



8.0 ABORIGINAL AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

8.1 INTRODUCTION

One of the key provisions of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012, is to ensure opportunities for meaningful participation during an EA. The Act requires that Aboriginal communities and the public be provided with an opportunity to participate in the EA as well as an opportunity to comment on the EIS.

Treasury endorses and welcomes the concept of Aboriginal and public participation during the planning and development of the Project and has endeavored to keep the Aboriginal communities and the public informed of developments relating to the Project. Clearly it is in the best interests of Treasury, the Project, the Aboriginal communities, and the public that the Aboriginal communities and the public be fully informed and have full understanding of Project plans, schedules, potential impacts, mitigation options, and the benefits to be realized from the Project development.

A key challenge and opportunity in the Aboriginal and public participation process is the timing around when and what type of information is provided. Ideally, the Aboriginal communities and the public are involved at each step of the way during project development. However, the gathering of certain information is necessary before participation can be meaningful. Additionally, providing information that is incomplete, too detailed, or presenting of options that are impractical or unrealistic may result in confusion.

The participation process can also be frustrating to the Aboriginal communities and public who are seeking final answers to questions relating to mine design and operation in the preliminary stages of the project when all of the design options have not yet been fully evaluated and determined.

Since 2008, when Treasury assumed ownership of what has become the Project, Treasury has endeavored to provide as much information as possible about the Project to interested parties through all phases of the project.

A number of Aboriginal and public participation events took place during 2012 and early 2013 that enabled Treasury to share information about the Project. However, development of the Project was slowed throughout most of 2013. During this period, Treasury was working to secure the financing required to progress the Project however, exploration drilling, the completion of a number of baseline technical reports, and design work relating to the Project were either put on hold or significantly scaled back while financing arrangements were completed. With little progress being made on the Project, the availability of new information to share with the Aboriginal communities and the public also slowed and few sessions took place in the latter part of 2013. Funding secured late in 2013 enabled work to resume on the Project. Treasury anticipates that with the submission of this EIS, virtually all of the outstanding questions that were raised at public meetings and other events in the years previously noted have now been answered. Aboriginal and public information open houses and forums will be scheduled following EIS submission. Any additional questions or concerns stemming from these meetings, that have not already been addressed, will be addressed as part of Treasury's ongoing consideration of Aboriginal and public input.

Treasury has endeavored to provide information related to the Project on a timely basis. The patience of the Aboriginal communities and the public while Treasury has continued to secure the funding necessary to refine the gold resource, complete baseline environmental studies, and begin the preliminary design, including the various alternatives for the mine and related infrastructure, is appreciated.

Treasury has also appreciated all of the comments, concerns, and questions that have been received relating to the development of the Project. Treasury values the input received and has attempted to address all such input during the development of this EIS. This input at the initial stages of the project is critical to ensure that the Project design is such that it minimizes the effects of the Project on the local communities and the environment.



Treasury Metals Website

Treasury has been maintaining a website in order to make information about Treasury and the Project as accessible as possible. Information and news releases dating from March 2008 can be found on the website - www.treasuremetals.com.

Information on the website directly related to the Project is provided under the following headings:

- Project highlights;
- Technical reports;
- Location;
- Geology;
- Exploration;
- Project history;
- Project economics;
- Metallurgical studies;
- Environmental baseline study program;
- Permitting and mine development;
- Maps;
- Complete assay tables; and
- Diamond drill collar coordinates.

8.2 PROJECT MILESTONES

The development of a mine beginning with the exploration and discovery of a resource through to an actual producing mine is a complex process. This process includes the completion of numerous environmental baseline studies, design and engineering work, the assessment of multiple alternatives as well as public and Aboriginal input and regulatory review and approval from both the federal and provincial governments.

There are some key Project milestones associated with the regulatory review and approval process. Some key Project milestones associated with the development and approval of the Project include:

December 3, 2012:

- Project description for the Project accepted by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency)

January 18, 2013:

- Commencement of the federal environmental assessment for the Project

February 21, 2013:

- Final EIS guidelines for the Project issued by the Agency.

8.3 INTERESTED PARTIES

The Communities/Public in close proximity to the Project site include:

- Community of Wabigoon;
- City of Dryden;
- Residents living on Thunder Lake/East Thunder Lake Road;



- Residents living along Anderson/Tree Nursery Road; and
- Aboriginal Communities.

8.3.1 Wabigoon/Dryden

The Project site is situated just to the east of the boundary of the City of Dryden and just to the north of the Community of Wabigoon. Given the proximity of the Project to these communities, these communities have been identified as interested parties in the Project.

