

March 12, 2026

Tara Bailey, Project Manager
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
600-55 York Street, Toronto, ON M5J 1R7

Dear Ms. Bailey,

On behalf of Automation Now, a Canadian leader in industrial automation, controls, and integrated technology solutions, we are pleased to express our strong support for the continued advancement of First Mining Gold's Springpole Gold Project through the federal environmental assessment process. As a company committed to supporting responsible resource development and advancing modern, efficient mining operations, we see the Springpole Project as an important opportunity for both regional economic growth and the evolution of innovative mining practices in northwestern Ontario.

Automation Now has followed the progression of the Springpole Project with great interest, particularly First Mining Gold's consistent commitment to environmental responsibility, rigorous baseline data collection, and transparent engagement with Indigenous and community partners. Their demonstrated focus on environmental protection, technical diligence, and collaborative problem-solving aligns strongly with the values we uphold in our own operations.

We also recognize and appreciate the extensive work First Mining Gold has undertaken to build robust environmental management frameworks and mitigation strategies. This level of preparation provides confidence that the project is being advanced thoughtfully, with long-term environmental stewardship at the forefront of planning.

From an industry perspective, Springpole represents one of the most significant advanced-stage gold development projects in the region. Projects of this scale create wide-ranging opportunities for contractors, suppliers, and technology partners. Should Springpole proceed to development, Automation Now looks forward to the opportunity to support the project through advanced automation systems, process controls, instrumentation, and digital solutions that help improve operational safety, efficiency, and environmental performance. We are confident that our services can meaningfully contribute to the project's success while supporting local job creation and capacity building.

For these reasons, Automation Now respectfully encourages the Government of Canada to advance the environmental assessment for the Springpole Gold Project and allow it to progress to subsequent stages of regulatory review and permitting. Doing so will help unlock the project's economic potential while supporting responsible, forward-looking resource development.

Sincerely, Kelly Campbell

<Original signed by>

Vice President -Automation Now

Cc: The Honourable Julie Dabrusin, Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature