

Annex A1: Note to Readers

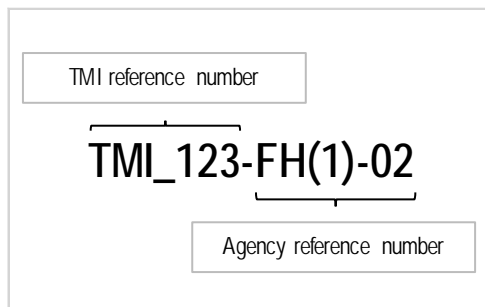
Introduction

In April 2015, Treasury Metals Inc. (TMI) submitted an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Goliath Gold Project (the Project) to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency) for consideration under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA), 2012. The Agency reviewed the submission and informed TMI that the requirements of the EIS Guidelines for the Project were met and that the Agency would begin its technical review of the submission. In June 2015, the Agency issued a series of information requests to TMI regarding the EIS and supporting appendices (referred to herein as the Round 1 information requests). The Round 1 information requests included questions from the Agency, other federal and provincial reviewers, First Nations and other Aboriginal peoples, as well as interested stakeholders. As part of the Round 1 information request process at the request of the Agency, TMI has consolidated the responses to the information requests into a revised EIS for the Project.

In total, there were 859 questions and comments divided into 4 annexes:

- Annex 1: Questions and comments for the Agency and other government reviewers.
- Annex 2: Questions and comments from government reviewers regarding the permitting process for the Project. Treasury Metals have yet to start the formal permitting process for the Project.
- Annex 3: Questions and comments from First Nations and other Aboriginal peoples.
- Annex 4: Questions and comments from interested stakeholders.

The enclosed document provides the final responses from 1 to 265 of the Round 1 information requests included as Annex A3. For ease of cross-referencing, each information request response has been provided a unique identifier comprised of a sequential TMI reference number (from 1 to 265 of the 859 information requests) and the IR reference number provided in the packages forwarded to Treasury Metals by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency). The naming convention is illustrated below.



The responses are provided in a tabular form, with each response including the original “Summary of Comment / Rationale” as well as the “Information Request” for reference. In preparing the response package, there were some requests that require the provision of figures, tables and attachments that did not lend themselves to inclusion in the response tables. This information is appended to this response package, with the information presented in the order it is cited.

Index for Annex A1 Information Request Responses

To guide the users in locating specific responses, the next section of this document provides an index of where each of the responses are located, or where the response is referenced in another response. The index makes use of the unique identifier described above.

