memo

To: Laurentian Vision Partnership

From: Michael Burton, BLAEDC

Kevin Egan, BLAEDC

CC: Jim Plumber

Date: October 15, 2019

Re: Cuyuna Range Update

Activity on the Cuyuna Range is relatively quiet, with the exception of the continuing focus on the manganese holdings of Cooperative Minerals, a subsidiary of the Crow Wing Power Company. These holdings are located in the City of Emily, in Crow Wing County and are substantial.

Cooperative Minerals is in discussions with a small entity known as North Star Manganese regarding the possible creation of a partnership to develop the Emily manganese deposits. North Star appears to presently be doing its due diligence to determine if it wishes to move forward with Cooperative Minerals, which struggled in efforts to extract minerals from the site. More clarity is hoped for by the end of 2019.

On another topic, planned infrastructure development continues in and around Crosby. Plans to construct a hotel in the City are moving forward; interest in this project is likely tied to the expansion of the mountain biking trails in the Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area. Additional trail funding provided by the legislature will generate significant trail expansion; trail development is now underway.

Finally, discussion of the possible location of a light manufacturing facility in the area continues, but few details have been made public to date.