

**Amendments to the existing “Project-Specific Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impacts statement and Canadian Environmental Assessment Act Comprehensive Study Scoping Document” for the Highway 914 – All Weather Roadway – McArthur River Mine Site to Cigar Lake Mine Site Project**

**A) To be amended to Part 9.0 Assessing Environmental Impacts as a federal requirement only:**

For the purposes of developing the EIS, the proponent will engage with Aboriginal groups that may be affected by the project to collect information on how the project will affect:

- health and socio-economic conditions;
- physical and cultural heritage, including any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance;
- current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes; and,
- potential or established Aboriginal or Treaty rights and related interests.

In preparing the EIS, the proponent will ensure that Aboriginal groups have access to timely and relevant information that they require in respect of the project and how the project may adversely affect them. The proponent will structure its Aboriginal engagement activities to provide adequate time for Aboriginal groups to review and comment on the relevant information. Engagement activities must be appropriate to the group’s needs and should be arranged through discussions with the groups. The proponent will describe all efforts successful or not, taken to solicit the information required from Aboriginal groups in the preparation of the EIS.

In the EIS, the proponent will document:

- the engagement activities undertaken with Aboriginal groups prior to the submission of the EIS, including the date and means of engagement (e.g., meeting, mail, telephone);
- any future planned engagement activities;
- how its engagement activities allowed Aboriginal groups to understand the project and evaluate its effects on their communities, activities and interests;
- an overview of key comments and concerns raised by Aboriginal groups and how the key concerns were responded to or addressed; and,
- a summary of the changes made to the project design and implementation directly as a result of discussions with Aboriginal groups.

The proponent will also keep detailed tracking records of its engagement activities recording all interactions with Aboriginal groups, the issues raised by each Aboriginal group and how the proponent addressed the concerns raised. The proponent will share these records with the Agency.

Where Aboriginal groups share information on their potential or established Aboriginal or Treaty rights and potential adverse impacts of the project on those rights with the proponent, the proponent will share this information with the Agency immediately and include it in the EIS as reported by the group.

#### Identified Aboriginal Groups

The proponent will hold meetings with the following potentially affected Aboriginal groups and facilitate these meetings by making key EA summary documents (baseline studies, EIS key findings, plain language summaries) accessible:

- Fond du Lac Denesuline First Nation,
- Hatchet Lake Denesuline First Nation,
- Black Lake Denesuline First Nation,
- English River First Nation,
- Lac La Ronge Indian Band,
- Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation,
- Métis Local Pinehouse #9 (Kineepik Local).

For the above groups, the proponent will ensure there are sufficient opportunities for individuals and groups to provide oral input in the language of their choosing. The proponent will ensure that these Aboriginal groups' views are heard and recorded.

There are additional Aboriginal groups that are expected to be less affected the project and its related effects. These Aboriginal groups include, but are not limited to:

- Métis Nation Saskatchewan Northern Region I, II, and III

The proponent will make key EA summary documents (baseline studies, EIS key findings, plain language summaries) accessible to these Aboriginal groups and ensure their views are heard and recorded.

The proponent should consider translating information for Aboriginal groups into the appropriate Aboriginal language(s) in order to facilitate engagement activities during the environmental assessment.

Should the proponent have knowledge of potential effects to an Aboriginal group not appearing on the above lists, the proponent will bring this to the attention of the Agency at the earliest opportunity.

**B) To be amended to Part 6.0 EIS Executive Summary as a federal requirement only**

- a table of technically and economically feasible mitigation measures that would mitigate significant adverse environmental effects, including their environmental outcome;
- A summary of the engagement conducted with Aboriginal groups, the public, government agencies, including a summary of the issues raised and the proponent's responses.

**C) To be amended to Part 17.0 Monitoring, Reporting, and Follow-up as a federal requirement only:**

A Follow-up Program is designed to verify the accuracy of the effects assessment and to determine the effectiveness of the measures implemented to mitigate the adverse effects of the project. The EIS will describe the proponent's proposed Follow-up Program in sufficient detail to allow independent judgment as to the likelihood that it will deliver the type, quantity and quality of information required to reliably verify predicted effects (or absence of them), and to confirm both the assumptions and the effectiveness of mitigation. The Follow-up Program will include specific commitments that clearly describe how the proponent intends to implement them.

The Follow-up Program will be designed to incorporate baseline data, compliance data (such as established benchmarks, regulatory documents, standards or guidelines) and real time data (such as observed data gathered in the field). The proponent will describe the reporting methods to be used, including frequency, methods and format.

The effects predictions, assumptions and mitigation actions that are to be tested in the follow-up program must be converted into field-testable monitoring objectives. The monitoring design must include a statistical evaluation of the adequacy of existing baseline data to provide a benchmark against which to test for project effects, and the need for any additional pre-construction or pre-operational monitoring to establish a firmer project baseline.

The Follow-up Program will include a schedule indicating the frequency and duration of effects monitoring. This schedule is to be developed after an evaluation of the length of time needed to detect effects given the estimated baseline variability, likely magnitude of environmental effect and desired level of statistical confidence in the results (Type 1 and Type 2 errors).

The description of the Follow-up Program will include any contingency procedures/plans or other adaptive management provisions as a means of addressing unforeseen effects or for correcting exceedances as required to comply or to conform to benchmarks, regulatory standards or guidelines.

The Follow-up Program will also be designed to monitor the implementation of mitigation measures resulting from Aboriginal engagement by the proponent, include:

- Verifying predictions of environmental effects with respect to Aboriginal peoples, as well as residual impacts that could not be addressed within the context of the EA;

January 23, 2014

- Determining the effectiveness of the mitigation measures as they relate to environmental effects with respect to Aboriginal peoples in order to modify or implement new measures where required;
- Supporting the implementation of adaptive management measures to address previously unanticipated adverse environmental effects with respect to Aboriginal peoples or unanticipated adverse impacts to Aboriginal rights;
- Verifying measures identified to prevent and mitigate potential adverse effects of the project on potential or established Aboriginal and Treaty Rights; and,
- Providing information that can be used to improve and/or support future EAs and Aboriginal consultation processes.