

April 18, 2023

Kathryn MacCarthy
Project Manager – Atlantic Region
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
200-1801 Hollis St
Halifax, NS B3J 3N4

Subject: Fifteen Mile Stream Gold Project — Project Timeline Update

Dear Ms. MacCarthy:

Atlantic Mining Nova Scotia Inc. (AMNS) is writing to provide an update on the three-year extension granted by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) for the Fifteen Mile Stream Gold Project (the Project).

AMNS understands that as a part of the extension approval, the information or studies for the Environmental Assessment (EA) under CEAA 2012 must be provided within the extension of the time limit that has been granted. As we continue to update the permitting process to include the additional pits and new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), AMNS is providing an update on the previously submitted proposed work plan.

Progress to Date

In our previous extension request for the Project, provided to IAAC on June 28, 2022, we requested additional time to respond to the Round 1 IRs as the project was updated to include three additional pits. Work to complete the Round 1 IRs has progressed to the point where we are now anticipating a Round 1 IR submission and new EIS in Fall 2023. As work has progressed to complete the Round 1 IR submission with inclusion of the additional pits, further time has been required to update modelling and to develop a new EIS document, which was not originally contemplated. As a result, there is a delay to the initial anticipated submission date of May 2023.

Revised Work Plan

The workplan moving forward will focus on the completion of updated modelling and IR 1 responses, in conjunction with the preparation of the new EIS. AMNS will continue engagement with Mi'kmaq communities and organizations, focusing primarily on project interactions with Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia and the commencement of the Baseline Traditional Food Quality Study. It is anticipated that the Traditional Land and Resource Use Study (currently being led by Millbrook First Nation) will be initiated in the Spring/Summer 2023.

Table 1 identifies the components of the work plan moving forward to achieve EIS approval by August 2025.



Table 1: Fifteen Mile Stream Project Workplan

Project Milestones	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	Q3 2024	Q4 2024	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025
EIS & IR1 Response	Green	Green	Green	Green							
Conformity Review				Green	Green						
Technical Review					Green	Green					
IR2 Response						Green	Green				
Conformity Review							Green				
Technical Review							Green	Green			
IR3 Responses (if required)								Green	Green		
Conformity Review									Green		
Technical Review									Green	Green	
EIS Approval										Green	

AMNS will continue to work diligently with IAAC, Mi’kmaq of Nova Scotia, and other stakeholders to achieve shorter timelines in practice, if possible.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Sara Wallace

Head of Permitting

Atlantic Mining Nova Scotia Inc.

Attachment: Fifteen Mile Stream Gold Project – Request for a Time Limit Extension to Submit Required Information under CEAA 2012

c.c.: Mike Atkinson, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada; Cheryl Benjamin, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada