

Version 3 Hammond Reef Gold Project EIS/EA – Addendum (Part B)  
Responses to Provincial Information Requests

1656263

Identifier	Topic	Reference to EIS/EA Report	Summary of Previous Comment	Proponent's Response to Previous Comment	Follow-up comment/ Request for Information	New Proponent Response	Subsequent Comment
					<i>Date: September 2015</i>		
EAB1	Alternatives Assessment	Alternative Assessment TSD (Version 2)  EIS §4.0	Please be advised that based on the comments received, you need to make sure that you provide enough information, clearly documented, to fully support your conclusions, and the identification of the preferred alternative. This includes assessment of impacts on all aspects of the environment including natural, cultural, and socioeconomic.	Thank you for your comment. We have provided an Addendum Report that includes detailed information to respond to all comments.	<p>More information is required to clearly document and fully support your conclusions when evaluating the alternative methods and selecting the preferred alternatives.</p> <p>The EA must be prepared in accordance with the approved ToR (April 2012) for the Hammond Reef Gold Mine. Section 7.3 (Evaluate Alternative Methods) of the ToR states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>“Each of the ‘alternatives methods’ will be evaluated in a qualitative comparative process to determine the preferred alternative. The comparative evaluation will take into consideration the <b>finalized criteria and indicators</b> (a preliminary list of which is provided in Tables 2 to 4 of this ToR).”</i> (page 68) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is not clear how these criteria and indicators were used to evaluate and select the preferred alternatives for some of the project components. The comparative evaluation summary tables provided in Section 3.0 of the Alternatives Assessment Report TDS only lists very general ‘criteria’ and no indicators are identified within the table. Also, it is not clear how the characterizations identified in Table 2- 1 (page 2-44) of EA were used in the evaluation of alternatives. This information is necessary to clearly document and fully support your conclusions.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <i>“Based on the assessment completed, each discipline will <b>rank</b> the preference of the alternatives for each criterion.”</i> (page 68) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is not clear how the alternative methods were weighted against each other and/or how ranking was used to evaluate and select the preferred alternatives for components of the project other than mine waste alternatives.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <i>“A <b>systematic and consistent</b> approach will be employed in the assessment of Project alternatives and potential impacts, including an assessment of <b>advantages and disadvantages</b>.”</i> (page 69) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ All the alternative methods should be assessed with a comparable level of detail. The alternatives methods assessment for mine waste alternatives was more detailed and included a comprehensive list of indicators and the ranking of each alternative to determine the preferred alternative. A similar approach should be applied to all the alternative methods assessment for all other project components, including the assessment of the closure and post-closure alternatives.</li> <li>○ For the purpose of clarity and transparency, the ‘Comparative Evaluation’ sections would benefit from table that clearly outlines the advantages and disadvantages of each alternative method to allow an easy overview of the details within Chapter 4 of the EA</li> <li>○ Section 4.2.1 of the EA – please provide the rationale as to why only a single feasible approach was identified for each of the project components listed on page 4-5 to 4-6 of the EA.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Additional information provided in: Comprehensive Alternative Assessment Tables for the Construction, Operations and Closure Phases in Part 3 of Version 3 Alternative Assessment TSD  <b>Reference:</b> Comprehensive Alternative Assessment Tables for the Construction, Operations and Closure Phases in Part 3 of Version 3 Alternative Assessment TSD	N/A