

Minnesota Conservation Federation  
Resolution

December 10, 2011

Lakeville, Minnesota

Mineral Exploration

WHEREAS, the economy of every prosperous society in the world has been directly related to natural resource extraction, and

WHEREAS, the United States remains dependent on natural resources for the base of our energy and steel production base, and

WHEREAS, the accelerating and extremely competitive business of resource extraction has become international in scope, and

WHEREAS, Minnesotans, due to watershed complexity and wilderness proximity, are particularly vulnerable to the inherent stress of natural resource extraction, and

WHEREAS, the entire natural resource business and conservation of those resources is highly sensitive to current and diverse economic crises, and

WHEREAS, job creation in NE Minnesota has a long history of natural resource extraction and utilization, and

WHEREAS, some government and non-government organizations have demonstrated an unwillingness to allow for natural resource exploration or extraction due to strong environmental concerns, and

WHEREAS, these organization's action have resulted in unreasonable delays in resolving disputes related to granting mineral exploration (not actual mining) leases for publicly owned minerals, and

WHEREAS, Minnesotans as taxpayers are entitled to know the values and the geographic location of their underground mineral assets, and

WHEREAS, these delays are expensive and damaging to our economy and our national defense;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnesota Conservation Federation hereby encourage the constructive and environmentally sensitive explorative leasing on all lands within Minnesota state boundaries (except for the BWCA and lands retaining private ownership of mineral rights), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Minnesota Conservation Federation encourages our state and federal government to work closely with private mining companies and their owners/investors to accelerate the natural resources extraction process in Minnesota.

Sponsored by the United Northern Sportsmen Club