

Robert H. Flscher
Director, Labor and Employee Relations
P 216.694.4809 M 216.650.4675 F 216.694.5346

CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC. 200 Public Square, Suite 3300, Cleveland, OH 44114 P 216.694.5700 cliffsnaturalresources.com

April 29, 2015

## VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS—OVERNIGHT

Stephanie L. Beckhorn Manager, WIA Section Workforce Development Agency Victor Office Center 201 N. Washington Square Lansing, MI 48913

RE: Empire Iron Mining Partnership/Tilden Mining Company L.C. WARN Notice

Dear Ms. Beckhorn,

As a result of a reduction in demand for its pellets, Empire Iron Mining Partnership, which is owned by subsidiaries of Arcelor Mittal Steel USA and Cliffs Natural Resources Inc., and supplies iron ore pellets to those companies for internal consumption and commercial sales, will be required to reduce production at its operation located at Empire Mine Road, Palmer, MI 49871 beginning around the end of June.

We currently anticipate that this reduction in operations will continue through October 2015. Operations could return to normal sooner if unforeseen orders were to materialize for its pellets. It is also possible that the reduction period could be extended if the current demand for its pellets were to soften. We will of course advise you of any such changes in plans.

Due to this temporary reduction of Empire's operations, hourly employees at Empire will be laid off on or after June 28, 2015. The number of employees who will be laid off and their job titles are shown on the attached schedule. Because of range-wide bumping rights with Tilden Mining Company L.C., employees at each location are affected by reductions in force not only at their own mine but by reductions in force at the other mine. Reductions in force at each location will be made in compliance with the seniority provisions of the Basic Labor Agreement ("BLA") and Seniority and Posting Agreement.

Benefits for employees laid off will be provided pursuant to the BLA, the Supplemental Unemployment Benefits Agreement, and Program of Insurance Benefits applicable to the employees.

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The United Steelworkers represents hourly employees at Empire Iron Mining Partnership and Tilden Mining Company L.C. Their representatives are:

## **Both Mines**

Mr. Michael Bolton United Steelworkers Director, District 2 1244A Midway Road Menasha, WI 54952

## **Empire Mine**

Mr. Mark Poirier United Steelworkers President, Local 4950 1206 Baldwin Avenue Negaunee, MI 49866

## Tilden Mine

Mr. Anthony Lakenen United Steelworkers President, Local 4974 P.O. Box 2000 Ishpeming, MI 49849-0901

In the event additional information is needed regarding this notice, you should contact Mr. Troy Sarles, Area Manager, Human Resources, at P.O. Box 2000, Ishpeming, MI 49849-0901. His phone number is 906-475-3406 and his fax number is 906-475-3534. Mr. Sarles e-mail address is Troy.Sarles@CliffsNR.com.

The information contained in this notice is based upon information available to the Company as of the date of this notice. Should a change in circumstances materially affect the scope, timing, or duration of the planned idling of operations we will notify you accordingly.

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Very truly yours,

Empire Iron Mining Partnership and Tilden Mining Company L.C., doing Business together as Cliffs Michigan Operations, by The Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company, Operating Agent

Robert H. Fischer

Director,

Labor and Employee Relations

cc: James Kochevar, General Manager – Cliffs Michigan Operation
Troy Sarles, Area Manager, Human Resources – Cliffs Michigan Operations

Job Title	# of Layoffs
A/C REPAIRPERSON	1
ASS'T PLANT OPERATOR - PP	20
ASS'T PLANT OPERATOR - CONC	5
AUTOMOTIVE MECHANIC	21
BULLDOZER OPERATOR	1
CONC PLANT ATTENDANT	22
CONC PLANT OPERATOR	2
CRUSHER OPERATOR	3
CRUSHING SYSTEMS ATTENDANT	3
DRYER OPERATOR/BIN ATTENDANT	1
ELECTRICIAN FIELD	20
ELECTRONIC REPAIRPERSON	10
EQUIPMENT OPERATOR (YARD)	2
FIRE EXTINQUISHER TECHNICIAN	1
GENERAL LABORER	43
GRADER OPERATOR	7
HOSE HANDLER	1
LUBRICATION TECHNICIAN	4
MACHINIST	3
MAINTENANCE MECHANIC	2
PELLET PLANT OPERATOR	2
PLANT REPAIRPERSON	96
FRONT END LOADER OPERATOR	11
QUALITY TECHNICIAN	14
ROTARY DRILL OPERATOR	3
SAFETY CHAIRPERSON	1
SHOVEL OPERATOR	4
TRAINER	2
TRUCK DRIVER - PRODUCTION	10
UNION SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE	2
UTILITYPERSON - PELLET PLANT	9
UTILITYPERSON - MAINTENANCE	2
VACUUM TRUCK OPERATOR	1
WAREHOUSEPERSON	5
WELDER	13
WELDER LAYEROUT	3
TOTAL	350