

The Annual Report of the Inspector of Mines



2016

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Safety & Risk Mgmt. Director
St. Louis County
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The
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
INSPECTOR OF MINES
St. Louis County, Minnesota

2016

INSPECTOR OF MINES

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THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

District 1 Frank Jewell, Duluth, Minnesota
District 2 Patrick Boyle, Duluth, Minnesota
District 3 Chris Dahlberg, Duluth, Minnesota
District 4 Tom Rukavina, 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 22, 2017

THE HONORABLE BOARDS OF COMMISSIONERS

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

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

Dear Chairs Jewell, Snyder and Commissioners:

The Annual Report of the Inspector of Mines for 2016 is herewith submitted.

Mining activity for 2016 again showed a reduced production schedule for both St. Louis and Itasca counties. A total of 28,970,579 tons of natural ore and taconite were shipped from area operations compared to 34,683,076 in 2015. Mining related employment also took a significant downturn and was reported at 3,621, which was a reduction of 426 individuals compared to 2015. These numbers mark two consecutive years of reduced production and mining related employment in the area. Total work hours reported for area mining operations was 6,913,551 for the year.

Although the last remaining Magnetation facility (Plant 4) was shut down in 2016, several other facilities initiated calling employees back to work and/or ramping production back up. By the end of 2016, United Taconite, Hibbing Taconite, Northshore, Minntac and ArcelorMittal Minorca were all operating in some capacity. Keetac announced late in 2016 that they would re-open in early 2017.

Progress was made by several area operations toward the objective of growth during the coming years. These include PolyMet's continued efforts toward a mine permit for the NorthMet project (copper/nickel/precious metal mining) and the Twin Metals semi-precious metal mining project near Ely.

MnDOT made significant progress on the Highway 53 reroute and new bridge across the Rouchleau Pit in Virginia. This project is scheduled for completion in 2017.

During 2016, area mining operations reported a total of 22 lost time or serious accidents, which is an increase in comparison to the 19 experienced in 2015. Zero fatalities were reported in 2016. The continued commit-

(Continued on page 3)

ment 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 mandated by Minnesota State Law Chapter 180, Section 180.03 during 2016.

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,



Steven K. Manninen
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 180.08

ACCIDENTS; NOTICE, INVESTIGATION

Upon the occurrence of a reportable accident, it is the duty of the manager or designee of the mine to give notice to the inspector of mines, as soon as practical but at least within one hour of stabilization of the accident scene, stating the particulars of the accident. Upon notification, the inspector shall, if the inspector deems it necessary, go immediately to the scene of the accident and make suggestions and render assistance as the inspector may deem necessary in the premises and personally investigate the cause of the accident and take steps as the inspector may deem necessary for the safety of the employees of the mine and to prevent accident of a like or similar nature. The inspector shall be accompanied by three persons appointed by the manager or other person in charge of the mine and by three persons appointed by a majority of the employees of the mine. The requirement for accompaniment may be modified by a waiver signed by representatives from the employees, management, and inspector.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

2016

Number of Mining Companies	7
Number of Mines in Operation	6
Number of Plants in Operation	6
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	27,841,630
Total Ore Shipped	1,128,949
Taconite Mined	99,769,024
Stripping and Waste Removal, Tons	100,419,324
Total Material Moved, Tons Estimate	200,188,348
Total People Employed	3,621
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	22
Total Number of Man-hours Worked	6,913,551
Number of Investigations and Inspections	392

2016 WAGE RATES INCENTIVE INCLUDED

Labor Grade	Wage Rate
1	\$24.08
2	\$26.36
3	\$28.99
4	\$30.51
5	\$32.40

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	(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	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

REPORT OF THE COUNTY INSPECTOR OF MINES — PER MS 180.11
 OPERATIONAL SUMMARY
 YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016

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
ARCELORMITTAL MINORCA MINE, INC.	Pellets - Pellet Chips -	2,749,992 42,943	8,704,258		4,638,643	355	763,444	12
HIBBING TACONITE CO.		8,172,331	30,245,749		33,553,404	705	1,483,006	12
NORTH SHORE MINING CO BABBITT AND SILVER BAY		3,231,895	9,573,530		6,016,537	508	754,248	8
UNITED TACONITE LLC		1,548,396	5,061,000		4,679,000	474	506,715	5

