

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

ECCC File: 6100 000 010  
NWB File: 2AM-DOH1323



August 7, 2020

via email at: [licensing@nwb-oen.ca](mailto:licensing@nwb-oen.ca)

Derek Donald  
Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Dear Mr. Donald,

**RE: ECCC Comments on TMAC Resources Inc. 2019 Nunavut Water Board Annual Report for Water License 200731 2AM-DOH1335 –TMAC Responses to 2019 Annual Report Comments – Hope Bay Project.**

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information submitted by TMAC Resources Inc. (TMAC) to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) regarding ECCC's comments on the above-mentioned 2019 Annual Report.

ECCC's specialist advice based on our mandate pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* and the pollution prevention provisions of the *Fisheries Act*.

The following comments are provided:

**1. Water Treatment Plant**

Reference(s)

- ECCC-1

Comment

It is unclear from the information presented in the Annual Report and the responses provided by TMAC whether the newly constructed water treatment plant, intended to address Total Suspended Solids (TSS) is being used to treat the underground mine water stream alone, or the combined, final effluent stream.

ECCC Recommendation(s)

Please clarify if the water treatment plant is being used to treat both underground and other effluent sources (final effluent stream).



## 2. Monitoring Parameters in Underground Water

### Reference(s)

- ECCC-4

### Comment

TMAC's response to ECCC's comment acknowledges that dissolved concentrations of metals were not measured in TL-12 samples in the 2019 sampling period. Although the underground water will undergo treatment for TSS prior to discharge, due to the lack of information concerning dissolved metal concentrations, is unknown whether high metal concentrations observed in the underground water are associated with total or dissolved fractions. This will affect the expected concentrations that are to be removed during TSS treatment.

### ECCC Recommendation(s)

ECCC recommends that underground water be monitored for both total and dissolved metals in future sampling years.

If you need more information, please contact Jody Small at 780-217-8269 or [jody.small@canada.ca](mailto:jody.small@canada.ca).

Sincerely,

*[original signed by]*

Jody Small  
Acting Head, Environmental Assessment South (AB,SK and MB)

cc: John Olyslager, Acting Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)