dynamics - Mining Resources LLC  
Joe Leoni ..... Trenti Law  
Dwight Day ..... TUFCO, Inc.  
Christina Bartovich ..... U.S. Steel Minnesota Ore Operations  
Mike Patton ..... U.S. Steel Minnesota Ore Operations  
Larry Sutherland ..... U.S. Steel Minnesota Ore Operations  
Travis Kolari ..... U.S. Steel - Keewatin Taconite  
Bruce Mars ..... WP & RS Mars Co.

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**ONONDAGA IRON COMPANY**

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Douglas H. Lewis ..... Chief Financial Officer

\* \* \* \* \*

**MINING MINNESOTA**

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\* \* \* \* \*

**MERIDEN ENGINEERING, LLC**

A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Superior Mineral Resources LLC

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Phone: 218-262-6127

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Jim A. Hecimovich ..... Vice President

\* \* \* \* \*

**SUPERIOR MINERALS RESOURCES, LLC**

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Jim Hecimovich ..... President and Chief Executive Officer

Greg Lindahl ..... Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

\* \* \* \* \*

**MESABI MINERAL ASSOCIATION**

By Oneida Realty Company

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R.K. Prescott ..... Chairman

\* \* \* \* \*

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Dorothy M. Meineke ..... Vice President & CFO

Michael G. Keppel ..... Mining and Minerals Processing Engineer

\* \* \* \* \*

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

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Tom Landwehr ..... Commissioner

David Schad ..... Deputy Commissioner

Barb Naramore ..... Assistant Commissioner

Jess Richards ..... Director, Division of Lands and Minerals (LAM)

**Division of Lands and Minerals**

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**FAX (218) 262-7328**

Peter Clevestine ..... Asst. Director, Division of Lands and Minerals

\* \* \* \* \*

**STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**IRON RANGE RESOURCES & REHABILITATION BOARD**

**MINELAND RECLAMATION**

**1003 Discovery Drive**

**Chisholm, Minnesota 55719**

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D. Jordan ..... Mining and Reclamation Programs Supervisor

Joy Ruedebusch ..... Office & Administration Specialist, Sr.

J. Plummer ..... Laurentian Vision and Real Property Coordinator

\* \* \* \* \*

**IRON RANGE RESOURCES & REHABILITATION BOARD**

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Tony Sertich ..... Commissioner  
Steve Peterson ..... Executive Director of Development  
Marianne Bouska ..... Chief Operating Officer  
Brian Hiti ..... Senior Policy Advisor - New Mining

**\* \* \* \* \***

**RGGS Lands & Minerals LTD., L.P.**

**John Elofson**

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**Fax: (218) 749-1294**

**\* \* \* \* \***

**ST. LOUIS COUNTY  
SAFETY AND RISK MANAGEMENT  
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DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55811-4819  
PHONE: 726-2139**

Joseph J. Austin ..... Director

**ST. LOUIS COUNTY MINE INSPECTORS**

Terry O'Neil ..... Inspector of Mines  
Paul Wier ..... Assistant Mine Inspector  
Steve Manninen ..... Assistant Mine Inspector

**MINE INSPECTOR OFFICE  
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307 South First Street  
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Phone: 218-742-9841**

**\* \* \* \* \***

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION**

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Gerald D. Holeman ..... Assistant District Manager  
Scott K. Johnson ..... Assistant District Manager  
James M. Peck ..... Staff Assistant  
George F. Schorr ..... Supervisory Special Investigator  
Dan L. Venier ..... Conference Litigation Representative  
Kenneth L. Bickel ..... Safety Specialist  
Stephen D. Cotie ..... Health Specialist  
Carol A. Frink ..... Supervisory Management/Program Analyst

**DULUTH FIELD OFFICE**

William H. Soderlind ..... Supervisory Mine Safety & Health Inspector  
Daniel J. Goyen ..... Mine Safety & Health Inspector  
Mindy A. Meierbachtol ..... Mine Safety & Health Inspector  
Terrance J. Norman ..... Mine Safety & Health Inspector

