

State of Wisconsin
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
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Tony Evers, Governor

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November 18, 2024

Exploration License # 41002

Tim Myers
Marshall Miller & Associates
582 Industrial Park Road
Bluefield, VA 24605
[sent electronically - tim.myers@mma1.com]

RE: Financial Assurance Release - Gogebic Taconite LLC, Ferrous Mineral Exploration Drilling Sites - Ashland and Iron Counties

Dear Mr. Myers,

The Department has reviewed your request to release financial assurance at the Gogebic Taconite ferrous mineral exploration sites 566-1, 584-2, 594-2, 608-1, 646-1, 646-2, 646-2V, 655-1, 655-3, 655-3V, 666-1, 674-1, 674-2V and 686-2, under Exploration License # 41002, located in Ashland and Iron Counties. In accordance with s. 295.44(3)(e), Wis. Stats., Gogebic Taconite has maintained a surety bond for 1-year from the issuance of the Certificate of Completion on November 16, 2023.

The Department has determined that Gogebic Taconite has continued compliance with all provisions of Ch. 295, Wis. Stats. Gogebic Taconite no longer holds an exploration license with the Department and has submitted a 2024 Completion Report confirming continued satisfactory site restoration. The request to release the remaining surety bond amount of \$5,000.00 has been approved (#SUR0039352 issued by Argonaut Insurance Company).

As a reminder, any future exploration activity will require a new ferrous mineral exploration license and bond.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (715) 292-4911 or molly.gardner@wisconsin.gov.

Sincerely,

Molly Gardner

Molly Gardner, CPG
Metallic Mining Coordinator

cc: Greg Pils, WDNR
Kyle McLaughlin, WDNR
Phil Bower, WDNR
James Yach, WDNR
Iron County Zoning Administrator
Ashland County Zoning Administrator

Enc: 2024 Completion Report

Completion Report
Exploration License #41002
Vegetation at Exploration Hole 655-1
September 2024

Purpose

Documentation of site conditions at Exploration Hole 655-1.

Vegetation Inspection

On September 10, 2024, a representative for Gogebic Taconite visited the site. Vegetation approaching the site was thick with the forestry road appearing to have been mowed. A stake with the exploration hole collar has been highlighted in Photo 1.



Photo 1: Site Condition as viewed from existing forestry road.

Photo 2 illustrates the vegetation as appearing from the forestry road looking towards the exploration hole 655-1 collar. Vegetation is thick.



Photo 2: Site condition as seen from the forestry road looking towards the exploration hole collar.

Photo 3 illustrates the general conditions at the collar. Note that the collar is within the shade area of the site.



Photo 3: General Site Condition as viewed at the collar.

Photo 4 illustrates a close up view of the grout cap located at the collar. The grout cap remains intact and there is no evidence of artesian water flow from the exploration hole.



Photo 4: Close up view of grout cap at Exploration Hole 655-1.

In summary, the secondary grouting activity remains effective and vegetation at the site has been established.