

**Rob Ecklund**  
State Representative

District 3A



**Minnesota**  
**House of**  
**Representative**

January 10, 2022

Commissioner Sarah Strommen  
Department of Natural Resources  
500 Lafayette Road  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Commissioner Strommen:

The Iron Range Delegation is frustrated that the DNR has once again delayed the scoping schedule for the Twin Metals project. The over 1200 days spent waiting for this relatively simple initial step dwarfs the time previous projects have spent at this step.

Over the last year, one day of progress in the schedule has been made on this project's regulatory process. Twin Metals has paid the DNR over \$1 million to date, the DNR is sitting on another \$1.7 million of Twin Metals' funds and has now been asked for another \$2 million for the next 18 months, with no transparency or accountability around work that should be occurring or any assurance that scoping will be completed.

Answers from the agency related to staffing shortages ring hollow given there is a third-party contractor for this project currently under contract, and receiving payments, but remains largely idle.

The Iron Range Delegation requests an in-person meeting with you, your leadership team, and principals from Twin Metals to address these concerns.

Sincerely,

Representative Rob Ecklund

Senator Justin Eichorn

Senator Tom Bakk

Representative Spencer Igo



Representative Dave Lislegard



Representative Dale Lueck



Representative Julie Sandstede



Senator David Tomassoni