



February 7, 2014

Timothy J. Myers, Engineer
Gogebic Taconite, LLC
402 Silver Street
Hurley, WI 54534

Subject: Review of Modified Bulk Sample Plan - Winter Weather Alternative

Dear Mr. Myers:

The Department of Natural Resources has completed its review of the information contained in your letter dated February 4, 2014 proposing an alternative means of access to the proposed bulk sampling sites and supplemental information described in your email correspondence dated February 6, 2014. Use of the alternative access routes is contingent on completion of the bulk sampling activity in the next several weeks, while the existing roads are sufficiently frozen to allow use of the roads for transport of excavated rock without causing significant erosion and sedimentation.

The Department has reviewed the information in the context of the provisions contained in s. 295.45, Stats., to determine if any approvals or permits would be needed in order to conduct the bulk sampling activity as proposed in your letter and email. Further, we have reviewed the proposed alternative with the understanding that, with the exception of the access routes to Sites #1 and 2 and some changes in transport and road maintenance equipment, all other aspects of the bulk sampling activity will remain as described in the revised Bulk Sampling Plan dated November 25, 2013 and subsequent correspondence outlined above. With that understanding, the Department has determined that no approvals or permits are needed in order to conduct the Winter Weather Alternative bulk sampling as described in your letter and email referenced above.

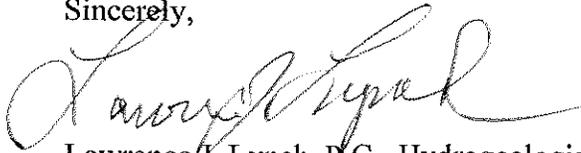
Gogebic Taconite, LLC may proceed with the alternative method of bulk sampling in accordance with the procedures outlined in your recent correspondence and applicable portions of the revised Bulk Sampling Plan dated November 25, 2013. Previously submitted documents including the reclamation bond, Cutting Plan related to the Managed Forest Law lands and claim of exemption from air pollution control operation permit requirements are all applicable to the revised bulk sampling activity.

This determination of pertinent regulatory requirements does not consider other potentially applicable requirements administered by other state, local or federal agencies and jurisdictions. It is the responsibility of Gogebic Taconite, LLC to assess whether such regulations may apply to

the revised bulk sampling activity and, if so, obtain the necessary approvals or permits prior to conducting the activity.

Please contact me if you have any questions concerning the information in this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lawrence Lynch".

Lawrence J. Lynch, P.G., Hydrogeologist
Hazardous Waste and Mining Section
Bureau of Waste & Materials Management