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September 26, 2024

File: MV2020C0017

Andrew Williams
Pine Point Mining Limited
1100 Avenue des Canadian-de-Montreal, Bureau 300
Montreal QC H3B 2S2

Sent by e-mail

Re: Pine Point Mine Confirmation and Exploration Program – Land Use Permit – Amendment Application – Information Request

On June 25, 2024, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water (Board) staff received an Amendment Request (the Request) for Land Use Permit (Permit) MV2020C0017¹ for the Pine Point Mine Confirmation and Exploration Program (Project) from Pine Point Mining Limited (PPML). The Request was distributed for review on June 25, 2024, with review comments due on July 17, 2024.² PPML has not yet responded to these review comments as the response deadline has been extended to March 31, 2025, at their request.

In the Request, PPML stated their opinion that the Request is exempt from preliminary screening. On further review, Board staff have determined that additional evidence is required to inform the Board's determination on whether the Request is exempt from preliminary screening. These additional requirements are set out in the Information Request (IR) below, and in accordance with the Land and Water Board (LWB) [Rules of Procedure](#),³ the Board requests that PPML submit the information by 1700h (5:00pm) on November 22, 2024.

Information Request #1(IR1) – to PPML:

In the Request, PPML stated that 'As the scope of work has not changed, this request is exempt from preliminary screening.' PPML did not provide any further information or rationale to support this opinion.

¹ See the MVLWB Online Registry www.mvlwb.com for [MV2020C0017](#).

² See the MVLWB Online Review System for [PPML – Land Use Permit Amendment – Jun25_24](#)

³ See the MVLWB Rules of Procedure page to access the LWB [Rules of Procedure](#). Rules 61 and 63.

While reviewers did not specifically comment on whether the request is exempt from preliminary screening, the Kát'odeeche First Nation (KFN) pointed out that the Condition establishing the 500 m buffer, which PPML is requesting to remove or modify, that was “put into place during the regulatory process was and is intended to protect the Ejié Túé Dehé (Buffalo River) watershed for future generations, given its historical, cultural, and ecological significance to the community.”⁴

On page 27 of the April 15, 2021 Preliminary Screening,⁵ in considering potential impacts on aquatic health, the Board notes that “No activity is proposed within 100 m of Twin Creek or within 500 m of the Buffalo River.” This indicates that while the proposed activities were previously screened, potential impacts of these activities specifically within 500 m of the Buffalo River were not considered in the screening, even though these areas are within existing leases.

Board staff request that PPML provide further information and rationale to support their opinion that the Request is exempt from preliminary screening. Board staff also request that PPML submit a potential impacts and mitigations table (found in the Permit Application Form⁶) for the Request, since the Board will need to conduct a preliminary screening if it determines that the Request is not exempt.

Following receipt of PPML’s response to this IR, Board staff will distribute the response for public review. PPML will then have the opportunity to respond to any comments received during this public review in conjunction with their response to comments on the Request.

Please contact Andrea Cleland via [email](#) or at (867) 766 – 7472 with any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Yours sincerely,



Andrea Cleland
Regulatory Specialist

Bcc'd to: PPML Distribution List
Veronica Chisholm – Pine Point Mining Limited

⁴ See the MVLWB Online Review System for [PPML – Land Use Permit Amendment – Jun25_24](#). Comment 1 - KFN letter pg. 11

⁵ See the MVLWB Online Registry for [PPML – Notification - Preliminary Screening Determination – Apr15-21](#).

⁶ See the MVLWB Online Registry for [LWB Land Use Permit Application Form](#). pg. 6 - 8