



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

Pine Point Mining Limited

Presentation to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

by Environment and Climate Change Canada

MV2020L8-0012/MV2020C0017- Public Hearing

June 15-17, 2021
Yellowknife, NWT



Canada 

Overview

- Mandate
- Relevant acts and regulations
- Status of Environment and Climate Change Canada's concerns
- Outstanding comments and recommendations



Environment and Climate Change Canada's Mandate

- Preservation and enhancement of the quality of the natural environment, including water, air and soil quality:
- Coordination of the relevant policies and programs of the Government of Canada;
- Renewable resources, including migratory birds and other non-domestic flora and fauna
- Meteorology; and
- Enforcement of regulations



Relevant acts and regulations

- *Department of the Environment Act*
- *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*
- *Fisheries Act – Pollution Prevention Provisions*
- *Migratory Birds Convention Act*
- *Species at Risk Act*



Confirmation and Exploration Program Type A Water Licence Application

Current status of ECCC Comments

<u>CEP Type A Water Licence Application</u>		
ECCC-1	Groundwater Management Plan Framework	Resolved
ECCC-3	Water Transfers	Resolved
ECCC-4	Fish	Resolved
ECCC-8	Boreal Caribou Critical Habitat	Resolved



ECCC-2 Compatibility Criteria

ECCC reiterates its recommendation that PPML monitor and review pre-activity (baseline) water quality for a full suite of parameters, and confirm parameter concentrations are acceptable for discharge to an aquatic environment, before any transfers to fish-frequented pits.

ECCC recommends that the licence conditions (via SNP term or approved management plans) require confirmation that parameter concentrations are acceptable for discharge to an aquatic environment before any transfers to (i) pits that are fish-frequented and (ii) pits connected to fish-frequented waters



ECCC-5 Receiving Environment

ECCC recommends that the receiving environment definition clearly encompass all waters that are fish-frequented or connected to fish-frequented waters; where connection and/or being fish-frequented has not clearly been established the assumption should be made that this is the case.



ECCC-6 Whooping Cranes and their habitat

Given the endangered status of whooping cranes, ECCC recommends that a specific management plan be developed for whooping cranes, in consultation with ECCC, to further assess potential residual impacts and to implement specific measures to minimize risks associated with all project activities.

At a minimum, ECCC recommends:

- The primary mitigation for all project activities should be avoidance of impacts to whooping cranes and their habitat, to the greatest extent possible.
- Regardless of season, in areas where avoidance of whooping crane habitat is not possible, surveys should be conducted by qualified individuals when whooping cranes are expected to be present.
- Any observations of whooping cranes by staff or contractors on site should be immediately investigated and reported to ECCC.
- All staff and contractors should be made aware of the potential presence of whooping cranes in the area, their conservation status and reporting procedures.



ECCC-7 Wildlife Protection Plan

ECCC recommends that MVLWB rely on GNWT-ENR and other interveners regarding the adequacy of the proposed caribou-specific measures.

ECCC recommends to the MVLWB (or GNWT-ENR) that an additional opportunity be provided for interveners to review the revised WPP (or WMMP).



Thank You



Photo: Klaus Nigge



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

Canada 