The community of Wabigoon has a long history associated with gold mining. With the discovery of gold on Upper Manitou Lake at Goldrock and development of mines there during the 1890s, Wabigoon with its location on the Canadian Pacific Railway became the transportation hub, supply depot and jumping off location for men and supplies destined for Goldrock. Men and supplies arriving by rail at Wabigoon followed the freight route across Wabigoon, Dinorwic and Minehaha lakes and then portaged overland to the Goldrock Mines. Many Wabigoon area families have historical ties to the Goldrock mining activities. Since the closure of the Gold Rock Mines, Wabigoon's employment and economic base has been tied primarily to forestry and tourism.

The City of Dryden also has some early ties to gold mining with mines operating just south of the City of Dryden and Wabigoon Lake in the Larson Bay/Contact Bay area during the early part of the 20th century. Dryden also has some ongoing links to the mining industry as an industrial supply area for northwestern Ontario including sales and maintenance of mining equipment. However, the mainstay of Dryden's economy has been the forest industry. Until recently, the mill complex in Dryden included pulp and paper operations, paper converting and a sawmill; along with the associated woodlands operations. Recent closures of the sawmill, followed by the paper machines and converting facility have left the complex with a pulp mill only and significantly reduced employment in the Dryden area. Reduced employment opportunity has resulted in numerous people having to relocate away from the Wabigoon/Dryden area. This, in turn, has adversely affected the retail sector as well as real estate values in the area.

There is significant interest within the Wabigoon/Dryden area in the potential positive impacts to employment and business that may be associated with the Project.

8.3.2 Thunder Lake Road, East Thunder Lake Road, Anderson Road, Tree Nursery Road

The residents of Thunder Lake Road, East Thunder Lake Road and those living along Anderson and Tree Nursery Road are the parties in closest proximity to the Project. Residents from these locations have interests in the potential impacts that may arise to their homes and lifestyle with the development of the Project.

8.3.3 Aboriginal Communities

There are a number of Aboriginal communities that have expressed an interest in the Project. Interested Aboriginal communities include:

- Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation;
- Eagle Lake First Nation;
- Lac Seul First Nation;
- Wabauskang First Nation;
- Naotkamegwanning First Nation;
- Grassy Narrows First Nation;
- The Métis Nation of Ontario; and
- The Aboriginal People of Wabigoon.



In consideration of the special requirements for consultation with Aboriginal communities, Treasury's efforts to consult with Aboriginal communities are presented in Appendix V and the Aboriginal consultation report is included in Appendix DD.

8.4 PUBLIC CONSULTATION INFORMATION

By and large concerns relating to potential impacts as identified by all sources can be categorized as follows:

- Potential impacts to water quality including:
 - Water quality in Thunder and Wabigoon Lake;
 - Water quality in streams flowing from the site into Thunder and Wabigoon Lake;
 - Ground water quality and volume in the vicinity of the Project site;
 - Potential impacts to fish habitat and fishing in Thunder and Wabigoon Lakes resulting from potentially impaired water quality; and
 - Potential impacts to human health arising from potentially impaired water quality.
- Potential impacts from dust/air emissions from the Project site; and
- Potential impacts from noise associated with the Project site.

Baseline studies relating to all of the above noted concerns have been completed. Measures contemplated to address these concerns are included as part of this EIS.

8.4.1 Community Knowledge

Owing to the proximity of the Project site to Wabigoon and Dryden, the mine site and vicinity are well known to local residents. The mine site is located within a few kilometers of the Trans-Canada Highway and is accessed by existing gravel roads. Much of the proposed mine site consists of old homesteads and private residences that have been purchased by Treasury. A number of other privately owned properties including vacant land, homes and small hobby farms remain nearby.

Additionally, many people in the Wabigoon/Dryden area are familiar with the site due to the presence of the former OMNRF Tree Nursery which is located just to the north of the proposed mine site. This tree nursery was operated by the Ontario government from the early 1960s until the late 1990s and provided employment to many local residents. Following closure of the tree nursery by the OMNRF, the facility was sold to a private consortium of tree seedling producers. This consortium operated the facility for a very short period and the tree nursery then sat empty and idle for a number of years prior to its purchase by Treasury in 2010. Treasury is currently using this facility for office and warehousing and anticipates continued use of the facility during construction and operation of the Project.

8.5 ABORIGINAL CONSULTATION INFORMATION

Although the specific obligations for Aboriginal consultation relate to potential impacts to Treaty and/or Aboriginal rights, it is noteworthy that many of the questions and concerns associated with the development of the Project arising from both Aboriginal consultation and the general public are very similar in nature.