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Richard E. Kinnunen ..... Mine Safety & Health Inspector  
John C. Koivisto ..... Mine Safety & Health Inspector  
Wilbert W. Koskiniemi, Jr. .... Mine Safety & Health Inspector  
Kathryn M. Marlor ..... Mine Safety & Health Inspector  
Thaddeus J. Sichmeller ..... Mine Safety & Health Inspector  
Jeffrey J. Rausch ..... Mine Safety & Health Inspector



**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**  
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Myron Frans ..... Commissioner  
Gina Amacher ..... Director, Special Taxes Division

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Janet Baker ..... Occupation Tax

\* \* \* \* \*

**INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS**

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Glen D. Johnson . Business Manager, Financial Director, Minneapolis  
Daniel Kingsley ..... Area Business Representative, Virginia  
Dan Snidarich ..... Area Business Representative, Virginia

**UNITED STEEL WORKERS OF AMERICA**  
**DISTRICT 11**

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Emil Ramirez ..... Director

**EVELETH SUB-DISTRICT OFFICE**

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John Rebrovich ..... Assistant Director  
Cathy Drummond ..... Staff Representative  
Michael Woods ..... Staff Representative

**UNITED STEEL WORKERS OF AMERICA  
LOCAL UNITS**

**LOCAL #6860  
UNITED TACONITE LLC  
Phone: 218-744-4480**

Brian Zarn ..... President  
Joe Fredrickson ..... Vice President  
Amy Hutkowski ..... Recording Secretary  
Steve Lere ..... Financial Secretary  
Jim Ravnika ..... Treasurer  
Larry Roberts ..... Safety Coordinator  
Bryan Sandnas ..... Plant Safety Chairman  
Paul Horoshak ..... Mine Safety Chairman

**LOCAL #2660  
KEEWATIN TACONITE  
Phone: 218-778-6909**

Dan Pierce ..... President  
David Mlakar ..... Safety Chair/Safety Representative  
Joe Ferris ..... Safety Representative  
Kevin Noonan ..... Area Chair, Concentrator  
Jeff Stalboerger ..... Area Chair, Shop  
Kelly Peterson ..... Area Chair, Pit  
Lorne Middlestead ..... Area Chair, Pond  
Tom Damjanovich ..... Area Chair, Crusher  
Carl Jeranek ..... Area Chair, Pellet Plant

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HIBBING TACONITE COMPANY**

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Mike Mandich ..... Financial Secretary  
Mike Rootes ..... Recording Secretary  
Wade Bexell ..... Treasurer  
Jeff Walters ..... Union Safety Representative  
Bob Brown ..... Chairman, Safety Committee

**LOCAL #6115**  
**ARCELORMITTAL MINORCA MINE INC.**  
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Tom French ..... Safety Coordinator  
Jim Labernik ..... Sub Chair, Safety  
Jim Kottke ..... Sub Chair, Safety  
Kyle Lampka ..... Training Coordinator

**LOCAL #1938**  
**USS - MINNTAC MINE**  
Phone: 218-741-0887

Jon Malek ..... President  
John Arbogast ..... Vice President  
Dave Chesser ..... Recording Secretary  
Chad Daniels ..... Financial Secretary  
Paul Centa ..... Treasurer  
Lowell Carlon ..... Safety Committee Chairman  
Mark Hagsten ..... Safety Committee Co-Chairman  
Dave Toole ..... Safety Coordinator - Minntac/Keetac  
Steve Bonach ..... Full-Time Safety Representative, Mine/Shops  
Mitch McDonald ..... Full-Time Safety Representative, Concentrator/  
Crushers  
Paul Coombe ..... Full-Time Safety Representative,  
Agglomerators I, II, III

\* \* \* \* \*

**BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION LABORERS**  
**LOCAL 1097**

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Rick J. Cannata ..... President  
Todd Payne ..... Vice President  
Timothy G. McGauley ..... Business Manager/Financial Secretary  
Jerry F. Strle ..... "E" Board Member  
Richard M. Walker ..... "E" Board Member  
Mark Towner ..... "E" Board Member  
Wayne Monson ..... Recording Secretary  
Michael G. Warner ..... Sergeant at Arms  
Shelly A. Witanen ..... Office Manager