**REPORT OF THE COUNTY INSPECTOR OF MINES --- PER MS 180.11
OPERATIONAL SUMMARY
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016**

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
USS CORPORATION M.O.O. KEEWATIN TACONITE CO. DIVISION OF USS St. Louis Itasca		*Keetac was idled throughout 2016				38	78,151	12
USS CORPORATION M.O.O. MINNTAC		12,096,073	46,184,487		51,531,740	1,360	2,939,297	12
TOTALS ST. LOUIS COUNTY		27,841,630	99,769,024		100,419,324	3,440	6,524,861	
TOTALS ITASCA COUNTY								
TOTALS		27,841,630	99,769,024		100,419,324	3,440	6,524,861	

REPORT OF THE COUNTY INSPECTOR OF MINES — PER MS 180.11
OPERATIONAL SUMMARY
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016

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	0			0		1	298	0
PLANT 2 - BOVEY	34,756			172,882		21	47,718	1
PLANT 4 - COLERAINE	1,094,193			6,521,898		159	340,674	10
TOTALS ST. LOUIS COUNTY								
TOTALS ITASCA COUNTY	1,128,949			6,694,780		181	388,690	
TOTALS	1,128,949			6,694,780		181	388,690	
TOTALS ST. LOUIS COUNTY		27,841,630	99,769,024		100,419,324	3,440	6,524,861	
TOTALS ITASCA COUNTY	1,128,949			6,694,780		181	388,690	
GRAND TOTALS	1,128,949	27,841,630	99,769,024	6,694,780	100,419,324	3,621	6,913,551	

**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
Cory Hertling Area Manager - Electrical & Mine Maintenance
Kraig Raiber Area Manager - Plant Operations & Maintenance
James Van Buren Interim Manager - Employee Relations
Kent Swanson Manager - Safety & Industrial Hygiene
Jerry Orrell Safety & Industrial Hygiene Specialist

* * * * *

UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION

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

Lawrence Sutherland General Manager
Scott Vagle Division Manager - Mining, Mine Maintenance
Tim Kalisch Division Manager - Plant & Plant Maintenance
Susan Wiire Coordinator - Human Resources
Kent Swanson Manager - Safety & Industrial Hygiene
Robert Youngman Safety & IH Specialist
Mike Levar Safety & IH Specialist
Jerry Orrell Safety & IH Specialist

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Company Officers and Staff

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Officers

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Keith Howell Chief Operating Officer
Daniel Mull Executive Vice President, Sales & Marketing
Paul Liebenson General Counsel & Assistant Secretary
Marc Jeske Secretary
Neil Kohlberg Vice President, Finance & Procurement
Richard Campoli Controller
Pat Parker Vice President, Labor Relations
Wendell Carter Vice President, General Manager
Jonathan Holmes Vice President, Mining
Laurent Koenig Treasurer
Ken E. Walker Assistant Treasurer
Christine F. Fleps Assistant Treasurer
Joseph P. Wallace Assistant Treasurer

Managers

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

HIBBING TACONITE COMPANY

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Phone: 218-262-5950

Jack T. Croswell General Manager
Joe Marturano Manager - Asset Management
Todd Nelson 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

* * * * *

UNITED TACONITE LLC

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Santi Romani General Manager
Ryan Korpela Area Manager - Plant
Nick Beukema Area Manager - Mine
Jacelyn Govender Area Manager - Maintenance
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

NORTHSHORE MINING COMPANY

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Silver Bay, Minnesota 55614
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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
Chris Tokvam Purchasing Manager
Scott Deming Finance Manager
Scott Blood Plant Safety Representative
Maria Strand Plant Safety Associate
Rod Lampton Mine Safety Representative

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Larry Lehtinen Chairman & CEO
Matt Lehtinen President & COO
Joe Broking CFO

* * * * *

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

David Bednarz Vice President
Mark Lorenz Plant Manager

* * * * *

POLYMET MINING
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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
Christine Kearney Environmental Site Director

* * * * *

ALWORTH LAND & IMPROVEMENT COMPANY

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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
Patricia S. McGaffey Secretary

* * * * *

CONGDON MINERAL MANAGEMENT INC.

