



2011 SENATE BILL 542

March 5, 2012 - Introduced by Senators SCHULTZ and JAUCH. Referred to Joint Committee on Finance.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 20.566 (7) (title), 70.375 (2) (a), 70.395 (1e), 70.395 (2) (dc) 1.,
2 70.395 (2) (dc) 2., 70.395 (2) (dc) 3., 70.395 (2) (dg), 289.645 (3), 293.01 (18),
3 293.32 (2), 293.35 (5), 293.43 (3) (b) (intro.), 293.49 (1) (a) (intro.) and 293.49 (2)
4 (intro.); and **to create** 20.192 (1) (q), 20.566 (7) (w), 25.17 (1) (jd), 25.49 (2m),
5 70.375 (2b), 70.375 (2c), 70.395 (2) (gm), 227.43 (1) (bd), 238.14, 281.34 (5) (am),
6 293.01 (2m), 293.01 (4e), 293.01 (4m), 293.13 (1) (c), 293.31 (7), 293.35 (4),
7 293.43 (5) (bm), 293.43 (6), 293.495 and 293.50 (4) of the statutes; **relating to:**
8 the process for issuance of prospecting and mining permits for certain iron
9 mining, standards for activities related to iron mining, fees related to iron
10 mining, the net proceeds occupation tax on iron mining, and making
11 appropriations.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Processing of application for iron mining permit

Under current law, a person who proposes to mine for metallic minerals must obtain a mining permit from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), as well

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as any other permit, license, certification, or other authorization (approval) that is required under other environmental and natural resources laws. The law requires DNR to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for every proposed metallic mine and to hold an informational meeting on a preliminary version of the EIS. After the EIS is finalized, DNR must hold a public hearing, including a contested case hearing, before acting on the application for the mining permit and other environmental and natural resources approvals. Current law does not specify a time, after the application for a mining permit is filed, within which DNR must act on a metallic mining permit application. It does require the mining hearing to be held between 120 days and 180 days after DNR issues the EIS and requires DNR to act on the permit within 90 days after the completion of the record for the public hearing.

This bill establishes additional deadlines for DNR to act on the application for a mining permit if the proposed mine is an iron mine and DNR determines, based on information provided by the applicant, that it is not likely that any of the areas disturbed by the mining will contain significant amounts of sulfide minerals (nonsulfide iron mine). Under the bill, DNR must generally hold the informational meeting on the preliminary EIS for a proposed nonsulfide iron mine within 270 days after the application for the permit is complete and must generally issue or deny the mining permit application within 270 days after that informational meeting concludes. The applicant may propose any number of extensions to the deadlines and any extensions proposed by the applicant automatically take effect. DNR may not propose more than three extensions for any one permit application. If DNR and the applicant do not agree to an extension proposed by DNR, including the length of the extension, DNR may request a hearing examiner appointed by the administrator of the Division of Hearing and Appeals in the Department of Administration (the division) to resolve the disagreement. The hearing examiner determines whether there is good cause for an extension and, if so, specifies the length of the extension. The deadlines may also be extended by DNR if the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers notifies DNR that an extension is necessary to allow DNR and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to jointly prepare the EISs for the proposed nonsulfide iron mine.

The bill requires the administrator of the division to appoint a hearing examiner to conduct the informational meeting and the public hearing on the application for a mining permit for proposed nonsulfide iron mining and to appoint the same hearing examiner to resolve any disagreements over extensions of deadlines for DNR actions. The bill requires the hearing examiner to conduct a conference with the parties before the hearing on the permit application, to determine which issues will be considered at the hearing, and to establish a schedule that will allow DNR to act on the mining permit application by the deadline specified under the bill.

Other changes to the laws regulating iron mining

Current law requires a person who proposes to conduct metallic mining to pay fees to DNR that equal the costs that DNR incurs in connection with the proposed mining.

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Under this bill, the fees that must be paid to DNR by a person who proposes to conduct nonsulfide iron mining may not exceed \$2,000,000, except that, as under current law, the person is also required to pay the full costs of the preparation of the EIS for the proposed mining.

Current law imposes on generators of solid waste several fees based on the tonnage of solid waste disposed of at solid waste disposal facilities. This kind of fee is often referred to as a tipping fee. The recycling tipping fee is \$7 per ton. Under current law there are some exemptions from the recycling tipping fee and the other tipping fees.