## NON-FATAL LOST-TIME AND SERIOUS ACCIDENTS

### MAGNETATION

#### PLANT 1:

No lost time accidents

#### PLANT 2:

Millwright, Date of Accident - February 27, 2014. Injured was standing on a ladder, when the injured's calf erupted in pain. Days Lost - 4

Truck Driver, Date of Accident - March 4, 2014. Injured claimed that driving the equipment caused inflammation to scrotum. Days Lost - 6

Maintenance Mechanic, Date of Accident - July 23, 2014. Injured was putting side cutters on backhoe bucket and felt pain to lower back. Days Lost - 2

### NORTHSHORE MINING COMPANY

#### BABBITT:

Mine Maintenance Technician, Date of Accident - March 24, 2014. Injured was getting out of a boom truck. As his left foot touched the icy ground, it slipped from underneath him. His foot twisted and he fell to the ground. As a result of this fall, he suffered a fracture to his ankle. Days Lost - 2

Mine Operations Technician, Date of Accident - May 10, 2014. Injured was performing a pre-op inspection on a grader. After employee completed the inspection and was accessing the steps to descend the grader, he lost his hand hold at the same time he tripped on the rear tire. Injured fell onto cement floor which resulted in fractured hip. Days Lost - 33

#### SILVER BAY:

Pellet Plant Operations Technician, Date of Accident - June 11, 2014. Injured was jumping on a pry bar to break loose a coupling that controlled an unloading gate on a rail car. When the coupling came loose, the bar fell and he landed on his left leg jarring his knee which resulted in a ligament tear. Days Lost - 71

**MINNTAC:**

MEO- Shovel Operator, Date of Accident- January 9, 2014. The day shift shovel operator assigned to the #38 Shovel in the West Pit was 'hot relieved' at the shovel and then drove the #1086, 2013 Chevrolet pickup truck eastward, back towards the Mine Annex. He traveled on the Ontario Haul Road until it branches off to form the Rock Cut Road and the #30 Dump Road. At this intersection the operator drove what he thought was the #30 Dump Road, but actually entered an area of new road construction. He drove approximately 100 feet over very rough terrain, hit and cleared a 6 foot plus truck dump berm, and became air borne for approximately 50 feet before hitting the roadway below. The operator was wearing a seat belt and the vehicle's air bags deployed. The operator sustained back and other injuries. Days Lost – 180

MTM- Crane Crew, Date of Accident – February 20, 2014. Three employees were in the process of changing the cable on the West 247-06-1 Waste Gas Fan Crane. The spool of new cable and reeving roller stand were located in the back of the 1075 Chevy 2500 pickup. The truck was parked 10' East of the crane block. The crane block was resting on blocks on the floor. As the employees were feeding the cable by hand through the block and equalizer sheaves the cable spool rolled out of the reeving roller stand, out of the truck bed, and struck the injured employee in the back of the left ankle. Days Lost-26

MTE- Electrician, Date of Accident – August 13, 2014. Employee was removing the balance weight from a 350 HP Crusher Motor Rotor after balancing the rotor on the balancing machine. The employee was using a 1/2 inch box wrench to remove the weight, while turning the wrench downward/away from the body the employee felt a pop in right shoulder and a burning sensation. Days Lost – 24

Lab Technician, Date of Accident – December 22, 2014. Employee was out sampling the 50 column tails in the Concentrator. When he completed this job, he had to carry a half full 5 gallon pail back to the lab for work up. This pail weighed 15.4 pounds. This travel required him to go up and down several flights of stairs. He was descending the final flight stairs and carrying the pail in his right hand. He was maintaining three points of contact by using his left hand on the hand rail. The Employee missed the second to the last step and fell forward to the concrete floor (Vertical height of fall was 23"), catching himself with his left arm and falling on the pail with the right side of his body. Days Lost – 30

