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## HAMMOND REEF GOLD PROJECT RESPONSE TO COMMENTS ON FINAL EIS/EA

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### COMMENT – A-1

**Source:** Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

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#### Summary of Comment

Section 6.2.4 states that mitigation measures for potential effects to the aquatic environment include the development of a no net loss plan, water quality modeling. It is not clear how water quality modeling is a mitigation measure.

#### Proposed Action

Provide clarification on how water quality modeling is a mitigation measure.

#### Reference to EIS

Section 6.2.4

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#### Response

Section 6.2.4 states:

*Mitigation measures for potential effects to the aquatic environment include the development of a No Net Loss Plan, water quality modelling and effluent diffuser design, the implementation of a water management system and ongoing monitoring of the aquatic environment.*

In this statement, water quality modelling is a component of the effluent diffuser design. The mitigation measure is enhanced mixing of mine discharge through the operation of an effluent diffuser. At the current stage of the Project, the design of the effluent diffuser is conceptual and the supporting water quality model is preliminary, based on available information (see Part B of the Version 2 Lake Water Quality TSD for details). Further diffuser design efforts will be undertaken prior to construction to optimize performance given the anticipated discharge flow rates, receiving water quality and hydrologic conditions, and lake bathymetry. This design optimization will be achieved through additional data collection and water quality modelling.