

**FERROCHROME
PRODUCTION
FACILITY**

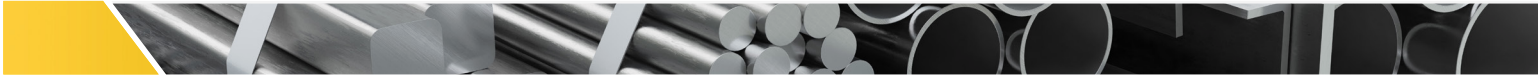
Noront has vast chromite resources and plans to build a safe, environmentally responsible facility to process them. The chrome smelting facility is planned to be expandable and will receive ore concentrate from our mines in the Ring of Fire to produce ferrochrome for the stainless steel market.

Noront is exploring its 155,000-hectare land package and advancing a strategic plan to develop its chromite assets. We plan to leverage the commercial production of our Eagle's Nest infrastructure (including the camp, mine, airstrip and road) to support nearby Blackbird as our first chrome mine. Ore is planned to be transported to the Noront Ferrochrome Production Facility (FPF) via an existing rail infrastructure and an all-season gravel road currently being permitted by local communities and the provincial government.

In February 2018, we received bids to host the FPF from four northern cities; Thunder Bay, Timmins, Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury. These locations were chosen because they had potential brownfield locations, local infrastructure and available quality workforces. The list was then narrowed down to two cities with a final site, in Sault Ste. Marie, chosen in May 2019. The Sault site is located on industrial lands west of the Algoma Steel Plant, providing access to the Great Lakes and the ability to procure services from a strong industrial partner. Repurposing the existing Algoma brownfields site is ideal for the establishment of a modern, state-of-the-art ferrochrome facility. The proximity to markets and the lower operating cost tipped the scales in favour of Sault Ste. Marie.

The Ferrochrome Production Facility is planned to be part of Noront's high-grade, high quality, long life chrome business that will provide opportunity and prosperity for generations of Ontarians.

The FPF is planned to produce high carbon ferrochrome and employ approximately 1,500 during construction and between 300 and 500 people full-time. Once Noront has established itself as a high quality, consistent ferrochrome producer in the North American market, we plan to double ferrochrome production, which would increase employment to more than 500 people. We would develop the Black Thor deposit and target the European and Asian markets with the increased production.



FERROCHROME PRODUCTION FACILITY OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Highest quartile ferrochrome product quality
- ▶ Environmentally responsible and sustainable operations
- ▶ Use of proven technology in the ferrochrome (FeCr) and/or ferroalloy industry for all unit operations at the FPF
- ▶ Best available technologies to be used for dust capture from process and material handling steps — Dust will be recycled, minimizing environmental impacts
- ▶ The plan for Stage 1 is to have two 65 MW DC open-bath electric furnaces. State-of-the-art gas cleaning equipment will be used for chromite smelting. Stage 2 will have four furnaces
- ▶ To minimize CO₂ emissions and energy consumption, the ore, limestone and anthracite is planned to be pre-treated and heated in a direct-fired rotary kiln utilizing the furnace off-gases (CO)
- ▶ Power is planned to be supplied via a high-capacity transmission line with a total connected load of 210 MW for Stage 1 FPF, to be expanded to 350 MW for Stage 2

SAULT STE. MARIE - ALGOMA SITE ATTRIBUTES

- ▶ Proximity to suitable electrical infrastructure and robustness of electrical grid to support over 300 MW of demand including electric furnaces
- ▶ Proximity to main rail and natural gas lines
- ▶ Effective road infrastructure and access
- ▶ Cost effective transportation costs to the location, both from mine and from the sources of the major consumables, especially anthracite
- ▶ Proximity to markets and low transportation costs to the main ferrochrome customers
- ▶ Availability of a trained and experienced workforce to staff the operation
- ▶ A demonstrated level of community support

The development of the FPF plan leading to construction is expected to occur over an estimated seven-year period. There is substantial effort to engineer, consult with the community and complete the very significant environmental assessment required to build the FPF.

Visit the Sault Ste. Marie FPF Project website for more information:

<https://saultfpfproject.com/>