



Cleveland-Cliffs Inc



DANA W. BYRNE
VICE PRESIDENT - PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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MSHA
Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances
1100 Wilson Blvd.
Room 2350
Arlington, VA 22209-3939

Re: Proposed Rule [70 FR 43950, et seq.]
Asbestos Exposure Limit
30 CFR Parts 56, 57, and 71
RIN: 1219-AB24

Cleveland-Cliffs Inc, North America's largest producer of iron ore pellets, operates six taconite ore mines in Michigan, Minnesota and Eastern Canada, with a workforce of approximately 3,700 employees.

The safety and health of our employees is of paramount interest, and we appreciate having the opportunity to participate in this Proposed Rulemaking on Asbestos Exposure Limits. We support MSHA's proposal to reduce the personal exposure limit for asbestos; however, our preliminary reading has identified some concerns with the proposed implementation of the Rule. These will be documented in appropriate comments that we will be submitting during the comment period that closes on November 21, 2005.

It is our belief that our many years of extracting and processing taconite ore will be of value in your considerations for this proposed rule.

Respectfully submitted,

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AB24-COMM-102

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