The bill exempts iron mining waste from the recycling tipping fee.

Current law (often called the mining moratorium law) prohibits DNR from issuing a mining permit for the mining of a sulfide ore body until DNR makes two determinations, based on information provided by the applicant. A sulfide ore body is a mineral deposit in which metals are mixed with sulfide minerals. The determinations are that a mining operation in the United States or Canada has operated in a sulfide ore body with an acid generating capacity for at least ten years without polluting groundwater or surface water from acid drainage or the release of heavy metals and that such a mining operation has been closed for at least ten years without polluting groundwater or surface water from acid drainage or the release of heavy metals.

The bill exempts a proposal for a nonsulfide iron mine from the mining moratorium law.

Under current law, a person may not prospect for metallic ore without a prospecting permit from DNR. Prospecting is examining an area to determine the quantity and quality of metallic minerals by means other than drilling, for example, by excavating. Under current law, DNR determines whether it must prepare an EIS for a prospecting permit in the same way that it determines whether it must prepare an EIS for other actions for which an EIS is not specifically required.

The bill specifies that DNR is not required to prepare an EIS for a prospecting permit for nonsulfide iron ore. The bill also provides that DNR is not required to hold a hearing on a prospecting permit for nonsulfide iron ore.

Under the bill, if an iron mining operation is located in an area ceded by the Chippewa to the United States, any wetland mitigation that is authorized or required by DNR must occur within the ceded territory.

Current law requires a person who proposes to construct a high capacity well to obtain approval from DNR. Under the law, if DNR determines that a high capacity well may impair the water supply of a public water utility, DNR may not approve the proposed high capacity well unless it includes conditions that will ensure that the water supply of the public utility will not be impaired.

The bill provides that, if DNR determines that a high capacity well proposed in connection with iron mining may impair a privately owned well, DNR may not approve the proposed high capacity well unless it includes conditions that will ensure that the privately owned well will not be impaired.

SENATE BILL 542***Net proceeds occupation tax***

Under current law, the state imposes a net proceeds occupation tax on the mining of metallic minerals in this state. The tax is based, generally, on a percentage of net income from the sale of ore or minerals after certain mining processes have been applied to the ore or minerals. Under the bill, for the first 60 months in which a person is extracting ferrous metallic minerals in this state, the annual amount of the tax imposed on that person is the greater of the amount of the net proceeds occupation tax computed for that person or an amount equal to \$416,667 for each month in which extraction occurs. If the amount of the net proceeds occupation tax computed for that person is less than the minimum amount required under the bill, the person may claim the difference between the net proceeds occupation tax amount and the minimum amount paid as a credit against the tax imposed in subsequent years as long as the person's tax liability is not less than the minimum amount, less any credit the person claims for construction fees, as allowed under current law.

Under current law, in addition to paying the net proceeds occupation tax, a person who intends to apply for a mining permit must make an additional three payments of \$50,000 each to the investment and local impact fund. Under the bill, a person who intends to apply for a mining permit must also make an additional three payments of \$75,000 each to the investment and local impact fund.

Under current law, the revenue collected from the net proceeds occupation tax is deposited into the investment and local impact fund. The fund is managed by the local impact fund board. The revenue is then, generally, distributed to the counties and municipalities in which metallic minerals are being mined.

Under the bill, 70 percent of the revenue collected from the net proceeds occupation tax on extracting ferrous metallic minerals in this state is deposited into the investment and local impact fund, 10 percent of the revenue is deposited into a mining transportation fund, and 20 percent of the revenue is used for a regional Wisconsin diversification program that the bill requires the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) to establish. Under the bill, the local impact fund board disburses moneys from the mining transportation fund for highway, rail, or shipping infrastructure relating to mining for ferrous metallic minerals. The bill authorizes WEDC to use the moneys it receives for the regional Wisconsin diversification program for the purpose of making business diversification grants or loans in coordination with appropriate units of local government to businesses that are located in close proximity to, but no more than 100 miles from, the site of a mine for ferrous metallic minerals. The bill also authorizes WEDC to use those moneys for the purpose of catastrophe abatement or response, as determined by WEDC.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

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1 20.192 (1) (q) *Regional Wisconsin diversification program*. From the economic
2 development fund, all moneys received under s. 70.395 (1e) for grants, loans, and
3 disbursements under s. 238.14.

