

The
Annual Report
of the
Inspector of Mines



Pioneer Mine Headframe – Ely, MN

2022

Derek Harbin
Mine Inspector
St. Louis County
201 South 3rd Avenue West
Virginia, MN 55792
218-742-9841

Joseph Austin
Safety & Risk Mgmt. Director
St. Louis County
2503 Rice Lake Road
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The
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
INSPECTOR OF MINES
St. Louis County, Minnesota

2022

INSPECTOR OF MINES

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ASSISTANT MINE INSPECTOR

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ASSISTANT MINE INSPECTOR

Micah Hovet
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**OFFICE AT
GOVERNMENT SERVICES CENTER**

201 South 3rd Avenue West, Virginia, Minnesota 55792
PHONE: 218-742-9841

THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

District 1 Frank Jewell, Duluth, Minnesota
District 2 Patrick Boyle, Duluth, Minnesota
District 3 Ashley Grimm, Duluth, Minnesota
District 4 Paul McDonald, Ely, Minnesota
District 5 Keith Musolf, Duluth, Minnesota
District 6 Keith Nelson, Virginia, Minnesota
District 7 Mike Jugovich, Chisholm, Minnesota

THE ITASCA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

District 1 Davin Tinquist
District 2 Terry Snyder
District 3 Leo Trunt
District 4 Burl Ives
District 5 Ben DeNucci
Jeff Walker Itasca County Auditor
Vic Williams Itasca County Sheriff, Itasca County Mine Inspector

February 27, 2023

THE HONORABLE BOARDS OF COMMISSIONERS

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

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

Dear Chairs Boyle, Ives and Commissioners:

The Annual Report of the Inspector of Mines for 2022 is herewith submitted.

Mining activity for 2022 showed a decrease in production schedule for St. Louis and Itasca counties. A total of 33,514,485 tons of taconite were shipped from area operations compared to 39,951,315 in 2021. Mining related employment was reported at 3,770 individuals. This represents a decrease of 553 employees compared to the 4,323 reported in 2021. The total work hours reported for area mining operations was 7,695,613 for the year.

Throughout 2022 the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact the world and area operations although to a lesser extent than in previous years. Five of six area mining operations remained in operation throughout the 12 months of the year. These include: Cleveland Cliffs Minorca, Hibbing Taconite, Keetac, Minntac, and United Taconite. Northshore Mine was idled in May of 2022 and reported operating for 4 months, which contributed to a decrease in production for the area.

On the copper/nickel/precious metal front, PolyMet continued to work through plans to build an open pit mine near Babbitt and reuse a former iron ore processing plant near Hoyt Lakes. Twin Metals pressed forward with efforts to obtain federal leases and to resume the environmental review process directed toward their semi-precious metal mining project near Ely.

2022 was marked with the loss of industry and mine safety advocate Senator David Tomassoni who, among other things, was an instrumental part of facilitating revisions to the Mine Inspector Statute in both 2013 and 2018.

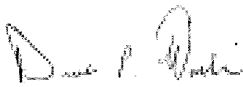
(Continued on page 3)

During 2022, area mining operations reported a total of 11 lost-time or serious accidents. This number is a decrease in comparison to the 12 experienced in 2021. No fatalities were reported for the 2022 year.

St. Louis County Mine Inspectors successfully completed all required inspections of area operations as mandated by Minnesota State Law Chapter 180, Section 180.03 during 2022.

