



EQB MONITOR

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Next Publication: December 23, 2013
Submittal Deadline: December 16, 2013
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EQB Meetings are regularly scheduled for the third Wednesday of the month, which can be found on the [EQB Calendar](#). There may be additional special meetings as well. [Meeting minutes, packets, and agendas](#) are posted on the [EQB website](#).

This corrected version of the December 9, 2013 EQB Monitor includes a corrected link for the Supplemental Draft EIS Available notice below and a link to the [2014 EQB Monitor Publication Calendar](#).

- [Supplemental Draft EIS Available](#)
- [EIS Need Decisions](#)

Supplemental Draft EIS Available

Comment Deadline: March 13, 2014

Project Title: NorthMet Mining Project and Land Exchange

Project Description: The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), has prepared a joint state/federal Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Supplemental Draft EIS) that describes the anticipated environmental and socioeconomic impacts of the proposed PolyMet Mining, Inc. (PolyMet) NorthMet Mining Project and Land Exchange, located near the cities of Hoyt Lakes and Babbitt in northeastern Minnesota. The SDEIS is posted on MDNR's website at: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/polymet/index.html>.

The NorthMet Project would create an open pit copper, nickel, cobalt and precious metals mine with adjacent stockpile areas; refurbish a portion of the former LTV Steel Mining Company (LTVSMC) processing plant and construct a new hydrometallurgical facility at the plant site; construct a new tailings basin facility on the site of LTVSMC tailings facilities; and

add to existing utility infrastructure and rail lines. The Land Exchange would consist of USFS conveyance of Superior National Forest Lands encompassing the NorthMet mine site and surrounding lands to PolyMet, and USFS acquisition from PolyMet of up to five tracts of private lands within the Superior National Forest proclamation boundary.

The MDNR, USACE, and USFS (Co-lead Agencies) will accept comments on the Supplemental Draft EIS during the public review and comment period that concludes at 4:30 PM CT on Thursday, March 13, 2014.

Written comments should be e-mailed to NorthMetSDEIS.dnr@state.mn.us. E-mail submissions should include a full name and legal mailing address.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Written comments may also be submitted to:

Contact Person: Lisa Fay, EIS Project Manager
MDNR Division of Ecological and Water Resources
Environmental Review Unit
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025

Comments will become part of the official record and as such, may be made available for public examination. Comments and submittals will not be edited to remove any identifying or contact information; therefore, the Co-lead Agencies suggest that commenters not submit information that may cause the commenter concern if publicly disclosed.

Public review copies of the SDEIS are available at the following locations: the MDNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul; the MDNR Regional Office at 1201 East Highway 2, Grand Rapids; the MDNR-Division of Lands and Minerals Regional Office at 1525 Third Avenue East, Hibbing; the Hoyt Lakes Public Library at 206 Kennedy Memorial Drive, Hoyt Lakes; the Babbitt Public Library, 71 South Drive, Babbitt; the Duluth Public Library, 520 West Superior Street, Duluth; and the Minneapolis Public Library, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis.

The Supplemental Draft EIS is a detailed and lengthy document; due to the cost of printing, a limited number of hardcopies have been produced. However, a Supplemental Draft EIS Summary document and/or a CD containing the full version may be requested by calling the MDNR at 651-259-5110.

The Co-lead Agencies will hold three public informational meetings for the purpose of providing information on the project, answering questions and gathering public comments on the Supplemental Draft EIS:

(1) Thursday, January 16, 2014
DECC - Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (<http://www.decc.org/>)
350 Harbor Dr, Duluth, MN 55802
5:00 p.m. – open house
6:45-10:00 p.m. formal presentation and public comment period

(2) Wednesday, January 22, 2014
Mesabi East High School (<http://www.mesabieast.k12.mn.us/>)
601 N 1st St W, Aurora, MN 55705
5:00 p.m. – open house
6:45-10:00 p.m. formal presentation and public comment period

(3) Tuesday, January 28, 2014
Saint Paul RiverCentre (<http://www.rivercentre.org/>)
175 West Kellogg Blvd, Saint Paul, MN 55102

5:00 p.m. – open house

6:45-10:00 p.m. formal presentation and public comment period

Verbal and written comments on the SDEIS will be accepted at these meetings. Responses to comments will not be provided during the public meetings; however, staff from the state and federal agencies will be available to answer questions during each open house. The Duluth meeting will also serve as the public hearing for the USACE Section 404 Clean Water Act Permit.

In case of a weather-related cancellation of one or more of the public meetings, the cancelled meeting(s) would be held at the same locations listed above on the following alternative date(s): 1) Thursday, February 27, 2014, DECC - Duluth; 2) Monday, February 3, 2014, Mesabi East High School - Aurora; 3) Tuesday, February 18, 2014, Saint Paul RiverCentre - St. Paul. The Co-lead Agencies would notify the public of any cancellations, time or venue changes via press release and/or social media (e.g., Twitter).

EIS Need Decisions

The noted responsible governmental unit has determined the following project does not require preparation of an EIS. The dates given are, respectively, the date of the determination and the date the EAW notice was published in the EQB Monitor.

- Minnesota Department of Transportation, I-94 Reconstruction in Monticello, City of Monticello, Wright County, December 2, 2013 (October 14, 2013)
- City of Rosemount, SKB Rosemount Industrial Waste Facility Expansion, City of Rosemount, Dakota County, November 19, 2013 (May 27, 2013)
- City of Woodbury, St. Therese of Woodbury, City of Woodbury, Washington County, November 13, 2013 (September 16, 2013)

EQB Monitor Publication Calendar for 2014

Volume Number	Deadline for Submission	Publication Date	EAW Comment Deadline
38-1	December 30	January 6	February 5
38-2	January 13	January 20	February 19
38-3	January 27	February 3	March 5
38-4	February 10	February 17	March 19
38-4	February 24	March 3	April 2
38-5	March 10	March 17	April 16
38-6	March 24	March 31	April 30
38-7	April 7	April 14	May 14
38-8	April 21	April 28	May 28
38-9	May 5	May 12	June 11
38-10	May 19	May 26	June 25
38-11	June 2	June 9	July 9
38-12	June 16	June 23	July 23
38-13	June 30	July 7	August 6
38-14	July 14	July 21	August 20
38-15	July 28	August 4	September 3

38-16	August 11	August 18	September 17
38-17	August 25	September 1	October 1
38-18	September 8	September 15	October 15
38-19	September 22	September 29	October 29
38-20	October 6	October 13	November 12
38-21	October 20	October 27	November 26
38-22	November 3	November 10	December 10
38-23	November 17	November 24	December 24
38-24	December 1	December 8	January 7, 2015
38-25	December 15	December 22	January 21, 2015
38-26	December 29	January 5, 2015	February 4, 2015