By and large concerns relating to potential impacts as identified by Aboriginal communities can be categorized as follows:

- Potential impacts to water quality including:
 - Water quality in Thunder and Wabigoon Lake;
 - Water quality in streams flowing from the site into Thunder and Wabigoon Lake;
 - Ground water quality and volume in the vicinity of the Project site;



- Potential impacts to fish habitat and fishing in Thunder and Wabigoon Lakes resulting from potentially impaired water quality; and
- Potential impacts to human health arising from potentially impaired water quality.
- Potential impacts on fish and wildlife habitat;
- Potential impact on land use such as fishing, hunting, trapping, and traditional land uses;
- Potential impacts on gathering plants and berries;
- Potential impact from flooding and weather related disasters;
- Potential access restrictions (e.g., vehicle and snowmobile routes);
- Potential impacts on property values;
- Potential impacts to land (i.e., closure plans) and risks associated with the TSF;
- Potential impacts from dust/air emissions from the Project site; and
- Potential impacts from noise associated with the Project site.

Baseline studies relating to all of the above noted concerns have been completed. Measures contemplated to address these concerns are included as part of this EIS.

8.6 PARTICIPANTS IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Treasury has been in contact with the following organizations relating to the Project. Some key events and dates are noted. A complete listing of interactions with these organizations or individuals is included in the Aboriginal and public participation logs which are appended.

8.6.1 Wabigoon

- Public meetings held March 28, 2013:
 - Two sessions - one in the afternoon and one in the evening;
 - Notices of meetings posted at local businesses and the Wabigoon Community Hall;
 - Project overview and update provided;
 - Potential employment/business opportunities identified; and
 - Questions and answer period.

8.6.2 Wabigoon Local Services Board

- Information relating to Project provided to Local Services Board at a meeting at the Wabigoon Memorial Hall - May 9, 2012.

8.6.3 Concerned Citizens of Wabigoon

- Various communication by phone and email; and
- Participation by concerned citizens at public meetings in Wabigoon - March 28, 2013.

8.6.4 City of Dryden

8.6.4.1 Mayor and Council

- Project overview and update and question period - March 6, 2012.



8.6.4.2 Dryden Development Corporation

- Participation in local business workshop - March 28, 2012.
- Letter of support for Project from DDC - March 27, 2012.

8.6.4.3 Dryden District Chamber of Commerce

- Project overview and update and question period - March 21, 2012.

8.6.4.4 Public Meeting

- October 30, 2012 - public meeting at the Centre in Dryden to provide information about the Project including potential jobs and business opportunities as well as an overview of mine construction and mining process.

8.6.4.5 Public Meeting

- October 24, 2012 - public meeting aimed at presenting information relating to the Project to business and professional organizations in the Dryden, Wabigoon, Sioux Lookout, Ignace and Kenora area.

8.6.4.6 Presentation to Mayor and Council

- September 8, 2014 - presentation made to Mayor and Council at Dryden City Council Meeting. This presentation included:
 - An update on the status of the Project;
 - An overview of the environmental permitting and approval process including both Federal and Provincial review; and
 - Social and economic benefits to Dryden and area associated with the Project.
 - In addition to the presentation made to Dryden City Council by Treasury, presentations relating to environmental permitting, inspection processes, and requirements for a mining project in Ontario were made by Patrick Barnes of the Ontario MNM and Sean Burr of the Ontario MOECC.

8.6.4.7 Local Residents

- Local residents were provided the opportunity to participate in public meetings and invited to share concerns directly with Treasury.

8.6.4.7.1 Thunder Lake Area Residents

- Primarily residents located on East Thunder Lake Road and Harris Crescent.
- Notices of public meetings posted at locations in the Thunder Lake/Wabigoon vicinity (The Towers, Green Achers, and Wabigoon Community Hall).
- Notices of public meetings were hand delivered to the residents of East Thunder Lake and Harris Crescent.
- Information relating to the availability of and application process for CEAA participant funding hand delivered to residents of East Thunder Lake and Harris Crescent.

8.6.4.7.2 Anderson Road/Tree Nursery Road Residents

- Notices of public meetings posted at locations in the Thunder Lake/Wabigoon vicinity (The Towers, Green Achers, and Wabigoon Community Hall).



- Notices of public meetings were hand delivered to the residents of Anderson and Tree Nursery Road.
- Information relating to the availability of and application process for CEAA participant funding hand delivered to residents of Anderson Road and Tree Nursery Road.

A number of concerns and questions have been raised by local residents at public meetings of by means of phone calls, letters or emails.

Additionally, Treasury has met individually with the following:

- Nystrom family - April 14, 2013.
- Ingoldsby family - July 30, 2013.

8.6.4.8 Local Service Clubs

Rotary

- Project overview to Rotary members at Treasury offices - September 18, 2013.