3920 13 Ave. E., Suite 7
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David C. Adams President
David G. Meineke Vice President
Ann L. Albrecht Assistant Secretary and Treasurer

* * * * *

EVELETH FEE OFFICE, INC.

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

* * * * *

GREAT NORTHERN IRON ORE PROPERTIES

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W-1290 First National Bank Building
332 Minnesota Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1361
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www.gniop.com

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801 East Howard Street
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Phone: 218-262-3886
Fax: 218-262-4295

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
740 East Superior Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802
Phone: 218-723-8060

Mark Myies Trust Manager

IRON MINING ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA

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Fax: 218-720-6707
www.taconite.org

2016 IMA Staff

Kelsey Johnson President
Katy Lofquist Media Manager

2016 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
Todd Nelson Cliffs Natural Resources - Hibbing Taconite
Ed LaTendresse ... Cliffs Natural Resources - Northshore Mining Co.
Santi Romani Cliffs Natural Resources - United Taconite
Jim Perry Furin & Shea
Jim Hoolihan Industrial Lubricant
Randy Abernethy Industrial Weldors and Machinists
Jason Janisch Jasper Engineering
Nels Ojard Krech Ojard & Associates
Art Lind Lind Industrial Supplies
Larry Lehtinen Magnetation, Inc.
Matt Lehtinen Magnetation, Inc.
Margaret Hodnik Minnesota Power
Steve Harms Pit & Quarry Supply
Kevin Petz Steel Dynamics - Mesabi Nugget Delaware LLC
David Bednarz Steel Dynamics - Mining Resources LLC
Mark Lorenz Steel Dynamics - Mining Resources LLC
Dwight Day TUFCO, Inc.
Christina Bartovich U.S. Steel Minnesota Ore Operations
Larry Sutherland U.S. Steel Minnesota Ore Operations
(Board Chair)
Tim Kalisch U.S. Steel Minnesota Ore Operations
Travis Kolari U.S. Steel - Keewatin Taconite
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* * * * *

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Peter Clevestine Asst. Director, Division of Lands and Minerals

* * * * *

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* * * * *

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Paul Wier Assistant Mine Inspector
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Daniel J. Goyen Conference Litigation Representative
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

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Terrance J. Norman Mine Safety & Health Inspector
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* * * * *

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**UNITED STEEL WORKERS OF AMERICA
LOCAL UNITS**

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UNITED TACONITE LLC
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Bryan Sandnas Plant Safety Chairman
Paul Horoshak Mine Safety Chairman

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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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Chris Johnson Chairman, Safety Committee

LOCAL #6115
ARCELORMITTAL MINORCA MINE INC.
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Tom French Safety Coordinator
Reed Milos Sub Chair, Safety
Jim Kottke Sub Chair, Safety
Kyle Lamppa Training Coordinator

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Chad Daniels Financial Secretary
Paul Centa Treasurer
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Mark Hagsten Safety Committee Co-Chairman
Matt Robillard 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
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Todd Payne Vice President
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Jerry F. Strle "E" Board Member
Richard M. Walker "E" Board Member
Mark Towner "E" Board Member
Michael G. Warner Recording Secretary
Shelly A. Wiitanen Office Manager, Sergeant at Arms

NON-FATAL LOST-TIME AND SERIOUS ACCIDENTS

ARCELORMITTAL MINORCA MINE INC:

No lost time accidents

HIBBING TACONITE:

Drill Operator, Date of Accident – January 7, 2016. The employee was changing a drill bit and deck bushing on the drill with the help of the service truck driver. While trying to position the deck bushing in place, the drill operator pushed on the approximately 300 pound deck bushing with his left leg and felt a pulling sensation on the left side of his abdomen. Incident resulted in an abdominal hernia, which became lost time upon surgical repair in May 2016. Days Lost – 28

