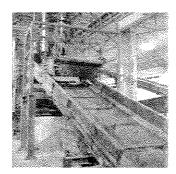
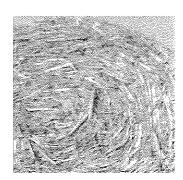
renewaruel

A CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES COMPANY







<u>Proposed Minnesota Biofuel Production Facility</u> --Renewafuel plans to construct and operate a next generation biofuel production facility in Northeast Minnesota. The production facility will produce 150,000 tons per year of environmentally-superior renewable fuels for industrial boilers and power plants derived from sustainably collected renewable feedstock including wood, sawdust, corn stover, straw, and grasses. The proposed operation will create jobs, add value to existing businesses, invest millions in the local economy, and significantly reduce environmental impacts. Project details include:

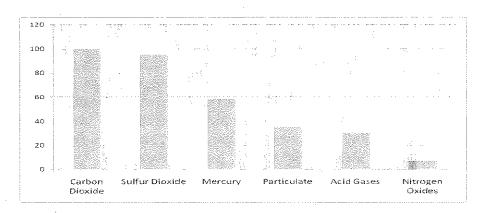
- Greater than \$18 million capital investment for construction of new state-of-theart biofuel production facility
- Creation of more than 25 direct high-paying green collar jobs and more than 100 indirect jobs related to feedstock development, procurement, and transportation
- Annual payroll of over \$1 million
- Local investment in feedstocks and annual retention of more than \$10 million in local economy that currently goes to out-of-state coal suppliers
- Reductions of thousands of tons of creditable air emissions each year including greenhouse gases, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and mercury emissions

Renewafuel Benefits the Local Economy—Renewafuel will provide good-paying local jobs, and redirect money into the local community that currently is spent outside the state. The largest operating cost to Renewafuel—and direct investment in the local economy—is the purchase of feedstock from local farms and businesses that will introduce millions of dollars into the local economy each year.

1730 (Dill)

Renewafuel Benefits the Environment—Renewafuel has spent years on research and development and our products are engineered to specifically reduce potential environmental impacts. Renewafuel currently has patents pending on advanced ultra-low emission biofuel products that greatly reduce emissions compared to use of coal. Third-party emissions testing by USEPA's Environmental Technology Verification Organization, the Southern Research Institute, the Natural Resources Research Institute, and the University of Western Kentucky have documented that use of Renewafuel's products in place of coal dramatically reduce creditable emissions compared to use of coal as set forth in the table below:

Percent Creditable Emission Reduction (per ton of fuel) Renewafuel v. Eastern Coal



Renewafuel's Use of Local and Sustainable Feedstock—Renewafuel targets a diverse range of under-utilized local feedstocks. The company is working in cooperation with public and private groups to develop and use sustainable and commercially viable feedstock materials, dedicated energy crops, and innovative aggregation technologies and strategies. Feedstocks for the Minnesota facility will include local sources of wood residues, agricultural residues, and energy crops that will be procured in accordance with Renewafuel's Sustainability Policy and Sustainable Feedstock Procurement Plan.

Renewafuel's Market—Renewafuel is in continuing discussions with potential feedstock providers and customers in Minnesota. Future collaboration will center on commercial agreements for purchase of feedstocks, research regarding feedstock development and aggregation, development of advanced fuel products, and sale of biofuel products to local entities. Cliffs Natural Resources may also have an opportunity to use Renewafuel's products as an energy feedstock at iron ore processing facilities.

<u>Project Schedule</u>—Renewafuel is currently in the process of finalizing site option agreements for two possible locations in Northeast Minnesota. The company is undertaking due diligence regarding potential sites, and will be working to submit EAW and permitting documents to MPCA within the next 90 days. Renewafuel plans to have the Minnesota facility fully operational by the second quarter of 2010.