

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

CLEVELAND-CLIFFS INC.

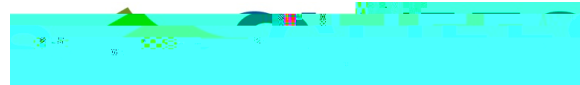
SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

CLEVELAND-CLIFFS INC.

Date: October 20, 2017

By: _____



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Cleveland-Cliffs Inc. Reports Third-Quarter 2017 Results

- Net income increased by 290 percent to \$53 million, including \$89 million in debt extinguishment charges
- Adjusted EBITDA¹ of \$154 million, a 149 percent increase from the prior-year quarter

CLEVELAND—October 20, 2017—Cleveland-Cliffs Inc. (**NYSE: CLF**) today reported third-quarter results for the period ended September 30, 2017. The Company reported consolidated revenues of \$698 million, an increase of 26 percent compared to the prior year's third-quarter revenues of \$553 million. Cost of goods sold increased by 15 percent to \$538 million compared to \$468 million reported in the third quarter of 2016.

The Company recorded net income of \$53 million in the third quarter, or \$0.18 per diluted share. This included an \$89 million, or \$0.29 per diluted share, loss on extinguishment of debt, and a \$32 million, or \$0.11 per diluted share, gain from discontinued operations. This compares to a net loss of \$28 million, or \$0.12 per diluted share, recorded in the third quarter of 2016. The prior-year quarter's net loss included an \$18 million, or \$0.09 per diluted share, loss on extinguishment of debt, and a \$3 million, or \$0.01 per diluted share, loss from discontinued operations.

For the third quarter of 2017, adjusted EBITDA¹ was \$154 million, a 149 percent increase compared to \$62 million reported in the third quarter of 2016.

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Adjusted EBITDA ¹ by Segment	U	U

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Debt and Cash Flow

Total debt at the end of the third quarter of 2017 was \$1.7 billion, approximately \$500 million lower than the \$2.2 billion total debt at the end of the prior-year quarter. Cliffs had net debt³ of \$1.4 billion at the end of the third quarter of 2017, compared to \$2.0 billion of net debt⁴ at the end of the third quarter of 2016. The Company had no borrowings under its asset-based lending facility at the end of the third quarter of 2017 or 2016.

Capital expenditures during the quarter were \$30 million, compared to \$26 million in the prior-year quarter.

Segment Outlook

	2017 Outlook Summary	
	U.S. Iron Ore (A)	Asia Pacific Iron Ore (B)
Cost of goods sold and operating expense rate	\$70 - \$75	\$40 - \$45
Less:		
Freight and venture partners' cost reimbursements expense rate (C)	\$11	\$3
Depreciation, depletion & amortization rate	\$4	\$1
Cash cost of goods sold and operating expense rate ²	\$55 - \$60	\$36 - \$41
Sales volume (million tons)	18.5	10.5
Production volume (million tons)	18.5	11.0
(A) U.S. Iron Ore tons are reported in long tons of pellets.		
(B) Asia Pacific Iron Ore tons are reported in metric tons of lump and fines.		
(C) The freight and venture partners' cost reimbursements have offsetting amounts in revenue and have no impact on sales margin.		

U.S. Iron Ore Outlook (Long Tons)

Cliffs full-year sales and production volume expectations were each reduced by 500,000 tons to 18.5 million long tons. The reduction in sales volumes is attributable to a significant reduction in pellet nomination by a large customer, partially offset by increased export sales.

For 2018, Cliffs expects sales and production volumes of 20 million long tons, as a result of the increased capacity from the acquisition of the remaining minority interest in the Tilden mine.

Cliffs' full-year 2017 U.S. Iron Ore cash cost of goods sold and operating expense² expectation is unchanged at \$55 - \$60 per long ton.

Asia Pacific Iron Ore Outlook (Metric Tons, F.O.B. the port)

Cliffs' full-year 2017 Asia Pacific Iron Ore sales and production volume expectations were each reduced by 500,000 metric tons, to 10.5 million metric tons of sales and 11 million metric tons of production. The reductions were driven by operational decisions reflecting current market conditions and quality ore availability.

For 2018, Cliffs expects Asia Pacific Iron Ore sales and production volumes of 11 million tons.

Due to unfavorable exchange rate movements and lower production volumes, Cliffs' full-year 2017 cash cost of goods sold and operating expense² expectation has been increased to \$36 - \$41 per metric ton. This assumes a full-year average exchange rate of \$0.77 U.S. Dollar to Australian Dollar.

SG&A Expenses and Other Expectations

Cliffs is maintaining its full-year 2017 SG&A expense expectation of \$110 million. Cliffs also notes that of the \$110 million expectation, approximately \$30 million is considered non-cash.

As a result of the July refinancing transaction, the Company's full-year 2017 interest expense was reduced by \$7 million

Forward-Looking Statements

This release contains statements that constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the federal securities laws. As a general matb