## **KEETAC:**

MEO- Shovel Operator, Date of Accident – January 7, 2014. Employee passed heater and felt it was not putting out sufficient warm air. He climbed onto the heater platform and opened the door to the unit. He attempted to open the observation hatch to check the flame. As he raised the hatch, flame shot out, engulfing his hands, wrists, face, and neck. He sustained second and third degree burns to his face, wrists, and neck. Days Lost - 26

Fire Attendant, Date of Accident – September 22, 2014. The injured and his partner began task to conduct annual fire extinguisher inspections on mine production equipment. The injured had completed an inspection of a 240-ton production truck and proceeded to perform an inspection on the 4988 Drill Water Truck. As the injured leaned into the compartment to unlatch the bracket holding the extinguisher, the injured tipped the extinguisher out of the bracket and grabbed it with both hands to bring it to the ground to perform the inspection. While bringing it to the ground, the injured felt pain in his lower back. Days Lost – 6

## **UNITED TACONITE:**

Warehouse person, Date of Accident – March 2, 2014. Employee was working to clear snow with a forklift. He needed to exit his machine to move a roller when he tripped over a partially buried broken pallet falling on his left shoulder. The employee injure his rotator cuff. Days Lost – 76

Welder, Date of Accident – July 22, 2014. Employee had a metal liner fall onto top of foot while replacing the liner. The employee suffered a contusion to the foot. Days Lost – 12

Supervisor, Date of Accident – November 13, 2014. Employee tripped and fell while descending a berm. The employee injured rotator cuff. Lost Days – 21

## HIBBING TACONITE:

Maintenance Mechanic, Date of Accident - February 3, 2014. An equipment cleaner, with 22 years of experience, was cleaning out pits under the carrying rollers for F drum. This task involved using a shovel and scraper to remove built up grease and cake. It also required awkward positioning in a crouching position along with twisting, prying, and lifting causing back strain. Days Lost – 1

Maintenance Mechanic, Date of Accident – February 6, 2014. An MMG, with 3.5 years of experience, was struck by a boom from the Mill Lining Machine (Par machine). Injured was in the mill #7 to assist in hooking up and lining up the liner that was laying on the rock as well as applying Nordbac to the mill where the liner was to go. The other MMG inside the mill was operating the mill lining machine and swung the machine to the right, as it was getting close to the liner, and attempted to extend the boom at the same time. When this was done, the boom of the machine suddenly jerked quickly and forcefully to the left, and struck the employee in the lower chest area causing a contusion and bruising to chest. Days Lost – 17

Cable Crew, Date of Accident – March 4, 2014. A cable crew employee, with 24 years of experience, was struck by the right rear outrigger on the 523 cable truck. The labor crew was assigned to pick up cable with the cable truck at the BE repair site/maintenance yard and move it to the 61 shovel substation area. At the BE site, the labor crew members noticed the right rear outrigger was chained to the boom hooks they needed to fairlead the cable and spool on the truck. The crew discussed removing the chain that was securing the right rear outrigger from the boom and re-securing it so they utilize the boom for fairleading. The cable crew member that unhooked the chain securing the outrigger was standing in the path of the descending outrigger. The right outrigger fell contacting the employee on the right side of the hard hat and shoulder area causing bruising to right shoulder, chest and jaw. Days Lost – 1

Auto Mechanic, Date of Accident March 29, 2014. While changing the cutting edge on the 16H grader #336, the auto mechanic was using a bar to secure one end of the cutting edge segment to assist in installing a bolt. When the mechanic leaned back to grab a bolt, the bar slipped allowing the cutting edge to fall to the ground. It then bounced off the ground and landed on the tops of both feet which were about a foot and a half away from where the cutting edge landed before bouncing. Employee sustained bruising, swelling and soreness to both feet. Days Lost – 13

## HIBBING TACONITE COMPANY (cont)

Reliability Technician, Date of Accident April 2, 2014. The injured was using a hose to clean pellets at the bottom of a stairway on line 2. While winding up the fire hose located on the south end of D-1B conveyor, the hose was not aligned with the reel. The employee went to realign the hose, and felt a pop in the left knee while planting foot on the floor. The employee was diagnosed with a torn meniscus and received surgery as a result of the injury. Days Lost – 13

