TYPICAL METALLIC MINERAL EXPLORATION

Desk review of existing data

Decision point

Conduct field reconnaissance and/or visit the Michigan core repository

Decision point

Conduct geophysical studies (i.e. data collected by air or on the ground)

Insufficient data

Decision point

Conduct exploration drilling

Insufficient data

Decision point

DISCOVERY
(The time it takes to get to this point varies significantly)

EXISTING DEQ/DNR PROCESS

Note: Exploration typically starts slow with an evaluation of existing geological data (i.e. maps, online core logs, and historical mine info)

Request to conduct exploration drilling
(This may be the first communication, if state lands are not involved)

Private

State

Part 625 Mineral Well Act
Contact DEQ UP
Staff

Exploration Plan & Surface Use Permit
Contact DNR Lansing
Staff

Note: All metallic mineral exploration in Michigan in the last 15 years has been conducted by companies with a long history of exploring in the UP (This is why Prospects and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) is so important), (Over 30,000 people attended this year)

Note: Metallic mineral Exploration is extremely competitive; therefore, exploration companies are extremely secretive about their projects. All information regarding exploration drilling is considered proprietary under Part 625.

1 Most metallic mineral exploration occurs in an area exempt from acquiring a Part 625 permit. However, we are starting to see more exploration projects in areas where a permit is required (Potential area for Process Reform).

2 DNR to add info (Potential area for Process Reform)