

Mineral Exploration and Development: Doing Business in Minnesota

Lease State-owned Mineral Rights

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administers more than 12 million acres of state-owned mineral rights. Contact Daniel Roark to register and to obtain a list of state mineral rights continuously available through application for non-ferrous metallic mineral leasing. Additional information can be found at: www.dnr.state.mn.us/lands_minerals/leasesale. The non-ferrous metallic minerals lease form is available at: revisor.mn.gov/rules/?id=6125.0700 www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/arule/6125/0700. The lease form describes the rental and royalty rates in detail.

Contact:

Daniel Roark
Attorney
MN DNR
(651)259-5435
daniel.roark@state.mn.us

Historical Mineral Exploration Information

The DNR has documents that describe exploration and mining from the last 100, years as well as a modern drill core facility containing samples from more than 2 million feet of drill cores are available for analysis. Historical exploration information can be found at: minarchive.dnr.state.mn.us and deli.dnr.state.mn.us

Contacts:

Richard Ruhanen Geologist MN DNR (218) 231-8469 rick.ruhanen@state.mn.us	Dave Dahl Geologist MN DNR (218) 231-8445 dave.dahl@state.mn.us
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Geoscience Information

The Minnesota Geological Survey and the Natural Resources Research Institute provide geological maps, the state aeromagnetic survey, mineral resource studies, and much more. Further information is available at: talc.geo.umn.edu/mgs and www.nrri.umn.edu/egg,

Contacts:

Steve Hauck Deputy Director, Economic Geology Group Natural Resources Research Institute (218) 720-4273 shauck@nrri.umn.edu	Harvey Thorleifson Director Minnesota Geological Survey (612) 627-4780 thorleif@umn.edu
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Mineland Reclamation

The DNR administers mineland reclamation and permitting for active taconite mines and permitting for non-ferrous metallic minerals. Information about reclamation rules can be found at: www.dnr.state.mn.us/lands_minerals/pubs.html and files.dnr.state.mn.us/lands_minerals/mn_mining_laws.pdf.

Contacts:

Jennifer Engstrom Mineland Reclamation Mgr. MN DNR (651) 259-5385 jennifer.engstrom@state.mn.us	Kim Lapakko Principal Engineer MN DNR (651)259-5401 kim.lapakko@state.mn.us
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Exploration Drilling

In Minnesota, there is a license requirement for the drilling company and a qualification requirement for any geologist who supervises exploration drilling. Contact the Minnesota Department of Health. For complete information on exploration rules and the DNR registration requirements contact the DNR.

Contacts:

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Well Management Unit
MN Dept. of Health
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Iron Range Resources

The agency has supported some of the advanced stage mineral development projects through its economic development program.

Contact:

Dan Jordan
Mining & Mineral Program Supervisor
Iron Range Resources
(218) 254-7967
dan.jordan@state.mn.us
www.ironrangeresources.org

State Tax Information

The Minnesota Department of Revenue Minerals Tax Office provides information about all mining-related taxes paid by the mining industry.

Contact:

Bob Wagstrom
Engineering Specialist
MN Dept. of Revenue - Minerals Tax Office
(218) 744-7420
bob.wagstrom@state.mn.us
www.taxes.state.mn.us/taxes/special/mineral

Business Registration

The Minnesota Secretary of State's Office provides information regarding how to do business in Minnesota.

Contact:

Mark Ritchie
Secretary of State
secretary.state@state.mn.us
www.sos.state.mn.us

Business Services
1-877-551-6767
(651) 296-2803