4 **SECTION 2.** 20.566 (7) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 20.566 (7) (title) INVESTMENT AND LOCAL IMPACT FUND; MINING TRANSPORTATION
6 FUND.

7 **SECTION 3.** 20.566 (7) (w) of the statutes is created to read:

8 20.566 (7) (w) *Mining transportation fund*. From the mining transportation
9 fund, all moneys received under s. 70.395 (1e) to be disbursed under s. 70.395 (2)
10 (gm).

11 **SECTION 4.** 25.17 (1) (jd) of the statutes is created to read:

12 25.17 (1) (jd) Mining transportation fund (s. 70.395 (2) (gm));

13 **SECTION 5.** 25.49 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:

14 25.49 (2m) The moneys transferred under s. 70.395 (1e) to the appropriation
15 account under s. 20.192 (1) (q).

16 **SECTION 6.** 70.375 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 70.375 (2) (a) ~~In~~ Except as provided in subs. (2b) and (2c), with respect to mines
18 not in operation on November 28, 1981, there is imposed upon persons engaged in
19 mining metalliferous minerals in this state a net proceeds occupation tax effective
20 on the date on which extraction begins to compensate the state and municipalities
21 for the loss of valuable, irreplaceable metalliferous minerals. The amount of the tax
22 shall be determined by applying the rates established under sub. (5) to the net
23 proceeds of each mine. The net proceeds of each mine for each year are the difference
24 between the gross proceeds and the deductions allowed under sub. (4) for the year.

25 **SECTION 7.** 70.375 (2b) of the statutes is created to read:

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1 70.375 **(2b)** MINIMUM TAX. With respect to mines in operation after December
2 31, 2011, beginning with the first month of extraction, for the first 60 months in
3 which a person is extracting ferrous metallic minerals in this state, the amount of
4 the tax imposed on that person is the greater of the tax computed under sub. (2) for
5 the year in which extraction occurs or an amount equal to \$416,667 for each month
6 in which extraction occurs.

7 **SECTION 8.** 70.375 (2c) of the statutes is created to read:

8 70.375 **(2c)** CREDIT. With respect to mines in operation after December 31,
9 2011, if a person subject to sub. (2b) would have paid less tax under sub. (2) than
10 under sub. (2b), the person may claim as a credit against the tax imposed under sub.
11 (2) or (2b) an amount equal to the difference between the amount paid under sub. (2b)
12 and the amount that the person would have paid under sub. (2), except that the
13 person may not claim a credit amount that would result in less than the total
14 minimum tax liability computed under sub. (2b), less any credit amount claimed
15 under s. 70.395 (2) (dg), for the first 60 months in which a person is extracting ferrous
16 metallic minerals in this state. The person may carry forward the amount of any
17 unused credit under this subsection to claim against the person's tax liability in
18 subsequent years until the total amount of the credit is used.

19 **SECTION 9.** 70.395 (1e) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 70.395 **(1e)** DISTRIBUTION. Fifteen days after the collection of the tax under ss.
21 70.38 to 70.39, the department of administration, upon certification of the
22 department of revenue, shall transfer the amount collected in respect to mines not
23 in operation on November 28, 1981, to the investment and local impact fund, except
24 that the department of administration shall transfer 70 percent of the amount
25 collected from each person extracting ferrous metallic minerals to the investment

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1 and local impact fund, 20 percent to the appropriation under s. 20.192 (1) (q) for the
2 regional Wisconsin diversification program under s. 238.14, and 10 percent to the
3 mining transportation fund.

4 **SECTION 10.** 70.395 (2) (dc) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

5 70.395 (2) (dc) 1. Each person intending to submit an application for a mining
6 permit shall pay \$50,000 \$75,000 to the department of revenue for deposit in the
7 investment and local impact fund at the time that the person notifies the department
8 of natural resources under s. 293.31 (1) of that intent.

9 **SECTION 11.** 70.395 (2) (dc) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

10 70.395 (2) (dc) 2. A person making a payment under subd. 1. shall pay an
11 additional \$50,000 \$75,000 upon notification by the board that the board has
12 distributed 50% of the payment under subd. 1.