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,



Derek P. Harbin
Inspector of Mines
St. Louis County



Joseph J. Austin MS, MIS, CHMM
Director, Safety and Risk Management
St. Louis County

Excerpts from the Law On

INSPECTOR OF MINES

CHAPTER 180

MINNESOTA STATUTES

SECTION 180.03

DUTIES: SUBDIVISION 1. INSPECTIONS

The duties of the inspector of mines shall be to visit all mining operations for which a permit to mine has been obtained from the commissioner of natural resources in the inspector's county at least once every 90 days and more often if requested so to do as hereinafter provided, and closely inspect the mines so visited and condemn all such places where the employees are in danger from any cause. In the event that the inspector of mines finds that a place is dangerous from any cause, it shall be the inspector's duty immediately to order those engaged in the work at that place to cease work, and notify the superintendent, agent, or person in charge to secure the place from the existing danger, which notification or order shall be in writing, clearly define the limits of the dangerous place, and specify the work to be done or change to be made to render the same secure, ordinary mine risks excepted. It shall be the duty of the inspector of mines to order the person, persons, or corporation working any mine, or the agent, superintendent, lead supervisor, or other person having immediate charge of the working of any mine, to mitigate the identified hazard.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

2022

Number of Mining Companies	6
Number of Mines in Operation	6
Number of Plants in Operation	6
Number of Wash Plants	0
Number of Mines Inactive	285
Number of Inactive Mines and Shafts Inspected	184
Total Number of Mines and Plants	291
Total Taconite Products Shipped	33,514,485
Total Concentrate Shipped	0
Total Pellet Chips Shipped	0
Taconite Mined	118,024,673
Stripping and Waste Removal, Tons	145,408,465
Total Material Moved, Tons Estimate	263,433,138
Total People Employed	3,770
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	11
Total Number of Employee-Hours Worked	7,695,613
Number of Inspections	324
Number of Investigations	4

2022 WAGE RATES INCENTIVE INCLUDED

Labor Grade	Wage Rate
1	\$29.02
2	\$31.76
3	\$34.93
4	\$36.76
5	\$39.05

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	EMPLOYED	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	(Silver 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	EMPLOYED	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	EMPLOYED	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
2015	10	34,683,076	4,047	19	0	0.00	231.92
2016	7	28,970,579	3,621	22	0	0.00	231.92
2017	7	39,485,849	3,944	18	0	0.00	231.92
2018	6	40,986,054	3,954	14	0	0.00	241.20
2019	6	38,665,148	4,105	7	1	0.24	249.68
2020	6	31,921,917	3,562	11	0	0.00	258.40
2021	6	39,951,315	4,323	12	0	0.00	266.16
2022	6	33,514,485	3,770	11	0	0.00	279.44

**REPORT OF THE COUNTY INSPECTOR OF MINES — PER MS 180.11
OPERATIONAL SUMMARY
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022**

	USS CORPORATION M.O.O. KEEWATIN TACONITE	USS CORPORATION M.O.O. MINNTAC	UNITED TACONITE LLC	HIBBING TACONITE CO	NORTHSHORE MINING CO BABBITT AND SILVER BAY	CLEVELAND CLIFFS MINORCA MINE, INC	TOTALS
TONS OF TACONITE PRODUCTS SHIPPED	5,318,656	13,312,515	4,543,123	6,324,815	1,549,430	2,465,946	33,514,485
TOTAL TACONITE MINED ST. LOUIS COUNTY ITASCA COUNTY	17,858,568 0	48,037,963	14,612,402	24,986,626	4,602,431	7,926,683	118,024,673
TONS STRIPPING WASTE (ROCK & OVERBURDEN) ST. LOUIS COUNTY ITASCA COUNTY	30,460,387 0	55,188,665	19,574,892	29,418,193	2,424,182	8,342,146	145,408,465

**REPORT OF THE COUNTY INSPECTOR OF MINES — PER MS 180.11
OPERATIONAL SUMMARY
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022**

	USS CORPORATION M.O.O. KEEWATIN TACONITE	USS CORPORATION M.O.O. MINNTAC	UNITED TACONITE LLC	HIBBING TACONITE CO	NORTHSHORE MINING CO BABBITT AND SILVER BAY	CLEVELAND CLIFFS MINORCA MINE, INC	TOTALS
PELLET CHIPS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TONS OF CONCENTRATE SHIPPED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AVERAGE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES PLANTS / PITS	412	1,421	526	733	297	381	3,770
EMPLOYEE HOURS	879,099	2,925,230	1,098,467	1,415,547	571,748	805,522	7,695,613
MONTHS WORKED	12	12	12	12	4	12	

