

Date: June 24, 2015

To: Interested Party

Re: Data Practices Act Request for the NorthMet Mining Project and Land Exchange Preliminary Final Environmental Impact Statement

Enclosed is the Preliminary Final Environmental Impact Statement (PFEIS) for the NorthMet Mining Project and Land Exchange that you have requested under the Minnesota Data Practices Act.

The PFEIS is a provisional draft intended for internal review by the Co-lead Agencies (Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and United States Forest Service) and Cooperating Agencies (Environmental Protection Agency, Fond du Lac Band, Grand Portage Band, and Bois Forte Band). This is the agencies' opportunity to review all of the revisions made in response to public comments on the December 2013 Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The document is likely to change in response to feedback from the Co-lead and Cooperating Agencies. The Co-lead Agencies will consider PFEIS review comments from these agencies in making final revisions prior to releasing the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for public comment.

Please note: **The PFEIS is not a document for public review and public comments are not being solicited.**

The public **will** be encouraged to comment on the adequacy of the FEIS when that document is published. Comments submitted at that time will become part of the official environmental review record.

The remaining steps for completion of Final Environmental Impact Statement and the environmental review process are described below:

PFEIS Review and FEIS Development	Summer 2015
FEIS Publication and Public Comment Period (comment period minimum 30 days)	Fall 2015
State Adequacy Determination	Winter 2015/2016
Federal Records of Decision	Winter 2015/2016