



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Attn: Larry Lynch – EA/7
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Proposal to issue Certificate of Completion of Reclamation for the Industrial Outlot Portion of Reclaimed Flambeau Mine near Ladysmith, Rusk County

Dear Mr. Lynch,

The Natural Resource Development Association (Association) submits the following comments in regard to the "proposal to issue a Certificate of Completion of Reclamation for the Industrial Outlot Portion of Reclaimed Flambeau Mine near Ladysmith, Rusk County."

The Natural Resource Development Association supports policies that lead to proper, necessary, and conscientious resource development and conservation. It is the belief of the Association that it is possible to create an open atmosphere for resource development that is both environmentally sound and economically beneficial for Wisconsin.

As the DNR has noted, the agency has already made the "preliminary determination that Flambeau Mining Company has met its obligations under the approved reclamation plan, as modified in 1998, and that the certificate of completion covering the industrial outlot portion of the mining site should be issued in accordance with applicable laws and rules." The Association believes that this preliminary determination and the current process for issuing this Certificate of Completion demonstrates that the regulatory process for metallic mining is successfully operating in Wisconsin.

We appreciate the ability to provide comments on this proposal. The Association commends the Department on their work regarding the Reclaimed Flambeau Mine and it thanks the Department for its objective application of Wisconsin's regulatory processes that allow for responsible resource development in the Badger State.

Sincerely,

Rusty Schultz
Executive Director – Interim
Natural Resource Development Association
DevelopOurResources.org