8.6.4.9 Educational Organizations

8.6.4.9.1 Confederation College

- Letters of support for educational programs associated with the mining industry November 21, 2013, December 9, 2013.

8.6.4.9.2 Keewatin Patricia District School Board

- Presentation relating to potential employment opportunities - April 23, 2012.

8.6.4.9.3 Open Roads School - Dryden

- Presentation to students - March 3, 2013.

8.6.4.10 Kenora District Services Board

- Presentation relating to the Project with focus on potential employment opportunities - February 25, 2014.

8.6.4.11 Naturalist/Environmental Groups

8.6.4.11.1 Dryden and Area Naturalists

- Meeting in Dryden to discuss the Project and potential impacts - Feb. 5, 2013.

8.6.4.11.2 Goliath Mine Stakeholders Group

- Meeting at Treasury Office to discuss concerns - August 7, 2014.

8.6.4.12 Government Representatives

8.6.4.12.1 MP Greg Rickford

- Project overview provided to Minister Rickford and Dryden Mayor Craig Nuttal at Treasury offices, February 12, 2012; and
- Project update provided to Minister Rickford at Dryden Constituency office - December 17, 2013.



8.6.4.12.2 MPP Howard Hampton

- Project overview provided to Mr. Hampton at Treasury offices on March 6, 2012.

8.6.4.12.3 MPP Sarah Campbell

- Project overview provided to Ms. Campbell at Treasury offices on May 24, 2013.

A complete summary of all Aboriginal and public consultation is appended to the EIS.

8.6.5 Participation of Government Agencies

Treasury has received guidance in the development of the Project from both the federal and provincial governments. The primary source of direction from the Government of Canada has been the Canadian Environmental Assessment (CEA) Agency (the Agency). In addition to the EA guidelines for the Project being provided by the Agency, this agency has been available to provide ongoing direction to Treasury throughout the EIS process. The CEA Agency also coordinates aspects of the EIS process with other federal agencies and facilitates interaction between Treasury and other federal agencies as may be required.

On a provincial level, the Ontario MNDM have provided a "one window" approach to the Project on behalf of Ontario. MNDM also facilitates interactions between Treasury and other provincial ministries as necessary.

Since July of 2013, Treasury has participated in bi-weekly conference calls with representatives of both MNDM and the Agency. These calls have provided an opportunity to keep both the Agency and MNDM up to date on the progress of the Project and for the Agency and MNDM to provide ongoing direction to Treasury on regulatory requirements and expectations. Representatives of the MOECC and the OMNRF have also had the opportunity to participate in these conference calls.

Additionally, Treasury representatives have been in contact with the Agency and MNDM as well as other government agencies on an as needed basis.

In order to keep a broader contingent of government agencies abreast of the Project two "Interagency" meetings have occurred.

Interagency Meeting #1 took place on October 25, 2012 with participants joining by video link from the MNDM offices in Thunder Bay and the OMNRF offices in Dryden. Others who could not participate from these locations joined via teleconference. Participants included representatives of:

- Treasury Metals;
- Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines;
- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry;
- Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change;
- Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport; and
- Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.

Interagency Meeting #2 took place on March 25, 2014. This meeting also involved a video link from Ontario government offices in Thunder Bay and Dryden as well as participation by teleconference. Participants included representatives of:

- Treasury Metals;
- Treasury Metals consultants;
 - Tetra Tech;
 - Lycopodium; and
 - WSP.



- Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines;
- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry;
- Ontario Ministry of Environment and Climate Change;
- Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport;
- Ontario Ministry of Labor;
- Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency;
- Environment Canada;
- Natural Resources Canada;
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada;
- Health Canada; and
- Transport Canada.

In addition to the two interagency meetings, Treasury hosted a site visit to the Goliath Gold Site for government representatives on September 24, 2014. Government agencies that participated in the site visit included:

- Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines
- Environment Canada
- Health Canada
- Ontario Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
- Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

Participants were provided an overview and update of the Goliath Gold Project as well as a tour of the site with an emphasis on where specific infrastructure is proposed to be placed.

8.7 TREASURY METALS INFORMATION CENTRE

On September 14, 2014, Treasury opened an Information Centre located in downtown Dryden. The purpose of the Information Centre is to provide information about all aspects of the Project including potential employment and business opportunities associated with the Project and to listen to any concerns relating to the Project that members of the Aboriginal communities and public may have.

The Information Centre incorporates poster and video information. A Treasury representative knowledgeable about various aspects of the Project is available to speak with interested persons.

