Message

From: McKim, Krista [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=AEBEEF6C80E141A29AA2BDDDD7329121-KMCKIM]
Sent: 7/20/2015 12:29:56 PM
To: Colletti, John [colletti.john@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: MPCA - Minntac Permit Not Likely Until 2018
Attachments: Group asks EPA to regulate state's mining industry - Timberjay.pdf; MinnPost_Citing MPCA weakness, group asks feds to step in on mining's water pollution _ MinnPost.pdf; wildrice timeline7715.pdf

FYI.

From: Paula Maccabee [mailto:pmaccabee@justchangelaw.com]
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2015 3:47 PM
To: Hyde, Tinka
Cc: Pierard, Kevin; Holst, Linda; McKim, Krista; Katherine Marko
Subject: MPCA - Minntac Permit Not Likely Until 2018

Hello Tinka,

I've attached some press coverage related to the petition WaterLegacy filed with the EPA to withdraw NPDES delegated authority from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, since the reporters apparently had some conversations with MPCA. I've also attached the Wild Rice Analysis and Rulemaking Timeline that the MPCA provided to members of the Wild Rice Advisory Committee this week.

According to the *Timberjay* article, MPCA has stated that they will not reissue a Minntac permit until the wild rice sulfate standard rulemaking process is complete.

In this week's Wild Rice Advisory Committee meeting, the MPCA proposed a rulemaking schedule for the wild rice sulfate rule. Even assuming the Agency is able to adhere to this proposed schedule, no new rule is anticipated until 2018. Thus, according to the MPCA, there is no plan to reissue a Minntac tailings facility permit until at least 2018.

Given more than a quarter of a century of water quality violations at the Minntac tailings facility, the ongoing impairment of wild rice downstream of the Minntac facility, and the fact that Minnesota has an existing valid wild rice sulfate standard approved by the EPA, WaterLegacy is very concerned about the MPCA's additional proposed delay before making any effort to regulate mining pollution at the Minntac tailings facility.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this issue and other issues raised in our petition to the EPA.

Sincerely yours,

Paula Maccabee, Esq.
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