Message

From: Ellsworth, Alan [alan_ellsworth@nps.gov]
Sent: 12/19/2016 4:23:54 PM
To: McKim, Krista [mckim.krista@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: Public Notice of draft NPDES/SDS permit for U.S. Steel Minntac Tailings Basin

Thanks for the letter Krista. A balmy +5 to start the day here.

Are you aware of any research that would identify transport of contaminants from this site to receiving waters at Voyageurs NP (Kabetogaman/Rainy Lakes)?

I am interested in evaluating residence time and transport likelihood to support our need to protect ONRW at Voyaguers NP.

On Mon, Dec 19, 2016 at 9:11 AM, McKim, Krista <mckim.krista@epa.gov> wrote:

Alan,

Looking through my sent folder, I don't think I shared the attached letter with you. it is from the MPCA commissioner to the group of state legislators from the iron range part of Minnesota. The letter provides some background as to how difficult it has been for Minnesota to regulate this facility.

It was -9F when I woke up this morning. at least it is not windy. I hope it is slightly warmer in fort Collins!

-krista

From: McKim, Krista
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2016 2:31 PM
To: 'alan_ellsworth@nps.gov' <alan_ellsworth@nps.gov>
Subject: FW: Public Notice of draft NPDES/SDS permit for U.S. Steel Minntac Tailings Basin

Alan,

MPCA received requests from Tribal staff for an extension to the comment period and has extended the comment period by one week. see the email below.

From: Smith, Erik (MPCA) [mailto:Erik.Smith@state.mn.us]
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2016 12:40 PM
To: nancyschuldt@fdlrez.com
Cc: Pierard, Kevin <pierard.kevin@epa.gov>; McKim, Krista <mckim.krista@epa.gov>; mwatkins@grandportage.com; Dvogt@1854treatyauthority.org; amsoltis@glifwc.org; gfrazer.mnchippewatribe.org <gfrazer@mnchippewatribe.org>; linda.nguyen@redcliff-nsn.gov; ltbarto.boisforte-nsn.gov <ltbarto@boisforte-nsn.gov>
Subject: RE: Public Notice of draft NPDES/SDS permit for U.S. Steel Minntac Tailings Basin

Nancy,

MPCA has reviewed your request for a three week extension of the comment period for the public notice of the draft U.S. Steel Minntac Tailings Basin NPDES/SDS permit, which is currently scheduled to expire on December 16. As you know, MPCA provided a substantially similar version of the draft permit to the Tribes during a pre-public notice in December 2014 and received comments from several tribal groups at that time. MPCA has a strong interest in moving forward with the permit reissuance process expeditiously. However, to provide you with additional opportunity to review and comment, MPCA will extend the public comment period by one week, to end at 4:30 pm on December 23, 2016. We look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,

Erik Smith

Hydrologist

Industrial Division

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

520 Lafayette Road North

St. Paul, MN 55155

Office: (651) 757-2719

Erik.Smith@state.mn.us

From: Nancy Schuldt [mailto:NancySchuldt@FDLREZ.COM]
Sent: Monday, December 12, 2016 10:12 AM
To: Smith, Erik (MPCA) <Erik.Smith@state.mn.us>
Cc: Pierard.Kevin@epamail.epa.gov; Krista McKim (McKim.Krista@epamail.epa.gov) <McKim.Krista@epamail.epa.gov>; mwatkins@grandportage.com; dvogt@1854treatyauthority.org; amsoltis@glifwc.org; gfrazer@mnchippewatribe.org; linda.nguyen@redcliff-nsn.gov; ltbarto@boisforte-nsn.gov
Subject: RE: Public Notice of draft NPDES/SDS permit for U.S. Steel Minntac Tailings Basin

Erik: Fond du Lac recognizes the importance of MPCA publishing notice of the draft NPDES/SDS permit for the USS Minntac tailings basin; it has been a long time in coming. We are intending to provide useful and substantive comments, but unfortunately we have been slammed with numerous other deadlines for review and comment on critical major project decisions that affect tribal and treaty resources. I am respectfully requesting an extension on the December 16 deadline for comments on the Minntac permit. I would ordinarily suggest an additional two weeks, but given the calendar challenges over the upcoming holidays, I am suggesting three additional weeks, with an extended deadline of January 6.

I appreciate your consideration of my request.

Nancy Schuldt

Water Projects Coordinator

Fond du Lac Environmental Program

1720 Big Lake Road

Cloquet, MN 55720

218.878.7110

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Water is the Blood of the Earth - ace
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