

Date: August 5, 2019

Honorable Chief Judge, John H. Guthmann  
Second Judicial District  
Ramsey County Courthouse

Re Northern Metals Extension

Dear Honorable Chief Judge Guthmann,

The communities of North and Northeast Minneapolis had to fight to be heard and fight to win a resolution of the Northern Metals case in favor of the community. Given the impacts of Northern Metals on the health of our community, we strongly urge you to not grant an extension to Northern Metals while the dispute resolution process proceeds.

A group of concerned residents and stakeholders was created to decide how to spend \$600,000 out of from the Northern Metals Consent Decree allocation. Now that funds are being disbursed and we are working so hard to improve the environmental and population health of residents in North and Northeast Minneapolis, we think it is imperative to refuse Northern Metals request for more time.

Northern Metals signed a binding agreement to depart by August 1, 2019. With very little advance notice, they assumed it appropriate to ask for more time, rather than practice the level of corporate responsibility necessary to meet the requirements of the agreement. Failure to comply with a signed agreement should not be awarded more time, when the risks of more time are significant.

We applaud the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's initial refusal to grant an extension, and we understand how legal processes must strive to balance the scales of justice in all cases. However, we feel strongly that the community's voice and concerns must be centered in considerations of the balance of justice and allowing Northern Metals more time, is a violation of our interests in this matter.

Therefore, we the concerned residents and stakeholders of North and Northeast Minneapolis beseech you, Honorable Judge Guthmann, to reconsider your approval to Northern Metals to extend their vacate date. We implore you to consider the health of the community, and our children who go to school and play in the vicinity of Northern Metals. We ask you to reverse your ruling in favor of Northern Metals to extend, and vote, instead, in favor of the community, which seeks a future in which our environmental health will no longer be treated as second class.

Respectfully,

**Very concerned residents and stakeholders of North and Northeast Minneapolis:**

- *Anita Urvina*
- *Roxanne W. O'Brien - Green Zone organizer for North and Northeast Minneapolis and member of EJCC.*
- *Naida Medicine Crow*
- *Yana Lee*
- *Shawn Lewis*
- *Melissa Newman*
- *Adam Spees*
- *Vanessa Willis*
- *John Hemp*
- *Andrew Bornhoft*
- *Liz Reiser*
- *Linnae Nelson-Seys*
- *Markeeta Keyes*
- *Channy Leaneagh*
- *Theresa Leonard – Grants Manager, Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County (CAP-HC)*
- *Rachelle M. Peleska*
- *Shaundelle Darris*
- *Princess Titus-Haley*
- *Whitney Clark - Executive Director of Friends of the Mississippi River*
- *Annie Krapek*
- *Catherine Fleming*
- *Michael Chaney*
- *DeVon Nolen*
- *John Jamison*
- *James Trice – Founder and CEO, Public Policy Project and Co-creator of EJCC*
- *Sam Grant*
- *Environmental Justice Coordinating Council (EJCC)*
- *Public Policy Project*