

Tamarack Mining Project: EIS Scoping Public Meeting

Welcome to the public meeting for the Tamarack Mining Project. The purpose of this meeting is to provide an opportunity for attendees to learn about the proposed project and the environmental review process, and to submit written and verbal comments.

Meeting Agenda

5:00 – 9:00 p.m. Open House – refreshments provided

Staff will be available to answer questions on the Tamarack Mining Project environmental review documents.

6:00 - 6:30 p.m. Welcome and Brief Formal Presentation

6:30 – 9:00 p.m. Public Comment Session

Responses to comments will not be provided during the public meeting.

Public Meeting Open House Table Topics

Topic Table	Items to discuss, but not limited to
Welcome Table	Meeting overview, agenda
Comment Sign-up	Sign-up for opportunity to make public verbal comments * Sign-up ends at 8:30 p.m.
EIS Process & Alternatives	EIS Process/Next steps, Alternatives, Environmental Review Rules
Mining Methods, Reclamation & Permits	Mining methods, reclamation, permits, statutes, geology
Air Quality, Greenhouse Gases, Elongate Mineral Particles	Air quality, greenhouse gases, Elongate Mineral Particles
Water Resources	Surface water, wetlands, water quality, groundwater
Fish, Wildlife, Plant Communities	Fish, Wildlife, Plant Communities, rare species
Talon/Proposer Table	Discuss the project with Talon

Tamarack Mining Project: How to Submit Comments During the Public Meeting

1. **Individual Verbal comments** may be provided on an individual basis to a court reporter, who will record comments privately. These are taken first-come, first served; no sign-up system will be used. This is available in the Open House space and will be available between 5:00-9:00 p.m.
2. **Public verbal comments** may be provided during the public comment session, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. Comments will be recorded by a court reporter. Sign-up at the Comment Sign-up table in the Open House space.
3. **Written comments** may be submitted online using the DNR laptops provided or your own cellphone. The QR code to access the public comment form is below.



Tamarack Mining Project: Guidelines for Public Comment Session, 6:30 – 9:00 pm

The DNR expects a large turnout, and it is unlikely that there will be time to accommodate everyone who wishes to speak publicly during the meeting. To ensure the process is equitable, names of speakers will be randomly drawn using an electronic tool. An independent facilitator hired by the DNR will facilitate the Public Comment Session.

- **If you wish to speak publicly**, please visit the “Comment Sign-Up” table and provide your first and last name.
 - Between 5:00 and 6:15 p.m., names will be added to the comment pool by DNR staff, ensuring all names are entered into the electronic comment board before the public comment session begins at 6:30.
 - Names submitted after 6:15 p.m. will be added to the comment pool in batches, to ensure the public comment session is not disrupted.
 - Comment sign-up will close at 8:30 pm.
- **Random selection:** At the start of the Public Comment Session, the electronic comment board will be displayed on the screen and will be used to randomly select names, live, during the Public Comment Session.
- The names of selected speakers will appear on the screen in batches. The facilitator will provide additional instructions at the beginning of the Public Comment Session.
- **Time limits:** Speakers will receive a maximum of three minutes.
- **Time sharing:** Individuals may not register for other people. People selected to speak may yield their time to another speaker. If you wish to give your time to someone else, you may do so by accompanying that person to the microphone.
- **One-time speaking:** Speakers may only comment once during each public comment meeting session.
- You **must be present** at the time your name is selected to comment publicly.

To ensure maximum use of the meeting time, participants are requested to hold applause, refrain from interrupting speakers, avoid profanity, and be respectful to all other participants and staff. Anyone who disrupts the proceedings, interferes with anyone’s ability to speak or comment, or refuses to follow the meeting rules will be asked to leave the premises.

Effective Commenting



Public participation in the form of commenting and input is an important part of the state environmental review process. The comments that will have greatest impact on the Draft Scoping Decision Document (DSDD) for the proposed Tamarack Mining Project will be clear, specific and substantive. Comments that include questions or solution-oriented positions with supporting examples are most effective. Below are some examples of the kinds of comments that a Responsible Government Unit considers for potential revisions to the scope of analysis in the EIS. All comments are expected to be presented respectfully.

To review the Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (SEAW) and DSDD, please visit the [Tamarack Mining Project EIS webpage](#).

IMPACTFUL



LESS IMPACTFUL

These comments are **more likely** to influence the scope.

- Reasonably questions the accuracy of information in the SEAW or the DSDD.
- Reasonably questions the methodology or assumptions used in the environmental analysis.
- Presents new information or potential impacts not proposed in the DSDD.
- Provides specific information to show that environmental impacts have not been adequately addressed.
- Introduces new specific data that could inform one or more of the impacts or alternatives.
- Suggests possible mitigation measures not already included in the proposal.
- Proposes feasible alternatives not already analyzed in the DSDD.

