

Statement of Completion for a Category B Project

Class Environmental Assessment for Activities of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines under the Mining Act

Rond Lake Mine Rehabilitation Project (Proposal to Cap an Open Mine Shaft)

The Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM) has completed its assessment on the MNDM's proposal to place a cap on an open mine shaft at the abandoned Rond Lake Mine (Figure 1). The work will be carried out in two separate phases beginning in early fall (September/October) over two successive years. Site clearing and ground preparation around the shaft collar and landing pad is proposed to begin in late September 2017. A detailed ground survey around the shaft collar will be conducted once the site clearing and ground prep work is done in order to inform the engineering design and fabrication of the steel cap. The steel cap will be installed over the shaft in late September 2018, along with any other rehabilitation work that may be determined to be appropriate.

The Category B screening, consultation and project review was carried out in accordance with the *Class Environmental Assessment for MNDM's Activities under the Mining Act* (Class EA).

On August 17, 2017 a 30-day Notice of Opportunity to Provide Input was provided to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), and other potentially interested stakeholders and members of the public. No public comments were received during this time.

MNRF indicated that the project is located within 2 kilometres of a high use area for Woodland caribou. As a result, project activities are proposed to only occur between late September and late April of the following year, in order to avoid any potential sensory disturbance to Woodland caribou during sensitive periods (May 1st to September 15th of any given year).

Since 2016, MNDM has been discussing the project with representatives from Eabametoong First Nation and Four Winds Environmental Services Group (Matawa First Nations Management) on safety concerns, environmental constraints, project design, and economic opportunities. Eabametoong First Nation supports the rehabilitation project, and believes it is possible that the site may be responsible for the death of community members. The community will be engaged on how these members can be respectfully remembered. The Chief has also expressed concerns with project delays, and would like to see MNDM keep its initial commitment for project completion by the end of the summer 2018. Helicopter use will also be limited in order to minimize noise during the

community's fall hunting season. MNDM will be continuing consultation and engagement efforts with the Eabametoong First Nation community in order to share information, identify and address concerns, and ensure that the vendor continues to offer community members employment opportunities.

MNDM will implement the project as planned.

Approved by:



Oct 26/17

Brian McMahon

Enter date

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Copies to:

- Project File
- Class EA website
- Environmental Assessment Coordinator, Strategic Support Unit, Ministry of Northern Development and Mines
- Regional Director, Regional Office, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change
- Regional Area Supervisor, Regional Office, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change
- Director, Environmental Approvals Branch, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change

Figure 1: Project Location

