

Box 1602, 5014-50th Avenue Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P2 Ph. <u>867-675-0788</u> Fax <u>867-675-0789</u>

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

June 30, 2025

Request for Additional Information on Long-Term Underground Portal

Dear Natalie:

The Giant Mine Oversight Board (GMOB) would like to thank the Giant Mine Remediation Project Team for proposing the Long-Term Portal options at the Semi-Annual Meeting on May 21, 2025, and the Giant Mine Working Group (GMWG) Meeting on June 12, 2025. We encourage the Project Team to continue to apply that lens of considering the long-term implications of all site feature designs in light of possible future extraction and stabilization. This approach will support more effective collaboration on both the research program and development of the Perpetual Care Plan during active remediation.

GMOB appreciates the Project Team's concerns of potential ice buildup if a long-term portal is constructed and left idle, as well as site security issues. While GMOB recognizes the rationale for deferring construction, including improved integration with the research program, additional information is required to fully understand the implications with respect to interim site access and contingency plans in the absence of a portal.

At the GMWG meeting, the Project Team indicated that a summary document would be shared with GMOB and the Parties to support further engagement and an opportunity to provide comments. GMOB requests that the memo outline:

- What contingency plans exist if underground access is required on an urgent or unscheduled basis; and
- Associated timelines, cost considerations, and alternative access infrastructure that may be relied upon.

In summary, GMOB appreciates the Project Team's proposal to delay construction of the portal, supporting further engagement and alignment with the research program.

Regards,

Graeme Clinton Chair

cc. Directors, Giant Mine Oversight Board Giant Mine Working Group Members Parties to the Environmental Agreement