



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 15, 2007

*Jana Murphy, manager of environmental and reclamation services for the Flambeau Mining Company, today issued the following statement in response to the ratification of the agreement among parties involved in the Certificate of Completion contested case regarding the company's former mine site:*

“We are pleased the agreement was ratified and is now final, though we certainly are disappointed in how some mining opponents, mostly from outside Wisconsin, are mischaracterizing the agreement and stretching the facts.

“Our company participated in the agreement with those opposed to issuance of a Certificate of Completion for the entire mine site (including a 32-acre site used by the community for industrial development) rather than proceeding with the contested case out of a spirit of cooperation and to help further better relationships with opposing groups.

“I want to be very clear that in no way does this agreement validate any claims of significant environmental impact at the site, and that such statements are false. The site has and continues to protect the environment, there has never been a violation at the site and regular monitoring shows the environment and the Flambeau River are protected.

“What the agreement does is it gives our company its Certificate of Completion for the reclaimed 149-acre former mine site including the backfilled open pit and reduces our reclamation bond by 80 percent, which is the maximum reduction allowed by law. As all such agreements result from negotiations, we offered to withdraw our petition for the Certificate of Completion of the 32-acre industrial outlot area for three years and to conduct additional short-term, limited monitoring of the site and the Flambeau River to help further prove this project was done well and protects the environment.

“We have conducted monitoring for many years, both what was required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and more voluntarily, and through this agreement we will do even more to further demonstrate environmental protection. We are proud of the results that our monitoring has shown, and are confident that additional monitoring will continue to prove that the environment and the Flambeau River remain fully protected.

“While all parties seem to be claiming victory, we hope the facts will be used rather than misleading rhetoric when referring to the agreement in the future and, in particular, in other states where some of the groups are opposing mining projects.”

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**For more information, contact Jana Murphy of Flambeau Mining Company at (715) 828-4756.  
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