NWB Tools

Richard Dwyer <richard.dwyer@nwb-oen.ca>

Desalination Plant at the MLA

Sergey Kuflevskiy <sergey.kuflevskiy@nwb-oen.ca> Tue, Sep 15, 2026 at 5:15 PM
To: Macoura Kone <Macoura.Kone@b2gold.com>
Cc: Ali Shaikh <ali.shaikh@nwb-oen.ca>, Richard Dwyer <richard.dwyer@nwb-oen.ca>, Karén Kharatyan <karen.kharatyan@nwb-oen.ca>

Dear Macoura,

Thank you for providing this additional information regarding the proposed desalination plant.

Based on the information provided, the desalination plant is already included within the scope of the Licence, and the proposal is essentially a replacement of the existing facility using the existing marine intake and brine discharge infrastructure, with no increase to the approved intake or discharge volumes. Accordingly, the proposed works may be addressed under Part D, Item 2 of the Licence, rather than through a Licence modification.

Please note that in accordance with Part D, Item 2 of the Licence, B2Gold is required to *submit to the Board for review, at least sixty (60) days prior to Construction, final design and Construction drawings accompanied with a detailed report*. The submission should include the information required under Part D, Item 3 and demonstrate that the proposed works remain within the scope and parameters of the Licence.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,
Sergey Kuflevskiy

On Thu, Sep 10, 2026 at 2:13 PM Macoura Kone <Macoura.Kone@b2gold.com> wrote:

> Good afternoon, Sergey,
>
> I am sorry for the delay in getting back to you. Please find below responses to your questions.
>
> **NWB Requests #1:**
> - It appears that the new plant is expected to be more efficient than the existing one in terms of freshwater production, with a higher freshwater production capacity while requiring a lower seawater intake. Is my understanding correct?
>
> ***B2Gol Nunavut Response to Requests #1:***
> - Your understanding is correct.
>
> **NWB Requests #2**
> - Could you please provide the freshwater production capacity of the existing plant? The Water Management Plan does not appear to explicitly provide the freshwater production rate. Based on the maximum intake and discharge rates provided in the Plan (33 m³/h intake and 30 m³/h discharge), my initial assumption was that the freshwater production could be approximately 3 m³/h, or 72 m³/day. Please confirm whether this is correct.
>
> ***B2Gold Nunavut Response to Requests #2:***
> The existing freshwater production capacity is lower than the maximum outlined in the Plan. Please see below.

- Current production rate is 0.75 m3/h per RO - With our maximum of 3 RO's running = 2.25 m3/h. These give 18m3/day and 54m3/day (maximum).
- Current discharge rate is 1.8 m3/h per RO - With our maximum of 3 RO's running = 5.4 m3/h. These give ~43 m3/day, and ~129m3/day, respectively.

NWB Requests #3

- Could you also confirm whether 100 m³/day is the normal operating capacity of the proposed new plant and 150 m³/day is intended as a future expansion, or whether the 150 m³/day capacity will be installed from the outset? What was the basis for the proposed new plant's capacity of 100 m³/day, with the 150 m³/day expansion capacity?

B2Gold Nunavut Response to Requests #3:

- The MLA occupancy varies from 52 people on site in the care and maintenance phases to over 350 during inter ice road (WIR) operations. The new plant is setup and capable at running at either production rate (100 and 150m3) to suit the variance.
- The basis of these usage numbers is from George Stone and takes into account what we have gathered from actual usage at MLA over the past years. The numbers include the capacity for flushing toilets, as we are currently using Pacto's.

NWB Requests #4

- Please also confirm that the proposed new plant will be sufficient to meet the freshwater demand of the anticipated 350+ person camp once the existing plant is decommissioned and provide the anticipated timeframe for decommissioning the existing plant.

B2Gold Nunavut Response to Requests #4:

- I confirm that the new plant will be sufficient to meet the freshwater demand of the anticipated 350+ person camp once the existing plant is decommissioned. The commissioning of the new plant is scheduled for early November, and we will still be using the existing plant. Once the new plant is up and running and confirmed to be consistently producing water with no issues, we will then not use the existing plant. I would conservatively estimate 2 weeks for this. As this is a new system, and given our remote location, the existing plant will not be disassembled when the new system is running, but will be made off line i.e., will not be used in conjunction with the new system. We do not expect to exceed our permitted intake and discharge rates. Commissioning will be done before the influx of the WIR labour, commencing in December.

NWB Requests #5

- The map provided shows the proposed location of the new plant; however, it does not appear to identify the location of the existing desalination plant. Could you please provide an updated map showing the locations of both the existing and proposed new desalination plants?

B2Gold Nunavut Response to Requests #5:

- The new map attached show location of the existing and new desalinization plants

I hope these will provide more clarity on the proposed works and will help determine the appropriate regulatory pathway.