8.8 PUBLIC CONCERNS

In general, the communities in proximity to the Project have been supportive of the Project. The prospect of new jobs being created in the area which has seen considerable job reductions due to forest industry downsizing is welcomed by many as is the accompanying potential benefit to area businesses.

However, it would be unrealistic not to expect some concerns arising from the general public. Not surprisingly, the majority of concerns received have been from those in closest proximity to the Project site, in particular from residents living along East Thunder Lake Road, Anderson/Tree Nursery Road and those living in Wabigoon.

Public concerns have been received by concerned parties making direct contact with Treasury to state their concern or raise questions about the project, at public meetings during presentations and question and answer



periods, or via concerns presented to government agencies (primarily the CEA Agency) and relayed by the agency to Treasury.

Additionally, in July 2014 a group of area residents with concerns relating to the Project started "The Goliath Mine Stakeholders Group". The group has been making use of social media and has been posting questions and concerns relating to the Project on a Facebook page. Upon learning of this Facebook page, Treasury made contact with the organizers and extended an invitation to the group to visit the Project site and meet with Project staff to discuss concerns first hand.

A meeting with the Goliath Gold Mine Stakeholders Group took place on August 7, 2014 at the Treasury office. This meeting also included a representative of the Ontario MOECC. Treasury provided an overview of the Project as well as the EA requirements and government approval and oversight functions. Treasury has also urged the group to contact various other government agencies that can provide an unbiased view of Project requirements and the various regulations and processes that must be adhered to.

Public concerns relating to the Project include the following:

1. Potential impacts to water quality including:
 - Water quality in Thunder and Wabigoon Lake;
 - Water quality in streams flowing from the site into Thunder and Wabigoon Lake;
 - Impacts on wells in the vicinity of the Project;
 - Including potential impacts on water volume and quality.
2. Potential impacts to fish habitat and fishing;
 - Potential impacts to fish habitat and fishing opportunities in Thunder and Wabigoon Lakes.
 - Potential impacts to fish habitat in streams flowing into Thunder or Wabigoon Lakes including:
 - Blackwater Creek;
 - Hughes Creek;
 - Nugget Creek; and
 - Thunder Creek.
3. Potential impacts to human health arising from potentially reduced water quality that could be attributed to the Project;
4. Potential impacts from dust/air emissions from the Project site;
5. Potential impacts from noise associated with the Project site;
6. Concerns with blasting;
 - Proximity to private property and impacts on private property; and
 - Concerns with impacts to rock face at shoreline;
7. Increased traffic on road leading to the Project site; and
8. Potential impacts to property values in the vicinity of the proposed mine.



8.8.1 Measures to Address Public Concerns

The detail as to how public concerns are to be addressed is included throughout the EIS. A short summary of the measures included to address key issues includes the following:

1. Potential impacts to water quality including;
 - Treasury will be incorporating numerous measures into the design and operation of the Project to ensure that water quality is maintained. Water is associated with a number of facets of the Project.
 - Surface water and groundwater flowing into the mine itself will be collected and utilized in the ore processing plant. Water discharged from the processing plant will go to a TSF. Some of the water from the TSF will be recycled for re-use in the processing plant. Water released from the TSF will be treated to ensure water quality meets Provincial Water Quality Standards prior to discharge. It is anticipated that water discharged from the site will enter Blackwater Creek. Water quality in Thunder Lake, Wabigoon Lake or streams flowing into Thunder or Wabigoon Lake is not anticipated to be adversely impacted by the Project.
 - Treasury has committed to installation of a monitoring plan for groundwater resources in proximal distance to groundwater users in the local area. Treasury will provide monitoring of groundwater quality and quantity throughout the life of the Project and continued until the TSF and WRSA are capped. Termination of the program will be expected following full review of data collection by regulatory authorities.
2. Potential impacts to fish habitat/fishing;
 - Prior to being released from the Project site, water will be treated to ensure that all provincial water quality standards are met. Consequently, no adverse impacts to fish habitat or fishing opportunities are anticipated.
3. Potential impacts to human health;
 - Prior to being released from the Project site, water will be treated to ensure that all provincial water quality standards are met. Consequently, no adverse impacts to human health are anticipated.
4. Potential impacts from dust/air emissions from the Project site;
 - Treasury will implement measures to control dust and air emissions associated with the Project site.
 - The majority of dust associated with the Project will arise from vehicular traffic on the site or travelling to and from the site. Dust from these sources can be controlled through the application of water or calcium chloride. Dust may also arise from winds blowing over overburden and waste rock storage piles and any exposed beaches associated with the TSF. There are a number of commercially available binding agents available that can be utilized to reduce dust from such sources.
 - Air emissions from the processing plant will meet provincial air quality standards. Similarly mobile equipment to be used on the mine site will meet provincial standards.
5. Potential impacts from noise associated with the Project site;
 - Potential impacts from noise associated with the Project are described in a study undertaken by RWDI.
 - Treasury will utilize mobile equipment (trucks/loaders etc.) that are equipped with appropriate sound suppression devices. Treasury has been working with equipment manufacturers who have



