

For Immediate Release  
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## **Rehabilitating The Steep Rock Mine Site** ***McGuinty Government Accepting Proposals To Boost Local Economy***

### **NEWS**

The province has accepted proposals from Brett Resources and Bending Lake Iron Ore Group that would stimulate the local economy and help rehabilitate the former Steep Rock Mine site. The companies propose using this site to process iron ore and dispose of tailings from other mines.

Before the rehabilitation project can proceed, the companies must meet several conditions, including an Environment Assessment. The project will also identify mitigation measures to address the public safety, water quality and flooding issues on the site.

The province will also consider other complementary proposals that support long-term site rehabilitation and build economic stability in the community.

These proposals have the potential to create 1,400 construction jobs and 800 long-term jobs for the area. They are part of the five-year [Open Ontario plan](#) to create jobs, grow the economy and build a stronger Ontario.

### **Quotes**

“The status of this former mine site has long been a concern to those who live in Atikokan. My Ministry is committed to working closely with the local community on how best to support the long-term rehabilitation of the site and at the same time build economic stability”

– *Linda Jeffrey, Minister of Natural Resources*

“Rehabilitation of this site is essential to the environment in this area and beyond. The government of Ontario is delighted to have two partners willing to invest in the region and help reduce environmental risks at the Steep Rock site.”

– *Michael Gravelle, Minister of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry*

“This project provides the opportunity to rehabilitate this site and create future economic opportunity. I am pleased that our government has made this decision to allow our two partners to move forward to the next stage of development.”

– *Bill Mauro, MPP, Thunder Bay-Atikokan*

## Quick Facts

- The former Steep Rock Mine site is close to road and rail corridors and the community of Atikokan, as well as electricity sources and natural gas.
- The iron ore mine operated from 1944 to 1979 and at its peak employed around 1,500 workers. The site became Crown land in 1988.
- The Ministry of Natural Resources has been working to address concerns about mine hazards and water quality at the site.

## Learn More

- Read more about managing [Ontario's Crown land](#).

## For More Information

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## General Enquiries

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