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

UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION

Minnesota Ore Operations
KEETAC
PO Box 217
Keewatin, MN 55753
Phone: 218-778-8700

Lukas Klemke Plant Manager - Mine
Travis Kolari Plant Manager - Plant
Tim Kalisch Senior Area Manager Operations & Maintenance
Susan Wiire Manager Employee & Labor Relations
Mark Salo Senior Manager Safety & Security
Kent Swanson Manager Safety & Industrial Hygiene
Steve Balarch, Sr. Safety & Industrial Hygiene Specialist

* * * * *

UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION

Minnesota Ore Operations
MINNTAC
PO Box 417
Mt. Iron, MN 55768
Phone: 218-749-7200

Lukas Klemke Plant Manager - Mine
Travis Kolari Plant Manager - Plant
Chad Buus Senior Area Manager Operations & Maintenance
Cory Hertling Senior Area Manager Maintenance
Susan Wiire Manager Employee & Labor Relations
Mark Salo Senior Manager Safety & Security
Kent Swanson Manager Safety & Industrial Hygiene
Mike Levar Safety & Industrial Hygiene Specialist
Jeffrey Tomsich Safety & Industrial Hygiene Specialist
Christie Dixon Safety & Industrial Hygiene Specialist

CLEVELAND CLIFFS MINORCA MINE, INC.

5950 Old U.S. Highway 53 North
PO Box 1
Virginia, MN 55792

(218) 749-5910

Managers

Conor McCue Operations Manager
Eric A. Krause Section Manager – Mine Operations
Chad Pontinen Section Manager – Plant Operations
Dan G. Vidmar Manager – HR / LR
Matthew W. Zimmer Section Manager – Asset Management
Dean V. Wegleitner Principal Safety & Security
Nolan Koskela Area Manager – Financial Control
Kylee J. Paakkonen Section Manager Accounting
Todd M. Sarazine Section Manager – Process Control
Darren Zabrocki Manager – Purchasing
Jaime L. Johnson Manager – Environmental

* * * * *

HIBBING TACONITE COMPANY

PO Box 589
Hibbing, Minnesota 55746
Phone: 218-262-5950

Adam Osborne General Manager
Joe Marturano Manager - Asset Management
Adam Radel Manager - Financial Control
Jared Lubben Manager - Mining
Shane Holman Manager - Plants
William Dittrich Manager - Human Resources
Andrea J. Bakk Manager - Safety & Loss Control
Tasha Niemi Manager - Environmental
Tim Angelo Manager - Procurement

* * * * *

UNITED TACONITE, LLC

PO Box 180
Eveleth, MN 55734
Phone: 218-744-7800

Nick Beukema General Manager
Robb Peterson Area Manager - Plant
Jared Lubben Area Manager - Mine
Derek Clark Area Manager - Asset Management
Adam Radel Area Manager - Finance
Joe Mattson Area Manager - Human Resources
Ryan Bogart Area Manager - Safety
Candice Maxwell Area Manager - Environmental
Kerrie Pusateri Section Manager - Materials

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

Paul Carlson General Manager
Adam Sersha Plant Manager
Cory Wills Mine Manager
Bryan Rusco Railroad Manager
Andrea Hayden Environmental Manager
Phil Melander Maintenance Manager
Jay Bretto Human Resource Manager
Chris Tokvam Purchasing Manager
Nolan Koskela Finance Manager
Mark Anderson Safety Manager
Jake Baxter Plant Safety Representative
Abby Cyr Plant Safety Associate
Ryan Pokorny Mine Safety Representative

POLYMET MINING

PO 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
Kevin Pylka Manager of Environmental Permitting & Compliance
Christie Kearney Environmental Site Director

* * * * *

TWIN METALS MINNESOTA, LLC

400 Miners Drive
Ely, MN 55731

Kelly Osborne CEO
Julie Padilla Chief Regulatory Officer
Derek Heinecke V.P. Finance
Glenn Barr V.P. Engineering
Dean DeBeltz Director Operations and Safety
Chris Anderson Director Legal Affairs

PIONEER FOUNDERS, LLC

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Phone: 218-590-2987

Nicholas B. Alworth Managing Director

* * * * *

CONGDON MINERAL MANAGEMENT, INC.

