August 7, 2017

Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. Announces Final Results of Tender Offers

CLEVELAND--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. **(NYSE:CLF)** announced today the expiration of and final results for its previously announced offer to purchase for cash (the “Tender Offer”) any and all of its outstanding 8.250% Senior Secured Notes due 2020 (the "Notes"). The Tender Offer expired at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on August 4, 2017 (the “Expiration Time”).

On August 7, 2017, the Company purchased $484,063,000 in principal amount of the Notes that were validly tendered and not validly withdrawn prior to the Expiration Time. This total excludes $935,000 in principal amount of the Notes that remain subject to guaranteed delivery procedures.

According to information received from Global Bondholder Services Corporation, the Information Agent and Depositary for the Tender Offer, as of the Expiration Time, the following table sets forth details regarding the total aggregate principal amount of the Notes validly tendered and not validly withdrawn, and the principal amount of the Notes that will be accepted for purchase by the Company today:

Title of Security	CUSIP Number & ISIN	Principal Amount Outstanding	Principal Amount Tendered	Principal Amount to be Accepted on 8/7/2017
8.250% Senior Secured Notes due 2020	144A: CUSIP: 18683KAH4 ISIN: US18683KAH41 REG S: CUSIP: U18618AB1 ISIN: USU18618AB14	$504,400,000	$484,063,000	$484,063,000

In addition, on August 1, 2017, the Company issued a notice of redemption for all of the Notes outstanding following the settlement of the Tender Offer at a redemption price equal to the sum of (i) 100.000% of the principal amount thereof and (ii) the Applicable Premium (as defined in the indenture under which the Notes were issued) as of, and accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date. The redemption date is expected to be August 31, 2017.

Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC served as Dealer Manager for the Tender Offer. Global Bondholder Services Corporation served as the Information Agent and Depositary for the Tender Offer. Questions regarding the Tender Offer may be directed to Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC at 11 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10010, Attn: Liability Management Group, (800) 820-1653 (toll-free), (212) 538-1862 (collect).

This press release does not constitute an offer to purchase securities or a solicitation of an offer to sell any securities or an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to purchase any securities nor does it constitute an offer or solicitation in any jurisdiction in which such offer or solicitation is unlawful.

About Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.

Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. is a leading mining and natural resources company. Founded in 1847, we are recognized as the largest and oldest independent iron ore mining company in the United States. We are a major supplier of iron ore pellets to the North American steel industry from our mines and pellet plants located in Michigan and Minnesota. Additionally, we operate an iron ore mining complex in Western Australia. By 2020, we expect to be the sole producer of hot briquetted iron (“HBI”) in the Great Lakes region with the development of our first production plant in Toledo, Ohio. Driven by the core values of safety, social, environmental and capital stewardship, our employees endeavor to provide all stakeholders with operating and financial transparency.

Forward-Looking Statements

This release contains statements that constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the federal securities laws. As a general matter, forward-looking statements relate to anticipated trends and expectations rather than historical matters. Forward-looking statements are subject to uncertainties and factors relating to Cliffs’ operations and business environment that are difficult to predict and may be beyond our control. Such uncertainties and factors may cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. These statements speak only as of the date of this release, and we undertake no ongoing obligation, other than that imposed by law, to update these statements. Uncertainties and risk factors that could affect Cliffs’ future performance and cause results to differ from the forward-looking statements in this release include, but are not limited to: uncertainty and weaknesses in global economic conditions, including downward pressure on prices caused by oversupply or imported products, the impact of any reduced barriers to trade, the outcomes of recently filed and forthcoming trade cases, reduced market demand and any change to the economic growth rate in China; continued volatility of iron ore and steel prices and other trends, including the supply approach of the major iron ore producers, affecting our financial condition, results of operations or future prospects, specifically the impact of price-adjustment factors on our sales contracts; our level of indebtedness could limit cash flow available to fund working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions and other general corporate purposes or ongoing needs of our business; availability of capital and our ability to maintain adequate liquidity; our ability to successfully conclude the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (Canada) process in a manner that minimizes cash outflows and associated liabilities; the impact of our customers reducing their steel production due to increased market share of steel produced using other methods or lighter-weight steel alternatives; uncertainty relating to restructurings in the steel industry and/or affecting the steel industry; the outcome of any contractual disputes with our customers, joint venture partners or significant energy, material or service providers or any other litigation or arbitration; the ability of our customers and joint venture partners to meet their obligations to us on a timely basis or at all; problems or uncertainties with productivity, tons mined, transportation, mine-closure obligations, environmental liabilities, employee-benefit costs and other risks of the mining industry; our ability to reach agreement with our customers regarding any modifications to sales contract provisions, renewals or new arrangements; our actual levels of capital spending; our ability to successfully diversify our product mix and add new customers beyond our traditional blast furnace clientele; our actual economic iron ore reserves or reductions in current mineral estimates, including whether any mineralized material qualifies as a reserve; our ability to cost-effectively achieve planned

production rates or levels, including at our HBI production plant; our ability to successfully identify and consummate any strategic investments or development projects, including our HBI production plant; our ability to obtain the investments necessary for our HBI production plant; changes in sales volume or mix; events or circumstances that could impair or adversely impact the viability of a mine and the carrying value of associated assets, as well as any resulting impairment charges; our ability to maintain appropriate relations with unions and employees; impacts of existing and increasing governmental regulation and related costs and liabilities, including failure to receive or maintain required operating and environmental permits, approvals, modifications or other authorization of, or from, any governmental or regulatory entity and costs related to implementing improvements to ensure compliance with regulatory changes; uncertainties associated with natural disasters, weather conditions, unanticipated geological conditions, supply or price of energy, equipment failures and other unexpected events; adverse changes in currency values, currency exchange rates, interest rates and tax laws; risks related to international operations; the potential existence of significant deficiencies or material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting; and our ability to satisfy the Financing Condition and successfully complete the Tender Offer. For additional factors affecting the business of Cliffs, refer to Part I - Item 1A. Risk Factors of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016. You are urged to carefully consider these risk factors.

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