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TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
1	EA(1)-01	CEA Agency	EIS sections 5, 6 Appendix DD	Sections 2.3, 3.4.2, 7.2.1, 7.2.2, 9.1.1, 10.2, 11.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 2.3 of the EIS Guidelines states: “The proponent will make reasonable efforts to integrate “traditional Aboriginal knowledge” that will contribute to the assessment of environmental impacts.” Potentially affected Aboriginal groups, including Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, Eagle Lake First Nation, Wabauskang First Nation, Grassy Narrows First Nation, Naothamegwaning First Nation, and Métis Nation of Ontario, as well as the Grand Council of Treaty 3 have expressed concerns that traditional knowledge in the project area has not been collected; therefore, potential effects to the environment have not been adequately characterized in the EIS and further understanding of both land and resource use and traditional knowledge in the project area is needed. All groups have expressed willingness to participate in traditional knowledge and traditional land use studies in the project area.</p> <p>Aboriginal traditional knowledge is held by the Aboriginal people who live in the area of a proposed project, and who have a long relationship with the lands and resources likely to be affected. As such, the integration of Aboriginal traditional knowledge into the environmental assessment (EA) process can serve to strengthen the EA. The proponent should review the Agency’s reference guidance document “Considering Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge in Environmental Assessments Conducted under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012” (http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=en&n=C3C7E0D3-1). This document provides 1) principles that should be taken into consideration when collecting Aboriginal traditional knowledge from groups and 2) guidance on integrating traditional knowledge into an EA. In accordance with this guidance document, the proponent should follow existing consultation protocols.</p> <p>Currently, community and Aboriginal traditional knowledge has not been integrated into the effects assessment presented in section 6 (EIS). Information shared by Aboriginal groups with the Agency and the proponent prior to EIS submission is discussed in Appendix DD. In most cases, Aboriginal traditional knowledge has not been integrated into the assessment, and concerns identified in Appendix DD have not been adequately considered or addressed by the proponent.</p> <p>Aboriginal groups have identified that some responses provided by the proponent are not demonstrative of a respectful understanding of the cultures, views and concerns of Aboriginal groups. The guidance document includes guidance as to how the proponent should integrate Aboriginal traditional knowledge and Western knowledge. The guide states that in cases where Aboriginal traditional knowledge and Western knowledge cannot be reconciled “EA practitioners should juxtapose what is suggested by each knowledge system in their EA report and demonstrate how each type of knowledge has been considered in the EA.”</p>
					<u>Information Request / Comment:</u>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>A. Engage Aboriginal groups to collect Aboriginal traditional knowledge, including but not limited to information related to traditional land and resource use.</p> <p>B. Integrate Aboriginal traditional knowledge into the baseline assessment and assessment of environmental effects, including documentation of information provided for each valued component.</p> <p>C. Ensure Aboriginal traditional knowledge is discussed and considered in a respectful manner which acknowledges its inherent value. As directed by potentially affected Aboriginal groups, consider engaging in cultural awareness training and seek to follow existing consultation protocols.</p> <p>D. If/where differences between Aboriginal and Western knowledge arise, include both information sources in the assessment.</p> <p>Response: Treasury Metals has been engaged with Aboriginal peoples within the Project area for a number of years and has attempted to negotiate agreements for sharing traditional knowledge and preparing traditional land use studies. Those attempts are described in Appendix DD of the revised EIS (the Aboriginal Engagement Report) and is summarized in Section 9.0 of the revised EIS. Treasury Metals continues to be willing to provide reasonable financial support for independent technical reviews and traditional knowledge/traditional land use (TK/TLU) studies with affected communities. Where available, TK/TLU information that has been collected has been integrated into the revised EIS. Any traditional knowledge shared by the communities in the future will be incorporated into the design of Project mitigation, follow-up monitoring plans and environmental management plans, as appropriate.</p>
2	EA(1)-02	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6.4.1.11	Section 10.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The potential effects for the valued components in section 6 (EIS) are not characterized adequately to inform the effects assessment. For example, potential effects to wildlife and wildlife habitat are described as “The primary potential effect to wildlife and wildlife habitat will result from the physical alteration or removal of existing habitat. Constructing access roads, mine infrastructure, tailing storage, pit excavation and waste rock storage areas will require disturbance or alteration of terrestrial and wetland/riparian habitats. In total, it is expected that 242 ha of wildlife habitat will be lost due to Project activities for the duration of the Project life. Habitats are expected to recover over time following Project closure.” The potential effects need to be described adequately for species at risk listed in section 6.4.1.11 (EIS), ungulates, furbearers, upland birds, and wetland birds.</p> <p>A more adequate characterization needs to take into consideration quantitative data and include a</p>

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					<p>description of the species and habitat, what types of habitat are proposed to be impacted by which project component, and any applicable references to federal or provincial regulations or guidelines.</p> <p>Section 10.1 (EIS Guidelines) states that “in predicting and assessing project’s effects, the proponent will indicate important details and clearly state elements and functions of the environment that may be affected, specifying the location, extent and duration of these effects and their overall impact.” Descriptions, including figures and maps to provide this information are important for the Agency to analyze the effects assessment.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide adequate characterizations of potential effects, for all valued components listed in section 6 (EIS), taking into consideration the responses to all relevant information requests from the Agency.</p> <p>B. Provide detailed figures with base maps to indicate the elements and functions of the environment potentially impacted, including receptors, and to delineate the areas, locations, extent and durations of the various potential environmental effects for each project phase.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>The EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) provided the framework that was used in preparing the original EIS. Based on the feedback from the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (The Agency) and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions, there are a number of issues related to the approach used in the original EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS at the request of The Agency that incorporates the concerns provided by the technical reviewers of the original EIS. One of these concerns was not assessing migratory birds as its own section within the EIS. Although migratory birds were assessed in the original EIS within the wildlife section, Treasury Metals has presented migratory birds in its own section within the revised EIS. Section 6.0 of the revised EIS endeavors to set out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner. The effects assessment is organized with the following main sections, which are directly correlated with the requirements described in the EIS Guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment Methods: Describes the methods and approaches that were used to assess the effects and impacts of the Project. The methods section includes specific sub-sections describing the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Valued Components (VCs), indicators and measures; ○ Spatial boundaries; ○ Temporal boundaries;

