

File: 2AM-LUP1520

November 2, 2018

Karyn Lewis Project Manager, Lupin Mine and Ulu Gold Project Mandalay Resources Corporation/ Lupin Mines Incorporated/ Bonito Capital Corp. 76 Richmond Street East, Suite 330, Toronto, Ontario M5C 1P1 Canada

E-mail: <u>k.lewis@mandalayresources.com</u>

Subject: NWB Response to LMI Correspondence: NWB Approval of Interim Closure and Restoration Plan; Type "A" Water Licence 2AM-LUP1520 and Corresponding Reductions in Reclamation Security; Distribution for Technical Review Comments

Dear Ms. Lewis:

The NWB acknowledges and shares LMI's concerns about ensuring that timelines for comment are respected and that extensions be requested in advance of a deadline in order to give all parties the opportunity to comment and adjust their review schedules accordingly. These concerns are considered when an extension request is received by the Board, along with other factors such as the length of the extension requested, the rationale for the request and the potential effects on the review schedules for other parties and decision-making of the Board. Ultimately, the discretion remains with the NWB to determine what is appropriate in the circumstances, while balancing fairness to all parties with the benefits of receiving technical comment from a variety of interveners. While the Board urges all parties to respect the timelines established, the Board also recognizes that extensions are sometimes necessary to ensure that all parties can review materials in the required detail.

With respect to CIRNAC particularly, with shared jurisdiction for water management in the territory, the enforcement authority for water licences and as the authority responsible for returning reclamation security to a licensee as appropriate, the Board views CIRNAC's comments as important information to be considered, and the accommodation of the additional, but short extension request appropriate. The Board reiterates our expectation that all parties will make best efforts to meet the timelines established by the Board in respect of the file going forward.

Regards,

Richard Dwyer Manager of Licensing, NWB cc: Belinda Labatte, Chief Development Officer, Mandalay Resources Corporation