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Natalie Plato Deputy Director Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada Giant Mine Remediation Project

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Delay of the Perpetual Care Plan

Natalie;

On July 27, 2020, the Giant Mine Oversight Board responded to the GMRP request for a deadline extension for the development for the Perpetual Care Plan. As you are aware, Section 4.2 (b) of the Environmental Agreement requires that the draft plan be submitted by June 9, 2020. The Board agreed to the extension request with the understanding that a draft framework and respective procurement documents would be developed by the fall of 2020 and an RFP would be issued shortly thereafter. While a draft PCP framework was submitted to GMOB in November 2020 the remainder of the work has fallen far behind schedule.

On September 29, 2021, the GMOB received an email from Alex Lynch, Senior Advisor for the GMRP, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT to the Perpetual Care Plan task force indicating that workshops to develop the RFP originally scheduled in April 2021, then rescheduled for the fall of 2021, are now being delayed until January/February 2022.

As you will appreciate, the Board is concerned with the continued delays in preparing the draft PCP.

During the Semi-Annual Meeting of May 17, 2021, the Perpetual Care Plan was discussed, and the Board indicated that it found the proposed process to develop the RFP inefficient at best. The Board recommended that a contractor be hired to develop a draft RFP over the summer of 2021 so that the draft RFP would be ready for discussion by the task force when meetings resumed in the fall and could be finalized shortly thereafter. Project spokespersons rejected this suggestion and committed to holding a

series of task force workshops in the fall of 2021 to develop and finalize the RFP. These workshops are now delayed until early 2022, likely further delaying the delivery of the draft PCP to mid to late 2022, at least two years behind schedule. This is troubling at best.

To accelerate this project GMOB recommends that the GMRP immediately contract the development of a draft RFP for the Perpetual Care Plan, the resulting document be reviewed by the task force as soon as possible and, if necessary, a meeting of the task force be held to address any outstanding issues. The Board is of the view that this can be accomplished by the end of the calendar year or very early in 2022. The Board understands that the Project Team has many challenges and pressures, but this is an important project that can and should be expedited without further unnecessary delay.

The Board looks forward to your timely response to this matter.

Sincerely,

David Livingstone

Chair, Giant Mine Oversight Board