

HECLA MINING CO/DE/
Form 8-K
March 05, 2018

UNITED STATES

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549**

FORM 8-K

**Current Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of
The Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): **March 5, 2018**

HECLA MINING COMPANY
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware **1-8491** **77-0664171**
(State or Other Jurisdiction (Commission File Number) (IRS Employer Identification No.)
of Incorporation)

6500 North Mineral Drive, Suite 200

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815-9408

(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(208) 769-4100

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

N/A
(Former name or Former Address, if changed Since Last Report)

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 1.01 Entry Into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On March 5, 2018, Hecla Mining Company (the “Company”) issued a News Release announcing it had entered into a Note Purchase Agreement (“Agreement”) pursuant to which it issued Canadian \$40 million in aggregate principal amount of its Series 2018-A Senior Notes due May 1, 2021 (the “Notes”) to Ressources Québec, a subsidiary of Investissement Québec, a financing arm of the Québec government. The Notes were issued at a discount of 0.58%, and bear interest at a rate of 4.68% per year. The Notes are senior and unsecured and are pari passu in all material respects with the Company’s outstanding 6.875% Senior Notes due May 2021, including with respect to guarantees of the Notes by certain subsidiaries of the Company.

The Company intends to use the net proceeds from the offering of the Notes for general corporate purposes related to the Casa Berardi Mine, including capital expenditures and development and expansion costs at such mine.

The description of the Agreement and the Notes in this report are summaries only, do not purport to be complete, and are qualified in their entirety by the terms of the Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit 10.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 2.03 Creation of a Direct Financial Obligation or an Obligation under an Off-Balance Sheet Arrangement of a Registrant.

See the disclosure contained in Item 1.01 above, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit

Description

Number

10.1 Note Purchase Agreement, dated March 5, 2018, among Hecla Mining Company, as Issuer, certain subsidiaries of Hecla Mining Company, as Guarantors thereto, and Ressources Québec. *

99.1 News Release dated March 5, 2018. *

* Filed herewith

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SIGNATURE

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.

Dated: March 5, 2018

Hecla Mining Company

By: /s/ David C. Sienko
David C. Sienko
Vice President & General Counsel