13 **SECTION 12.** 70.395 (2) (dc) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

14 70.395 (2) (dc) 3. A person making a payment under subd. 2. shall pay an
15 additional \$50,000 \$75,000 upon notification by the board that the board has
16 distributed all of the payment under subd. 1. and 50% of the payment under subd.
17 2.

18 **SECTION 13.** 70.395 (2) (dg) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 70.395 (2) (dg) Each person constructing a metalliferous mining site shall pay
20 to the department of revenue for deposit in the investment and local impact fund, as
21 a construction fee, an amount sufficient to make the construction period payments
22 under par. (d) 5. in respect to that site. Any person paying a construction fee under
23 this paragraph may credit against taxes due under s. 70.375 an amount equal to the
24 payments that the taxpayer has made under this paragraph, provided that the credit
25 does not reduce the taxpayer's liability under s. 70.375 below the amount needed to

SENATE BILL 542**SECTION 13**

1 make the first-dollar payments under par. (d) 1., 2. and 2m. for that year in respect
2 to the taxpayer's mine. The taxpayer may use the credit to reduce the taxpayer's
3 liability under s. 70.375 below the minimum amount required under s. 70.375 (2b).
4 Any amount not creditable because of that limitation in any year may be carried
5 forward.

6 **SECTION 14.** 70.395 (2) (gm) of the statutes is created to read:

7 70.395 (2) (gm) There is created a mining transportation fund under the
8 jurisdiction and management of the investment and local impact board, as created
9 under s. 15.435. The board may disburse moneys from the mining transportation
10 fund, as it determines is necessary, for highway, rail, or shipping infrastructure
11 related to mining ferrous metallic minerals in this state.

12 **SECTION 15.** 227.43 (1) (bd) of the statutes is created to read:

13 227.43 (1) (bd) Assign a hearing examiner to preside over the informational
14 meeting under s. 293.43 (3) (b) and over the hearing under s. 293.43 (1m) for an
15 application for a permit to mine for ferrous minerals and assign the same hearing
16 examiner to any request under s. 293.495 (3) (c) 1. for the same mining permit
17 application.

18 **SECTION 16.** 238.14 of the statutes is created to read:

19 **238.14 Regional Wisconsin diversification program.** The corporation
20 may use moneys received under s. 20.192 (1) (q) only as follows:

21 (1) The corporation may make a grant or loan of those moneys to a business that
22 is located within 100 miles from the site of a mine for ferrous metallic minerals in
23 this state, and the corporation shall give preference for that grant or loan to a
24 business that is located in close proximity to the site of the mine. In making a grant
25 or loan under this subsection, the corporation shall coordinate with an appropriate

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1 unit of local government, as defined in s. 238.133 (1) (b), to make that grant or loan
2 on a competitive basis for the purpose of business diversification.

3 (2) The corporation may disburse those moneys for the purpose of catastrophe
4 abatement or response related to a mine for ferrous metallic minerals, as determined
5 by the corporation.

6 **SECTION 17.** 281.34 (5) (am) of the statutes is created to read:

7 281.34 (5) (am) *Iron mining.* If the department determines that a high capacity
8 well proposed in connection with iron mining may impair a privately owned well, the
9 department may not approve the proposed high capacity well unless it is able to
10 include and includes in the approval conditions, which may include conditions as to
11 location, depth, pumping capacity, rate of flow, and ultimate use, that will ensure
12 that the privately owned well will not be impaired.

13 **SECTION 18.** 289.645 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 289.645 (3) AMOUNT OF RECYCLING FEE. The fee imposed under this section is
15 \$7 per ton for all solid waste other than high-volume industrial waste and mining
16 waste from mining for ferrous minerals, as defined in s. 293.01 (4e).

17 **SECTION 19.** 293.01 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:

18 293.01 (2m) “Ceded territory” means the territory in Wisconsin ceded by the
19 Chippewa Indians to the United States in the treaty of 1837, 7 Stat. 536, and the
20 treaty of 1842, 7 Stat. 591.

