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# Water Licence Application Supplementary Questionnaire for Advanced Exploration (Underground drilling, bulk sampling, etc.)

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# **SECTION 1:**

## **GENERAL**

2.

1. **Applicant Comaplex Minerals Corp.** 901, 1015 4<sup>th</sup> St. SW Calgary, AB T2R 1.J4 Attn.: Mark Balog, VP Exploration 403 265 2486 403 232 1421 (Telephone number) (Fax) mbalog@comaplex.com (E-Mail) Corporate Address (If different from above) As above (Corporate Office Address) (Telephone number) (Fax) (E-Mail) Project Name Meliadine West Underground Exploration and Bulk Sample Location Meliadine Lake, Kivalliq, Nunavut **Closest Community Rankin Inlet; Chesterfield Inlet** Latitude/Longitude 63 01 30 N X 92 10 20 W Show the location of the project on a general location map. Please see maps attached. Environmental Manager Ben Hubert 403 256 0017 (Name) (Telephone No.) Mark Balog, VP Exploration or Project Manager (Title)

3. Indicate the status of the exploration activity on the date of application. (Check the appropriate space.)

Design	
Under construction	
In operation	Diamond drilling is ongoing
Suspended	
Care and Maintenance	
Abandoned	

4. If a change in the status of the exploration activity is expected, indicate the nature and anticipated date of such change.

Surface ramp to underground portal will be initiated in July 2007; portal expected to be initiated in October 2007 (Estimated ~11-12 month long program). This program will be conducted concurrently with surface diamond drill programs already permitted.

5. Indicate the present (or purposed) schedule for the exploration activity.

Hours per week 168 hrs / drill for diamond drilling

Days per week 7 for drilling

Weeks per year
Number of employees

25 weeks for diamond drilling; 50 for underground program
18-25 persons on site for underground program (total of 29 -

**50** people for the project)

Number of Inuit employees 9 in 2006; please see Economic Benefits table in the document

attached for historic local benefits profile

6. Estimate the term (life) of the exploration activity.

11-12 months in 2007-08 for underground program (Months / Year)

- 7. How will the project effect the traditional uses on Inuit Owned Lands? Only to the extent that mutual safety is not compromised.
- 8. Have the Elders been consulted on effects to the traditional use on Inuit Owned Land? If so, list them. If not, why not?

Committee of local elders supervised traditional and local knowledge study as well as study of heritage sites in exploration area (see list in the attached document). Rankin Inlet CLARC updated on the project and proposed plans on March 27, 2007.

9. Has the proponent consulted Inuit Organizations in the area? If so, list them.

Please see chronology of community consultations in the 1995 – 2006 period summarized in the document attached (submitted to Kivalliq Inuit Association). Recent meetings include the KIA Board of Directors, Rankin CLARC, Rankin town hall meeting, and the Kivalliq Chamber of Commerce in March 2007.

10. Has the proponent consulted surrounding communities on traditional water use areas? If so, list them. If not, why not?

This is a subject of ongoing discussion and consultation during community meetings. Also, this subject was covered in the Traditional Knowledge Study.

11. Attach a detailed map drawn to scale showing the relative locations (or proposed locations) of the exploration activity, Sewage and solid waste facilities, and containment areas. The plan should include the water intake and pumphouse, fuel and chemical storage facilities. Ore and waste rock storage piles, piping distribution systems, and transportation access routes around the site. The map also should include elevation contours, water bodies and an indication of drainage patterns for the area.

# Please see Figures 1 – 4 in document attached.

12. If applicable, provide a brief history of property development which took place before the present company gained control of the site. Include shafts, audits, mills (give rated capacity, etc.) waste dumps, chemical storage areas, tailings disposal areas and effluent discharge locations. Make references to the detailed map.

## Exploration history of this project is reviewed in Section 5 of the attached document.

13. Give a short description of the proposed or current freshwater intake facility, the type and operating capacity of the pumps used, and the intake screen size.

Exact details on the pump are not known as the underground contract has not been awarded. The system will be very similar to that employed by the diamond drills and will use less water on a daily basis than 1 diamond drill (est.  $< 10 \text{ m}^3$  water/day). Water from Pump Lake will be used in the winter (does not freeze to bottom). Local ponds such as Peanut Lake will be used in the summer. The intakes on the pumps will be equipped with a screen with a mesh size sufficiently small to prevent any danger to fish. Pump volume will be sufficiently low so as to prevent the impingement of fish to the pump intake screen.

