

HECLA MINING CO/DE/  
Form 8-K  
December 21, 2011

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

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**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): **December 21, 2011**

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

|   |                          |                                   |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Delaware</b>                                   | <b>1-8491</b>            | <b>77-0664171</b>                 |
| (State or Other Jurisdiction<br>of Incorporation) | (Commission File Number) | (IRS Employer Identification No.) |

**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)

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))



**Item 8.01. Other**

On December 21, 2011, Hecla Mining Company (the “Company”) issued a news release with respect to its operations at the Lucky Friday Mine. The news release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 to this Form 8-K.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits**

(c) Exhibits

99.1 News Release, dated December 21, 2011. \*

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\* Filed herewith.

**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.

HECLA MINING COMPANY

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

Dated: December 21, 2011