- experience in the operation of such equipment at other mines operating in close proximity to residential areas.
- The processing plant will be enclosed and insulated to ensure that noise levels associated with the operation of the plant are kept to minimum.
6. Concerns with blasting;
- Blasting undertaken at the mine site will be conducted in a manner that will not result in impacts to private properties, or the rock faces on the shorelines of lakes. Although blasting will likely be audible from some of the private properties close to the mine site, blasting will be conducted on a regular schedule, most likely every second day and at a time that will not be disruptive.
7. Increased traffic on road; and
- Treasury engaged Keewatin-Aski Consulting to undertake a Traffic study to determine existing use of roads leading from Highway 17 to the Project site. The study also incorporated estimates of the amount and type of traffic that can be anticipated during both construction and operation of the Goliath Mine. The study concluded that additional traffic will result but the amount of additional traffic using Anderson/Tree Nursery Road will not require modifications to the entrance to Highway 17. Increased traffic will be most noticeable during the construction phase. Once in operation, the majority of traffic to and from the mine will be small vehicle traffic associated with shift changes.
8. Potential impacts to property values in the vicinity of the proposed mine.
- For the most part, noticeable impacts to properties in the vicinity of the Project and associated impacts to property values are anticipated to be minimal. If anything, the increased employment in the area associated with the Project may result in greater demand for housing and potentially higher real estate values in the Wabigoon/Dryden Area.
 - There are a few homes in the immediate vicinity of the proposed mine primarily along Tree Nursery road which may be more affected by the Project than others. Treasury is committed to working directly with these specific homeowners to ensure that their concerns are addressed.

Treasury respects all comments and concerns related to the Project and will take all items into account within the EA process. Treasury will work with local communities to address their concerns during the design of the Project.

8.8.2 Proponent Commitments

Commitments made to address concerns related to the Project site include:

- Water released from the Project site will meet provincial water quality requirements.
- Air emissions associated with the Project will meet provincial air quality standards.

Additional commitments are listed in the Commitment Registry in Section 9.

8.9 ABORIGINAL CONCERNS

The response to the Project from Aboriginal communities has been varied. While most of the Aboriginal communities in the vicinity have expressed interest in the potential for increased jobs and business opportunities resulting from the Project, the Aboriginal communities have also expressed some concerns with the project.

Aboriginal concerns have been identified to Treasury at meetings between Treasury and representatives of the Aboriginal communities, by means of letters sent by communities to Treasury and by means of comments made by communities to the CEA Agency which have been relayed to Treasury by the CEA Agency. Aboriginal concerns relating to the Project include the following:



1. Potential impacts to water quality including:
 - Water quality in Thunder and Wabigoon Lake;
 - Water quality in streams flowing from the site into Thunder and Wabigoon Lake;
 - Impacts on wells in the vicinity of the Project;
 - Including potential impacts on water volume and quality.
2. Potential impacts to fish habitat and fishing;
 - Potential impacts to fish habitat and fishing opportunities in Thunder and Wabigoon Lakes.
 - Potential impacts to fish habitat in streams flowing into Thunder or Wabigoon Lakes including:
 - Blackwater Creek;
 - Hughes Creek;
 - Nugget Creek; and
 - Thunder Creek.
3. Potential impacts on land use such as hunting, trapping, and other traditional land uses;
4. Potential impacts on gathering plants and berries;
5. Potential impact from flooding and weather related disasters;
6. Potential access restrictions (e.g., vehicle and skidoo routes);
7. Potential impacts from dust/air emissions from the Project site;
8. Potential impacts from noise associated with the Project site;
9. Concerns with blasting;
 - Proximity to private property and impacts on private property; and
 - Concerns with impacts to rock face at shoreline;
10. Increased traffic on road leading to the Project site;
11. Proposed closure plans and remediation of the site; and
12. Potential impacts to property values in the vicinity of the proposed mine.

