

Environmental Protection Operations Directorate
Prairie & Northern Region
5019 52nd Street, 4th Floor
P.O. Box 2310
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7

ECCC File: 6100 000 115/002
NWB File: 2AM-BRP1831



March 7, 2024

via email at: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Dear Richard Dwyer:

RE: 2AM-BRP1831 – B2Gold – Back River Project – 2024 Winter Ice Road Technical Memorandum

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) regarding the above-mentioned 2024 Winter Ice Road Technical Memorandum.

ECCC provides expert information and knowledge to project assessments on subjects within the department's mandate, including climate change, air quality, water quality, biodiversity, environmental preparedness and emergencies. This work includes reviewing proponent characterization of environmental effects and proposed mitigation measures. We provide advice to decision-makers regarding a proponent's characterization of environmental effects, the efficacy of their proposed mitigation activities, and may suggest additional mitigation measures. Any comments received from ECCC in this context does not relieve the proponent of its obligations to respect all applicable federal legislation.

The following comments are provided:

1. Date Error

Reference(s)

- Section 4: Winter Ice Road Construction, Back River Project, 2024 Winter Ice Road Technical Memorandum, December 2023



Comment

In Section 4, the first paragraph states “Sabina is assessing ice conditions along the route in late 2022 as ice continues to thicken in advance of WIR construction.” ECCC would like to clarify if it should read 'late 2023' rather than 'late 2022'.

The second paragraph of Section 4 states “in late December or early January 2023”, and ECCC would like to clarify if it should read 'January 2024' rather than 'January 2023' in that sentence.

ECCC Recommendation(s)

ECCC recommends that the Proponent clarify if the dates stated in the Technical Memorandum are correct or not. If not, ECCC recommends the Proponent provide the date corrections accordingly.

If you need more information, please contact Stephinie Mallon at Stephinie.Mallon@ec.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

[original signed by]

Stephinie Mallon
Acting Senior Environmental Assessment Officer

cc: Melissa Pinto, Acting Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)