

## General information

**Public comment period begins:** March 28, 2025

**Public comment period ends:** April 28, 2025

**Name and address of Permittee:**

Cliffs Erie LLC  
 10 Outer Dr  
 Silver Bay, MN 55614-1401

**Facility name and location:**

Cliffs Erie - Taconite Harbor Dock  
 8124 W Highway 61  
 Schroeder, MN 55613  
 Cook County  
 T058N, R05W, Section 001

**MPCA contact person:**

Tarik Hanafy  
 Industrial Division  
 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
 520 Lafayette Road North  
 St. Paul, MN 55155-4194  
 Phone: 651-757-2404  
 Email: tarik.hanafy@state.mn.us

File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or  
 844-828-0942

A draft permit is available for review on the MPCA Public Notices webpage at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/get-engaged/public-comments>. Additional materials relating to the issuance of this permit are available for inspection by appointment at any MPCA office (<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mPCA/contact-us>) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The MPCA will mail or email a copy of the draft permit upon request. Comments, petitions, and other requests must be received at the MPCA in writing on or before the public comment period end date and U.S. Mail comments must be received by 4:30 p.m.

## Description of Cliffs Erie - Taconite Harbor Dock

Cliffs Erie LLC owns and operates the Cliffs Erie Taconite Harbor Dock (facility). The facility is a taconite ore loading dock consisting of fugitive sources located at 8124 West Highway 61 in Schroeder, Minnesota on the north shore of Lake Superior. All other equipment previously contained in the permit belonging to Allete Inc., dba Minnesota Power were retired and removed from the facility on March 31, 2023. The remaining subject items include Coal/Limestone Boat Unloading and Materials Handling (FUGI 1), Taconite Pellets Ship Loading (FUGI 6), Railcar Material Loading (FUGI 8), Pellet Drop from Railcars into Dock Storage Bins (FUGI 12) and Limestone Storage Pile (limestone handling; dozer traffic; dozer blade pile maintenance; pile wind erosion) (FUGI 13). Water spray (TREAs 11 and 34-37) is used to control particulate emissions.

This reissuance permit includes a major amendment to remove Minnesota Power as a co-permittee and its associated subject items from the permit. The name of the facility is changing from Taconite Harbor Energy Center to Cliffs Erie Taconite Harbor Dock. There is no construction authorized in this permit action.

The permit action is for operation of the facility. The permit action is a reissuance of a Part 70 operating permit; therefore, the draft permit has been placed on public notice.

A summary of the Potential to Emit (PTE) in tons per year is as follows:

Pollutant	PM	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	VOC	CO	CO <sub>2e</sub>	Total HAP
Total Facility PTE w/ fugitives	302.29	140.75	21.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Facility PTE no fugitives	240.00	113.52	17.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

PM = Particulate Matter

PM<sub>2.5</sub> = PM, 2.5 microns and smaller

NO<sub>x</sub> = Nitrogen Oxides

CO = Carbon Monoxide

PM<sub>10</sub> = PM, 10 microns and smaller

SO<sub>2</sub> = Sulfur Dioxide

VOC = Volatile Organic Compounds

CO<sub>2e</sub> = Carbon Dioxide Equivalents as defined in Minn. R. 7007.0100

HAP = Hazardous Air Pollutant

The Permittee is not required to submit a pollution prevention progress report pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 115D.08.

The preliminary determination to reissue this Air permit is tentative.

## Procedure for public participation

As stated in Minn. R. chs. 7000 and 7001, there are three formal procedures for public participation in the MPCA's consideration of

this matter. Interested persons may:

- 1) Submit written comments on the draft permit.
- 2) Petition the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting.
- 3) Petition the MPCA to hold a contested case hearing.

## Submitting written comments

Comments may be submitted:

- 1) Online at <https://mpca.commentinput.com/comment/search>; or
- 2) By U.S. postal mail to the following address:  
Tarik Hanafy  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Rd  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Submitted comments or petitions must state:

- 1) Your interest in the permit application or the draft permit.
- 2) The action you wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to the section of the draft permit you believe should be changed.
- 3) The reasons supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the MPCA to investigate the merits of the position.

## Public informational meeting

A public informational meeting is an informal meeting during which interested persons can ask questions concerning the proposed facility. MPCA staff will be present to provide information. If an interested person would like the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting, the person should include all information identified above and in addition include a statement of the reasons the person desires the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting and the issues that the person would like the agency to address at the public informational meeting.

## Contested Case Hearing

A contested case hearing is a formal proceeding before an administrative law judge empowered to advise the MPCA regarding issues of fact. As described in Minn. R. 7000.1800, persons who submit petitions for a contested case hearing must also state the issues they propose to address in a contested case hearing, the specific relief requested or resolution of the matter, and the reasons (which may be in the form of proposed findings) supporting an MPCA decision to hold a contested case hearing. Failure to comply with these rules exactly may result in a denial of the request. To the extent known, the petitioner may also submit a list of prospective witnesses to be called at a hearing, a proposed list of publications, references, or studies to be introduced at a hearing and the approximate time required for the petitioner to present the matter at a hearing. The decision whether to hold a contested case hearing will be made under Minn. R. 7000.1900.