



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE
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****CERTIFIED MAIL****
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

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August 14, 2002

Top-Hat Plan Exemption
Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration
Room N-5644
US Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20210

Re: Section 2520.104-23 of the Department of Labor Regulations

Dear Reader:

Pursuant to Section 110 of Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), the Section 2520.104-23 of the Department of Labor Regulations, Hecla Mining Company hereby provides the information required to comply with the alternative method of compliance with the reporting and disclosure requirements of Part I of Title I of ERISA, the reporting and disclosure requirements, for unfunded plans maintained by an employer for a select group of management or highly compensated employees. As required under Section 2520.104-23(b)(1) of the Regulations, this statement provides a list of the plans maintained by Hecla Mining Company and the number of participants in each plan.

1. The name and address of the employer is as follows: Hecla Mining Company, 6500 Mineral Drive, Suite 200, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815-8788.
2. The employer identification number assigned by the Internal Revenue Service for the employer is: 82-0126240.
3. Hecla Mining Company hereby declares that effective as of August 14, 2002, it maintains one (1) nonqualified deferred compensation plan primarily for the purpose of providing deferred compensation for a select group of management or highly compensated employees.




4. The Hecla Mining Company Key Employee Deferred Compensation Plan, effective as of July 18, 2002, is identified below with the number of employees participating in the plan:

| <u>Plan</u> | <u>Number of Participants</u> |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Hecla Mining Company Key Employee Deferred Compensation Plan | <u>20</u> |

Respectfully submitted,

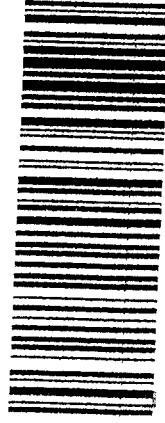
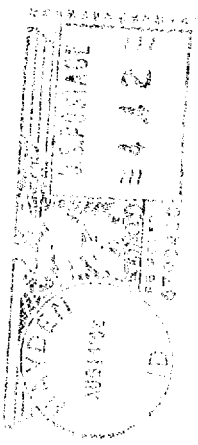
HECLA MINING COMPANY

By:



Michael B. White
Corporate Secretary

POSTNET
CERTIFIED MAIL



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Hecla
MINING COMPANY
6500 Mineral Drive
Coeur d'Alene
Idaho
83815-8788

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