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

COMMENT – T-38

Source: Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

Summary of Comment

In response to NRCan-7 (Appendix 1.IV), the proponent indicates that the pit overflow estimate is revised to approximately 218 years after closure (from initial estimate of 78 years after closure). The proponent indicates that they will be able to monitor flux and water quality from the pits during operations and closure to allow for contingency measures to be implemented. The quality of water seeping from the open pits to groundwater was estimated by the proponent to be below guideline levels with the exception of Cadmium.

Errors in water quality and amounts from these sources, including seepage rates into the pits would result in errors in pit water quality estimates. Once the pits are full and water is allowed to flow through a surface channel to Upper Marmion Reservoir and through groundwater, any errors in predicted pit water quality could result in higher than predicted concentrations of constituents of concern in surface water receptors.

It is not clear if the proponent is planning to monitor the open pit water quality and seepage water quality for the duration of 218 years.

Proposed Action

Provide confirmation on whether pit water quality for 218 years will be included in the follow-up monitoring program and if not, provide justification for the decision.

Reference to EIS

Site Water Quality TSD, Part A Introduction, Part B Supplemental Information Package; Conceptual Closure and Rehabilitation Plan TSD, Part A Introduction, Part B Supplemental Information Package; EIS, Appendix 1.IV Information Requests.

Response

As noted in Table 8-6 of the Final EIS/EA Report and Table 5-2 of the Conceptual Closure and Rehabilitation Plan TSD, Canadian Malartic Corporation has committed to monitoring pit water quality annually (as able based on safety considerations) beginning the first year of closure until a stable chemical condition is reached or until discharge occurs. After overflow, monitoring of discharge will occur monthly until 5 years of acceptable results are obtained.