

September 3, 2021

The Corporation of the Town of Marathon
4 Hemlo Drive, P.O. Bag TM
Marathon, Ontario P0T 2E0

Re: Site Visit for the Marathon Palladium Project

Dear R. Dumas,

Thank you for your letter dated August 25, 2021 regarding the Joint Review Panel's (the Panel) site visit of the proposed Marathon Palladium Project (the Project). On behalf of the Panel I would like to thank you for the invitation to meet with the Corporation of the Town of Marathon to discuss the panel review process.

As stated in the Panel's announcement (CIAR# [918](#)), the site visit provides an opportunity for the Panel and the Panel Secretariat to view the proposed project site. Being familiar with proposed mine site features, their relative locations and the surrounding area helps the Panel better understand the potential for the Project to cause environmental and socio-economic effects, as well as Project benefits.

The Panel was appointed by the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change and the Ontario Minister of the Environment to conduct the environmental assessment in an impartial and objective manner. For that reason, the Panel will not be corresponding with the proponent, Generation PGM Inc., or any other participant involved in the environmental assessment of the Project during the site visit. The Panel will be escorted on site by a Project employee for safety purposes.

The Panel will however, provide opportunities for participants to express their views about the Project, including the public comment period on the EIS Addendum (April 2021 to July 26, 2021) and hold a public hearing. Participants can also submit comments on the EIS Addendum, the Project in general or on the review panel process at anytime during the environmental assessment.

For information on the review panel process, you are encouraged to review the Information Sheet for the Marathon Palladium Project that is posted on the public registry of the Project (CIAR# [737](#)). The Panel Secretariat can provide additional information on the process if required.

With regards to the session with the Biigtigong Nishnaabeg First Nation, as per the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*, if the Panel requires additional information for it to complete its environmental assessment, the Panel can request any information that it considers is necessary, including from the proponent or another participant, orally or in writing. The Panel is of the opinion that it requires information from Biigtigong Nishnaabeg First Nation as part of its sufficiency review, prior to proceeding to the public hearing.

The Panel has reviewed the comments provided by the Town of Marathon, which will be taken into consideration when determining if additional information is required by the Proponent. At this time, the Panel does not require additional information or clarification from the Town of Marathon on its submission.

Once the GenPGM, responds to all of the requests for additional information, the Panel may provide the opportunity for participants to provide comments on the responses. After reviewing all of GenPGM's responses, the Panel will determine if additional information is required or if the information on the record is sufficient to be able to proceed to a public hearing. Once the Panel determines it has sufficient information, the Panel will announce the public hearing and invite the Town of Marathon's participation. During the public hearing the Town of Marathon will be able to present its views directly to the Panel.

If you have any additional questions regarding the environmental assessment process you can contact the Panel Secretariat at iaac.marathonminereview-examenminemarathon.aeic@canada.ca.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Cindy Parker, co-Panel Manager
Marathon Palladium Project