

In the last issue of the Mine Reader, Twin Metals Minnesota shared the first four steps of a nine step process, identified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a mine must go through to become operational. The steps are: 1) Exploration; 2) Advanced Exploration; 3) Environmental Studies; and 4) Prefeasibility Studies. Continuing with the second part of the two part series, here are the last five steps a mine must go through per the EPA, to become operational, in order:



5. FEASIBILITY STUDY – Is a detailed evaluation of all the information collected during the exploration, advanced exploration, environmental studies and prefeasibility studies, along with the mine plan of operation (MPO) to determine if a mining project should move forward to the permitting, financing, and construction steps. Once a feasibility study is complete it will provide the financial parameters for the project's construction and operation.

- 6. PERMITTING** – Is the process of applying for, and obtaining, all permits relating to construction, operations and eventual closure of the mine from local, state and federal authorities.
- 7. FINANCING** – Is the process of sourcing capital, sufficient to fund the construction and early stages of a mine's operation.
- 8. CONSTRUCTION** – Is the capital intensive phase of building all surface and underground infrastructure needed to support operations.
- 9. PRODUCTION** – Is the start of a mine's operation, and represents the longest phase in a project's life.



Additionally, the Twin Metals Minnesota mining project will evaluate and define project closure and reclamation requirements before becoming operational.

For more information on Twin Metals Minnesota's project, please visit www.twin-metals.com.

The Twin Metals Minnesota "Mine Reader" is a biweekly source of information about its proposed underground copper, nickel, platinum, palladium and gold (strategic metals) mining project in northern Minnesota.

If you have a question about the project, please submit it to info@twin-metals.com. Thank you for your interest.