

# Humboldt Mill Profile

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Rendering of refurbished Humboldt Mill

**Humboldt Mill represents a nearly \$100 million investment, 200+ construction jobs, and 65+ full time jobs during operations**

## **ABOUT KENNECOTT EAGLE MINERALS**

**Kennecott Eagle Minerals** is the owner, developer and future operator of the Eagle Mine in western Marquette County in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. A wholly owned unit of Rio Tinto, Eagle will be the only primary nickel mine in the U.S.

**Rio Tinto** is a worldwide leader in mining and exploration. The company discovers, mines, processes and supplies metals and minerals that make modern life work. Rio Tinto has 77,000 employees worldwide and activities in more than 40 countries.

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## **OVERVIEW**

The Humboldt Mill is a prominent fixture of Michigan's mining history. Its service to several prominent mining companies began in the 1950s and is weaved into the culture and economy of the area. Since the mid-1990s the Humboldt Mill has sat idle, falling into disrepair. Even so, this existing Brownfield industrial site is an important community asset.

Kennecott Eagle Minerals recognizes the impact a Brownfield property can have on a community, particularly when known or perceived issues from historical use may be complicating reuse of the property. Communities often struggle to find new uses for these Brownfields, whether as a neighborhood park or as a new commercial or retail use, unless and until the historical issues are resolved.

In 2008 Kennecott purchased the Humboldt Mill as part of the company's long term vision for the region. The mill adds to the sustainability of operations at the Eagle Mine in terms of social, economic, and environmental benefits.

Kennecott received all of the state permits necessary to refurbish and operate the mill from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality in 2010. Thus began a nearly \$100 million investment in site cleanup, environmental reclamation, and equipment upgrades. This investment will ensure safe and efficient operation of the facility.

The mill will be utilized for the concentration of ore, just as it has in the past. Ore will be hauled from the Eagle mine to the mill, where it will be processed into separate nickel and copper concentrates. The concentrates will then be transported via rail to an offsite smelter for further refinement.

By utilizing Humboldt, Kennecott is able to extract more nickel and copper at lower grades. This leads to a better use of the mineral resource, more jobs, more taxes, and a longer mine life.

# RioTinto