

OCT 29 2021

COR/2021/03527

Reg. # 2015

James Powell
Director of Environment and Stakeholder Engagement
Marathon Gold Corporation
Email: jpowell@marathon-gold.com

Dear Mr. Powell:

Re: Valentine Gold Project EIS Review

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) amendment submitted on August 6, 2021, has been reviewed and an opportunity to comment has been provided to the Environmental Assessment Committee (EAC) and the public as required by the *Environmental Protection Act*, SNL 2002, cE-14.2. Upon consideration of the comments received, please be advised that the EIS is deficient and Marathon Gold Corporation must submit a second amendment to the EIS.

The second EIS amendment will consider and address the attached deficiencies identified during the scientific, technical and public review, which include, but may not be limited to:

- Caribou protection and effects monitoring;
- Victoria Lake Reservoir and Victoria Dam effects and mitigations;
- Effects on human health;
- Green House Gas emissions;
- Baseline survey of fish populations in Victoria Lake and Valentine Lake;
- Acid rock drainage, metal leaching and potentially acid generating materials;
- Consultation with Outfitters;
- Surface water and groundwater modeling and monitoring;
- Tailings management; and,
- Cumulative effects assessment.

You are advised to consult with the EAC in your development of the second amendment for guidance and clarification on the information to be included therein. A summary of the EIS



amendment review comments is attached and the second amendment must include a table of concordance that identifies each review comment and the location of the response in the second amendment.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Joanne Sweeney, Director of the Environmental Assessment Division at (709) 729-0673 or Mr. Eric Watton, Chair of the EAC, at (709) 729-0834 or ericwatton@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Hon. Bernard Davis, MHA.

HON. BERNARD DAVIS, MHA
District of Virginia Waters - Pleasantville
Minister

Enclosures

Cc: Hon. Andrew Parsons, MHA – District of Burgeo - La Poile
Brent Keeping, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada