

JUN 13 2019

Reg. #2015

Mr. James Powell
Marathon Gold Corporation
P.O. Box 4006, Pearlgate PO
Mt. Pearl NL A1N0A1

Dear Mr. Powell:

RE: Valentine Gold Project

Your proposal has been reviewed by an interdepartmental screening committee and an opportunity to comment has been provided to the public as required by the Newfoundland and Labrador *Environmental Protection Act*, SNL 2002, cE-14.2. Upon consideration of the comments received, I have concluded that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required to determine if the proposal may have significant negative environmental effects or is a significant public concern.

An Environmental Assessment Committee will be appointed to provide technical and scientific advice to you regarding the preparation of an EIS. As per the legislation, you will be issued guidelines for the completion of the EIS. Project information requirements will have to address, but are not limited to:

- Potential impacts to hydro dams and reservoirs,
- Archaeological impacts,
- Access and alternate access routes,
- Power transmission line,
- Wildlife (Caribou herds, Species at Risk, waterfowl, botanical species, etc.),
- Fish and fish habitat,
- Groundwater and surface water,
- Benefits Agreement including a Gender Equity and Diversity Plan,
- Climate change considerations,
- Consultations with the public,
- Environmental monitoring plans,
- Decommissioning plans,
- Determinants of health,
- Greenhouse gas emissions, and
- Infilling of water bodies.

Please note that in accordance with the *Environmental Protection Act*, project activities may not proceed until the proposal is released from the environmental assessment process. The project is also subject to cost recovery to offset the costs incurred by the Crown in conducting the environmental assessment.

If you have any questions concerning these matters, please contact Joanne Sweeney, Director (A), Environmental Assessment Division at (709) 729-0673 or joannesweeney@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,



Lisa Dempster, MHA
District of Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment

Attachment

Cc. Andrew Parsons, MHA
District of Burgeo - La Poile