8.9.1 Measures to Address Aboriginal Concerns

The detail as to how Aboriginal concerns are to be addressed is included throughout the EIS. A short summary of the measures included to address key issues includes the following:

1. Potential impacts to water quality including;
 - Treasury will be incorporating numerous measures into the design and operation of the Project to ensure that water quality is maintained. Water is associated with a number of facets of the Project.
 - Treasury is committed to designing the Project using best practices and will design water course realignment to convey flows in a natural manner, and where possible enhance the ecological function of Blackwater Creek and the watershed.
 - Surface water and groundwater flowing into the mine itself will be collected and utilized in the ore processing plant. Water discharged from the processing plant will go to a TSF. Some of the water from the TSF will be recycled for re-use in the processing plant. Water released from the TSF will be treated to ensure water quality meets Provincial Water Quality Standards prior to discharge. It



- is anticipated that water discharged from the site will enter Blackwater Creek. Water quality in Thunder Lake, Wabigoon Lake or streams flowing into Thunder or Wabigoon Lake is not anticipated to be adversely impacted by the Project.
- Treasury has committed to installation of a monitoring plan for groundwater resources in proximal distance to groundwater users in the local area. Treasury will provide monitoring of groundwater quality and quantity throughout the life of the Project and continued until the TSF and WRSA are capped. Termination of the program will be expected following full review of data collection by regulatory authorities.
2. Potential impacts to fish habitat/fishing;
- Prior to being released from the Project site, water will be treated to ensure that all provincial water quality standards are met. Treasury will look to offset the loss of fish habitat within the area within adjacent lakes, or streams in order to maintain fish population. Aquatic life and habitat will be monitored throughout the life of the Project and through post-closure to ensure the population and environment for fish remains healthy.
 - The development of the Project site will not impact on lake levels on Wabigoon or Thunder Lakes since process water and other water required for the operation will not be drawn from those water bodies. The water levels in Wabigoon Lake and Thunder Lake are controlled by dams located at the Domtar mill in Dryden and on Thunder Creek, respectively. As lake levels will not be impacted by the Project, lake level impacts on fish habitat or populations are not expected.
3. Potential impacts on land use such as hunting, trapping, and other traditional land uses;
- The development of the Project is not anticipated to adversely impact the rights of Aboriginal People to hunt within the general area. Treasury has made a concerted effort to place mine infrastructure including the processing plant, other mine buildings, and the tailings storage facility on private properties and thereby reduce potential impacts to Crown Lands.
 - Trapping on Crown lands in the vicinity of the Project site will not be altered as a result of the development of the Goliath Gold Mine.
 - Concerns have been identified relating to the provision outlined in section 35 of the Constitution Act (1982), which provides for the protection of Aboriginal rights. The opportunity to practice section 35 harvesting rights in the general area of the Project will continue.
4. Potential impacts on gathering plants and berries;
- Blueberries are one type of berry known to be of interest to First Nations and other Aboriginal people. No specific areas associated with the Project have been identified as areas from which blueberries have been gathered. In consideration of the amount of private land associated with the Project as well as the type and stage of forest development it is unlikely that many blueberries would have been picked on the proposed mine site. However, if there is a desire to pick blueberries, excellent picking opportunities exist very close to the Project in areas recently logged on the Dryden Forest. It is expected that blueberries will continue to be available on these harvested areas for the next several years.
 - The development of the Project is not expected to adversely impact the gathering of plants or berries within the general area.
5. Potential impact from flooding and weather related disasters;
- Treasury does not have the expertise to comment on the causes of climate change and weather patterns. However, the effects of climate change tend to be global in nature. Individual industrial projects do not generally have large impacts. As a result of the small size of the Project and the relatively short period over which the Project is expected to be in operation, it is extremely



unlikely that the Project will have any significant impact on flooding or other weather related disasters.

- The only potential for a significant flooding incident associated with the Project would be through a failure of the TSF. Since the TSF will be designed and built following recommended CDA factor of safety and undergo regular inspection, such a failure is highly improbable.

6. Potential access restrictions (e.g., vehicle and snowmobile routes);

- For safety and security reasons, it is anticipated that access to the Project site will be restricted and gated as required. However, the Project is located near the end of existing roads that do not provide access to any locations beyond the immediate Project site. Therefore, the impact on access to Treaty 3 lands will be small.
- Treasury has requested clarification of the location of snowmobile routes between Wabigoon and Thunder Lake. Treasury does not wish to unduly impair access to such routes and will cooperate with snowmobilers to find alternative routes to the extent possible.

7. Potential impacts from dust/air emissions from the Project site;

- Treasury will implement measures to control dust and air emissions associated with the Project site.
- The majority of dust associated with the Project will arise from vehicular traffic on the site or travelling to and from the site. Dust from these sources can be controlled through the application of water or calcium chloride. Dust may also arise from winds blowing over overburden and waste rock storage piles and any exposed beaches associated with the TSF. There are a number of commercially available binding agents available that can be utilized to reduce dust from such sources.
- Air emissions from the processing plant will meet provincial air quality standards. Similarly, mobile equipment to be used on the mine site will meet provincial standards.