14. At the rate of intended water usage for the exploration activity, explain water balance inputs and outputs in terms of estimated maximum draw down and recharge capability of the water source from fresh water will be drawn.

The brine system for the underground blast drilling is a recirculation system that will recycle brine to the maximum extent possible. Recharge of the system is only expected every 2-4 days, as required.

The Meliadine Lake watershed covers 586 sq. km. Water for use underground will total less than 10 cubic meters per day. It will be drawn from Meliadine Lake which was estimated by RL&L Limited (now Golder Associates Ltd.) to contain 63.66 million cubic meters below a 2 meter ice cover.

15. Will any work be done that penetrates regions of permafrost?

The entire "exploration" component of this program will occur within permafrost.

16. If "YES" above, is the permafrost continuous or discontinuous?

## Continuous

17. Were (or will) any old workings or water bodies (be) dewatered in order to conduct the exploration activity?

No encroachment on any water body is required to complete this program.

18. If "YES" above, indicate the name of the water body, the total volume of water to be discharged and the chemical characteristics of the water.

Water body (if unnamed give Latitude/L	ongitude)
Total volume cubic metres	
Receiving Watercourse	
Dewatering flow rate into above	cubic metres / sec
-	

Chemical characteristics of discharge:

T/Pb _ T/Cu _ T/Al _ T/HCN _ T/Hg _	mg/L mg/L mg/L mg/L mg/L	Total Ammonia Suspended solids Specific conductivity pH	mg/L mg/L uhmo/cm
T/Zn _	mg/L		
T/Cd _	mg/L		
T/As _	mg/L		
T/Ni	mg/L		

19. Was (or will) the above discharge (be) treated chemically?

mg/L

- 20. If "YES" above, describe the applied treatment.
- 21. Briefly describe what will be done with the camp sewage.

No change; incineration as has been the case since 1997.

# **SECTION 2:**

## **GEOLOGY AND MINERALOGY**

T/Mn

22. Briefly describe the physical nature of the mineralization, including known dimensions and

approximate shape.

This underground exploration program is intended to confirm the physical dimensions of two parallel gold bearing zones in the Tiriganiaq deposit. The strike length interpreted from diamond drilling is approximately 1.5 km long and the gold bearing rocks dip north at  $60^{\circ}$ . The veins are 30-80 meters apart and are of variable width. (Please see Figure 12 in Project Application document.)

23. Briefly describe the host rock in the general vicinity of the mineralization (from the surface to the mineralized zone.)

The host rock for this underground program is predominantly barren, neutral sediments and occaissional gabbro dikes rock with high neutralizing potential and a low potential for metal leachates. Figure 12 in the Project Application document shows the geological profile of the proposed underground workings. Appendix 1 describes the chemical properties of the rock that will be handled.

24. Provide a geological description of the mineralized zone. (If possible, include the percentage of metals.)

The mineralized gold-bearing areas consist of multiple, parallel, north-dipping zones that average about 3 meters in width. They consist of quartz veins with mostly free gold accompanied by 2-5% pyrrhotite and arsenopyrite. The zones are concentrated within an area that measures about 50 meters wide by about 1.5 kilometers long.

25. Describe the geochemical tests which have been (or will be) performed on the ore, host rock, and waste rock to determine their relative acid generation and contaminant leaching potential. Outline methods used (or to be used) and provide test results in an attached report (ie. static tests, kinetic tests.)

Appendix 1 of the accompanying report summarizes the acid-base accounting and metal leaching testing done on the ore, host, and waste rocks. In general, potentially acid generating rocks are rare and the neutralizing potential of most of the rocks in the deposit is high. Some ores will require care in handling and disposal to mitigate the limited potential for acid generation.

