February 4, 2014

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
ATTN: Larry Lynch WA/5
101 South Webster Street
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Mr. Lynch:

Re: Bulk Sample Plan
Winter Weather Alternative
Wisconsin Statutes 295.45

Snow plowing on the existing roads have produced very favorable conditions for performing the bulk sampling activities during the frozen timeframe. The snow has been removed from the roads and the ground has frozen. Bulk Sampling is now proposed for the frozen conditions period.

Gogebic Taconite, LLC proposes to use the pre-existing roads that date back to the 1960 activity at Bulk Sample Sites 1 and 2. The roads connect with Access Road 3 as shown on the Bulk Sample Plan maps. Off highway trucks would haul the rock samples to the storage area on Moore Park Road. Highway trucks would be loaded from the storage area and would transport the rock samples to the designated mineral processing laboratory.

By moving the material during the winter conditions, road upgrades and new road construction associated with Access Road 6 would not be necessary. This results in a lower overall impact to the environment.

Total land disturbance will be limited to the excavations themselves. The estimated acres are:

- Bulk Sample Site 1 0.12 acres
- Bulk Sample Site 2 0.33 acres
- Bulk Sample Site 5 0.27 acres
- Total 0.72 acres

After the excavations have been made, the pit areas will be regraded according to the Bulk Sample Plan previously submitted. The disturbed areas will be covered with hay mulch. Seeding will occur after the spring thaw period.

If the winter weather alternative cannot complete the activity during the frozen conditions, the Bulk Sample Plan as previously submitted will be followed.

Any questions should be directed to our Hurley office at (715) 561-2601.

Sincerely,

Timothy J Myers
Engineer