

April 22, 2022

## Note to file

# Follow-up with Government of the Northwest Territories on environmental assessment process steps for the Pine Point Mine Project

Review Board staff met online with Government of the Northwest Territories departmental staff on April 22, 2022, to discuss upcoming process steps in the environmental assessment of the Pine Point Mine Project.

### Participants:

Government of the Northwest Territories: Ash Varghese, Evan Souter, Malorey Nirlungayuk, Katherine Ades, Dave Abernethy, Melissa Pink, Sarah Samms, Chris Hewitt, Laurie McGregor, Steve St. Pierre, Mischelle Remigio, Jennifer Spencer-Hazenberg, Jaida Ohokannoak, Rohan Brown, Emily Ingarfield, Andrea Ellis, Dinah Elliot, Andrea Giesbrecht, Ashley McLaren, Kathy Unger, Lorraine Seale, Laura Faryna, Daniel Drimes, Jeffery Cederwall, Tim Thurley, Anita Ogaa, Kelly Bourassa, Mark Bell, Tony Vermillion

Review Board staff: Eileen Marlowe, Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Alan Ehrlich, Chuck Hubert, Catherine Fairbairn, Simon Toogood, Jeremy Freeman

### Summary of discussion:

Review Board staff described upcoming environmental assessment process steps for the Pine Point Mine Project and how Government of the Northwest Territories departments can participate. Slides from the presentation are attached to this Note to File.

Review Board staff also discussed engagement opportunities moving forward and answered questions from Government of the Northwest Territories staff.

Information on the environmental assessment of the Pine Point Mine Project is here:

<https://reviewboard.ca/registry/ea2021-01>

A summary of the Pine Point Mine Project Terms of Reference is here:

[https://reviewboard.ca/sites/default/files/news/files/7812\\_mve\\_summary\\_tor\\_web.pdf](https://reviewboard.ca/sites/default/files/news/files/7812_mve_summary_tor_web.pdf)

# Outreach with Government of the Northwest Territories

## Environmental assessment process steps

### How government departments participate in EA and assist the Review Board

April 22, 2022



# Outline



1. Introductions
2. EA process steps where you can become involved
3. Workplan – steps where your participation is requested
4. Opportunities for outreach and engagement throughout an EA



# How government departments can participate and assist the Review Board



## Developer's Assessment Report preparation

- If requested, assist the developer in its approach to fulfilling specific Terms of Reference requirements that were recommended by your department.

## Developer's Assessment Report review

- Assist Board with adequacy review if requested.

## Information requests

- Ask questions that focus on project interactions on the environment and people that could lead to potentially significant impacts.
- Provide clear reasons for your request.



# How government departments can participate and assist the Review Board



## Meetings between expert departments and developer

Discuss specific issues with the developer and report back to Review Board on:

- project interactions with valued components
- mitigation to reduce impacts that can become part of project design
- commitments to reduce impacts that resolve issues
  
- any issues related to impacts that could be significant that remain unresolved



# How government departments can get involved to assist the Review Board



## Technical sessions

- may be issue specific or broad
- seek clarification on project interactions that lead to significant impacts (not impacts easily resolved with standard mitigations covered by regulations)

## Community meetings

- may request presence of GNWT department rep to answer questions if asked by community

## Interventions (technical reports)

- describe how and why any remaining project interactions are significant and recommend mitigation to resolve so no longer significant



# How government departments can get involved to assist the Review Board



## Hearings

- Present findings to the Review Board on remaining (outstanding) potentially significant impacts and propose mitigation.
- Question others regarding impacts and mitigation.
- Help the Board by describing remaining impacts to either individual valued components or the ecological/human system.
- Provide views on significance of outstanding issues.

## Closing written arguments

- Summarize conclusions on the acceptability and significance of impacts of the proposed development and the evidence that supports those conclusions.
- Make clear recommendations to the Board.



# Government Information - MVRMA



**S. 22** Subject to any other federal or territorial law and to any Tlicho law or Déline law, **a board may obtain from any department** or agency of the federal or territorial government, the Tlicho Government or the Déline Got'ine Government **any information in the possession of the department**, agency, Tlicho Government or Déline Got'ine Government that the board requires for the performance of its functions.



# Workplan next steps – analytical phase



- Communities work with PPML to prepare Developer's Assessment Report
- Developer's Assessment Report submitted
- Adequacy Review by Review Board and responses from PPML
- Reasons for Decision on why EA can proceed to public review
  
- **Information requests on DAR from parties/responses from PPML**
- Community meetings
- **Technical sessions**
- Undertakings from PPML and others
- **Information requests (if necessary)**



# Workplan steps – hearing phase, decision phase



- **Parties submit interventions (technical reports)**
- PPML submits responses
- Pre-hearing conference facilitated by Review Board staff
- **Parties submit hearing presentations, Developer submits presentation**
  
- **Technical hearings**
- Community hearings
- Hearing undertakings
- **Closing arguments from parties and developer**
- Report of EA and Reasons for Decision from Review Board
- Minister's decision



# EA Process Steps

## education and outreach opportunities



- EA Initiation Package submitted
- EA Referral and Reasons for decision
- EA start-up meeting
- Information session
- Participant funding notice

- Community scoping meetings
- Technical scoping meetings
- Draft Terms of Reference review
- Terms of Reference final
- Follow-up on Terms of Reference

- Developer's Assessment Report
- Show and tell
- Adequacy determination
- Information requests
- Technical sessions
- Community meetings

- Interventions (Technical reports)
- Pre-hearing conference
- Community hearings
- Formal hearings
- Closing arguments
- Public record closed

- Board deliberates on evidence
- Report of EA and Reasons for Decision
- Follow-up with parties
- Minister decision to accept or consult to modify
- Follow-up on Report of EA measures

