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October 21, 2021

David Livingstone
Chair, Giant Mine Oversight Board
Box 1602
5014 - 50th Avenue
2YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2P2

Dear Mr. Livingstone:

Thank you for your letter dated October 18, 2021. We appreciate your concerns regarding the development of the Perpetual Care Plan (PCP). As you're aware, a draft framework was submitted to GMOB in November 2020 with the anticipation that development would begin shortly thereafter. The Project has been extremely busy over the past year, and these initial delays were an attempt to alleviate pressure on rights and stakeholders during the summer of 2021. We heard concerns from rights and stakeholders on the PCP Task Force that the timeline for summer workshops did not work with everyone's schedules. Additionally, restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic have further complicated the next steps. We are also transitioning this file to two new leads for the Project in November 2021.

All of these factors have resulted in a short delay in the anticipated next steps, a series of workshops to develop the Statement of Work required for a Request for Proposal(RFP). These workshops are now scheduled for early in 2022. This proposed approach for drafting the RFP was brought forward to the PCP Task Force in spring 2021. The feedback received at the time was not that the approach was inefficient, but rather members provided support for the process and gave feedback on ways to further improve. We trust that the proposed workshop structure will allow us to develop a request for proposal that will secure the appropriate consultant support to assist in drafting the next version of the PCP.

The development of the PCP is of utmost importance to the Project team and we believe that it must be done thoughtfully and with full participation of our rights and stakeholders. The remediation schedule is still under development but early indications are that remediation will not be completed until 2031, at the earliest. It is, therefore, advisable that we do not rush this plan but take our time and ensure that we get it right.

If you have any further inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

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