These comments are **less likely** to influence the scope.

- Does not relate to the environmental analysis of the project.
- Simply supports or opposes proposed project.
- Agrees or disagrees with information in the SEAW or DSDD without reasonable justification or supporting data.
- Does not say why an impact should undergo further assessment.
- Poses vague questions about impacts or alternative.

Effective Commenting



What are the ways I can make a public comment?

You can comment on the scoping documents three different ways. All comments are considered equally regardless of how you submit.

The comment period opens 12 p.m. on July 14, 2026 and closes at 4:30 p.m. on September 14, 2026.



Verbal at the Public Meeting

Two public input meetings will be held in August, both from 5:00-9:00 p.m. The first is on August 5, 2026 at McGregor High School, near the project site. The second is on August 12, 2026 at the National Sports Center in Blaine. At each meeting, you may sign up to give a public verbal comment for a set amount of time. All verbal comments will be recorded by a stenographer, who will also be available during the Open House to record comments privately.



Electronically on DNR's Commenting Form

Online comments can be submitted electronically via DNR's **Public Comment Form** or by scanning the QR code.



Written via Mail

If you want to submit a letter, you can upload the letter via the portal or via U.S. Mail to the Project Manager.

Tamarack EAW Project Manager
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Rd, St Paul, MN 55155

All comments will become part of the official record and as such may be made available for public review. Comments and submittals will not be edited to remove any identifying or contact information.

Disclaimer: This document is a working document. This document may change over time as a result of new information, further deliberation, or other factors not yet known.

Scoping Documents Explained



Section 3—EIS Issues

The DSDD lays out the issues to be covered in the EIS. It describes how the issues will be addressed and identifies any data that may be needed. The EIS issues identified for the Tamarack Mining Project are as follows:

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|---|--|
| 1. Climate Adaptation and Resilience | 11. Surface Water and Wetlands |
| 2. Land Use | 12. Groundwater |
| 3. Geology, Soils and Topography | 13. Wastewater |
| 4. Contamination, Hazardous Materials and Waste | 14. Air |
| 5. Fish, Wildlife, Plant Communities and Sensitive Ecological Resources | 15. Elongate Mineral Particles |
| a. Wild Rice is included in this section | 16. Socioeconomic Impacts |
| 6. Historic Properties | a. Economics |
| 7. Visual Resources | b. Demographics |
| 8. Noise | c. Infrastructure and Community Services |
| 9. Transportation | d. Tribal Resources |
| 10. Cumulative Potential Effects | e. Environmental Justice |
| | f. Human Health |
| | g. Reclamation and Financial Assurance |

Sections 4 and 5—Identification of Phased or Connected Actions; Tentative EIS Schedule

The Tamarack DSDD does not identify any phased or connected actions. It also contains a tentative schedule.

Section 6—Special Studies or Research

The Tamarack DSDD identifies 17 required studies or plans to provide information on the EIS issues identified in section three.

Sections 7 and 8—Mitigation and Monitoring; Permitting

The DSDD identifies that the EIS will include a section that identifies mitigation opportunities as well as monitoring likely required by permitting. It also states the EIS will identify all permits and approvals for the Project, and that no permit or approval decisions can be made until the completion of environmental review.

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Scoping Documents Explained



The environmental review process begins with two key documents: The Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (Scoping EAW or SEAW) and the Draft Scoping Decision Document (DSDD). These documents work together to define what the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will study.

Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet

A Scoping EAW is an information gathering tool. It uses a standard form of 31 questions from the Environmental Quality Board, often supported by maps and figures. Its purpose is to:

- Lay out the basic facts of a proposed project and its potential impacts at a high level.
- Provide enough detail about potential environmental impacts to inform the DSDD.

Draft Scoping Decision Document

Using information from the SEAW, agencies determine which topics need to be studied, and what additional data or research is needed. The DSDD is the blueprint for the EIS. The information in the DSDD is considered preliminary and may change based on information received during the public comment period. The DSDD is made up of the following eight sections:

Section 1—Introduction and Purpose

This section provides a brief summary of the project that is based on the more detailed project description from the Scoping EAW. It also provides details about the environmental review process.

Section 2—Project Alternatives

The DSDD identifies the project alternatives that will be assessed in the EIS. The DSDD for the Tamarack Mining Project includes the following alternatives for analysis:

1. No action alternative
2. Alternative discharge locations for water treated by the Contact Water Treatment Plant
3. Using all electric trucks and equipment for mining
4. Transport ore and/or waste rock by rail to a port on Lake Superior, then transport by ship to the processing facility in Marquette County, Michigan
5. Alternative locations for managing overburden from construction

Continued