

Ministre de l'Environnement

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H3

JUL 0 4 2013

Mr. Brad McManus Acting Chairman Energy Resources Conservation Board 250 5 Street SW, Suite 1000 Calgary AB T2P 0R4

Dear Mr. McManus:

Thank you for your letter of June 12, 2013, concerning the coming into force of the Alberta *Responsible Energy Development Act* (the Act) and the associated implications for the ongoing panel review of the proposed Jackpine Mine Expansion Project.

I understand that, as outlined in your letter, under the terms of the Act and its *Transition Regulation*, the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) will replace the Energy Resources Conservation Board (ERCB) and will assume all of the ERCB's powers, duties and functions under Alberta's energy resource enactments, which includes the Joint Review Panel Agreement (the Agreement) for the proposed project.

As a signatory to the Agreement for the proposed project, I agree with the AER assuming the ERCB's position and responsibilities under this agreement, and that the previously appointed members of the Joint Review Panel (the Panel), Mr. Jim Dilay, Mr. Alex Bolton and Mr. Les Cooke, shall continue to conduct the work of the Panel.

I will consider any changes to the Pierre River Mine Project Joint Review Panel Agreement that may be required following the conclusions of the discussions on the recently enacted AER *Rules of Practice*.

Sincerely,

<original signed by>

The Honourable Peter Kent, P.C., M.P.

