



Key Facts about PolyMet

PolyMet's conservative environmental philosophy includes predicting worst-case scenarios and developing multiple safeguards to prevent those scenarios from occurring.

Sulfur is present in PolyMet's ore in very small amounts—less than 1%. Some non-ferrous operations mine ore containing more than 30% sulfur.

PolyMet plans to use the sulfur in the ore to fuel processing of the concentrate – making maximum use of the resource and minimizing the need for fuel.

PolyMet plans a zero surface water discharge, with all mine process water being treated, as needed, and used in ore processing.

PolyMet anticipates relatively few air emissions, making it a minor source under federal air quality regulations.

State law requires PolyMet to prepare and regularly update a detailed closure plan and to set aside bankruptcy-proof financial resources to pay for the closure plan before mining begins.

PolyMet is planning to re-use a brownfield site and recycle existing equipment. In addition, PolyMet has designed its project to minimize disturbance of wetlands.

PolyMet's ore contains metals used in daily life – copper, nickel, cobalt, platinum, palladium and gold – and found in countless products, including cell phones, computers, joint replacements, electrical wiring, hybrid cars and catalytic converters.

The United States does not meet its domestic demand for these valuable metals, importing from 40% to 95% of the metals it uses – often from countries with little or no environmental regulation. Pollution from unregulated mines joins a global pool that deposits contaminants around the world, including in Minnesota.

To receive permits to operate, PolyMet must meet strict state and federal laws to protect human health and the environment.

Construction of the \$600 million project will provide more than 1.5 million man hours of labor for skilled trades people over two years.

The project is expected to provide 400 stable jobs with an annual payroll of \$40 million.

PolyMet is anticipated to create more than 500 spin-off jobs in St. Louis County alone and generate more than \$242 million in economic benefits in the county.

PolyMet anticipates generating tens of millions of dollars in federal, state and local taxes each year.