Meetings set on monitoring of Eagle Mine

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JOHN PEPPLE | Journal Staff Writer (jpeppel@miningjournal.net) - The Mining Journal

MARQUETTE – The Superior Watershed Partnership has scheduled a slate of meetings to help update the public on the group's ongoing environmental assessments of activities involving the Eagle Mine.

The meetings begin Tuesday in Big Bay. All of the meetings are scheduled from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday’s session will be held at the Powell Township School.

Another meeting is set for Thursday at the Marquette Township Hall at 202 W. Main St. in Marquette for Thursday the third meeting will be Sept. 24 at the Baraga Lakeside Inn at 900 U.S. 41 in Baraga. The final session will be Sept. 28 at Lakeview Arena at 401 E. Fair Ave. in Marquette.

The partnership's monitoring, which is funded indirectly by Lundin Mining Co., includes verification of the mining company's compliance with permitting requirements for groundwater, surface water, wildlife and plant life and additional monitoring of other potential impacts, including changes to air quality.

The partnership is responsible for verifying environmental monitoring, independent air quality monitoring in Powell Township and any other additional monitoring. The partnership is also responsible for public outreach that includes data sharing and community updates.

Partnership officials said in a news release attendance at the meetings will learn more about the community environmental monitoring program, can ask questions and provide input.

The partnership hosts the meetings, which are independent of the community forums held periodically by Lundin and previously by Rio Tinto.

The partnership describes itself as an award-winning Great Lakes non-profit organization that has set national records for pollution prevention and implements innovative, science-based programs that achieve documented environmental, economic and educational results.

In addition to attending the meetings, the public can also provide feedback on the monitoring program by calling the partnership at its office in Marquette at 228-6595, extension 20, or by visiting its community environmental monitoring website at: www.cempmonitoring.org.

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