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[Næringsliv, Eigersund | Eigersund næring og havn og Norge Mineraler AS med avtale: – Dette er en avtale mange skal kunne nyte godt av \(dalane-tidende.no\)](#)

Eigersund buisness and port and Norge Mineraler AS with agreement: – This is an agreement many should be able to benefit from



AGREEMENT: MD Olav Skalmeraas of Norge Mineraler has signed a letter of intent with Eigersund Industry and Port's Anne Vigdis Ellingsen on port development, among other things. Photo: DT ARCHIVE

Eigersund Industry and Port and Norge Mineraler AS have signed a letter of intent on infrastructure development for planned mineral extraction.

Norge Mineraler AS has exploration rights for mineral deposits in the Bjerkreim-Sokndal intrusion, and has carried out extensive exploration and mapping of the resources. According to the company, the work has shown that there is a basis

for planning the extraction of the mineral's ilmenite, magnetite and apatite, as well as exploitation of residual resources.

This Letter of Intent (hereinafter referred to as "Agreement") has been entered into on 18 December 2023 by and between:

- (1) Eigersund Nøring og Havn KF (hereinafter referred to as "ENH"), organization number 875265172 and registered address at Strandgaten 2, 4370 Egersund, and
- (2) Norge Mineraler AS (hereinafter referred to as "NM"), organization number 974358073, and registered address at Langholmveien 6, 4373 Egersund

Individually referred to as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties".

Background:

- (A) NM has licenses for the development of mineral deposits in the Bjerkeim-Sokndal Intrusion;
- (B) NM has carried out extensive exploration and mapping of the resources which have shown that there is a resource basis for planning the extraction of phosphate, vanadium and titanium in addition to significant quantities of crushed stone and gravel;
- (C) NM has started a Pre-Feasibility study which will detail alternative mining plans and processing facilities as well as export alternatives for the products and waste rock;
- (D) ENH has surveyed and evaluated various possible alternatives for the shipment of waste rock and other materials;
- (E) ENH has concluded that with the quantities NM will export, the Nordasundet port site is the best alternative;
- (F) ENH is willing to carry out further work with Nordasundet harbour and associated transport infrastructure from the nearest railway in operation; and
- (G) The Parties agree that this Agreement forms the basis and sets the framework for further cooperation for Nordasundet site as an export port;

Therefore, the Parties agree on the following:

Section I – Intent of the Agreement

- 1.1 The Agreement describes the Parties' desire to work together to detail the option for exporting products and waste rock that has the least implementation risk (project implementation and approval), lowest costs (investments and life cycle) and which has the most feasibility.
- 1.2 The Agreement describes the Parties' form of cooperation, reporting and responsibility for the investigations, engineering work and assessments.
- 1.3 The Agreement describes project management principles and payment for completed studies.

PICTURE SERIES

Agreement

Norway Minerals AS and Eigersund Industry and Port KF are therefore entering into an agreement to further develop the area in Nordasundet as a possible shipping point for masses from the mineral extraction of Norge Mineraler AS.

Dalane Tidende mentioned the letter of intent several times before the turn of the year, and the agreement was then kept secret, something several were critical of, including the Liberal Party's Gunnar Kvasheim.

Mapping and consequences

According to a press release sent out, the parties have agreed that further work will be done on mapping and impact assessment of both port facilities and infrastructure using existing railways.

The study will be part of the work that Norge Mineraler AS has already started in the form of a feasibility study that will detail both mineral extraction and associated processing plants, as well as export alternatives.

– A collaboration with Norway Minerals gives Eigersund industry and port KF a key role in the development of the port structure of the future and will be able to clarify a basis for how the entire region's business community can benefit from the necessary infrastructure that mineral extraction will require, says MD Anne Vigdis Ellingsen.

Full insights

Through this cooperation, Norge Mineraler will shed light on the extent and consequences of the planned mineral extraction the company has in the area.

"At the same time, we ensure that when final operations are to be established, it is done with full insight into the needs this provides for the transport system, port facilities and with the best effects for local business and land use," says MD Olav Skalmeraas.

The agreement entails that the parties contribute to studying further consequences and solutions that provide the best possible shipment of materials and where the purpose is to create infrastructure that allows other industry players better access to infrastructure that can benefit businesses beyond Norge Mineraler AS's operations.

"Our goal is to develop a mineral business that will provide jobs and income to the local community in Eigersund, while ensuring that the green shift that the world is going through has access to stable mineral sources in Norway. The cooperation on infrastructure development with KF is thus in line with our goals of more benefit to the local community – both directly and indirectly by enabling

more industry actors to make use of the infrastructure required," explains Skalmeraas.

Common processes

The parties state that any development will be subject to ordinary processes vis-à-vis the regulatory authorities, and the study is therefore an important contribution to ensuring that this work can be done in the best possible way, and in line with the provisions of the Planning and Building Act regarding participation and involvement.

A decision on further progress will be ready when the investigation is completed, estimated 4. quarter 2024, it said.

Ellingsen states that there will be a separate company that will carry out the possible development.

"This is important so that we ensure independence, arm's length and that the actors contributing to the study do not end up in too dominant a position in any parts of the further work. These are principles that both parties have been concerned with and which we believe will give legitimacy to the study in the further work," explains Anne Vigdis Ellingsen.