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establishing the likelihood of occurrence; and ○ Reversibility. ● Description of Project Effects: Describes the changes to the environmental components predicted as a result of the Project. The section is organized by discipline and also includes details regarding the methods used to predict effects, and a description of aspects of the Project design that would help minimize or avoid effects. As set out in the EIS Guidelines, issues related to federal considerations under CEAA 2012 are discussed in their own sub-section. ● Mitigation Measures: Describes the mitigation measures that are technically and economically feasible to mitigate the identified effects of the Project. This section is organized by discipline, and also includes a discussion of mitigation measures related to federal considerations under the <i>Canadian Environmental Assessment Act</i> (CEAA), 2012. ● Residual Effects: Describes the residual adverse effects of the project that will remain after the technically and economically feasible mitigation measures described in the "Mitigation Measures" section are applied. As with the other sections, the residuals effects related to federal considerations under CEAA 2012 are discussed. ● Cumulative Effects: Describes the potential cumulative effects associated with the Project. There are specific sub-sections describing the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ methods used to assess cumulative effects; ○ projects included in the cumulative effects assessment; ○ identification of cumulative effects identified, organized by discipline; and ○ cumulative effects related to federal considerations under CEAA 2012. ● Determination of Significance: Describes the significance of the identified residual or cumulative effects. There are sub-sections describing the methods used for assigning significance, including how the individual impact measures (e.g., magnitude) were assigned for each discipline, and how the various measures were combined in a clear and transparent manner to establish significance. The significance determination is by discipline, with an explicit section describing significance for issues related to federal considerations under CEAA 2012. Finally, this section includes impact matrices as requested in the EIS Guidelines.
3	EA(1)-03	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6	Sections 7.2.1, 7.2.2, 13.1.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 6.1.3 (EIS) provides a characterization of residual effects for the Project. Publications of the Governments of Canada (http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/Content/D/2/1/D213D286-2512-47F4-B9C3-08B5C01E5005/Determining_Whether_a_Project_is_Likely_to_Cause_Significant_Adverse_Environmental_Effects.pdf) and British Columbia (http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca/pdf/EA0_Valued_Components_Guideline_2013_09_09.pdf) are cited as the primary references used in developing the characterization. It is unclear how the proponent</p>

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					<p>followed the methods outlined in these reference documents.</p> <p>Section 13.1.1 (EIS Guidelines) states: “The following elements should be used in determining the significance of residual effects: magnitude, geographic extent, timing, duration, frequency, reversibility, ecological and social context, and existence of environmental standards, guidelines or objectives for assessing the impact. In assessing significance against these criteria the EIS will, where possible, employ relevant existing regulatory documents, environmental standards, guidelines, or objectives such as prescribed maximum levels of emissions or discharges of specific hazardous agents into the environment. The EIS will contain a section which explains the assumptions, definitions and limits to the criteria mentioned above in order to maintain consistency between the effects on each VC.”</p> <p>Section 6.1.3 (EIS) outlines magnitude as Level I (no measurable residual effect), Level II (Residual effect is measurable but within range of natural variation) and Level III (Residual effect is outside range of natural variation). Applying an across-the-board approach to defining levels of magnitude in the residual effects characterization does not allow the reader/reviewer to adequately understand the nature of the effect such that different readers/reviewers will reach the same conclusions. The definitions of magnitude will vary by VC and as such should be clearly defined on a per-VC basis. Definitions should be thorough and unambiguous to ensure that little room is left for interpretation on the part reader/reviewer. A table should be provided outlining magnitude definitions for each VC.</p> <p>Section 7.2.1 of the EIS Guidelines states: “The EIS will clearly indicate the spatial boundaries to be used in assessing the potential adverse environmental effects of the proposed project and provide a rationale for each boundary. It is recognized that the spatial boundaries for each VC may not be the same. Spatial boundaries will be defined taking into account as applicable the appropriate scale and spatial extent of potential environmental effects, community and Aboriginal traditional knowledge, current land and resource use by Aboriginal peoples, ecological, technical and social and cultural considerations. The description of the project setting will be presented in sufficient detail to address the relevant environmental effects of the project.”</p> <p>Valued component (VC)-specific spatial scales are not defined or justified in the EIS. Therefore, the spatial scale over which the residual effect is expected to occur is unclear for the VCs.</p> <p>Section 7.2.2 (EIS Guidelines) states: “The temporal boundaries of the EA will span all phases of the project: construction, operation, maintenance, foreseeable modifications, and where relevant, closure, decommissioning and restoration of the sites affected by the project. Temporal boundaries</p>

