

## Howse Property Iron Mine Project Information Request (CEAA 106)

**Context and Rationale:** The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency), with input from NRCan, has conducted a technical review of the proponent's responses to Information Requests (IRs) CEAA 16 to 20 (Round 1, Part 1). NRCan has noted some errors and issues in SNC's Report titled *Hydrogeology Numerical Modeling for the Howse Deposit Project*, dated May 16, 2017 (SNC May 2017). The Agency's internal review has identified two further issues that must be addressed before the Agency can accept the response as adequate.

For additional context and rationale, please refer to the original IRs CEAA 16 to 20 (Round 1, Part 1).

### **Specific Question or Request:**

1. Comments from NRCan are embedded in the SNC May 2017 report (see attachment), and include:
  - Many of the cardinal points referred to in the SNC May 2017 report appear to be incorrect, which could be attributed to the fact that figures in the model were rotated (see comments embedded in the attached document). Verify the cardinal points and make corrections as appropriate.
  - The SNC May 2017 report uses the term "permanent state" which is an incorrect translation from French. The appropriate term is "steady state" (see comments embedded in the attached document).

Address the comments embedded by NRCan in the SNC May 2017 report, as appropriate, and re-submit the document.

2. In the May 30, 2017 memo submitted to the Agency, the proponent describes monitoring and follow-up measures at Triangle Lake, Morley Lake, and Goodream Creek. Based on *Figure 1: Water Monitoring Plan* (submitted to the Agency on April 26, 2017 - see attachment), the SNC May 2017 report, and the EIS, the Agency understands the proponent would also monitor surface water and groundwater quality and/or quantity at various other points around the Project, including Pinette Lake, Burnetta Lake, local wetlands, and at other locations.

Update *Figure 1: Water Monitoring Plan* as appropriate, and provide an overview of the water quality and quantity parameters that would be monitored at all water monitoring stations which would be part of the Project's follow-up program.

3. In conjunction with the request above, provide a description of the thresholds that monitoring results would be compared to or the other factors that would trigger the implementation of

adaptive management actions or mitigation measures for affected waterbodies and wetlands.

Attachments:

- 1) Howse IRs Groundwater – Part 1 (June 3 2016) Proponent response 16-20  
NRCanReview.pdf
- 2) GH-0817 WaterMonitoringPlan 170414.pdf