Maintenance Mechanic, Date of Accident – March 11, 2016. Employees were attempting to move the non-flanged end of a 21' long, 16 inch diameter concentrate underflow pipe approximately 5 feet to allow the forklift access to remove it from the area. The employee was attempting to place a nylon sling under the pipe while it was being lifted from the grated floor with a 5 foot pry bar by the employee's partner. The sling did not clear the underside of the pipe so the employee then pushed the sling all the way under the pipe to be able to retrieve the sling on the other side. At that time, the pry bar slipped pinching the left index finger of the employee between the floor grating and the pipe. Incident resulted in amputation to the tip of the employee's left index finger. Days Lost – 62

Maintenance Mechanic, Date of Accident – May 5, 2016. Employee was walking down the stairs from the west pellet load out accumulator room when the employee's left foot slipped and right foot went between two stairs. The employee felt a strain in the right ankle and knee. Incident resulted in a high ankle sprain. Days Lost – 2

Welder, Date of Accident – May 5, 2016. Employee was welding repairs on chute for the load zone to hearth layer -4. The employee lost his footing and caught himself by grabbing the closest beam causing pain that started in the right elbow and subsequently spread down the arm and hand. Incident resulted in partial tear of the right elbow tendon and lost time upon surgical repair in August 2016. Days Lost – 87

Maintenance Mechanic, Date of Accident – June 9, 2016. Employee was re-installing guard on the turning gear for windbox exhaust fan. While lifting the guard over the turning gear clutch and coupling,

(Continued on page 28)

HIBBING TACONITE COMPANY (cont)

employee felt discomfort in mid-section. Incident resulted in an umbilical hernia diagnosis which became lost time upon surgical repair in December 2016. Days Lost – 15

Production Truck Driver, Date of Accident – August 13, 2016. Employee was leaving a dump and hit a small pothole causing pain in truck driver's lower back. Incident resulted in back strain. Days Lost – 10

Welder, Date of Accident – October 18, 2016. Employee injured his right ankle while accessing the discharge end of the line 3 furnace to perform clean up after rail maintenance had taken place. The MMG was climbing in through the access door on the west side of the furnace, his foot got caught/stuck on a part of a deflector plate and caused him to twist his ankle and therefore lose his balance. Incident resulted in a sprained right ankle. Days Lost – 16

Welder, Date of Accident – November 17, 2016. Employee was cutting apart a 20 foot long W beam to be used for a rougher sump. The employee was using a 4.5 inch grinder to cut 4 small connection sections down the middle of beam. The beam came from the vendor already partially cut apart (partial WT beam) in the center of the beam. Each connection point was approximately 1.5 inch long. The employee was standing/straddling the beam while in the process of making the 3rd of 4 cuts on the connection sections when the beam sprang apart. The beam moved approximately 4.5 feet causing the employee's leg to be struck therefore losing his balance and falling face forward to the floor. The employee reported discomfort and swelling on the left inside of his leg and in his lower back. Incident resulted in lower back strain and crushed nerve root. Days Lost - 29

NORTHSHORE MINING COMPANY

Babbitt:

Railroad Operations Technician, Date of Accident – June 9, 2016. Employee was operating a grapple truck to remove railroad rail from the bed of the truck. In the process of hoisting and swinging the rail, the employee inadvertently rotated the grapple on the loader in the wrong direction. The rail end struck the employee resulting in lacerations to the elbow and knee. Days Lost – 8

Silver Bay:

Plant Operations Technician, Date of Accident – July 12, 2016. Employee was using a 50 ton hydraulic ram to unplug a stuck
(Continued on page 29)

NORTHSHORE MINING COMPANY (cont)

crusher. When force was applied, the ram slipped off the contact point striking the employee in the lower leg resulting in a deep tissue bruise. Days Lost – 2

Plant Maintenance Technician, Date of Accident – September 21, 2016. The discharge of a slurry pump had plugged causing the pump to cavitate and build heat/pressure in the casing. As the employee worked to unplug the pump, the plugged material let loose spraying the employee's arm with hot material/steam resulting in burns to the right arm. Days Lost – 29

UNITED TACONITE:

Maintenance Mechanic, Date of Accident – July 28, 2016. The employee was lifting a liner plate at the unloading pocket and felt a pain in his abdomen. Later was diagnosed with a hernia. Days Lost – 25

