

GREAT NORTHERN IRON ORE PROPERTIES

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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION FACE SHEET:

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Message:

DISTRIBUTION DECLARED

The Trustees of Great Northern Iron Ore Properties, at their meeting held on September 19, 2008, declared a third quarter 2008 distribution amounting to \$3.10 per share payable on October 31, 2008, to certificate holders of record on September 30, 2008. Previously, the Trustees paid quarterly distributions amounting to \$2.00 per share on April 30, 2008, to certificate holders on March 31, 2008; and \$2.10 per share on July 31, 2008, to certificate holders on June 30, 2008. The first, second, third and fourth quarter 2007 distributions amounted to \$2.00, \$2.30, \$2.80 and \$2.90 per share, respectively.

We previously informed the certificate holders that the current steelworker labor contracts were set to expire August 31, 2008. We are now pleased to report that, effective September 1, 2008, new four year contracts were successfully negotiated between the steel/taconite companies and the steelworker unions. Steelworkers under the U.S. Steel contract have already ratified the terms of the new contract. Tabulation of votes for the steelworkers under the Cleveland Cliffs contract is still pending and is expected to be completed by the end of September.

As stated in previous letters, despite a slow start, we anticipated stronger production and earnings to occur in the second half of the year. We are pleased to report that our lessees have increased their taconite production on our properties, overcoming some of the unusually high water levels that hampered their operations in the early part of the year. In addition, we are benefiting from royalty rate escalation resulting from continuing higher producer price indices. We now think that, overall, 2008 production will likely be lower than last year, though royalty rate escalation should offset this variance. Based on our lessees' current mining plans and barring some unforeseen development, we continue to think that it will be a very good year for the Trust with stronger production and earnings anticipated in the fourth quarter.

/s/ Joseph S. Micallef

Joseph S. Micallef, President of the Trustees
and Chief Executive Officer