TOXICS RELEASE INVENTORY

MINING MINNESOTA
Responsible Development of Natural Resources

"Mining is the most TOXIC industry ever!"

FACT: Metal mining ranks #1 out of 30 industry sectors nationwide based on total releases (i.e. waste rock). Source: EPA Toxics Release Inventory National Analysis

LET'S DIG INTO THE DETAILS

The amount of soil and rock moved, even when stored onsite, may be required to be reported in a Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) report due to the presence of metals.

Even a well-managed stockpile of those materials needs to be reported as a "land release" because the material has been moved by the operation.

These naturally-occurring metals do not leave the mine property and are managed in engineered stockpiles, under stringent environmental standards.

QUANTITY VS. TOXICITY

No other industry moves the amount of soil and rock that mining does. That's true.

The soil and rock contain metals that are listed TRI chemicals. Also true.

However, the TRI numbers reflect the scale of mining, not the actual risk to public health.

Mining operations that have stockpiles of this nature carefully monitor air emissions and water quality at discharge locations as required by state and federal laws to eliminate or minimize risk to human health and the environment.

BOTTOM LINE: TRI reporting is an important tool within the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and is meant to inform communities about potential risks.

The mining industry ranking does **NOT** reflect real risk, nor the spirit of the law. Rather, it is based on large amounts of transported and properly stored rock.