26. Estimate the percentage of sulphide in the mineralization:

pyrite	
pyrrhotite	2
pyrite / pyrrhotite mixture	_
arsenopyrite	5

# **SECTION 3:**

#### **EXPLORATION OPERATION**

27.	Check off the typ	e (or proposed	type) of	exploration	operation	that	will	be	used	on	the
	property and briefly	y describe the me	ethod in n	nore detail.							

a)	Reverse circulation to obtain	bulk sample	
b)	Trenching		
c)	Conventional open pit		
d)	Decline		<u>X</u>
e)	Conventional underground		<u>X</u>
f)	Strip mining activity		
g)	Other Exploration activity	(please explain)	

This underground exploration program will use conventional mining methods in order to assess two important aspects of the ore body that are required for a mine feasibility study:

- to expose and map along the strike of mineralized rock formations containing gold to assess its continuity, consistency, and related mining properties;
- collect a representative sample of mineralized rock ("ore") for testing how much is present (for comparison to the drill hole results) and to determine if the gold can be recovered by standard methods in a future mill (metallurgical testing).

Please also see application document.

28. Indicate the size and number of samples that will be obtained.

~12,860	tonnes of mineralized rock
<u>~102</u>	number of samples

Each blasted round is approximately 120-140 tonnes of rock. Each round is considered one sample and will be segregated on surface.

Please note if smaller samples are to be taken from different areas (note location) to form one large bulk sample.

Each round will be crushed and run through a sample tower. The purpose of the sample tower is to reduce each  $\sim 120$  tonne sample to a representative sample of less than 60 kg. The 60 kg representative sample will be sent south for assaying and metallurgical work. Remaining sample will remain separated on the ore storage pad.

29. Indicate the <u>present or proposed average</u> rate of exploratory production from all mineralized sources on the property:

variable, but estimated at 120-200 tonnes ore / day

30.	Outline the water usage (or proposed water usage) in the exploration activity, indicate the source and volume of water for each use.				
	Source Use Volume (m³/day)  1. Pump Lake u/g drilling, wash rock less than 10  2. Pump Lake washing face for mapping less than 1  Water will be collected in brine sumps and recycled in the brine recirculation system.				
31.	If applicable, indicate or estimate the volume of natural ground water presently gaining access to the mine workings.				
	Nil at these relatively shallow depths (in permafrost) m <sup>3</sup> / day				
32.	If applicable, outline methods used underground or on surface to decrease mine water flow. (For example: recycling)				
	Water collected at the face will be immediately pumped back into the brine recirculation system. Recharge of the brine system with freshwater is estimated to be required every 2-4 days. Surface runoff will be intercepted by a collection sump at the base of the portal ramp to prevent inflow in to the decline. No mine water is anticipated due to the permafrost conditions that persist to more than 400 meters below surface.				
33.	List the brand names and constituents of the drill additives to be used.				
SEC	CTION 4:				
THE	MILL OR PROCESSING PLANT				
The	dry crushing of ore in preparation for processing through the sample tower is required. sole purpose of the sample tower is to obtain a representative sample of each ore round. sample tower will produce a 60 kg sample from a 120 tonne round of ore.				
34.	Is there (or will there be) a portable mill processing plant be operating on the property in conjunction with the exploration activity?				
	YesNo				
35.	If "yes" indicate the proposed point of discharge for the mill or process plant water and the volume of the discharge.				
	Point of discharge				
	Volume of discharge m <sup>3</sup> / day				
36.	Attach a copy of the portable mill or processing plant flow sheet. Indicate the points of				

	addition of	all the various re	agents (chemicals) that a	are (or will be) used.
37.	Indicate the	proposed rate of	milling.	
		_ not applicable (	(check) or	tonnes / day
38.	List the type milled.)	es and quantities	of all reagents used in the	ne mill or processing plant (in kg/tonne ore
	Reagent:		Amount in kg/tonne o	re milled:
39.	If applicable	e, is the (propose	ed) milling circuit based	on autogenous grinding ?
	Yes	No	Partially	
40		-		escribe the chemical and physical tes directed to the tailing deposition area.
	T/Cu	mg/L	Total Ammonia	mg/L
		mg/L		mg/L
		mg/L	-	uhmo/cm
		mg/L	nU	
	T/Mn			CaCo <sub>3</sub> /L
		mg/L		mg/L
		mg/L		mg/L
		 mg/L	Oil and Grease	
	T/As	_		
		 mg/L		
		 mg/L		
		mg/L		
41.	Provide a go	eochemical descr	ription of the solid fracti	on of the tailings.
	Cu	mg/g	Al	mg/g
	Pb	mg/g	Fe	mg/g
	Zn	mg/g	Hg	mg/g
	Ag	mg/g	Ni	
	Mn	mg/g	As	mg/g
	Cr	mg/g	CN	mg/g
	Cd	mg/g		

# **SECTION 5:**

#### THE CONTAINMENT AREAS

42. What is the (Proposed) method of disposal of the mine water, mill or process plant tailings (ie. sump, subaqueous, surface tailings pond, settling pond)?