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					<p>will also consider seasonal and annual variations related to VCs for all phases of the project, where appropriate. Community and Aboriginal traditional knowledge should factor into decisions around appropriate temporal boundaries. If the temporal boundaries do not span all phases of the project, the EIS will identify the boundaries used and provide a rationale.”</p> <p>It is unclear in the EIS what the basis or reasoning is for the selection of “10-years after project initiation” as a benchmark value for the characterization of temporal scale (duration). It is also unclear how this benchmark relates to the project considering that Figure 3.2.1 (EIS, page 3-6) shows the operations phase to be 11 years and the total project length to be 18 years from construction to the end of the abandonment (post-closure) phase. A clear definition for duration levels that will provide consistency across VCs is required. For example, Level 1: Effect Not measurable beyond current project phase, Level 2: Effect could persist up to project decommissioning (closure), Level 3: Effect could persist beyond project decommissioning. In addition, for many biological VCs, the most relevant duration may be relative to the organism’s lifespan.</p> <p>Frequency has been defined in general terms for the residual effects characterization. If terms such as infrequently, intermittently, or continuously are used then relevant temporal scales should be defined for each VC. For example, “occasionally” could be defined further as: fewer than X number of occurrences per unit time. Furthermore, in the case of recurrent disturbances, the proponent should discuss the ability of the VC to recover, whether it is partially or fully, between disturbances and how the extent of the recovery effects the level assigned in the residual effects characterization and final significance determination. Relevant temporal scales for each VC have not been defined by the proponent and the capacity of the VC to fully recover between recurrent causal disturbances has not been discussed.</p> <p>For reversibility, Level I is defined as “residual effect is readily reversible over a relatively short time period”. A definition of relatively short should be provided. The definition should be based on a temporal scale that is relevant to the VC being assessed. In addition, Level II is defined as “Residual effect is partially reversible”. The definition of partially reversible is unclear and should be quantified and discussed on a per-VC basis.</p> <p>Section 13.1.1 (EIS Guidelines) states “Where significant adverse effects are identified, the EIS will set out the probability (likelihood) that they will occur, and describe the degree of scientific uncertainty related to the data and methods used within the framework of its environmental analysis.” The basis of how likelihood of occurrence was determined is unclear. No descriptions,</p>

