



**Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board**  
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May 15, 2018

File: MV2018L2-0003 MV2018C0005

Jeff Hussey, President & CEO, Director  
Pine Point Mining Limited  
1100 Avenue des Canadien-de-Montreal  
BUREAU 300  
MONTREAL, QC H3B 2S2

Email: [jhussey@osiskometals.com](mailto:jhussey@osiskometals.com)

Dear Hussey:

**Information Request (IR) – Pine Point Mineral Exploration Project – Pine Point Area**

On May 9, 2018, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB or Board) staff received Pine Point Mining Limited (PPML)'s responses on the Online Review System (ORS) regarding the Applications for Water Licence MV2018L2-0003 and Land Use Permit MV2018C0005 for Mineral Exploration. We have determined that further information on the responses is required before the Board can consider the Applications. Attachment 1 outlines our Information Request (IR) and identifies the level and type of detail that is required.

Please submit the responses to the Board as outlined in Attachment 1 by **May 23, 2018**. If this timeline cannot be met, please respond as soon as possible with a suggested timeline.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, please contact me at (867) 766-7465 or email [jho@mvlwb.com](mailto:jho@mvlwb.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Ho", with a long, sweeping underline.

Jacqueline Ho  
Regulatory Specialist

Copied to: Distribution List

Attached: Attachment 1: Information Request

**Attachment 1: Information Request**

Item	Information Requested
a.	<p><u>Quality and Locations of Water Sources</u></p> <p>As indicated in PPML’s attachment of a Memorandum submitted by Knight Piesold Consulting dated September 30, 2011, some of the surface water and groundwater in the Pine Point area are elevated in metals. The 2011 Memorandum demonstrated that total zinc of surface water samples in certain water pits exceeded the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) guidelines and Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER). In order to facilitate assessment of potential environmental impacts or lack thereof, PPML needs to identify the water intake locations (specific lake pits and/or drainage ditches) and assess the quality of the water source, which will eventually be deposited into sumps after drilling. Please provide the exact water source intake locations on a map, and the associated water quality including the full suite analysis of metals and major ions for each source, as suggested by GNWT.</p>
b.	<p><u>Water Balance</u></p> <p>Unless the sumps are lined, the drilling waste deposited in sumps will not only evaporate, but also seep to groundwater. Setting a 100 m buffer will help minimize the effluent runoff to nearby waterbodies, but water from the drilling mud may be discharged to groundwater. In order to determine if there will be contaminants mobilizing in the receiving environment, reviewers need to understand PPML’s operational water balance and the hydrology of the site. PPML’s water licence application noted that average water use will be 243,000 L/day. Please provide a water balance that accounts for where the entire volume of water comes from and where operations will direct that entire volume of water to.</p>
c.	<p><u>Groundwater Quality and Hydrology</u></p> <p>As explained in GNWT comment 1 in the online review comment table, drilling waste deposited in sumps can potentially percolate to groundwater and mobilize towards Great Slave Lake, as that is the general direction of groundwater flow. Please provide data on the groundwater quality and flow in the area where water is proposed to be deposited. Using this scientific evidence, including the quality of the source water used for drilling from item (a), please explain how the drilling program may or may not affect regional water quality by the deposit of drilling waste in sumps.</p>