

The Annual Report of the Inspector of Mines



Bruce Headframe – Chisholm, MN

2024

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

2024

INSPECTOR OF MINES

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**OFFICE AT
GOVERNMENT SERVICES CENTER**

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THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

District 1 Annie Harala, 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 Cory Smith
District 2 Terry Snyder
District 3 John Johnson
District 4 Vacant
District 5 Casey Venema

Austin Rohling Itasca County Auditor
Joe Dasovich Itasca County Sheriff, Itasca County Mine Inspector

February 26, 2025

THE HONORABLE BOARDS OF COMMISSIONERS

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

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

Dear Chairs Harala, Venema and Commissioners:

The Annual Report of the Inspector of Mines for 2024 is herewith submitted.

Mining activity for 2024 showed a decrease in production schedule for St. Louis and Itasca counties. A total of 35,820,896 tons of taconite were shipped from area operations compared to 38,139,326 in 2023. Mining related employment was reported at 3,960 individuals. This represents a decrease of 14 employees compared to the 3,974 reported in 2023. The total work hours reported for area mining operations were 8,223,874 for the year.

All six area mining operations remained in operation throughout the 12 months of the year. These include Cleveland Cliffs Minorca, Hibbing Taconite, Keetac, Minntac, United Taconite, and Northshore Mine.

On the copper/nickel/precious metal front, NewRange Copper Nickel 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 continued to press forward with efforts directed toward their semi-precious metal mining project near Ely.

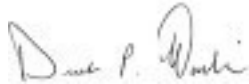
During 2024, area mining operations reported a total of 9 lost time or serious accidents. This number is identical to the 9 experienced in 2023 and is only 2 higher than the historical low of 7 experienced in 2019. No fatalities were reported for the 2024 year.

(Continued on page 3)

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 2024.

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 180.11

ANNUAL REPORT.

It is the duty of the inspector of mines to make and file no later than March first each year with the auditor of the county for which appointed a full and complete report of the activities of the mine inspector for each year ending December 31, stating the number of visits and inspections made, the number of mines in operation, the number of mines not in operation, the names of the mines, where located, the owners, lessees, or managers, the names of the officers, the quantity of ore shipped, the number of workers employed, the number of accidents and description of accidents, and any other information that relates to the subject of mines and mining inspection as the inspector may deem pertinent to the reporting duties of the office.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

2024

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.....	199
Total Number of Mines and Plants	291
Total Taconite Products Shipped	35,820,896
Total Concentrate Shipped	0
Total Pellet Chips Shipped.....	0
Taconite Mined.....	127,340,193
Stripping and Waste Removal, Tons	151,537,128
Total Material Moved, Tons Estimate	287,877,321
Total People Employed	3,960
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.....	9
Total Number of Employee-Hours Worked.....	8,223,874
Number of Inspections	388
Number of Investigations	7

2024 WAGE RATES INCENTIVE INCLUDED

Labor Grade	Wage Rate
1.....	\$32.00
2.....	\$35.02
3.....	\$38.51
4.....	\$40.53
5.....	\$43.05

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
2023	6	38,139,326	3,974	9	0	0.00	293.44
2024	6	35,820,896	3,960	9	0	0.00	308.08

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

UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION

Minnesota Ore Operations
KEETAC
PO Box 217
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Phone: 218-778-8700

Lukas Klemke Head of Operations - MN Ore Mining
Travis Kolari Head of Operations - MN Ore Processing
Susan Wiire Manager Employee & Labor Relations
Mark Salo Senior Manager Safety & Security
Kent Swanson Manager Safety & Industrial Hygiene
Steve Balaich, Sr. Safety & Industrial Hygiene Specialist
James Denny Manager - Emergency Services
Michael Bakk Director - Operational Readiness
Jeffrey Tomsich Industrial Hygiene Specialist

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UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION

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Travis Kolari Head of Operations - MN Ore Processing
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 Industrial Hygiene Specialist
James Denny Manager - Emergency Services
Wilbert Koskiniemi Jr. Safety & Industrial Hygiene Specialist

CLEVELAND CLIFFS MINORCA MINE, INC.

