



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FOR MORE INFORMATION
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**STIPULATION REACHED REGARDING
FLAMBEAU MINE COC CASE**

LADYSMITH, WI – The Flambeau Mining Company today announced that all parties involved in the company’s Certificate of Completion contested case hearing today reached a stipulated agreement to resolve the matter.

With the stipulation, the Certificate of Completion of Reclamation (COC) is granted for the 149-acre portion of the reclaimed site and the eligible portion of the \$11 million reclamation bond is returned to the company. However, the company agrees to withdraw its COC petition for the Industrial Outlot portion of its site, conduct additional monitoring of surface water, sediments, soil and biota over the next few years, and to communicate with all parties about work done in the Industrial Outlot.

“This agreement allowed our company to receive its certificate of completion for the reclaimed portion of our site,” said Jana Murphy, manager of environment and reclamation services. “We can now proceed with 40 years of long-term care at the site and help ensure the reclaimed area continues to be a recreational asset to Ladysmith and surrounding communities.”

The parties in the contested case include the Flambeau Mining Company, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Sierra Club, Northern Thunder, Lac Courte Oreilles Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Rusk County Citizens Action Group, and Wisconsin Resources Protection Council.

Additional provisions of the stipulation include that the original Notice of Completion on the Industrial Outlot portion of the site remains in place, but the company cannot petition for a COC on that portion of the site until at least 3 years from the date of the agreement.

“We have done a great deal of monitoring over the years both voluntarily as well as what was required by the state. Past monitoring shows that we did a good job of protecting the environment throughout the construction, mining and reclamation of the site, and we are confident additional monitoring will continue to show results that we are protecting the Flambeau River,” said Murphy.

The stipulation was reached on May 31, 2007, during the contested case portion of the COC process held in Ladysmith, Wis. All parties to the stipulation have until June 13, 2007, to ratify the agreement.

“We look forward to working together with these parties and the community as a whole as we continue our commitment to environmental protection,” said Murphy. “We promised the community we would protect the environment and the Flambeau River, and we kept and will keep that promise.”

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Editors Note:

The 32-acre industrial outlot was not reclaimed to a nature area as the much larger portions of the former mine site in order to utilize the mine buildings and the area as a business and recreation park. That alternative use was requested by the City of Ladysmith and approved by the WDNR in 1998. Today, that area has three buildings occupied by tenants and provides a trailhead and parking for the adjacent equestrian trails.