21 **SECTION 20.** 293.01 (4e) of the statutes is created to read:

22 293.01 (4e) “Ferrous mineral” means an ore or earthen material in natural
23 deposits in or on the earth that primarily exists in the form of an iron oxide, including
24 taconite, magnetite, and hematite.

25 **SECTION 21.** 293.01 (4m) of the statutes is created to read:

SENATE BILL 542**SECTION 21**

1 293.01 (4m) “Ferrous mining” means the mining of ferrous minerals at a
2 mining site where the department determines, based on information provided under
3 s. 293.31 (7) (a) by a person proposing to mine for ferrous minerals, that it is not likely
4 that any of the disturbed areas will contain significant amounts of sulfide minerals.

5 **SECTION 22.** 293.01 (18) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 293.01 (18) “Prospecting” means engaging in the examination of an area for the
7 purpose of determining the quality and quantity of minerals, other than for
8 exploration but including the obtaining of an ore sample, by such physical means as
9 excavating, trenching, construction of shafts, ramps and tunnels and other means,
10 other than for exploration, which the department, by rule, identifies, and the
11 production of prospecting refuse and other associated activities. “Prospecting” shall
12 not include such activities when the activities are, by themselves, intended for and
13 capable of commercial exploitation of the underlying ore body. However, the fact that
14 prospecting activities and construction may have use ultimately in mining, if
15 approved, shall not mean that prospecting activities and construction constitute
16 mining within the meaning of sub. (9), provided such activities and construction are
17 reasonably related to prospecting requirements. When conducted in contemplation
18 of ferrous mining, “prospecting” does not include any activities that result in the
19 removal of 10,000 or more tons of material.

20 **SECTION 23.** 293.13 (1) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

21 293.13 (1) (c) Require that, if an iron mining operation is located in whole or
22 in part within the ceded territory, any wetland mitigation that is authorized or
23 required by the department as a result of, or as part of, the mining operation occurs
24 within the ceded territory.

25 **SECTION 24.** 293.31 (7) of the statutes is created to read:

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1 293.31 (7) (a) If a person who intends to mine for ferrous minerals wishes to
2 have the department determine that it is not likely that any of the areas that would
3 be disturbed by proposed mining contain significant amounts of sulfide minerals, the
4 person shall provide the department with information on which to make that
5 determination.

6 (b) The department may only determine that it is not likely that any of the areas
7 disturbed by proposed mining for ferrous minerals contain significant amounts of
8 sulfide minerals if the person who intends to mine provides sufficient information
9 under par. (a) to make that determination.

10 **SECTION 25.** 293.32 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 293.32 (2) The department shall annually compare the fees paid under this
12 section and under chs. 30, 280 to 292 and 295 to 299 in connection with proposed
13 prospecting or mining for which notice has been given under s. 293.31 (1) with the
14 costs incurred by the department in connection with that proposed prospecting or
15 mining, including the costs incurred under chs. 30, 280 to 292 and 295 to 299 but
16 excluding costs related to the environmental impact statement. If the costs incurred
17 exceed the fees paid, the person who notified the department shall pay a fee equal
18 to the amount by which the costs exceed the fees previously paid, except that the total
19 amount that a person who proposes to conduct ferrous mining may be required to pay
20 under this subsection and sub. (1) may not exceed \$2,000,000.

21 **SECTION 26.** 293.35 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

22 293.35 (4) The department is not required to prepare a statement under s. 1.11
23 or an environmental analysis for consideration of an application for a permit to
24 prospect in contemplation of ferrous mining.

25 **SECTION 27.** 293.35 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1 293.35 (5) If the department determines that a statement under s. 1.11 is
2 required for consideration of an application for a prospecting permit to which sub.
3 (4) does not apply, the statement need not consider impacts unrelated to the proposed
4 prospecting activity, other than the issue of unsuitability for surface mining, absent
5 a certification under sub. (1).