Maintenance Mechanic, Date of Accident – November 27, 2016. The employee was walking by the line 2 cooler in the pellet plant and stepped onto a dislodged cover plate causing his leg to drop through the hole and injuring his knee. Days Lost - 18

USS CORPORATION, MINNESOTA ORE OPERATIONS

KEETAC:

Maintenance Technician, Date of Accident – October 9, 2016. The employee was working on hooking up portable heaters in the plant when he felt pain in his left groin area. The employee was using an 18" and 24" pipe wrench connecting hoses to the heaters at the time of the incident. Days Lost – 21

Maintenance Technician, Date of Accident – October 31, 2016. The employee was assigned to go disconnect a lube motor in the center of the cooler. Employee and another electrician were looking to see if there was a local disconnect for this pump in the center of the cooler. As the employees were walking around the basement in the center of the cooler the injured employee tripped over a 4-wheel cart (with no handles) that was in the center of the cooler basement. The employee fell forward and put his arms out to catch himself on the concrete floor. The employee felt a pop in his right shoulder as he fell to the ground. Days Lost - 40

USS CORPORATION, MINNESOTA ORE OPERATIONS

MINNTAC:

Maintenance Technician, Date of Accident – March 21, 2016. Employee was tightening a lip liner bolt in 83-22 screen with a 15/16" end wrench. The employee stated that as he was tightening (pushing) the bolt with his right hand he felt pain/tear in the back of his right shoulder. Days Lost – 46

Utility Technician, Date of Accident – April 11, 2016. Employee was in the process of loading rod racks in the Step 3 rod bay. While putting the cable slings under a bundle of rods, which was 4 inches off the ground, he bent over and felt a pop in the area of his belly button. Days Lost – 3

Maintenance Technician, Date of Accident – August 31, 2016. Employee was assigned to work on shortening the grate during the Line 5 minor. Employee stated he felt minor discomfort during the process of chain jacking the grate together and pounding out the rod sections. Employee completed the grate work and his second assigned job before leaving at 3. Employee stated the discomfort got worse through the night and turned into a steady pain. Employee showed up for his scheduled shift on 9/1 and reported the pain to a supervisor at 10 am. Incident resulted in an inguinal hernia. Days Lost – 21

Utility Technician, Date of Accident – November 10, 2016. At approximately 15:45, an Agglomerator Utility Person was hauling chunk box material from the line 5 chunk box to the Group 13 dump site using the #623 International 7400 dump truck. The employee had just crossed the railroad tracks north of the Utility Plant, and was heading east towards the Group 13 chunk pile. While turning to the left (north) off the main roadway, the operator lost control of the truck. The driver said it felt like the truck "was on two wheels" and was fishtailing. It appears the driver side wheels came off the ground and some of the load discharged from the truck box. As the operator tried to regain control of the truck, the truck veered to the right, and rolled onto the driver's side. He described this as, "turning right to compensate," then, "felt like the truck cut in and made an abrupt turn." The employee became pinned between the steering wheel and the air ride seat and was unable to get out of the truck. Incident resulted in facial and spleen lacerations. Days Lost – 1

Maintenance Technician, Date of Accident – November 29, 2016. The injured employee suffered a broken right arm and two broken ribs when he was pinned underneath and pushed 23' by the #51 Cushman Titan that he was working on. Days Lost – 12

Production Truck Driver, Date of Accident – December 16, 2016. The employee was in the process of getting out of a pickup to ride with the

(Continued on page 31)

MINNTAC COMPANY (cont)

Blasting Coordinator to assist in shooting off the blast. The employee got out of the passenger side of one truck to get into the coordinator's passenger seat. While walking toward the door to get in the employee's feet kicked out from underneath him and he fell on his backside. The employee stated that he caught himself with his right hand while falling. The employee reported that he had pain in his right wrist. Days Lost – 4

MAGNETATION

PLANT 1:

No lost time accidents.

PLANT 2:

No lost time accidents.

PLANT 4:

Equipment Operator, Date of Accident – June 25, 2016. Employee was assisting on the removal of a distributor plug on Cobber WHIMS 5. A different employee was handing the plug down, and the injured employee grabbed the plug, and smashed his thumb between the T-handle and distributor. The tip of the thumb was pinched off. Days Lost - 14