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Dr. Kathy Racher
Chair
Giant Mine Oversight Board
5014-50th Avenue, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P2

June 5, 2019

RE: Observations on Measure 6: Evaluation of Long Term Funding Options

Thank you for your April 25, 2019 letter related to the Giant Mine Remediation Project's work towards completing a Long Term Funding Options report to satisfy Measure 6 of the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's Report of Environmental Assessment.

The feedback submitted by the Giant Mine Oversight Board on the draft report prepared by Deloitte is appreciated and very useful. The information has been passed along to the consultants to see where changes can be incorporated into the final report. Similarly, feedback from the April 12, 2019 teleconference is also being considered prior to finalization.

The Project Team believes that the intent of Measure 6 will be met through the final report from Deloitte. Since the initial draft report was provided in May, 2017, the Project has worked with a subset of members from the Giant Mine Working Group to ensure that their input was considered and, where applicable, incorporated into the development of the report. Input was solicited through e-mails, teleconferences, as well as written feedback on the draft report plan and draft reports. There were many ways in which input was incorporated into the drafts of the report, and some valuable insights were provided by the various stakeholders. As Deloitte was retained for their expertise in financial and strategic thinking, they were, to an extent, relied upon to determine whether the feedback was applicable to the report or not, and provide their own feedback of how the comments should be utilized within the draft report. It's also important to note that the initial schedule was extended and an additional draft deliverable of the report was included, in order to allow extra input and the time for the members of the subcommittee to both review and discuss the report.



Some of the stakeholder concerns with the report stem from a difference of opinion on what Measure 6 was meant to achieve. From the Project Team's perspective, Measure 6 is intended to investigate possible options for Long Term funding. It is not meant to provide an immediate solution, or a recommendation to adopt a certain strategy. The report, and by extension the Measure, is a starting point for discussions on long term funding and discussions on this issue will continue with stakeholders.

The Project will provide the final report for consideration to the Executive Director for the Northern Contaminated Sites Branch, who is responsible for securing funding for a portfolio of projects in the North. Over the coming year, the Project Team will be focused on the Water Licence process, and then will be moving into the implementation phase of the Project. However, as previously stated, the Project is open to ongoing discussions of long term funding and the report will provide valuable insight to these conversations.

We are currently working on final revisions of the report and will be in touch with the subcommittee in late June when we expect to have the final product.

I thank the Giant Mine Oversight Board for your observations and feedback and for making the time to provide the Project with your insight.

Sincerely,



Natalie Plato
Deputy Director
Giant Mine Remediation Project

c.c.: parties to the environmental assessment