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Managers

Nicholas G. Beukema..... General Manager
Conor McCue..... Operations Manager
Christopher E. Fink..... Section Manager – Mine Operations
Chad Pontinen Sr. Section Manager – Plant Operations
Dan G. Vidmar Manager – HR / LR
Matthew W. Zimmer.....Sr. Section Manager – Asset Management
Todd Plackner..... Principal Safety & Security
Nolan Koskela..... Area Manager - Financial Control
Kylee J. Paakkonen Section Manager Accounting
Darren Zabrocki..... Manager – Purchasing
Jaime L. Johnson Area Manager – Environmental

* * * * *

HIBBING TACONITE COMPANY

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Phone: 218-262-5950

Adam Osborne General Manager
Joe Marturano..... Manager - Asset Management
Adam Radel Manager - Financial Control
Dan Gebhart Manager - Mining
Paul Sandstrom..... Manager - Plants
Jay Bretto Manager - Human Resources
Andrea J. Bakk Manager - Safety & Loss Control
Tasha Niemi..... Manager - Environmental
Tim Angelo..... Manager - Procurement

* * * * *

UNITED TACONITE, LLC

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Phone: 218-744-7800

Nick Beukema..... General Manager
Robb Peterson..... Area Manager - Plant
Matt Luoma Area Manager - Mine
Derek Clark Area Manager - Asset Management
Adam Radel Area Manager - Finance
Joe Mattson Area Manager - Human Resources
Tod Plackner..... Area Manager - Safety
Candice Maxwell Area Manager - Environmental
Kerrie Pusateri..... Manager - Materials

NORTHSHORE MINING COMPANY

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

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Shane Holman..... General Manager
Adam Sersha..... Plant Manager
Cory Wills..... Mine and Railroad Manager
Andrea Hayden..... Environmental Manager
Phil Melander..... Maintenance and Asset Manager
Jay Bretto..... Human Resource Manager
Chris Tokvam..... Purchasing Manager
Nolan Koskela..... Financial Control Manager
Jeffrey Jarvela..... Safety Manager (Interim)
Suzie Greatz..... Health & Safety Specialist - Plant
Ryan Pokorny..... Health & Safety Specialist - Mine

NEWRANGE COPPER NICKEL, LLC

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Tannice McCoy..... General Manager
Anton Van Der Merwe Construction and Operations Director
Lucas Miller..... Project Manager
Gabe Coates..... Chief Compliance Officer
Colin Marsh..... External Affairs Director
Jenna Lehti..... Tribal Relations Advisor
Christie Kearney..... Substainability, Environ & Regulatory Affairs
Director
Simon Charter Community & Social Performance Manager
Jean-Charles Sztuke Technical Manager
Terry Hill Health & Safety Manger
Todd Holstrom Finance Manager

* * * * *

TWIN METALS MINNESOTA, LLC

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Francisco Awad Chief Project Officer
Glenn Barr VP Engineering
Dean DeBeltz..... VP External Affairs & Project Operations
Arshia Javaherian..... VP Legal Affairs
Kathy Graul Director Public Affairs & Communications
Jordan Richards..... Director Finance & Project Controls

PIONEER FOUNDERS, LLC
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Nicholas B. Alworth Managing Director

* * * * *

CONGDON MINERAL MANAGEMENT, INC.

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David C. Adams President
David G. Meineke Vice President

* * * * *

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Robb J. Bigelow President
Daniel L. England Vice President / Director of Mining Lands

* * * * *

GLACIER PARK IRON ORE PROPERTIES, LLC

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Mr. David Schlagel.....President
Matt Gonzales Controller

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Austin Dusek..... Geologist / GIS Specialist
Robert Crowe.....Mining Engineer
John Reed.....Geological Engineer
Matt WaltoManager of Mines

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Anne NovakVice President

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2024 IMA Staff

Kristen VakeExecutive Director

2024 IMA Board of Directors

Travis Kolari (Board Chair)..... U.S. Steel
Chrissy Bartovich..... U.S. Steel
Ryan Abernethy..... Industrial Weldors & Machinists, Inc.
Deb DelucaDuluth Seaway Port Authority
Arik Forsman.....Minnesota Power
Jabari Bush Jasper Engineering & Equipment Co.
Tim Kalisch..... U.S. Steel
Lukas Klemke U.S. Steel
Allyz Kramer..... SEH, Inc.
Brian "Bud" Mickelson.....TKDA
Nels OjardKrech Ojard & Associates, Inc.
Jim Perry Furin and Shea
Bruce Richardson.....New Range Copper Nickel
Tom Scott..... U.S. Steel
Marci Knight Treasurer, Park State Bank
Jim Pauling..... Tricon Wear Solutions

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ONONDAGA IRON, LLC
Managed by Cresset 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, Cresset Trust Co.

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MINING MINNESOTA
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E-Mail: julie.lucas@miningminnesota.com

Julie Lucas Executive Director

* * * * *

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

William Boucher..... General Manager
Brianna Stevens..... Business Manager

* * * * *

SUPERIOR MINERALS RESOURCES, LLC
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William Boucher..... General Manager
Brianna Stevens..... Business Manager

* * * * *

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Nicholas B. Alworth..... Managing Director

* * * * *

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

* * * * *

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

* * * * *

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

Ida Rukavina..... Commissioner
Ryan Malich Executive Director of Development
Sean Peyla..... Facility & Operations Manager
Al Becicka..... Deputy Commissioner
Jason JanischEnergy & Climate Policy Advisor

* * * * *

**RGGS Lands & Minerals LTD., L.P.
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Fax: (218) 749-1294**

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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
Malinda Rinnet..... Information Specialist

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201 South 3rd Avenue West
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Phone: 218-742-9841**

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**

Jason Meyers 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
Phone: 218-720-5448
Fax: 218-720-5650**

DISTRICT OFFICE

Christopher A. Hensler District Manager
Kevin Duke Assistant District Manager
Daniel J. Goyen Assistant District Manager
Scott E. Salo Supervisory Special Investigator
Linda K. Arzt Conference/Litigation Representative
Cory Niemi Health Specialist
William H. Soderlind Conference/Litigation Representative
Elwood (Mac) Burriss Staff Assistant

DULUTH FIELD OFFICE

Robert A. Nelson Supervisory Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Jeffrey J. Rausch Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Rufus L. Taylor Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Nancy Krull Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Edward Leuezingler Mine Safety & Health Inspector

HIBBING FIELD OFFICE

**522 East Howard Street, Suite 201A
Hibbing, MN 55746
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Ryan D. Moberg Supervisory Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Luke E. Jarvi Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Savannah J. Stougaard Mine Safety & Health Specialist
Joshua Huffman Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Kevin Brown Mine Safety & Health Inspector
Paul Dallemagne Mine Safety & Health Inspector

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MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

600 North Robert Street

St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

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

Paul Marquart Commissioner

Melissa Klecker.....Minerals Tax Supervisor

Nick Norris.....Revenue Tax Specialist

Minerals Tax Office

230 1st St. S., Suite 102

Virginia, Minnesota 55792

Phone: (218) 744-7424

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

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Ryan Davies.....Business Manager, Financial Secretary, Minneapolis

Dan SnidarichArea Business Representative, Virginia

Dan Gilbert..... Area Business Representative, Duluth

**UNITED STEEL WORKERS OF AMERICA
DISTRICT 11**

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE

Phone: 612-623-8045

Cathy Drummond..... Director

EVELETH SUB-DISTRICT OFFICE

Phone: 218-744-2757

Fax: 218-744-7926

Cathy Drummond Director

John Arbogast..... Staff Representative

Michele Frederickson..... Sub District Director

Mike Woods Staff Representative

**UNITED STEEL WORKERS OF AMERICA
LOCAL UNITS**

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

James Larson President
Ryan Denzel Vice President
David Cherro Recording Secretary
Justin Krebs Financial Secretary
Jesse Kahl Treasurer
David Cherro Safety Coordinator
Eric Anina Plant Safety Chairman
Kyle Roskoski 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

Al King..... President
Tom French..... Safety Coordinator
Reed Milos Sub Chair, Safety
Kyle Lampa 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
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

**LOCAL 1955
NORTH SHORE MINE**

Phone: 218-404-8969

Dan Muhvich..... President
Garett Ferdig..... Safety Coordinator

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BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION LABORERS

