

1    **4.2.13    Hazardous Materials**

2    A hazardous material, as defined by the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management (2012), is  
3    any biological, chemical, or physical item or agent which has the potential to cause harm to  
4    humans, animals, or the environment. Categories of hazardous materials include, but are not  
5    limited to, explosives, flammables, oxidizers, poisons, irritants, and corrosives. At the federal  
6    level, management, handling, and transportation of these materials are regulated by laws and  
7    regulations administered by the USEPA, Occupational Safety and Health Administration  
8    (OSHA), and DOT, each with its own specific definition of hazardous material. The state of  
9    Minnesota also has regulations related to hazardous materials.

10   In addition, wastes generated from process operations can be classified as hazardous. Minnesota  
11   Statutes define a hazardous waste as any refuse, sludge, or other waste material or combinations  
12   of refuse, sludge, or other waste materials in solid, semi-solid, liquid, or contained gaseous form,  
13   which, because of quantity, concentration, or chemical, physical, or infectious characteristics,  
14   may cause or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious  
15   irreversible, or incapacitating reversible illness. A waste can also be determined to be hazardous  
16   if it poses a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when  
17   improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed, or otherwise managed. Hazardous waste does  
18   not include source, special nuclear, or byproduct material as defined by the Atomic Energy Act  
19   of 1954, as amended (*Minnesota Statute* 116.06 Subdivision 11). As with hazardous materials,  
20   hazardous wastes are subject to state and federal management, transportation, and disposal  
21   regulations. Issues relating to the presence of hazardous materials or waste may include the  
22   accidental release of these materials during transportation, storage, handling, and/or use and any  
23   resulting potential effects on the environment.

24   There are no current mining or other operations or activities at either the Mine Site or Plant Site  
25   that involve the use of hazardous materials. As discussed in Section 4.2.1, there are AOCs  
26   associated with contamination by hazardous materials from the former LTVSMC mining  
27   operations.

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