Separator Attendant, Date of Accident – May 5, 2014. An employee was hosing tailings on the northwest side of the Hydro Main Pump house. The employee took a couple of steps back, stumbled, and ran into the corner of an oil tank. The employee impacted right side in the area of the ribs. The employee noticed a pain, but continued working. Later, as the employee began to shovel tailings, they felt a pop and then constant pain in the rib area. Employee received a fracture to a right rib as a result of injury. Days Lost - 30

Separator Attendant, Date of Accident - May 28, 2014. A laborer was hosing pellets out from under P1 and P2 conveyors in the Phase 1 North Truck Aisle of the Pellet Plant. Due to a water leak from above, the employee was unable to hose from the normal location and instead kneeled under a staircase. After hosing for approximately 1.5 hours, the employee stood up and hit head on the stairs causing cervical strain. Days Lost – 2

Maintenance Mechanic, Date of Accident – June 4, 2014. While on inbound lane to work (dayshift) on the HTC access road, two employees were involved in a vehicle accident. This caused both vehicles to lose control/fishtail and go off the road resulting with both vehicles in the ditch. The vehicle that was struck from behind rolled before landing in the ditch. Injury resulted in fracture to vertebrae. Days Lost – 65

Electrician, Date of Accident - June 8, 2014. A shift electrician, with 4 years of mining experience, over 20 years of electrical experience, and holding a masters electrician license went to the P3 substation alone to investigate the cause of the P3 conveyor belt system and other equipment going down. The electrical monitoring equipment (multilin) reported a current imbalance fault. While troubleshooting, the electrician entered the 4160v building, racked out the switchgear that supplies power to the P3 belt, opened the front panel of that switchgear, defeated the safety mechanism used to prevent energizing the switchgear while open, racked it back in, and used a 600v handheld meter to verify that all three phases were present. An arc flash occurred as a result of this contact. The electrician was kneeling in front of the switchgear at the time of the arc flash and was holding the 600v meter in their hands. Injury resulted in 2nd and 3rd degree burns to hands, 1st and 2nd degree burns to face and neck. Days Lost – 23



## **HIBBING TACONITE COMPANY (cont)**

Janitor, Date of Accident - August 1, 2014. A janitor was attempting to retrieve cleaning supplies from a shelf on the south wall of the pellet plant tool crib. To reach the box of supplies, the employee needed to move a box of parts located at the front of the shelf. While moving these parts, the employee reported feeling a pain in the groin area and lower right abdomen. Injury resulted in inguinal hernia. Days Lost – 39

Maintenance Mechanic, Date of Accident - August 14, 2014. An MMG was removing a 6ft. section of handrail along the double dump valve (DDV) floor. The handrail needed to be removed to install new guards. After cutting the last upright, the handrail tipped towards the valves and began heading down the dribble hopper. The mechanic reached and grabbed ahold of the handrail to prevent it from falling and sliding down to the dribble belt. When the mechanic grabbed the handrail, a strain in the lower back occurred. Days Lost – 6

### **MINING RESOURCES:**

Plant Operations, Date of Accident – November 18, 2014. Employee was working to remove a pump impeller. When the impeller broke loose, he felt an object strike his hand inside of the pump casing. The injury resulted in a laceration and broken bones within his pinky finger. Days Lost – 3

### **ARCELORMITTAL MINORCA MINE INC:**

Production Truck Driver, Date of Accident - November 25, 2014. Employee got off 34 haul truck to remove some small rocks from the haul road. He threw one rock and as he started to throw the second rock, his right ankle slipped and twisted. This resulted in a severe dislocation, partially torn ligament and spiral fracture of the right ankle. Days Lost - 18, still off.

Crusher Maintenance Process Coordinator, Date of Accident - December 22, 2014. Employee was going down steps to bottom floor of fines crusher. He stepped onto last step which was concrete and his legs gave out. He fell forward into person in front of him and then collapsed to the ground level. The steps were dry. Employee was diagnosed with a torn quadricep in his left leg. Days Lost - 5, still off.