Thank you and kind regards,

Macoura Koné, PhD., PGeol., PGeo.
Manager, Environment

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From: Sergey Kuflevskiy <sergey.kuflevskiy@nwb-oen.ca>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2026 2:41 PM
To: Macoura Kone <Macoura.Kone@b2gold.com>
Cc: Ali Shaikh <ali.shaikh@nwb-oen.ca>; Richard Dwyer <richard.dwyer@nwb-oen.ca>
Subject: Re: Desalination Plant at the MLA

Thank you for providing this clarification, Macoura.

It appears that the new plant is expected to be more efficient than the existing one in terms of freshwater production, with a higher freshwater production capacity while requiring a lower seawater intake. Is my understanding correct?

Could you please provide the freshwater production capacity of the existing plant? The Water Management Plan does not appear to explicitly provide the freshwater production rate. Based on the maximum intake and discharge rates provided in the Plan (33 m³/h intake and 30 m³/h discharge), my initial assumption was that the freshwater production could be approximately 3 m³/h, or 72 m³/day. Please confirm whether this is correct.

Could you also confirm whether 100 m³/day is the normal operating capacity of the proposed new plant and 150 m³/day is intended as a future expansion, or whether the 150 m³/day capacity will be installed from the outset? What was the basis for the proposed new plant's capacity of 100 m³/day, with the 150 m³/day expansion capacity?

Please also confirm that the proposed new plant will be sufficient to meet the freshwater demand of the anticipated 350+ person camp once the existing plant is decommissioned, and provide the anticipated timeframe for decommissioning the existing plant.

The map provided shows the proposed location of the new plant; however, it does not appear to identify the location of the existing desalination plant. Could you please provide an updated map showing the locations of both the existing and proposed new desalination plants?

Thank you,
Sergey

On Wed, Aug 26, 2026 at 8:36 PM Macoura Kone <Macoura.Kone@b2gold.com> wrote:

> Good afternoon, Sergey,

Thank you for reaching out, much appreciated. Please find below the additional information you requested.

NWB Requests #1:

- confirm whether the proposed plant will replace the existing plant or operate in addition to it? If it is an additional plant, will it be located adjacent to the existing plant or at a different location? Please provide a location map if possible

B2Gol Nunavut Response to Requests #1:

- *The new plant will eventually replace the existing desalination plant. The current plant will remain operational as backup for now in case of issues with the new system. The new desalination plant will be in a new position hundreds of feet from the water. A map is attached.*

NWB Requests #2

- Could you clarify why increasing the capacity of the existing desalination plant is not considered feasible, as opposed to installing a new plant?

B2Gold Nunavut Response to Requests #2:

- *The current water production system does not generate enough volume to support flushing toilets. The camp therefore continues to use Pacto waterless toilets. The system was originally designed for a 60–100-person camp and we would have to buy 3 or 4 more units to produce enough water for a 350+ man camp.*

NWB Requests #3

- Confirm whether the existing marine water intake and brine discharge infrastructure will be used. If the existing infrastructure will be modified, or if additional intake and/or discharge infrastructure is proposed, please provide a brief description of the proposed changes.

B2Gold Nunavut Response to Requests #3:

- *The existing brine discharge infrastructures/lines will be used.*
- *There will be no increase or material change to our approved intake or output volumes, and the new plant will operate well below our established parameters.*
- *We are simply replacing an existing facility and will not increase input or output volumes beyond what was previously approved. Volumes will be lower and output cleaner.*

Kind regards,

Macoura Koné, PhD., PGeol., PGeo.
Manager, Environment
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From: Sergey Kuflevskiy <sergey.kuflevskiy@nwb-oen.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2026 3:19 PM
To: Macoura Kone <Macoura.Kone@b2gold.com>
Cc: Ali Shaikh <ali.shaikh@nwb-oen.ca>; Richard Dwyer <richard.dwyer@nwb-oen.ca>
Subject: Desalination Plant at the MLA

Good afternoon, Macoura,

I hope everything is well on your end.

Ali mentioned that you had some questions regarding the proposed desalination plant.

Before providing any further direction on the regulatory pathway for the proposed plant, could you please provide some additional information on the rationale for the increased freshwater production capacity? In particular, is the increased capacity associated with an increase in the expected number of personnel, construction activities, or other changes to the Project?

From what I recall, a desalination plant was already included in the scope when I drafted the Licence amendment in 2021. Since the existing desalination plant is already within the scope of the Licence, could you please confirm whether the proposed plant will replace the existing plant or operate in addition to it? If it is an additional plant, will it be located adjacent to the existing plant or at a different location?

Could you also clarify why increasing the capacity of the existing desalination plant is not considered feasible, as opposed to installing a new plant?

Please also confirm whether the existing marine water intake and brine discharge infrastructure will be used. If the existing infrastructure will be modified, or if additional intake and/or discharge infrastructure is proposed, please provide a brief description of the proposed changes.

This information will help us better understand the proposed works and determine the appropriate regulatory pathway.

Thank you,
Sergey

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