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					<p>definitions or data was provided. Qualitative terms such as “unlikely” or “reasonably” should be clearly defined, and probabilities should be assigned, leaving little room for interpretation by the reader/reviewer. More information is needed to understand the basis of the likelihood conclusions.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide definitions of each level of magnitude on a VC by VC basis. Arrange definitions in a table and include in chapter 6 of the EIS.</p> <p>B. Define and justify the spatial scale (aka. geographic extent, LSA/RSA) for each VC, taking into account as applicable the appropriate scale and spatial extent of potential environmental effects, community and Aboriginal traditional knowledge, current land and resource use by Aboriginal groups, ecological, technical and social and cultural considerations.</p> <p>C. Define and justify the indicators and measures of ecosystem health and integrity used for the analysis of each VC.</p> <p>D. Provide a clear definition for duration levels that will provide consistency across VCs. Provide definitions on a per-VC basis where appropriate.</p> <p>E. Define relevant temporal scales for each VC where frequency has been described in general terms. Assess the capacity of VCs to fully recover between recurrent causal disturbances.</p> <p>F. Clearly define and quantify “relatively short period” and “partially reversible” as they relate to reversibility. Complete this on a per-VC basis where necessary.</p> <p>G. Provide a clear and comprehensive basis for the determination of likelihood of occurrence. Clearly define any qualitative terms used in describing likelihood of occurrence.</p> <p>H. Revise the environmental effects assessment based on the newly defined magnitude, geographic extent, duration, frequency, reversibility, and likelihood levels.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>The EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) provided the framework that was used in preparing the original EIS. Based on the feedback from CEAA and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions, there are a number of issues related to the approach used in the original EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS at the request</p>

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					<p>of the Agency that incorporates the concerns provided by the technical reviewers of the original EIS. Section 6.0 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project, including a discussion and justification for VCs and VC / discipline specific assessment criteria, in a clear and traceable manner. The spatial and temporal extents of the identified VCs utilized the traditional knowledge gained from Indigenous communities in the vicinity of the Project. The traditional knowledge gained by Indigenous communities is included in Section 9.0, and Appendix DD of the revised EIS (the Aboriginal Engagement Report)</p>
4	EA(1)-04	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6.4, Figure 6.1.1, Tables 6.4.1 – 6.4.8	Section 3.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 3.2 (EIS Guidelines) states: "In describing methods, the proponent will document how it used scientific, engineering, traditional and local knowledge to reach its conclusions. Assumptions will be clearly identified and justified. All data, models and studies will be documented such that the analyses are transparent and reproducible. All data collection methods will be specified. The uncertainty, reliability and sensitivity of models used to reach conclusions must be indicated."</p> <p>Very little information is given in the EIS regarding the methodology followed to create the decision tree presented in Figure 6.1.1 (EIS, page 6-4) or the scientific or technical suitability of the tree for use in determining the significance of residual effects.</p> <p>There are numerous inconsistencies in how the decision tree was applied and how effects/impact levels were described in section 6.4 (EIS), for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Table 6.4.1 (EIS, page 6-54), under the VC Ungulates, lists magnitude level 2, geographic extent level 3, duration level 1, frequency level 3, reversibility level 2 and goes on to list significance as "not significant". Following the decision tree listed in Figure 6.4.1 (EIS) this should be considered a significant effect. Other examples include but may not be limited to: Table 6.4.1 Furbearers, Table 6.4.2, Groundwater, Fish. - The effects assessment of air quality presented in section 6.4.1.5 (EIS) does not align with Table 6.4.2 (EIS, page 6-61). The table shows magnitude and geographic extent at Level 2, and frequency at Level 3 while section 6.4.1.5 (EIS) deems these all to be Level 1 in determining an overall magnitude Level 1. <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide the procedures and rationale used to create the decision tree presented in Figure 6.1.1 (EIS, page 6-4). Provide clear explanation and justification of how different paths through the decision tree were determined to result in significant or non-significant outcomes.</p>

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					<p>B. Using the revised residual effects characterization (see EA(1)- 03), and any revisions made to the decision tree, repeat the residual effects significance determination for all VCs. Based on the revised significance determination, revise mitigation and follow-up programs as required for all VCs. Revise EIS section 6 and correct any inconsistencies between the section 6 tables and the text in the section.</p> <p>Response: The EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) provided the framework that was used in preparing the original EIS. Based on the feedback from CEAA and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions, there are a number of issues related to the approach used in the original EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS that incorporates the concerns provided by the technical reviewers of the original EIS. Section 6.0 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner, including a description and justification of the decision tree. Within the effects assessment of Section 6.0, mitigation measures are presented for each VC, along with the predicted residual adverse effects of the Project that remain after the mitigation measures are implemented. Follow-up monitoring programs have been presented in Section 13.0 of the revised EIS that will be implemented to verify the effects assessment of the revised EIS and the effectiveness of the mitigation measures.</p>
5	EA(1)-05	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6	Section 11.1.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 11.1.1 of the EIS Guidelines state: "The [environmental] impact statement will also present an assessment of the effectiveness of the proposed technically and economically feasible mitigation measures. The reasons for determining if the mitigation measure reduces the significance of an adverse effect will be made explicit."</p> <p>The mitigation measures identified in section 6 (EIS) are not assessed for their effectiveness, nor are reasons presented for determining if the measures reduce the significance of the potential effects.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. For each proposed mitigation measure: - assess and describe the effectiveness of the measure; - explain the criteria used to evaluate effectiveness with respect to the implementation of the measure to address potential effects caused by the Project; and - provide the rationale for determining the measure will reduce the significance of the potential</p>