No tailings will be produced.

No mine water discharge is expected so no containment area is required. Water losses from underground are expected by way of broken rock and "ore".

Drill cuttings deposited in the underground sumps will be periodically removed to surface and dumped on the waste pile. Due to the small amount of water used and the recirculation system, there will be no need for a settling pond on surface. Water absorbed by blasted rock will freeze during the winter. The amount will be such that, if it thaws in the summer, it will remain as dampness in the rock pile with minimal runoff, if any. Summer rain, if heavy, could wash some brine into the ground immediately beneath or adjacent to the rock pile, although if this happens, the rainwater would dilute the brine.

Surface runoff from the area of the pads and waste rock may carry sediments, dissolved blasting residue and other substances that may be deleterious to aquatic organisms in down stream environments. The first year-round water body downstream from the portal site is Pump Lake.

<u>Pre-development water quality monitoring</u>: Water quality will be monitored in the small ponds below the portal site beginning in July 2007 to establish a baseline for pre-portal conditions. Samples will be analyzed for water quality parameters important to aquatic life as set out in the *Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Aquatic Life* for metals and ammonia.

<u>Construction phase water quality monitoring</u>: Samples will again be collected from these ponds in September 2007 (or within 4 weeks of construction start-up if during the open water season) for analyses of the same water quality parameters. This will be repeated in June 2008.

If analyses show that the water quality conditions have deteriorated so that they do not meet the Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Aquatic Life, the contaminated runoff will be intercepted by the placement of Aquadams (portable heavy plastic 1 meter x 30 meter tubes that are filled with water and so become dykes) that will hold the water so that it can be disposed of on the surrounding upland by spray irrigation. The Aquadams and pumps necessary to deploy them are on site. Spray apparatus will be procured. See Figure 4 (attached document) for possible Aquadam locations.

43. Attach detailed scale plan drawings of the proposed (or present) containment area. The drawings must include the following:

- a) details of pond size and elevation;
- b) details of all retaining structures (length, width, height, materials of construction, etc.);
- c) details of the drainage basin;
- d) details of all decant, siphon mechanisms etc., including water treatment plant facilities;
- e) details with regard to the direction and route followed by the flow of wastes and / or waste water from the area; and
- f) indicate of the distance to nearby major watercourses.
- 44. Justify your choice of location for the containment area design by rationalizing rejection of other options. Consider the following criteria in your comparisons: subsurface strata permeability, abandonment, recycling/reclaiming waters, and assessment of runoff into basins. Attach a brief summation. N/A
- 45. The <u>average</u> depth of the <u>existing or proposed</u> containment area is <u>dependent on the volume of</u> water encountered metres. **N/A**
- 46. Indicate the total capacity for the <u>existing or proposed</u> containment area by using water balance and stage volume calculations and curves. (Attach a description of inputs and outputs along with volume calculations.) **N/A**
- 47. Has any evaporation and/or precipitation data been collected at the site? \_\_\_\_\_\_ if so, please include the data. N/A
- 48. Will the <u>present or proposed</u> containment area contain the entire production from the mill or processing plant complex for the life of the project ? **N/A**
- 49. Will the proposed tailings deposition area engulf or otherwise disturb any existing watercourse? **N/A**
- 50. If "Yes", attach all pertinent details (Name of watercourse, present average flow, direction of flow, proposed diversions, etc.)
- 51. Describe the proposed or present operation, maintenance and monitoring of the containment area. N/A; see explanation (#42)

# **SECTION 6:**

#### WATER TREATMENT

- 52. If applicable, will the minewater, mill or process plant water be chemically treated before being discharged to the containment area? If so, explain the treatment process (Attach flow sheet if available.
- 53. Will (treated) effluent be discharged directly to a natural water body or will polishing or settling ponds be employed? Describe location, control structures, and process of water retention and transfer. Attach any relevant design drawings.
- 54. Name the first major watercourse the discharge flow enters after it leaves the area of company operations. **Pump Lake**

# **SECTION 7:**

#### ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PROGRAM

55. Has Traditional Knowledge in the area been considered? If so, how? If not, why not?

A traditional and local knowledge study was completed under the supervision of a committee of local elders. It determined that the project area was largely an area of passage in historic times rather than an area of active traditional land use.

