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August 31, 2022

File: MV2020C0017
MV2020L8-0012

Mark Cliffe-Phillips
Mackenzie Valley Review Board
200 Scotia Centre
Box 938, 5102-50th Avenue
Yellowknife NT X1A 2N7

Sent by email

Dear Mark Cliffe-Phillips,

Re: Pine Point Mining Limited – Notice of Preliminary Screening Determination – Application for Amendment/Schedule Change Land Use Permit and Water Licence – Mineral Exploration – Yellowknife NT

The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (Board) met on August 25, 2022 and considered the Application from Pine Point Mining Limited (the Applicant) for Land Use Permit (Permit) MV2020C0017 and Water Licence (Licence) MV2020L8-0012 for the Confirmation and Exploration Program in Pine Point of the Northwest Territories (the Project) in accordance with the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA).

The Board has determined that the Project is exempt from preliminary screening, as the Project was previously screened, and the Applicant has not proposed changes to the Project. The Board's Preliminary Screening Determination and Reasons for Decision, as required by section 121 of the MVRMA, is attached.

Please contact [Shelagh Montgomery](#) at (867) 766-7457 with any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

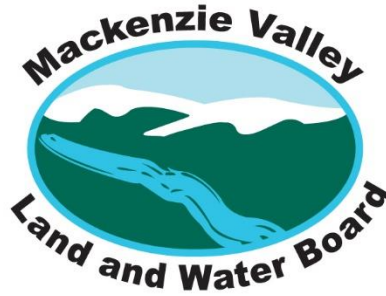
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mavis Cli-Michaud".

Mavis Cli-Michaud
Chair, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

BCC'd to: Pine Point Mining Distribution List
Andrew Williams, Environmental Manager - PPML

Attached: Preliminary Screening Determination and Reasons for Decision



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Preliminary Screening Determination and Reasons for Decision

Land Use Permit Amendment	
File Number	Type A Permit MV2020C0017
Company	Pine Point Mining Limited
Project	Confirmation and Exploration Program
Location	Pine Point, NT
Activity	Miscellaneous – Mineral Exploration
Date of Decision	August 25, 2022

1.0 Decision

In accordance with subsection 124(1) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA), the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB or Board) met on August 25, 2022 to make a preliminary screening determination on the amendment request Application from Pine Point Mining Limited (PPML) (Applicant) for Land Use Permit MV2020C0017 (Permit)¹ for the Confirmation and Exploration Program at Pine Point Mine (Project).²

The Board has determined that the Project is exempt from preliminary screening because the Project was previously screened, and the Applicant has not proposed changes to the Project.

The Board’s determination, including reasons for its decision, are detailed in sections [2.0](#) and [3.0](#).

¹ See MVLWB Online Registry www.mvlwb.com for Pine point Mining Limited – [Permit Application](#) – Jul19_22.

² The Project is the Pine Point Mining Limited Confirmation and Exploration Program, which is the proposed development, where “development” is defined in Part 5 of the MVRMA as:

“any undertaking, or any part or extension of an undertaking, that is carried out on land or water and includes an acquisition of lands pursuant to the *Historic Sites and Monuments Act* and measures carried out by a department or agency of government leading to the establishment of a park subject to the *Canada National Parks Act* or the establishment of a park under a territorial law.”

2.0 Background and Scope of Screening

There is a long history of exploration and mining activities associated with Pine Point, NT, which is located approximately 65 km east of Hay River and west of Fort Resolution, respectively. Pine Point Mining Limited (PPML) currently holds three authorizations including Permits MV2017C0024 and MV2018C0005, and Licence MV2020L2-0008. These authorizations allow PPML to conduct mineral exploration at Pine Point, NT. An Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Pine Point Pilot Project (EA0607-002) was conducted, with a Ministerial decision on May 13, 2008.³ The Board subsequently conducted several screenings associated with the authorizations held by PPML since 2009.

On July 19, 2022, PPML submitted an amendment request Application for Permit MV2020C0017 (attached). PPML was seeking to include two new exploration claims. The new claims were staked on March 25, 2022 and were transferred to PPML on July 6, 2022. The new claims are contiguous with the existing claims and have a total surface area of 292.99 hectares. Their addition increases the total area mineral tenure held by PPML to 46,786 Ha, an increase of 0.6% in total area. PPML noted the drilling activity and total land disturbance will not be increased with the addition of these claims as the existing authorisations for the Project have an approved scope of work that will be sufficient to encompass any exploration work on the new claims.

PPML provided an updated Engagement log with their amendment request Application. PPML noted they engaged with the following Parties between May 4, 2022, until June 4 2022, notifying their proposal to add two new claims to their existing Permit:

- Denínu Kúyé First Nation (DKFN)
- Kát'odeeche First Nation (KFN)
- Northwest Territory Métis Nation (NWTMN)
- Ts'ueh Nda (Westpoint) First Nation (WPFN)
- Deh Gáh Got'ie (Fort Providence) First Nation (DGGFN)
- Akaitcho Territorial Government (directed to Akaitcho Dene First Nation)
- North Salve Métis Alliance (NSMA)
- Hay River Métis Government Council (HRMGC)
- Hamlet of Fort Resolution
- Town of Hay River
- Town of Fort Smith
- City of Yellowknife
- Smith Landing First Nation (SLFN)
- Salt River First Nation (SRFN)
- Timberworks Inc.
- Teck Resources Limited

³ See Review Board Public Registry www.reviewboard.ca for [EA0607-002](#).

PPML followed up with the Hamlet of Fort Resolution, HRMGC, NSMA, NWTMN, SLFN, Teck Resources Limited, Town of Fort Smith and the Town of Hay River providing them with a map showing the location of the new claims.