1035 7th Ave. E.
Hibbing, Minnesota 55746-3675
Phone: 218-262-0799
Fax: 206-203-0098

David C. Adams President
David G. Meineke Vice President

* * * * *

EVELETH FEE OFFICE, INC.

301 McKinley Avenue
PO Box 521
Eveleth, Minnesota 55734-0521
Phone: 218-744-4646
Fax: 218-744-2149

Robb Bigelow President
Daniel L. England Vice President / Director of Mining Lands
Heidi McDermid Administrative Assistant

* * * * *

GLACIER PARK IRON ORE PROPERTIES, LLC

CORPORATE OFFICE

755 E. Mulberry Avenue, Suite 600
San Antonio, TX 78212
Phone: 210-821-6523

Mr. David Schlagel President
Matt Gonzales Controller

HIBBING OFFICE

801 E. Howard Street
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Phone: 218-262-3886

Jeff Tromp Chief Mining Engineer
Austin Dusek Geologist / GIS Specialist
Robert Crowe Mining Engineer / Inspector
John Reed Geological Engineer
Matt Walto Manager of Mines

* * * * *

CRESSET TRUST CO.

212 South Main Avenue, Suite 131
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
Phone: 952-838-3564

Anne Novak Vice President

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IRON MINING ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA

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2022 IMA Staff

Kristen Vake Executive Director

2022 IMA Board of Directors

Chrissy Bartovich (Board Chair) U.S. Steel
Randy Abernethy Industrial Weldors & Machinists, Inc.
Jon Anderson Road Machinery and Supplies Co.
Deb Deluca Duluth Seaway Port Authority
Frank Frederickson Minnesota Power
Jason Janisch Jasper Engineering & Equipment Co.
Tim Kalisch U.S. Steel
Lukas Klemke U.S. Steel
Travis Kolari U.S. Steel
Allyz Kramer SEH, Inc.
Jeff Lipovetz TKDA
Mark Lorenz Steel Dynamics
Bruce Mars Mars Supply / Conveyor Belt Service
Nels Ojard Krech Ojard & Associates, Inc.
Jim Perry Furin and Shea
Bruce Richardson PolyMet Mining
Aaron Clausiau Security State Bank

ONONDAGA IRON, LLC

Managed by Meristem Trust Co.
212 South Main Avenue, Suite 131
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
Phone: 952-838-3564

David Adams Chief Executive Officer
Jane Kingston Chief Financial Officer
Anne Novak Vice President, Meristem Trust Co.

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MINING MINNESOTA

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Phone: 218-410-2059
E-Mail: julie.lucas@miningminnesota.com

Julie Lucas Executive Director

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MERIDEN ENGINEERING, LLC

A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Superior Mineral Resources LLC
1910 East 8th Avenue
P.O. Box 650
Hibbing, Minnesota 55746
Phone: 218-262-6127

William Boucher General Manager
Brianna Stevens Business Manager

* * * * *

SUPERIOR MINERALS RESOURCES, LLC

1910 East 8th Avenue
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Phone: 218-262-6127
www.superiormineral.com

William Boucher General Manager
Brianna Stevens Business Manager

* * * * *

MESABI MINERAL ASSOCIATION

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Duluth, Minnesota 55802
Phone: 218-590-2987

