

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, which are available for analysis. Historical exploration information can be found at: minarchive.dnr.state.mn.us and deli.dnr.state.mn.us

Contacts:

Glenn Melchert Geologist MN DNR (218) 231-8464 glenn.melchert@state.mn.us	Dave Dahl Geologist MN DNR (218) 231-8445 dave.dahl@state.mn.us
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Geoscience Information

The University of Minnesota's 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: www.mngs.umn.edu and www.nrri.umn.edu/egg.

Contacts:

Steve Hauck Deputy Director, Economic Geology Group Natural Resources Research Institute, University of Minnesota Duluth (218) 720-4273 shauck@nrri.umn.edu	Harvey Thorleifson Director Minnesota Geological Survey University of Minnesota, St. Paul (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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Mark Hoffman
Well Management Unit
MN Dept. of Health
(651) 201-4589
mark.hoffman@health.state.mn.us

IRRRB

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

Contact:

Dan Jordan
Mining & Mineral Program Supervisor
IRRRB
(218) 274-7007
dan.jordan@state.mn.us
www.irrrb.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