56. Has any baseline data been collected for the main water bodies in the area prior to development?

## Baseline water conditions are described in the reports enumerated below:

- 1998. AGRA Earth and Environmental. WMC International Limited Meliadine West Gold Project water balance study; 1997 data report. Appendices appear in a second volume with same title.
- 1999. AGRA Earth and Environmental. WMC International Limited Meliadine West Gold Project water balance study; 1998 data report. Appendices appear in a second volume with same title.
- 1999. AGRA Earth and Environmental. WMC International Limited Meliadine West Gold Project water balance study; 1999 data report. Appendices appear in a second volume with same title.
- 2001. AMEC Earth & Environmental Limited. WMC International Ltd. Meliadine West Gold Project Water Balance Study 2000 Data Report.
- 57. If "Yes", include all data gathered on the physical, biotic and chemical characteristics at each sampling location. Identify sampling locations on a map.

## Please see data on CD labeled "Hydrology".

58. Provide an inventory of hazardous materials on the property and storage locations.

No quantities of hazardous materials other than fuel and explosives are, or will be, in use. 1,900,000 liters of diesel fuel will be used in the course of this underground exploration program. 115,000 kg of explosives (ANFO) are expected to be used.

Please see fuel and explosives storage locations on Figure 4 in the attached document.

59. Provide a conceptual abandonment and restoration plan for the site, detailing the costs to carry out the plan, and a proposal for a financial assurance which covers the costs to carry out the plan.

A preliminary closure plan is described in the attached application document. It is covered by a \$950,000 Letter of Credit (Declaration Bond) held by KIA on whose lands the entire program is located. The security deposit is a requirement of the Commercial Lease entered into between Comaplex Minerals Corp. and the Kivalliq Inuit Association. All of the proposed underground exploration work will be conducted entirely within the confines of the Commercial Lease.

# **SECTION 8:**

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND SCREENING

60. Has this project ever undergone an initial environmental review? If yes, by whom and when.

An Application to Conduct Underground Exploration and Assemble a Bulk Sample was submitted to Kivalliq Inuit Association as required by the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement.

61. Has any baseline data collection and evaluation been undertaken with respect to the various biophysical components of the environment potentially affected by the project (eg. Wildlife, soils, air quality), ie. In addition to water treated information requested in this questionnaire?

Yes <u>X</u>	No	Unknown
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62. If "Yes" please attach copies of reports or cite titles, authors and dates.

Titles, authors and dates for baseline study reports are cited below.

## Fish Populations and Water Quality

1994. Dillon Consultants. Meliadine Project - baseline surface water and lake sampling.

1996. Hubert and Assoc. Ltd. Preliminary water quality and fish habitat investigations at the Meliadine West Gold Project.

1998. R L & L Ltd. Annotated bibliography on Arctic biota; Meliadine West baseline Aquatic Studies.

1998. R L & L Ltd. Meliadine West baseline aquatic studies; 1997 data report.

- 1999. R L & L Ltd. Meliadine West baseline aquatic studies; 1998 data report.
- 2000. R L & L Ltd. Meliadine West baseline aquatic studies; 1999 data report.
- 2001. R.L.&L. Environmental Services Ltd. Meliadine West Baseline Aquatic Studies 2000 Data Report.
- 2004. Golder Associates Ltd. Fish habitat assessment at a proposed road crossing near Meliadine West exploration camp.

#### Hydrology

- 1998. AGRA Earth and Environmental. WMC International Limited Meliadine West Gold Project water balance study; 1997 data report. Appendices appear in a second volume with same title.
- 1999. AGRA Earth and Environmental. WMC International Limited Meliadine West Gold Project water balance study; 1998 data report. Appendices appear in a second volume with same title.
- 1999. AGRA Earth and Environmental. WMC International Limited Meliadine West Gold Project water balance study; 1999 data report. Appendices appear in a second volume with same title.
- 2001. AMEC Earth & Environmental Limited. WMC International Ltd. Meliadine West Gold Project Water Balance Study 2000 Data Report.