Nicholas B. Alworth Managing Director

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GLOBAL MINERALS ENGINEERING, LLC
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Hibbing, Minnesota 55746-3675
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Fax: 206-203-0098

David G. Meineke President & CEO
Dorothy M. Meineke CFO

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MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155
(651) 259-5959

Sarah Strommen Commissioner
Barb Naramore Deputy Commissioner
Jess Richards Assistant Commissioner
Joseph Henderson ... Director, Division of Lands and Minerals (LAM)
Mike Liljegren Assistant Director of Mine Permitting

Division of Lands and Minerals
1525 Third Avenue E.
Hibbing, Minnesota 55746
(218) 231-8443

Ted Anderson Asst. Director, Division of Lands and Minerals
Kathryn Larson Reclamation Supervisor
Matt Carter Geology Supervisor

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STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF
IRON RANGE RESOURCES & REHABILITATION
MINELAND RECLAMATION
1003 Discovery Drive
Chisholm, Minnesota 55719
Phone: (218) 274-7000 Fax: (218) 274-7002

Linda Johnson Mining and Reclamation Programs Supervisor
Shelley Sallee Office & Administration Specialist, Sr.
James B. Plummer Planning Director
Tom Schmelzler Building and Grounds Supervisor

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**DEPARTMENT OF
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4261 HIGHWAY 53 SOUTH
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EVELETH, MN 55734
Phone: (218) 735-3000 or 800-765-5043**

Ida Rukavina Commissioner
Matt Sjoberg Executive Director of Development
Marianne Bouska Chief Operating Officer
Linda Johnson Mining Reclamation and Property Development

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**RGGS Lands & Minerals LTD., L.P.
P.O. Box 1266
Virginia, MN 57792
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**ST. LOUIS COUNTY
SAFETY AND RISK MANAGEMENT
2503 RICE LAKE ROAD
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PHONE: 218-726-2139**

Joseph J. Austin Director
Karen Matvey Information Specialist

**Government Services Center
201 South 3rd Avenue West
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Derek Harbin Inspector of Mines
David Hamalainen Assistant Mine Inspector
Micah Hovet Assistant Mine Inspector

**ST. LOUIS COUNTY LAND AND MINERALS
GOVERNMENT SERVICE BUILDING
320 West 2nd Street
Duluth MN 55802**

Julie Marinucci Director

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

515 W. First Street, Room 323

Duluth, MN 55802-1302

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Fax: 218-720-5650

DISTRICT OFFICE

Christopher A. Hensler District Manager
Gerald D. Holeman Assistant District Manager
Daniel J. Goyen Assistant District Manager
Wilbert W. Koskiniemi Jr. Supervisory Special Investigator
Scott E. Salo Conference/Litigation Representative
Linda K. Arzt Conference/Litigation Representative

DULUTH FIELD OFFICE

William H. Soderlind Supervisory Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Richard D. Galarno Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Mindy A. Meierbachtol Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Robert A. Nelson Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Cory C. Niemi Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Jeffrey J. Rausch Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Rufus L. Taylor Mine Safety & Health Inspector

HIBBING FIELD OFFICE

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Luke E. Jarvi Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Nancy K. Krull Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Ryan D. Moberg Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Savannah J. Stougard Mine Safety & Health Inspector

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MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

600 North Robert Street

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Phone: (651) 556-6003 Fax: (651) 297-1939

Paul Marquart Commissioner
Jack Mansun Director, Special Taxes Division
Andrew Huber Minerals Tax Supervisor
Nick Norris Revenue Tax Specialist

Minerals Tax Office

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Phone: (218) 744-7424 Fax: (218) 742-9153

Bob Wagstrom Production Tax
Robert Pecchia Production Tax

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INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

Local No. 49

8381 Enterprise Drive N

Virginia, MN 55792

Phone: 218-741-8190 - Virginia

2829 Anthony Lane South

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418-3285

Phone: 612-788-9441 - Minneapolis

Jason George ... Business Manager, Financial Secretary, Minneapolis
Ryan Davies Area Business Representative, Virginia
Dan Snidarich Area Business Representative, Virginia
Dan Gilbert Area Business Representative, Virginia