No concerns were raised. The Application does not include abandonment, decommissioning, or significant alterations to the Project.

The Applicant has not proposed changes to the Project, and under Schedule 1, section 2.1 of the Exemption List Regulations to the MVRMA, project areas and activities that have already been subject to Part 5 of the MVRMA, and for which no changes are proposed, are exempt from preliminary screening.⁴

The Project areas and activities that have already been subject to Part 5 are described in the Board’s Preliminary Screening Determination and RFD dated April 15, 2021.⁵ For completeness, Table 1 from the April 15, 2021 screening is re-presented below. The two new claims have been added and highlighted yellow:

Table 1: Mining Leases, Surface Leases, and Mineral Claims held by PPML

Mining Leases	Surface Leases	Mineral Claims
4858, 4859, 4860, 4861, 4862, 4863, 4864, 4865, 4866, 4867, 4868, 4869, 4870, 4871, 4872, 4873, 5239, 5240, 5241, 5242, 5243, 5244, 5245, 5246, 5247, 5248, 5249, 5250, 5251, 5252, 5253, 5254, 5255, 5256, 5257, 5258, 5259, 5260, 5261, 5262,	85B/11-15-2, 85B/11-16-2, 85B/11-18-2, and 85B/11-19-2	D1-K15913, D2-K15914, D3-K15915, D4-K15917, D5-K15916, D6-M10298; D7-M10297, D8-M10296, D9-M10299, D10-M10300, D11-M10301, D12-M10302, D13-M10303, D11-M10301, M10191, M10192, M10426, M10427, M10653, M10654, M10658, M10659, M10660, M10514, M10515, M10516, M10517, M10518, M10519, M10550, M10551, M10552, M10553, M10554, M10555, M10649 , M10650 , M10801, M10803, M10804, M10805, M10806, M10807, M10808, M10809, M10810, M10811, M10812, M10813, M10814, M10815, M10816, M10817, M10818, M10819, M10820, M10821, M10822, M10823, M10824, M10825, M10826, M10827, M10828, M10829, M10830, M10831, M10832, M10833, M10834, M10835, M10837, M10838, M10839, M10840, M10841, M10842, M10843, M10844, M10845, M10847, M10849, M10850, M10851, M10852, M10853, M10854, M10855, M10856, M10857, M10858, M10859, M10860, M10861, M10862, M10863, M10865, M10866, M10868, M10869, M10870, M10877, M10878, M10879, M10880, M10520, M10846, M10848

⁴ As per Schedule 1, section 2.1 of the [Exemption List Regulations](#), no preliminary screening is required for: “A development, or a part thereof, for which a permit, licence or authorization is requested that (a) was part of a development that fulfilled the requirements of the environmental assessment process established by the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*; and (b) has not been modified since the development referred to in paragraph (a) fulfilled the requirements of the environmental assessment process established by the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.”

⁵ See MVLWB Online Registry for Pine Point Mining Limited – [Preliminary Screening Determination and RFD](#) – Apr13_21.

2.1 Public Record and Regulatory Proceeding

To assist the Board in its preliminary screening determination for the Project, the Board distributed the Application and a draft Permit for public review on July 19, 2022 inviting reviewers to provide comments and recommendations on the Application and the preliminary screening (e.g., on impacts and mitigation measures) using the Online Review System (ORS). Comments were due August 9, 2022, with responses from the Applicant due August 16, 2022. The Board received comments and recommendations from:

- Government of the Northwest Territories – Environment and Natural Resources – Environmental Assessment and Monitoring (GNWT-ENR-EAM);
- GNWT-ENR – South Slave Region; and
- GNWT-Lands – Hay River Region (attached).⁶

Since there were no requests to extend the reviewer comment deadline, the Board is satisfied that a reasonable period of notice was given to affected communities and First Nations, as required by subsection 63(2) of the MVRMA.

Pursuant to Schedule 4.1 of the Northwest Territory Métis Nation (NWTMN) Interim Measures Agreement, the Board determined that written notice was given to the NWTMN and that a reasonable period of time was allowed for NWTMN to make representations with respect to the Application.

Pursuant to subsection 1.6, paragraphs (a) and (b) of the Akaitcho Territory Dene First Nations (ATDFN) Interim Measures Agreement, the Board determined that written notice was given to the ATDFN and that a reasonable period of time was allowed for ATDFN to make representations with respect to the Application.

3.0 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigations

Although the Board has determined that the Project is exempt from preliminary screening, the Board will consider the potential impacts and proposed mitigations in establishing the Permit conditions. For Board licences and permits in general, potential impacts can be mitigated through existing, standard, and/or project-specific licence and/or permit conditions. These conditions may include requirements for management and monitoring plans that provide detailed information regarding the implementation of mitigation measures and the evaluation of their effectiveness.

No conditions were changed in the Permit because of the addition of these two claims.

⁶ See MVLWB Online Registry for Pine Point Mining Limited – [Review Comment Summary Table](#) – Aug16_22.

4.0 Conclusion

The Board completed a preliminary screening of the Project on April 13, 2021,⁷ and the Applicant has not proposed changes to the Project. Accordingly, the Board has determined that the Project is exempt from preliminary screening under Part 1, Schedule 1, section 2.1 of the Exemption List Regulations to the MVRMA. Consequently, no further preliminary screening was conducted.

SIGNATURE



Mavis Cli-Michaud, Chair
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

August 31, 2022

Date

⁷ See MVLWB Online Registry for Pine Point Mining Limited – [Preliminary Screening Determination and RFD](#) – Apr13_21.