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					<p>effects caused by the Project.</p> <p>Response: The EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) provided the framework that was used in preparing the original EIS. Based on the feedback from CEAA and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions, there are a number of issues related to the approach used in the original EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS that incorporates the concerns provided by the technical reviewers of the original EIS. The revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner. Section 13 of the revised EIS presents the follow-up monitoring programs developed to verify the effects assessment of the revised EIS, as well as determine the effectiveness of the presented mitigation measures. Mitigation and residual effects are described for each discipline used in the effects assessment provided in Section 6.0 of the revised EIS.</p>
6	EA(1)-06	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 12, 13, Tables 6.4.1 – 6.4.8	Section 11.4	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 11.4 of the EIS Guidelines includes the following statements: - “A Follow-up Program is designed to verify the accuracy of the effects assessment and to determine the effectiveness of the measures implemented to mitigate the adverse effects of the project”; - “The EIS will describe the proposed Follow-up Program in sufficient detail to allow independent judgment as to the likelihood that it will deliver the type, quantity and quality of information required to reliably verify predicted effects (or absence of them), and to confirm both the assumptions and the effectiveness of mitigation”; - “The Follow-up Program will include specific commitments that clearly describe how the proponent intends to implement them”; - “The description of the Follow-up Program will include any contingency procedures/plans or other adaptive management provisions as a means of addressing unforeseen effects or for correcting exceedances as required to comply or to conform to benchmarks, regulatory standards or guidelines”; - “The Follow-up Program will also be designed to monitor the implementation of mitigation measures resulting from Aboriginal consultation...”</p> <p>Tables 6.4.1 to 6.4.8 identify follow-up monitoring for certain valued components; however, the EIS does not provide sufficient detail to evaluate whether the proposed monitoring is appropriate.</p> <p>The objectives outlined in sections 12 and 13 of the EIS do not reflect the intent of the EIS</p>

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					<p>Guidelines. These sections describe an environmental management plan and monitoring program, respectively, developed to meet anticipated regulatory permit requirements only. Neither the plan nor the program indicates the main purpose of the follow-up program, which is to verify the predictions of the environmental effects and determine the effectiveness of the mitigation measures.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Develop and describe a follow-up program to verify the accuracy of the effects assessment and to determine the effectiveness of the measures implemented to mitigate the adverse effects of the Project on all relevant valued components (VCs). For any identified VC excluded from the follow-up program, provide a rationale for the exclusion.</p> <p>B. Describe the follow-up program which includes, in accordance with the EIS Guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - specific, achievable, measurable and verifiable commitments that clearly describe how they will be implemented; - baseline data, compliance data (e.g. established benchmarks, regulatory documents, standards or guidelines), and real time data (e.g. observed data gathered in the field) incorporated in the program design and implementation; - reporting methods to be used, including frequency, methods, and format; - field-testable monitoring objectives that reflect the effects predictions, assumptions, and mitigation actions; - a schedule indicating the frequency and duration of effects monitoring; and - program elements designed to monitor the implementation of mitigation measures resulting from Aboriginal engagement and where appropriate, public concerns. <p>Response:</p> <p>The EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) provided the framework that was used in preparing the EIS. Based on the feedback from CEAA and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions, there are a number of issues related to the approach used in the EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS that incorporates the concerns provided by the technical reviewers of the original EIS. Section 6.0 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner.</p> <p>Section 13 of the revised EIS outlines the proposed follow-up monitoring programs that will be used to verify the effects assessment and ensure the effectiveness of the mitigation measures presented in the revised EIS. As stated in Section 13.0 for each of the monitoring programs, the programs are subject to change following consultation with government agencies, Aboriginal peoples, and</p>

