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**U. S. Steel granted permits  
for Minntac Mine Extension Project**

*483-acre extension supports 100 jobs  
and generates millions of dollars for the state's school trust fund*

**Mountain Iron, Minn.** – The Iron Ore Alliance is pleased that United States Steel Corporation's Minnesota Ore Operations' Minntac facility has received the necessary state permits to move forward with a 483-acre extension of the mine's boundary, which will allow the facility to continue to mine and produce taconite pellets for approximately 16 years in the extension area.

The mine extension project represents more than \$40 million of investment by U. S. Steel into its Minnesota Ore Operations. Approximately 100 Steelworker jobs have been created as a result of this extension, and a significant capital investment has been made into a number of large production machinery including trucks and shovel loading units to help support the mine extension project. U. S. Steel has operated iron mines in northeastern Minnesota for more than 100 years and is the state's largest producer of iron ore pellets, the key ingredient in blast furnace-based steelmaking.

"The ferrous mining industry is critical to northeastern Minnesota's economy," said John Rebrovich, sub-district director of United Steelworkers District 11 and co-chair of the Iron Ore Alliance. "This expansion provides high-quality, well-paying jobs in our region."

The project will also help bolster education funding throughout the state. Iron ore mines, including U. S. Steel's Minntac and Keetac mines, contribute millions of dollars annually to Minnesota's Permanent School Fund, which distributes money to every public school in the state. In 2013, U. S. Steel contributed more than \$54 million in royalty payments to the trust fund. This amounts to 94% of the total trust fund contributions in 2013.

"Iron ore mining at Minntac is critical to the products we rely on every day – from the vehicles we drive to the appliances in our homes to the cans of food in our pantries," said Chris Masciantonio, co-chair of the Iron Ore Alliance and general manager – governmental affairs for U. S. Steel. "We are proud of the significant contribution we have on Minnesota's economy, and

we believe that this extension project will help us continue to provide good jobs and support schools throughout the state.”

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources issued the permits and approvals for this project.

**About the Iron Ore Alliance**

The Iron Ore Alliance is a joint initiative of United States Steel Corporation and the United Steelworkers to help educate Minnesotans about the importance of U. S. Steel’s iron ore business.

U. S. Steel’s Minnesota Ore Operations, with its Minntac and Keetac facilities located in northeastern Minnesota, is the state’s largest iron ore producer, and is a critical part of U. S. Steel’s North American operations. Minntac, located in Mountain Iron, is the single largest iron ore pelletizing operation in the United States. For more information, please visit [www.ironorealliance.com](http://www.ironorealliance.com).

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