

**ELY AREA COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
JOINT POWERS BOARD**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE COPPER-NICKEL
AND EMERGING STRATEGIC METALS MINING
INDUSTRY IN NORTHEASTERN MINNESOTA**

WHEREAS, The copper-nickel and emerging strategic metals mining industry in northeastern Minnesota promises thousands of new direct and indirect jobs for our region for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, northeastern Minnesota strategic metals reserves are estimated to give us one of the largest and only current domestic sources of nickel, along with some of the most significant sources of copper, cobalt, platinum and palladium in the world.

WHEREAS, New and emerging technologies look to augment the positive economic development and job creation directly related to copper-nickel and strategic metals mining with spin-off industries that can employ significant numbers of people on the Iron Range.

WHEREAS, We know that copper-nickel and strategic metals mining will have a positive impact on education funding in Minnesota as well as on the development of countless products such as wireless devices, catalytic converters, hybrid cars and other emerging “green economy” needs.

WHEREAS, Modern mining companies operating in northeastern Minnesota will utilize advanced technology to protect our environment and be required to meet Minnesota's rigorous environmental standards and guidelines to assure that air and water quality standards are protected.

WHEREAS, Our national security interests are served by meeting our strategic metals needs domestically rather than relying on other, less stable nations.

WHEREAS, Further unnecessary delay in the mining permitting process has a tremendously negative impact on our Iron Range communities and future job creation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Community Economic Development Joint Powers Board of the Ely area, representing the city of Ely, Morse Township, city of Winton and the Ely School District strongly support the copper-nickel and emerging strategic metals mining industry near Ely and across northeastern Minnesota, and we strongly urge our federal and state leaders to support and facilitate copper-nickel and strategic metals mining permits and the job creation that will result.

Adopted by this board on the 3rd day of December, 2015

Ray Marsnik
Ely School District

Chuck Novak
City of Ely

Bob Berrini
Town of Morse

Kathy Brandau
City of Winton