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					stakeholders to ensure an inclusive process.
7	EA(1)-07	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 6.4.1.4, 6.4.1.7, 6.4.1.11, 6.4.1.12, 12, 13	Section 11.1, 16	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: An Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is referred to throughout the EIS as a mitigation measure for impacts to several valued components. The EIS also refers to section 12 for the EMP; however, section 12 describes the monitoring plan for the valued components. Details of measures contained in an EMP will assist the Agency in better understanding how the environmental effects are proposed to be mitigated.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Describe the general content of an EMP to ensure that proper measures and controls will be in place in order to decrease the potential for effects on air quality, surface water quality, Aboriginal peoples, wildlife and wildlife habitat, and fish and fish habitat.</p> <p>Response: The EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) provided the framework that was used in preparing the original EIS. Based on the feedback from CEAA and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions, there are a number of issues related to the approach used in the original EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS that incorporates the concerns provided by the technical reviewers of the original EIS. Section 6.0 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner. Section 12.0 of the revised EIS outlines the environmental management plan framework for the Project. The individual environmental management plans will be developed and finalized through consultation with government agencies, Aboriginal peoples and stakeholders.</p>
8	EA(1)-08	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6.4.3.3	Section 10.1.2, 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 6.4.3.3 (EIS) does not describe the changes to the environment linked or necessarily incidental to the provision of an authorization for the serious harm to fish by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, an approval for the deposit of deleterious substance in a fish frequented waterbody by Environment Canada and a licence for the explosives manufacturing and storage facilities by Natural Resources Canada.</p> <p>Based on section 10.1.2 of the EIS Guidelines, “the proponent shall describe any change that may be caused by the project on the environment, which is defined as the components of the Earth, including: – Land, water and air, including all layers of the atmosphere;</p>

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					<p>- All organic and inorganic matter and living organisms; and - The interacting natural systems that include the components described above. These descriptions will be integrated into the effects assessment sections of each VC included in the EIS".</p> <p>Section 10.1.3 of the EIS Guidelines also state that the proponent shall describe the effects of these changes on health and socio-economic conditions, physical and cultural heritage, or any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance, other than as they pertain to Aboriginal peoples.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Where matters may fall within the scope of subsection 5(2) of CEAA 2012, i.e. effects in relation to a federal authority's exercise of a power or performance of a duty or function, describe in a stand-alone section the effects to additional receptors, not just air quality, surface water quality, Aboriginal peoples, wildlife and wildlife habitat, and fish and fish habitat, and identify mitigation measures, the significance of residual effects, and any follow-up monitoring that may be required. Additional receptors can include, but is not limited to: a. Furbearers and their habitat b. Amphibians and their habitat c. Reptiles and their habitat d. Ungulates and their habitat e. Species at risk and their habitat f. Water quality and quantity g. Non-migratory birds and their habitat h. Riparian vegetation i. Non-Aboriginal people j. Air quality</p> <p>B. Provide a map that shows the ecosystem habitats (e.g. riparian zones, waterbodies, wetlands) within the geographic areas that may fall within the scope of subsection 5(2) of CEAA 2012.</p> <p>C. Provide the sizes of the geographic areas and habitats that may fall within the scope of subsection 5(2) of CEAA 2012 in hectares.</p> <p>Response: The EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) provided the framework that was used in preparing the original EIS. Based on the feedback from CEAA and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1</p>

