Mining in Wisconsin

The students were provided with questions and supporting information prior to the classroom discussion. The instructor then facilitated the discussion by randomly calling on the stakeholder groups and comparing and contrasting the various responses to the questions. The discussion was vigorous, with some groups initially being very strong in their positions, only to modify their position bases on the consideration of other opinions and the sharing of additional information by the instructor. The end result was that the students had a better understanding of the complex nature of resource management decisions and sustainability, while considering the economic, environmental, political and social aspects of the decision-making process.

Key Stakeholders

Local Residents
Bad River Tribe
GTAC
Governor’s Office
Residents of Wisconsin
Future GTAC Employees
Wisconsin DNR
NGOs

Key Questions / Issues

1) What are the objectives of your stakeholder group?
   a. List several
2) Is there consensus among the group in terms of the objectives and which ones are most important?
3) What are the pros/cons of the mine being located in northern Wisconsin from your stakeholder perspective?
4) How much information do you have available to inform your decision and where can you obtain the necessary information?
5) What additional information would be valuable in making a decision regarding the development of the mine?
6) What is the most effective approach to participating in the process to ensure your voice is heard?
7) What is the most important consideration for the mine from your stakeholder perspective – technical, economic, environmental, social?
8) What is the best possible outcome?
9) What is the worst possible outcome?