8. Potential impacts from noise associated with the Project site;

- Treasury will implement measures to limit noise levels resulting from the Project. Treasury is committed to continuing engagement with the Aboriginal communities to ensure that appropriate mitigation strategies (e.g., timing of blasting in open pit to limit noise and vibration to home owners, dust suppression strategies) are developed.
- Treasury will ensure retention of treed buffers between the mine site and residential areas.
- Treasury will utilize mobile equipment (trucks/loaders etc.) that are equipped with appropriate sound suppression devices. Treasury has been working with equipment manufacturers who have experience in the operation of such equipment at other mines operating in close proximity to residential areas.
- The processing plant will be enclosed and insulated to ensure that noise levels associated with the operation of the plant are kept to minimum.
- Blasting undertaken at the mine site will be conducted in a manner that will not result in impacts to private properties, or the rock faces on the shorelines of lakes. Although blasting will likely be audible from some of the private properties close to the mine site, blasting will be conducted on a regular schedule, most likely every second day and at a time that will not be disruptive.

9. Closure and site remediation plans;



- Aboriginal communities have inquired about Treasury closure procedures and what assurances would be in place for rehabilitation of the Project. Questions also have arisen to what the Project would look like after closure and whether Aboriginal groups could be involved in the reclamation process. Treasury has assured Aboriginal communities that the closure plan details will be vetted by Provincial representatives and qualified consulting firms will provide details in clear and transparent fashion.
- Treasury must file Closure Plans and post financial assurance with Provincial authorities prior to beginning mine construction so the funds are available for closure and reclamation. Current closure plans are to return the Project site to a naturalized state. Throughout the consultation phases of the EA, Treasury is interested in hearing feedback on the management objectives of the Closure Plan.
- Treasury is committed to a progressive rehabilitation process to limit visual impacts of mine rock areas. Treasury is committed to continuing engagement with the Aboriginal communities to ensure that appropriate mitigation is developed.

10. Increased traffic on road; and

- Treasury engaged Keewatin-Aski Consulting to undertake a Traffic study to determine existing use of roads leading from Highway 17 to the Project site. The study also incorporated estimates of the amount and type of traffic that can be anticipated during both construction and operation of the Goliath Mine. The study concluded that additional traffic will result but the amount of additional traffic using Anderson/Tree Nursery Road will not require modifications to the entrance to Highway 17. Increased traffic will be most noticeable during the construction phase. Once in operation, the majority of traffic to and from the mine will be small vehicle traffic associated with shift changes.

11. Potential impacts to property values in the vicinity of the proposed mine.

- For the most part, noticeable impacts to properties in the vicinity of the Project and associated impacts to property values are anticipated to be minimal. The increased employment in the area associated with the Project may result in greater demand for housing and potentially create higher real estate values in the Wabigoon/Dryden Area.
- There are a few homes in the immediate vicinity of the Project primarily along Tree Nursery road which may be more affected by the Project than others. Treasury is committed to working directly with these specific homeowners to ensure that their concerns are addressed.

Treasury respects all comments and concerns related to the Project and will take all items into account within the EA process. Treasury will work with Aboriginal communities to address their concerns during the design of the Project.

8.9.2 Proponent Commitments

Commitments made to address concerns related to the Project site include:

- Water released from the Project site will meet provincial water quality requirements.
- Air emissions associated with the Project will meet provincial air quality standards.

Additional commitments are listed in the Commitment Registry in Section 9.



8.9.3 Outstanding Aboriginal and Public Concerns

The primary outstanding concerns associated with the Project relate to water quality. Certain individuals remain unconvinced that water released from the mine site will not have adverse downstream impacts to water quality, fish and fish habitat and human health.

Another outstanding concern remains with a neighbor in close proximity to the Project who feels increased traffic passing his home as well as potential increased noise from mine operation is likely to disrupt the peace and quiet he values. Treasury will work closely with this individual to minimize any potential impacts that may arise.

Treasury has attempted to provide answers to questions relating to the development of the Goliath Mine, potential impact arising from the mine development, and measures contemplated to avoid or minimize those impacts. In some cases, because environmental baseline studies were still underway or because engineering and design work had not been completed, it has not always been possible to provide definitive answers to questions and concerns presented. Following the submission of the EIS, Treasury will endeavor to provide more comprehensive responses directly to concerned parties. Additionally, complete information relating to the Project will be presented at public information forums as well as at the Treasury Information Centre located at 49 King St. in Dryden.

A complete listing of all contacts made by Treasury relating to Aboriginal and public participation is included in Appendix V. The Aboriginal consultation report is included in Appendix DD.