UNITED STEEL WORKERS OF AMERICA

DISTRICT 11

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE

Phone: 612-623-8045

Emil Ramirez Director

EVELETH SUB-DISTRICT OFFICE

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Fax: 218-744-7926

Cathy Drummond Assistant to the Director
John Arbogast Staff Representative
Michele Frederickson Staff Representative
Mike Woods Staff Representative

**UNITED STEEL WORKERS OF AMERICA
LOCAL UNITS**

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

Jamie Winger President
Ryan Denzel Vice President
David Cherro Recording Secretary
Dan Hill Financial Secretary
Justin Krebs Treasurer
David Cherro Safety Coordinator
Loretta Sanders Plant Safety Chairman
Chuck Niemi Mine Safety Chairman
Bryan Sandnas Training Coordinator

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

Jake Friend President
Joe Ferris Safety Chair / Safety Representative
Carl Jeranek Safety Representative
Pat Savage Area Chair, Concentrator
Jeremy Fredette Area Chair, Shop
Steve Krasaway Area Chair, Pit
Lorne Middlestead Area Chair, Pond
Tawnya Gustafson Area Chair, Crusher
Nate Bandelin Area Chair, Pellet Plant
Eric Staydohar Area Chair, Electrical

**LOCAL #2705
HIBBING TACONITE COMPANY**

Phone: 218-254-2492

Fax: 218-254-7100

115 W. Lake Street, Chisholm, MN 55719

Chris Johnson President
Steve Rancourt Vice President
Mike Mandich Financial Secretary
Bill Fredette Recording Secretary
Wade Bexell Treasurer
Andy Fisher Union Safety Representative
Bill Fredette Safety Chairman

**LOCAL #6115
CLEVELAND CLIFFS MINORCA MINE, INC.**

Phone: 218-741-3310

Dave Zasadni President
Tom French Safety Coordinator
Reed Milos Sub Chair, Safety
Kyle Lamppa Training Coordinator

**LOCAL #1938
USS - MINNTAC MINE**

Phone: 218-741-0887

Steve Bonach President
Mitch McDonald Vice President
Dave Chesser Recording Secretary
Paul Centa Financial Secretary
Rick Niemi Treasurer
Mitch McDonald Safety Committee Chairman
Mark Hagsten Safety Committee Co-Chairman
Matt Robillard Safety Coordinator - Minntac/Keetac
Rick Niemi Full-Time Safety Representative, Mine/Shops
Mike Hultman Full-Time Safety Representative, Concentrator/
Crushers
Paul Coombe Full-Time Safety Representative,
Agglomerators I, II, III

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BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION LABORERS

LOCAL 1097

712 4th St. North
Virginia, MN 55792
Phone: 218-741-3638

Todd Payne President
Patrick D. O'Connell Vice President
Shawn Braford Business Manager/Financial Secretary
Joseph Petrich "E" Board Member
Steve Gullickson "E" Board Member
Ryan Towner "E" Board Member
Aaron Jarva Recording Secretary
Shelly A. Wiitanen Office Manager
Harry Homer Sergeant at Arms

NON-FATAL LOST-TIME AND SERIOUS ACCIDENTS

CLEVELAND CLIFFS MINORCA MINE INC:

None

HIBBING TACONITE:

Maintenance Mechanic, Date of Accident – February 9, 2022. Employee was unclogging an 8" screen line 15' above the rougher floor from a 19' scissor lift. The employee's partner was working from the finisher floor above and below the lift. The employee attempted to lower the lift to get a part when the electronic controls failed. The employee's partner tried to lower from the ground with the manual emergency control, but was having difficulty. The employee in the lift unhooked their fall harness connection point from the provided tie-off anchor to exit the lift and climb down the cross supports between the scissors. The employee hopped from the last cross brace, 4' from the ground, striking their hip on the base of the lift resulting in a bruised hip and a compression fracture to their back. Days Lost – 98

