



January 18, 2024

BY EMAIL

Mark Cliffe-Phillips
Executive Director
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
200 Scotia Centre, 5102-50th Ave
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

Dear Mark Cliffe-Phillips:

Update on Government of the Northwest Territories' expectations of Pine Point Mining Limited pertaining to mine disturbances for the Pine Point Mining Project

Attached please find a letter from the Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Climate Change (GNWT-ECC) to Pine Point Mining Limited (PPML) regarding future mine disturbances associated with the proposed Pine Point Mine Project (the Project). This letter was developed following discussions between PPML and GNWT-ECC in the context of the current environmental assessment of the Project (EA 2021-01). PPML advises that it has notified its Impact Benefit Agreement partners of these discussions and that a letter would be filed to the public registry.

Please add this letter to the public registry for EA 2021-01.

If the Review Board or parties have questions about this submission, please contact me at [Nathen Richea@gov.nt.ca](mailto:Nathen.Richea@gov.nt.ca) or by phone at 867-767-9234, ext. 53110, or Lorraine Seale, Director, Impact Assessment and Security Management, by email at [Lorraine Seale@gov.nt.ca](mailto:Lorraine.Seale@gov.nt.ca) or by phone at 867-767-9180, ext. 24020.

Sincerely,

Nathen Richea
Assistant Deputy Minister
Regulatory, Assessment, and Authorizations

Attachment

- c. Andrew Williams, Environment Manager, Pine Point Mining Limited
- Menzie McEachern, Assistant Deputy Minister, Industry, Tourism, and Investment
- Chuck Hubert, Senior Environmental Assessment Advisor, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board



November 2, 2023

Andrew Williams
Environment Manager
Pine Point Mining Limited
1100 Avenue des Canadiens-de-Montreal, Bureau 3000
MONTREAL QC H3B 2S2

Dear Andrew Williams:

Expectations of Pine Point Mining Limited pertaining to mine disturbances for the Pine Point mine Project (EA2021-01).

The Government of the Northwest Territories' (GNWT) wishes to clarify its expectations of Pine Point Mining Limited (PPML) regarding future mine disturbances associated with the proposed Pine Point mine currently undergoing environmental assessment (EA2021-01) under the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA).

Background

PPML is proposing to develop a lead-zinc mine, known as the Pine Point Project (the Project), in the area of old Pine Point Mine, south of Great Slave Lake in the Northwest Territories. PPML's proposal is the latest development in Pine Point's long history of projects dating back to the 1960s. The Project overlaps with existing pre-developed areas (the existing disturbances) where historical exploration and mining activities were conducted by companies unrelated to PPML.

The GNWT understands that documents which reference the previous remediation activities of the existing disturbances are insufficient to satisfy the interests of PPML. PPML has indicated to the GNWT that this has created a lack of certainty over the status of the land within PPML's mineral claims and mineral leases, causing concern to PPML's investors.

GNWT's expectations

As with all projects in the Northwest Territories, the GNWT position is that PPML will be responsible for remediating any areas the Project directly or indirectly impacts. For clarity, PPML will not be responsible for remediating areas that are not impacted directly or indirectly by PPML's operations.

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Further, the GNWT expects that PPML will be responsible for describing baseline conditions and adequately documenting them to ensure there is a clear distinction between the impacts caused by existing disturbances and impacts caused directly and indirectly by the Project. The baseline conditions will be used by the regulators to determine the level of remediation required, which would consider any applicable remediation standards of the day. As previously discussed, GNWT staff are interested in discussing plans for baseline data collection with PPML. Where relevant, GNWT will post outcomes of such discussions on the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) public registry for the current environmental assessment.

The GNWT believes these expectations are consistent with previous environmental assessment processes completed in the Northwest Territories.

Authorities established under the MVRMA

The MVRMA creates an integrated co-management regime that governs environmental impact assessment and permitting of projects in the Mackenzie Valley of the Northwest Territories. Under the MVRMA, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) and the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) carry out almost all steps for review of and decision-making for the mine, including the remediation and closure requirements for the Project. The GNWT will participate in all relevant proceedings, led by the Review Board and the MVLWB. As part of its participation, the GNWT will provide recommendations on remediation and closure requirements for consideration. The GNWT will also exercise its decision-making or approval role under the legislation at the required step(s) of the environmental assessment and water licensing process. The GNWT, in part under its decision-making or approval role, will also continue to consult and engage with affected Indigenous governments and Indigenous organizations on their interests in the site.

The GNWT remains available to assist PPML in reviewing plans and providing guidance on the documentation of baseline conditions. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the undersigned at [Nathen Richea@gov.nt.ca](mailto:Nathen.Richea@gov.nt.ca) or (867) 767-9055 ext. 53001.

Sincerely,



Nathen Richea
Assistant Deputy Minister
Regulatory, Assessment and Authorizations
Environment and Climate Change