#### Wildlife

- 1999. Jalkotzy, M.G. (Arc Wildlife Services Ltd.)The potential effects of development on wildlife: a selected annotated bibliography.
- 1999. Jalkotzy, M. G. (Arc Wildlife Services Ltd.) Baseline Studies of wildlife populations in the Meliadine River Basin, Nunavut; May December 1998.
- 2000. Jalkotzy, M. G. (Arc Wildlife Services Ltd.) Baseline Studies of wildlife populations in the Meliadine River Basin, Nunavut; May December 1999.
- 2000. Jalkotzy, M.G. (Arc Wildlife Services Ltd.) Baseline Studies of Wildlife Populations in the Meliadine River Basin, Nunavut: 2000.

#### Vegetation

1999. Burt, Page M. (Outcrop) 1998 vegetation baseline studies; WMC International Limited Meliadine West Project.

#### Archaeology

1998. Hart, Elisa. Report of the Meliadine West Gold Project archaeological survey and impact assessment.

#### Demography

1997. The Nexus Group. Labour force profile; Kivalliq Region.

# Traditional Knowledge

- 1999. Nanuk Enterprises Ltd. Traditional ecological knowledge study; WMC International Limited Meliadine West Gold Project.
- 63. If no, are such studies being planned?

  Briefly describe the proposals.

64. Has authorization been obtained or sought from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans for dewatering or using any waterbodies for containment of waste?

No such action is contemplated by this underground exploration program.

65.	Has a socio-economic impact assessment or evaluation of this project been undertaken? (this
	would include a review of any public concerns, land, water and cultural uses of the area
	implications of land claims, compensation, local employment opportunities, etc.)

	Yes	NoX	Unknown
66.	If "Yes" please describe the proposal briefly.		
67.	If "No" is such a study being	ng planned ? Yes	No

A comprehensive social and economic assessment of the communities affected by a mine development would be completed in the context of a positive feasibility study and proposal to develop and operate a gold mine at Meliadine West. What is proposed in this application is part of the exploration process.

68. Describe any cumulative impacts the project may create?

The Cumulative Impacts section of the application document is copied below.

# 6. IDENTIFICATION OF CUMULATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

No sustained industrial or commercial activity has been conducted on the Meliadine River drainage in the past; therefore, no environmental effects of past activities are evident. Some of the effects of diamond drilling conducted during the course of the historic exploration program can be observed on the aerial photographs. These drill sites will be re-vegetated over time and so fade as observable effects of surface mineral exploration over the next 5 - 10 years.

A comprehensive environmental assessment and environmental monitoring plan will accompany a project application in the event that commercial feasibility is demonstrated. It will have the benefit of completed environmental baseline studies and so be able to address the subject of cumulative effects in a comprehensive and systematic manner.

A successful underground exploration program that confirms continuous and consistent gold mineralization in the Tiriganiaq zone at Meliadine West will be a significant milestone in determining the overall technical and commercial feasibility of a gold mine here. An active gold mine would require related infrastructure and services that will be incremental to existing current facilities including:

- a multi-million litre fuel oil tank farm at Rankin Inlet;
- an all season road from Rankin Inlet to Meliadine West;
- an active mine and mill operation at Meliadine West;
- secure and permanent mine waste storage.

If a comprehensive feasibility study shows that a gold mine at Meliadine West can be technically and commercially feasible the potential environmental effects of these facilities and related activities will be reviewed as required by the NLCA.

69. Does the project alter the quantity or quality or flow of waters through Inuit Owned Lands?

No.

- 70. If yes, has the applicant entered into an agreement with the Designated Inuit Organization to pay compensation for any loss or damage that may be caused by the alteration.
- 71. If no compensation arrangement has been made, how will compensation be determined?

A comprehensive Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement as contemplated by Article 26 of the NLCA will be negotiated in the context of an application for mine development and operations on Inuit Owned Land, the results of this exploration program and a future feasibility study are positive.