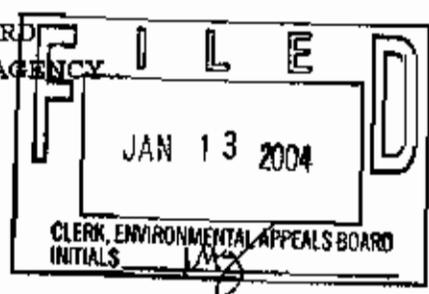


BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL APPEALS BOARD  
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.



\_\_\_\_\_)  
In re: )  
Hecla Mining Company, ) NPDES Appeal No. 03-10  
NPDES Permit No. ID-000017-5 )  
\_\_\_\_\_)

ORDER GRANTING LEAVE TO FILE REPLY BRIEF

Hecla Mining Company, Lucky Friday Unit ("Hecla") filed a petition seeking review of certain conditions of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") Permit No. ID-000017-5 issued on August 12, 2003 (the "Permit") by U.S. EPA Region 10 (the "Region"). Pursuant to the Board's request, the Region filed a response to Hecla's petition for review. Before the Board at this time is Hecla's motion for leave to file a reply to the Region's response. Hecla states that it believes a reply is necessary to respond to certain arguments made by the Region that Hecla did not anticipate or address in its petition. Hecla states that it believes additional briefing will assist the Board in its analysis. Hecla states that it is prepared to file a reply within fourteen days of an order

granting its request. Although Hecla failed to indicate in its motion whether it had contacted the Region to obtain the Region's consent to Hecla's motion, the Region has not filed an objection to Hecla's request to file a reply brief.

Upon consideration, we grant Hecla's motion for leave to file a reply to the Region's response. Hecla shall file its reply on or before Tuesday, January 21, 2004.

So ordered.

Dated: *January 13, 2004*

ENVIRONMENTAL APPEALS BOARD

By: *Kathie A. Stein*  
Kathie A. Stein  
Environmental Appeals Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing Order Granting Leave to File Reply Brief, in the matter of Hecla Mining Company, NPDES Appeal No. 03-10, were sent to the following persons in the manner indicated:

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Dated: JAN 13 2004

  
Annette Duncan  
Secretary