

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: March 2014</i> <a href="#">MNR-Terrestrial 1</a>	<i>Date: June 2015</i>	<i>Date: August 2015</i>	<i>Date: September 2016</i>	
MNRF 11A	Terrestrial Habitat - Bats		The two species of bats that are species at risk are not included in table 1-1 as a valued ecosystem component.	The Little Brown Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat, the only two endangered species on the site, were not listed by MNR as an endangered species until January 2013, after the Project planning process was well underway and much of the baseline studies had been completed. Additional field studies and assessment of potential effects to bats were undertaken in the Summer of 2013, and are included in the Final EIS/EA Report. Further field studies to understand and define the bat population and bat habitats within the mine study area are planned.	MNRF feels that only measuring habitat presence and suitability in some cases, rather than actual habitat use by species and habitat presence/suitability in combination, is inappropriate and inconsistent with how other VECs are being measured. Specifically, the baseline studies as outlined in table 2.2 of the Terrestrial Ecology TSD, while valued, do not clearly link the VEC selected to the indicator.  MNRF also continues to feel that some of the representative species selected as a VECs are inappropriate and a pathway of effect is not being adequately considered. For example, snapping turtles are not a good species to represent reptiles and amphibians for the reason that they are fairly generalist in habitat use.  MNRF requests the proponent provide documentation on how the VEC's were selected (i.e. through baseline studies, feedback from regulators as they state). As well as provide a description/explanation on how the VEC's can act as a surrogate for other valued species, considering MNRF's comments.	CMC has committed to complete additional field studies to understand and define the bat population and bat habitats, including hibernacula, within the mine study area. These studies are planned for 201 and the commitment will be included in the commitments registry.  CMC understands and acknowledges that, if required, permitting under the Species at Risk Act can be a long process.	<a href="#">MNRF 11A-2</a>