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December 10, 2015

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

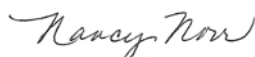
Dear Ms. Fay:

I am submitting this comment as to the adequacy of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for PolyMet's proposed mine on behalf of Jobs for Minnesotans, a coalition representing 55,000 men and women of the trades, 2,300 businesses and hundreds more mayors, local chambers of commerce and citizens. The correct steps have been taken to move the PolyMet NorthMet Mine to permitting. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Forest Service have determined that PolyMet's mine can comply with strict state and federal environmental standards. This assessment is detailed in the FEIS and concludes more than 10 years of thorough study and review. The project's economic significance to northern Minnesota brings hope to the region and entire state and we're excited that this project is one step closer to coming to fruition.

We are confident in the environmental review process for the project and the FEIS is a culmination of the dedicated efforts of many agencies. Thousands of public comments and questions submitted during the review periods for the draft and supplemental draft environmental impact statements have been addressed and incorporated in the FEIS. The agencies considered the project's potential effects on air and water quality with respect to human health and identified no adverse health risks. Water modeling shows that PolyMet's treatment and mitigation plans will meet all water quality standards and prevent acid mine drainage. Furthermore, the FEIS states that any possible groundwater flow would be prevented and therefore will not affect the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness or Voyageurs National Park.

Based on my review and the level of detail included in the FEIS, it is clear the document meets all state and national environmental requirements. The state of Minnesota can model responsible mining practices for the rest of the nation and the world. Our country needs these strategic metals and northeastern Minnesota has the workforce, the infrastructure, the environmental ethic and the community support to ensure this project will maintain its social license for the long term. PolyMet will bring widespread benefits to the entire state, as well as a critical economic transfusion to a region that is bleeding from job losses. The FEIS is more than adequate and the DNR should affirm this fact so permitting can get underway. It is time to deliver on the hope Minnesotans have for positive statewide economic impact and community revitalization from this new era of mining.

Sincerely,



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