6 **SECTION 28.** 293.43 (3) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 293.43 (3) (b) (intro.) If it is determined that a statement under s. 1.11 is
8 required, or if an environmental impact statement is required under s. 293.39, the
9 department shall hold at least one informational meeting regarding the preliminary
10 environmental report within 60 days of its issuance and, for an application for a
11 mining permit for ferrous mining, no later than the deadline under s. 293.495 (1).
12 The hearing examiner assigned under s. 227.43 (1) (bd) shall preside over the
13 informational meeting regarding the preliminary environmental impact report for
14 proposed ferrous mining. The meeting shall be held not sooner than 30 days nor later
15 than 60 days after the issuance of the report. The scheduling and providing of notice
16 of the meeting shall be completed not later than 10 days following the issuance of the
17 preliminary environmental report. A hearing referred to under sub. (1m) shall be
18 scheduled for a date not less than 120 days nor more than 180 days after the issuance
19 of the environmental impact statement. The scheduling and providing of notice of
20 the hearing shall be completed within 30 days from the date of issuance of the
21 environmental impact statement. The providing of notice shall be accomplished by:

22 **SECTION 29.** 293.43 (5) (bm) of the statutes is created to read:

23 293.43 (5) (bm) The hearing examiner shall hold a prehearing conference on
24 an application for a mining permit for ferrous mining. At the prehearing conference
25 under this paragraph, the parties shall outline the issues that they wish to raise in

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1 the contested case portion of the hearing and shall present summaries of the
2 testimony that they wish to present. The hearing examiner shall identify the issues
3 that will be considered in the contested case portion of the hearing for an application
4 for a mining permit for ferrous mining, shall notify the parties of those issues, and
5 shall exclude evidence that is not relevant to those issues. The hearing examiner
6 shall also establish a schedule for the case that will enable the department to meet
7 the deadline under s. 293.495 (2).

8 **SECTION 30.** 293.43 (6) of the statutes is created to read:

9 293.43 (6) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN PROSPECTING. The department is not required
10 to conduct a hearing under this section on a permit for prospecting in contemplation
11 of ferrous mining. Notwithstanding s. 227.42, no person is entitled to a contested
12 case hearing on a decision by the department on a permit for prospecting in
13 contemplation of ferrous mining.

14 **SECTION 31.** 293.49 (1) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 293.49 (1) (a) (intro.) Except as provided in sub. (2) and s. 293.50 and except
16 with respect to property specified in s. 41.41 (11), within 90 days of the completion
17 of the public hearing record or, for an application for a mining permit for ferrous
18 mining, no later than the deadline under s. 293.495 (2), the department shall issue
19 the mining permit if it finds:

20 **SECTION 32.** 293.49 (2) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 293.49 (2) (intro.) Within 90 days of the completion of the public hearing record
22 or, for an application for a mining permit for ferrous mining, no later than the
23 deadline under s. 293.495 (2), the department shall deny the mining permit if it finds
24 any of the following:

25 **SECTION 33.** 293.495 of the statutes is created to read:

SENATE BILL 542**SECTION 33****1 293.495 Deadlines for processing ferrous mining permit applications.**

2 **(1) DEADLINE FOR INFORMATIONAL MEETING.** The deadline for the department to hold
3 the informational meeting under s. 293.43 (3) (b) on the preliminary environmental
4 report for a mining permit for ferrous mining is the 270th day after the day on which
5 the department determines that the application under s. 293.37 for the mining
6 permit is complete, except as extended under sub. (3) or (4).

7 **(2) DEADLINE FOR ACTING ON MINING PERMIT APPLICATION.** The deadline for the
8 department to act under s. 293.49 (1) (a) (intro.) and (2) (intro.) on the application for
9 a mining permit for ferrous mining is the 270th day after the day on which the
10 informational meeting under s. 293.43 (3) (b) is concluded, except as extended under
11 sub. (3) or (4).

12 **(3) REQUESTS FOR EXTENSIONS.** (a) The department may propose not more than
13 3 extensions under this section for any one application for a mining permit. An
14 applicant may propose any number of extensions under this section for any one
15 application for a mining permit.

16 (am) If an applicant proposes an extension under par. (a) to a deadline under
17 sub. (1) or (2), the deadline is extended as proposed by the applicant.

18 (b) If the department and an applicant agree to an extension to a deadline
19 under sub. (1) or (2) proposed by the department under par. (a), including the length
20 of the extension, the deadline is extended as provided in the agreement.

21 (c) 1. If the department and an applicant do not agree to an extension proposed
22 by the department under par. (a), the department may request the administrator of
23 the division of hearings and appeals in the department of administration to appoint
24 a hearing examiner to resolve the disagreement.