LOCAL 1097

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

Patrick D. O'Connell..... President
Aaron Jarva.....Vice President
Shawn BrafordBusiness Manager/Financial Secretary
Joseph Petrich "E" Board Member
Steve Gullickson..... Recording Secretary
Leslie Oberg..... "E" Board Member
Shelly A. Wiitanen Office Manager
Harry Homer Sergeant at Arms
Dillion Anderson..... "E" Board Member

NON-FATAL LOST-TIME AND SERIOUS ACCIDENTS

HIBBING TACONITE:

Laborer, May 28, 2024 – Laborer was cleaning built-up filter cake and bentonite on Phase 2 hearth layer floor. They were utilizing a skid steer to scoop material into a skip which was on a 4-wheeled cart. While in the process of pushing the top of the full skip (by hand), via the cart, into the elevator, the wheeled cart and skip tipped. As a result, the skip landed partially in the elevator, causing the cart to roll back and up towards the laborer, contacting them in the chest/upper right arm and knocking them to the ground. EE fell back, their hardhat dislodged, and the EE hit their head on a sheave that was several feet from the area, resulting in a cut on the back of their head and bruising the chest and arm. Days Lost – 3

NORTHSHORE MINE:

Railroad Operator, February 29, 2024 – While attempting to remove 15 damaged railroad ties from underneath a rail frog, it was determined the ties were frozen in the ground and would not move. Employees lifted one end of the frog by using an excavator bucket in order to allow more space, so a rail angle bar could be put further under the frog to create space to remove the damaged ties. The frog slipped off the excavator bucket, hitting the angle bar and causing it to strike another employee in the mouth area. Resulting in face injury. Days Lost – 22

Heavy Equipment Mechanic, July 29, 2024 – While transferring fuel from a mobile fuel tank on a tractor trailer to a grader, an employee on the ground conducting the fueling was struck by the grader. The operator of the grader had lowered the blade to the ground and thought the grader was in neutral when the clutch was released, but it was still in gear. The grader travelled forward approximately 2 feet before it was stopped, striking the employee on the ground as it travelled. Resulting in multiple limb contusions. Days Lost – 54

Railroad Maintenance Technician, November 7, 2024 – After an employee set an ore car truck side frame on the floor with an overhead crane hoist and chains, the employee proceeded to lift the hoist and chains up and out of the way, but while doing so, the chains caught the side frame, causing it to fall to the side and land on the employee's left foot. The employee was wearing metatarsal safety-toed boots at the time, which absorbed much of the impact. Resulting in a back injury. Days Lost – 4

(Continued on page 29)

NORTHSHORE MINE (continued from page 28)

Equipment Operator, November 12, 2024 – While an employee was digging for large chunks in a rock bank with a loader in order to tram the chunks from the rock bank to a chunk pile, a large chunk came down the rock bank and landed on the loader's full bucket, jarring the loader and the employee. Resulting in a back injury. Days Lost – 24

MINORCA:

Haul Truck Driver, Date of Incident – October 8, 2024. Employee was headed to the crusher with a load of ore when the operator was notified by a passing vehicle that their truck was on fire. The employee immediately stopped the truck and attempted to exit the haul truck. As the employee approached the stairs, flames intensified enough to prevent the use of the stairway, at which time, the employee went over the driver's side railing, dropping to the ground. Employee sustained burns and injured their heel and arm. Days lost – 42

UNITED TACONITE:

Plant Dust Collector Crew Member, Date of Accident – November 8, 2024. While lifting the latch and fully opening the west sliding door in the crusher, the employee's right pinky finger was pinched between the latch and the door frame resulting in an open displaced fracture of distal phalanx. Day Lost – 1

MINNTAC:

Production Truck Driver, Date of Incident – February 8, 2024. The operator of 575 truck backed into the loading position of the 299 loader. The loader placed the first bucket in the truck box which had large material, jarring the driver. The driver's side mirror also broke at this time. The production truck operator reported lower back soreness that eventually required surgery in February 2025. Days Lost – TBD.

KEETAC:

Millwright, Date of Incident – July 11, 2024. Employee was assigned to repair a filter head in the Pellet Plant. He was working on filter head from a step ladder when a vacuum pipe, alongside the ladder he was on, came loose from roustabout, rotated and slammed into ladder, knocking the employee off. The employee fell approximately 2-3' landing on his right elbow. The millwright later required surgery to repair a tendon tear in the right elbow. Days Lost – 18.