Tractor Operator, Date of Accident – April 1, 2022. A tractor operator arrived at a D11 CAT and used access via the tracks to board the cab as the man basket was in the "up" position upon arrival. Once in the cab, the employee needed to get down and proceeded to use the basket to exit the CAT due to material buildup on the tracks and track boarding steps. The basket would not release and lower to the ground. The employee attempted to release the basket a few more times without success. The employee then stepped out of the basket. The basket jumped over the catch/stop mechanism and struck the employee in the left lower leg area resulting in a fracture. Days Lost – 36

Crane Operator, Date of Accident – April 14, 2022. An employee was walking out of the bullgang shack alongside a portable barricade to get to the vehicle they were using. The employee was turning to the right just past the barricade when they slipped and fell landing on their shoulder area. Ice and snow had accumulated on the ground on top of previously frozen precipitation. The area had not been sanded prior to the incident. The employee stated they had anti-slip foot protection on at the time of the incident. Incident resulted in right shoulder surgery. Days Lost – 21

Tractor Operator, Date of Accident – October 6, 2022. The employee arrived at a D-11 CAT at the beginning of the shift. The hydraulic stairway was BO at the time, so the operator used the CAT tracks to climb up to the operator's cab to put their lunch pail away. The employee then stepped back down on the tracks to gain access to the engine compartment to check the oil as part of the pre-shift inspection. The employee opened the inspection door and placed

HIBBING TACONITE COMPANY (cont)

their left foot on the corner of the cabinet door opening. The employee had their right foot on the track and was using their rear/lower back area to hold the door open due to the windy conditions. The employee reached down to grab the dipstick handle when their right foot slipped off the track and into an 8" gap between the tracks and the frame of the D-11 CAT. This caused the employee to land on their tailbone on the tracks resulting in a bruised tailbone. Days Lost – 1

NORTHSHORE MINING COMPANY

Babbitt:

Mine Operations, Date of Accident – February 14, 2022. Employee states that while moving a drill over a new hole, the drill power cable was frozen into snow and ice, and pulled tight and undercut her legs, causing the employee to fall backwards to the ground. The employee landed on their left shoulder, resulting in broken clavicle and torn rotator cuff. Days Lost – 143

Silver Bay:

Maintenance Technician, Date of Accident – December 14, 2022. Employee states that when he stepped out of the small fleet vehicle he was riding in, the fresh, wet snow compacted under his boots, and he slipped and fell. He was wearing boot cleats, but because of the snow depth, the cleats did not contact the ground/ice. As he fell, he stuck his arm out to brace himself and he landed on his elbow, resulting in torn rotator cuff. Days Lost – 0

Operations Technician, Date of Accident – May 10, 2022. Employee states while attempting to travel down the ramp between 61/161 conveyor shuttles, they slipped on pellets and fell backwards. The employee tried to catch themselves with left hand, fracturing their wrist. Days Lost – 82

UNITED TACONITE:

Plant Operator, Date of Accident – April 23, 2022. Process upset caused the Line 2 West dust valves to put hot dust into the air, giving an operator in the area burns to their face and wrists. Days Lost – 4

Crusher Mechanic, Date of Accident – September 22, 2022. Mechanic was installing a crusher adjustment ring when a spring bolt pinched their finger. Days Lost – 5

Plant Operator, Date of Accident – October 31, 2022. Operator slipped descending loader ladder from material that was built up on the bottom rung causing the operator to have low back pain. Days Lost – 1

Pit Mechanic, Date of Accident – November 21, 2022. Mechanic's hand became caught between the hydraulic shovel side frame and the lower roller unit that was being installed. Days Lost – 5

USS CORPORATION, MINNESOTA ORE OPERATIONS**KEETAC:**

None

MINNTAC:

None