

# **Technical Memorandum**

**DATE** 8 June 2020 **Project No.** 19136158

TO Karyn Lewis Lupin Mines Inc.

CC

FROM Ken Bocking @golder.com

#### WATER LICENCE CONDITION PART E-25 - DESIGN FOR THE WASTE ROCK "DOME" AT LUPIN MINE

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Lupin Mine's Type "A" water licence No. 2AM-LUP2032 received ministerial approved on April 9, 2020. Condition 25 in Part E of the Licence requires that:

The licencee shall, within sixty (60) days following the approval of the licence, submit to the Board for review, a Technical Memorandum that provides design details on the Waste Rock Dome, including, but not limited to the following:

- a. Cardinal direction cross sections and slopes;
- b. Details on drainage systems and conceptual water features; and
- c. Erosion control measures and cover stabilization of the dome.

This Technical Memorandum provides a response to Condition 25.

### 2.0 WASTE ROCK DOME DESIGN

# 2.1 Design Objective

The objective of the Waste Rock Dome is to reduce loadings from seepage from the waste rock to the surface water receivers around the mine site. This will be done by limiting the contact between the waste rock and surface runoff (as opposed to limiting oxygen flux into the waste rock) by:

- 1) consolidating the waste rock to reduce its overall surface area; and
- 2) constructing a cover over the waste rock that sheds non-contact water and reduces infiltration into the waste rock.

As discussed in the Final Closure and Reclamation Plan (Golder, 2018),

"...waste rock will be removed from some areas (generally around the perimeter of the mine mill area).

The waste rock will be excavated, transported and then some of the excavated waste rock will be disposed of into the shafts, open crown pillars or the landfill. The remainder of the excavated waste rock

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Karyn Lewis Project No. 19136158

Lupin Mines Inc. 8 June 2020

will be relocated into the central area and used to grade the surface of the waste rock that is being left in place. .... The surface of the waste rock will be contoured to drain freely and then it will be capped with 1.0 m cover of esker material."

Under equilibrium conditions, the volume of seepage that emerges from the edges of the waste rock will be equal to the volume of water that infiltrates into the top surface. Under the current conditions with relatively flat uncovered waste rock across the mine/mill site, the current infiltration is estimated to be about 70% of the annual average precipitation. Golder (2019a) provided an evaluation of the thermal and seepage performance of the planned esker cover over the Waste Rock Dome. It was estimated that, for current climate conditions, the cover system would reduce the infiltration into waste rock to about 16% of the annual average precipitation. It was also estimated that the infiltration would increase to about 25% of average annual precipitation if climate warming of 4.95 °C was to occur. On a unit area basis, this is estimated to be about 23% or 36% respectively of the infiltration that currently occurs.

A Human Health and Environmental Risk Assessment (HHERA) (Golder, 2019c) concluded that

"... the measures outlined in the FCRP are sufficiently protective of human health and the environment with respect to soil and groundwater; however additional measures should be considered with respect to ARD impacted seepage from the proposed esker-covered waste rock dome and potential reductions in pH in Boot Lake and East Lake. Water quality monitoring is recommended to assess the current conditions, provide data to evaluate the conservatism of the water quality model and to confirm the conclusion of negligible/low risks to aquatic life from metals."

# 2.2 Design Drawings

The design of the proposed Waste Rock Dome is shown on the attached Drawings 1 and 2. Drawing 1 shows the proposed footprint of the Waste Rock Dome, together with the locations of the runoff management features. Drawing 2 provides cross-sections through the Waste Rock Dome as well as typical details of features to manage runoff and control erosion.

The topography shown on Drawing 1 is taken from mapping that was completed by Stantec Consulting between August 23 and 25, 2019. The existing Machine Shop will be used to support the ongoing closure work; it will not be demolished until after the closure construction is completed. To enable this, the Machine Shop was left outside of the footprint of the Waste Rock Dome. The design surface shown provides capacity for about 269,000 m³ of imported waste rock. If less capacity is required, a lower top surface elevation will be used while maintaining the grades and drainage pattern shown.

For clarity, the vertical scale on the cross-sections on Drawing 2 has been exaggerated 5 times relative to the horizontal scale. The dashed line represents the current ground surface, estimated following the removal of the existing buildings. The cross-section shows the placement of imported waste rock (relocated from areas outside of the dome) over the top of existing waste rock in the mine/mill area pad.

The top surface of the dome, with its 1.0 m thick esker cover, will be graded at a minimum cross-slope of about 1.6% to enhance the shedding of clean runoff. To match the dome into the topography, the perimeter of the dome will be sloped at 10H:1V. The 1.6% top slope is designed to be gentle enough to avoid erosion of the esker cover material. To prevent erosion on the 10H:1V sideslopes, runoff will be directed down erosion protected chute



Lupin Mines Inc. 8 June 2020

structures. Low perimeter berms will be constructed on the edge of the top surface to direct the runoff into the chutes.

The design footprint area of the Waste Rock Dome is estimated at about 16 hectares. Two additional "islands" of covered waste rock will exist at the expanded landfill (about 4 hectares) and at the plugged adit (about 1 hectare). The total area of covered waste rock of about 21 hectares is 30% less than the 30 hectare dome area that was assumed in the water quality model (Golder, 2019b) as input for the HHERA, so the actual volume of leachate produced should be proportionately less.

## 3.0 CLOSURE

We trust that this technical memorandum meets your present requirements. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

#### **GOLDER ASSOCIATES LTD.**



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Attachments: Drawing 1: Proposed Waste Rock Dome Plan

Drawing 2: Proposed Waste Rock Dome Sections and Details

https://golderassociates.sharepoint.com/sites/107254/project files/6 deliverables/condition e 25-tm-dome design/19136158-rev0-condition e 25-tm-dome design\_08 june 2020.docx

PERMIT TO PRACTICE
GOLDER ASSOCIATES LTD.

Signature

Date

Date

PERMIT NUMBER: P 049

NT/NU Association of Professional
Engineers and Geoscientists

Karyn Lewis Project No. 19136158
Lupin Mines Inc. 8 June 2020

#### REFERENCES:

Golder Associates Ltd. (2018), Lupin Mine Site, Final Closure and Reclamation Plan, July 2018, (Document 180727 2AM-LUP 1520 5 0 Final Closure Reclamation Plan Ver.0)

Golder Associates Ltd. (2019a), Coupled Thermal-Seepage Modelling for Performance Evaluation of the Esker Cover for the Waste Rock "Dome" at Lupin Mine, Technical Memorandum, October 15, 2019.

Golder Associates Ltd. (2019b), Closure Geochemical Source Term and Seepage Water Quality Model for Performance Evaluation of the Esker Cover for the Waste Rock "Dome" at Lupin Mine, Technical Memorandum, October 15, 2019.

Golder Associates Ltd. (2019c), Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment, Lupin Mine, Nunavut, Report, October 2019.



Karyn Lewis Project No. 19136158
Lupin Mines Inc. 8 June 2020

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Drawing 1: Proposed Waste Rock

Dome Plan

Drawing 2: Proposed Waste Rock

**Sections and Details** 



