MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Public Comment Sheet
Mesaba Energy Project
PUC Docket No. E6472/GS-06-668

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Comments:

Excelsior Energy's plan is to close Canisteo Mine Pit to recreational use. The original Joint Permit Application outlined how this clear trout fishery would be ruined by concentrated discharge of cooling tower blowdown water. The West Range Site is not in the Lake Superior Watershed which makes it possible to discharge more mercury into local water. The DEIS shows the CTB water may be discharged to Holman Lake and Swan River but it depends on their ability to obtain permits for the water discharge. Why should we allow Excelsior Energy to take a rare lake trout fishery away from the public and why should we allow them to pollute our local water when technology exists to prevent this pollution completely? Excelsior's Vice President of Environmental Affairs Bob Evans said in a Grand Rapids Herald-Review article Nov. 7,2007 that IGCC technology reduces environmental impacts "by dramatically cutting criteria pollutant and mercury emissions, significantly reducing water usage and completely eliminating discharges of process waters." They should be held accountable to do what they say this technology is capable of doing from day one. This has merit to me.

Please submit comments to meeting moderator or send to:

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