



June 4, 2013

Tim Myers  
Gogebic Taconite LLC  
402 Silver Street  
Hurley WI 54534

Subject: Stormwater Discharge Permit Application

Dear Mr. Myers:

Please find enclosed the Construction Site Stormwater Permit application you submitted for Gogebic Taconite's Exploratory Drilling Project. It is being returned to you for the following reasons:

1. Gogebic Taconite's application indicates that exploratory drilling will occur at 8 drill sites with an approximate associated land disturbance of 1500 square feet each for a cumulative total of 12,000 square feet. Adding in the disturbance from the collection tank central location (5663 square feet), this is far less than the 1 acre land disturbance threshold that requires permit coverage.
2. In addition, under s. NR 216.42(11) Wis. Adm. Code, a further reduction in the cumulative land disturbance may be achieved due to the fact that many of the exploratory drill sites are well in excess of ¼ mile of each other and therefore may be considered separate and distinct from one another.

You are cautioned that any work to "improve" your roadways with aggregate or the blade of a bulldozer constitutes a land disturbance and must be factored in to your calculations. The placement and use of timber frame mats on the existing roadways is not considered a land disturbance under the stormwater rules. However, their placement can be regulated under Chapter 30 and wetland rules.

Regardless of permit coverage, it is incumbent upon you to implement and maintain erosion control best management practices to keep sediment from impacting adjacent waterways and wetlands.

If I have misconstrued anything in your application or intent, please contact me right away. I can be reached at 715-359-2872 or [bradleya.johnson@wi.gov](mailto:bradleya.johnson@wi.gov)

Sincerely,

Bradley Johnson  
Stormwater Management

Copy: Madison Project File  
Rhineland Project File