Water Resources Division Resource Management Directorate Nunavut Regional Office P.O. Box 100 Igaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

> Your file - Votre référence 2BE-WOL1920

August 20, 2020

Our file - Notre référence CIDM#1287746

Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0B 1J0
sent via email: licensing@nwb-oen.ca

Re: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's review of Rio Algom Exploration Inc.'s cancellation application for water licence #2BE-WOL1920 for the Wolverine Project – Kitikmeot Region

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

Thank you for your July 22, 2020 invitation for comments on the above referenced application. The Water Resources Division of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) examined the application and provides the following comments for the Nunavut Water Board's consideration.

## CIRNAC notes:

- The licensee has submitted an annual report as required by the licence.
- The water licence authorized use of water and deposit of waste for camp purposes and explicitly excluded drilling. The work undertaken in 2019, as described by the licensee, is in line with their authorization.
- CIRNAC inspectors have not carried out a final inspection. They are aware of the cancellation application and will schedule this inspection when possible.

CIRNAC recommends the decision to cancel licence 2BE-WOL1920 be made after the final inspection is conducted, and consider findings reported.

Comments have been provided pursuant to CIRNAC's mandated responsibilities under the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Act*. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact me at (867) 975-3876 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:sarah.forte@canada.ca">sarah.forte@canada.ca</a> or Godwin Okonkwo at (867) 975-4550 and <a href="mailto:godwin.okonkwo@canada.ca">godwin.okonkwo@canada.ca</a>.

Sincerely,

Soral Forte

Sarah Forté

Water Management Specialist

