

AGENDA

REGULATORY POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE COMMITTEE ON MICHIGAN'S MINING FUTURE

Virtual Teams Meeting

October 1, 2020 – 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Roll Call

Sean Hammond
Jim Kochevar
Jerry Maynard
Sharon Schafer or designee
Adam Wygant
Hal Fitch
Others attending

Review of Subcommittee Report Topics

Refer to “Regulatory Policy Committee Topics”, attached
Revise/combine/clarify topics?

Report Structure

Report Drafting Assignments

New Business

Future meeting dates

Public Comments

Adjournment

Attachment to Agenda

Regulatory Policy Subcommittee Topics

1. Review current regulations and economic/environmental requirements for mineral exploration - especially as they compare to those in other states.
2. Evaluate and recommend policy regarding cultural resources at proposed mining sites (consider sites eligible for listing as well as those listed).
3. Discourage frivolous lawsuits. Protect taxpayers and the company's investment.
4. Evaluation of current Mine Inspector Law and potential changes to reflect current regulation, activity, and beneficial reuses of old mine workings.
5. Update the State statute related to County Mine Inspector. Act 163 of 1911 to my understanding, has pretty much been unchanged for the past 40 years. It is also my understanding that Marquette County Commissioners are looking at reducing the Salary and eliminating the benefit package of our Marquette County Mine Inspector. Maybe it's time that this statute is updated.
6. Preserve the current reasonable, fair, and effective business and regulatory environment that currently exists in Michigan so that Michigan-based mining remains competitive if future market conditions warrant idling or retirement of excess U.S. iron ore pellet production capacity. In doing so, Michigan will keep the Tilden Mine, with its supportive contributions to the economy of the State (employment, spending, tax contributions, etc.), viable among its peers in the industry.
7. How can we balance environmental protection with encouragement of mining activity, without either making the regulations so onerous that industry is driven out, or having to give the industry massive tax breaks or other benefits to convince them to stay?
8. Rulemaking authority for Part 632, one current need is to eliminate any conflict between recent statute language and original rule language.
9. Permitting the correct Reserves (Explanation Greenfield).
10. Modernize Statutes to address mining in places like tailings basins, waste rock piles, and areas for remediation (stamp sands).
11. Sensitivities from regulators, elected officials, and community towards mining. Consequences are delay in regulatory decision making. How do we move away from being treated differently than other industries?