

Public notice of public informational meetings for draft permits for Poly Met Mining, Inc.'s NorthMet project on February 7 and 8, 2018

Water Quality Permitting
Air Quality Permitting
401 Certification

General information

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner is holding public meetings on a draft air permit, a draft water quality permit, and a draft 401 certification for Poly Met Mining, Inc.'s (PolyMet) NorthMet project on February 7, 2018 in Aurora, MN and February 8, 2018 in Duluth, MN. These public meetings are being held jointly with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources on their draft permit to mine.

The proposed NorthMet Project, located near the cities of Hoyt Lakes and Babbitt in northeastern Minnesota, would create an open pit copper, nickel, cobalt and precious metals mine with stockpile areas; refurbish a portion of the former LTV Steel Mining Company (LTVSMC) processing plant and construct a new hydrometallurgical facility; construct a tailings basin facility on the site of LTVSMC existing tailings facilities; and add to existing utility infrastructure and rail lines.

Name and address of Permittee:

Poly Met Mining, Inc.
6500 County Road 666
Hoyt Lakes, MN 55750

Facility name and location:

Poly Met Mining, Inc.
6500 County Road 666
Hoyt Lakes, MN 55750
St. Louis County

MPCA contact information:

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St Paul, MN 55155
Phone: (651) 757-2455 or (833) 722-9016

Description of the public meeting

Public meetings on a draft air permit, a draft water quality permit, and a draft 401 certification for the NorthMet Project will be held on:

- (1) Wednesday, February 7, 2018
Mesabi East High School
601 N 1st St W, Aurora, MN 55705
4:00-9:00 p.m. open house
6:00-9:00 p.m. public comment forum
- (2) Thursday, February 8, 2018
Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC)
350 Harbor Drive, Duluth, MN 55802
1:00-9:00 p.m. open house
6:00-9:00 p.m. public comment forum

These public meetings are being held jointly with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources on their draft permit to mine.

During the open house, technical staff will be available to answer questions on the draft permits. PolyMet representatives will also be present. Comments on the draft permits will be accepted at these meetings. Stenographers will be available to record oral comments. In addition, comment boxes will be available for submitting written comments.

In case of a weather-related cancellation, the following alternative meeting dates have been established: 1) Wednesday, February 21, 2018, at the Mesabi East High School as a substitute for the February 7 meeting; and 2) Thursday, February 22, 2018, at the DECC as a substitute for the February 8 meeting. The MPCA will notify the public of any cancellations, time, or venue changes via the state's PolyMet email distribution list, press release, and/or social media.

All meeting materials, and draft permits when they are available, will be posted on the MPCA's website.

Draft Permits Not Yet Available

The MPCA has not yet made draft permits available and is not yet accepting comments on draft permits for PolyMet. Draft permits will be made available for public review and comment in advance of the public meetings. A separate notice will follow when the draft permits are available for public review and comment.

Additional Information

For the most up to date information, check the state's PolyMet web portal (<http://polymet.mn.gov/>) and MPCA's project website (www.pca.state.mn.us/northmet). The web portal provides basic permitting information and directs users to agency websites with more detail. On the portal you can sign up for the state's PolyMet email distribution list to receive updates including a notification when MPCA's permits are available for review and comment and if there is a weather-related cancellation of the public meetings.