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					<p>questions, there are a number of issues related to the approach used in the EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS that incorporates the concerns provided by the technical reviewers of the original EIS. Section 6.0 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner for each valued component identified for the Project. The size of the geographic areas and habitat that may be effected by the Project, including maps, are provided in Section 6.0 of the revised EIS.</p>
9	EA(1)-09	CEA Agency	EIS Section 9, Table 9.0.1	Section 11.5	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 11.5 of the EIS Guidelines states: “Proponent commitments identified in the EIS should include environmental mitigation measures to address public and Aboriginal peoples concerns and Follow-up Program elements”. The guidelines also state: “Each commitment will be specific, achievable, measurable and verifiable, and described in a manner that avoids ambiguity in intent, interpretation, and implementation.”</p> <p>The commitments listed in Table 9.0.1 (EIS, pages 9-1 to 9-7) do not have sufficient detail to comply with the EIS Guidelines and to permit the Agency to evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation measures and the follow-up program in addressing environmental effects or uncertainty. Details for each commitment should include, but not be limited to, description of the mitigation measure or follow-up program element, where the measure or element will be applied, what phase(s) of the project life the measure or element will be applied, and which organizations will be involved. The proponent should consider SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, time-bound) measures to guide the development of the commitments. Also, the commitments should indicate to whom the commitments are made.</p> <p>Also, section 9.0 (EIS) states: “Treasury has made a series of the key commitments as identified in the EIS report in accordance to the Federal EIS Guidelines (Table 9.0.1). Reference numbers have been attached to commitments as they appear in the report. Regulatory and legislative requirements have been identified where applicable.”</p> <p>Table 9.0.1 (EIS, pages 9-1 to 9-7) does not include reference numbers.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Update Table 9.0.1 of the EIS with descriptions of the mitigation measures and follow-up program elements, where the measures and elements will be applied, what phase(s) of the project life the measures and elements will be applied, and which organizations will be involved. Provide details on these commitments that reflect the SMART approach, avoid ambiguity, and indicate to whom the commitments are made.</p> <p>B. Update Table 9.0.1 with additional mitigation measures and follow-up program measures or elements in response to comments from government, public and Aboriginal peoples. Provide details</p>

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					<p>on these commitments that reflect the SMART approach, avoid ambiguity, and indicate to whom the commitments are made.</p> <p>C. For each commitment in Table 9.0.1, provide the reference numbers.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>The EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) provided the framework that was used in preparing the original EIS. Based on the feedback from CEAA and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions, there are a number of issues related to the approach used in the original EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS that incorporates the concerns provided by the technical reviewers of the original EIS. The revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner.</p> <p>The information required to respond to this information request is set out in Section 6.0 (effects assessment) Section 10 (commitments), and Section 13 (follow-up monitoring), which includes a summary of follow-up monitoring and commitments made through the EIS and in response to IR Round 1. Additionally, the commitments presented in Table 10.1-1 of the revised EIS include reference numbers that are cross referenced throughout the revised EIS for clarity.</p>
10	AC(1)-01	CEA Agency	EIS Section 8 Appendix DD	Sections 2.3, 3.3, 7.1.1, 7.2.19.2, 10.2, 11.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>The EIS guidelines detail Aboriginal engagement requirements for the proponent in relation to specific components of the EIS, including the identification of valued components, impacts from the Project on Aboriginal and Treaty rights, and proposed mitigation or accommodation measures.</p> <p>The EIS does not clearly identify or document how the Aboriginal engagement requirements described in the EIS Guidelines are met. Further, while a detailed log of proponent efforts is provided in Appendix DD, it is not clear how the efforts align with the environmental assessment (EA) milestones, what information related to the EA was shared for engagement, and when the information was shared.</p> <p>In Appendix DD, the responses to specific concerns are not substantiated by information in the EIS, nor is it clear how comments have been incorporated into EIS or the project design. For example, a key concern from Eagle Lake First Nation was the effect of the project on Lola Lake Nature Reserve (table in section DD.7.9, Appendix DD, page 119). The proponent response states: "Lola Lake Nature Reserve is located 2 km. to the northeast of the project site and upstream from the project site. The area between the project site and Lola Lake Nature Reserve will not be developed as part of the Project. As such, the project is expected to have no impact on the Lola Lake reserve area."</p>

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					<p>This conclusion is not substantiated by any scientific or technical information. Further, the response includes a reference to Appendix J, which is the air quality study, without rationale for the reference.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide a summary of the information presented, including a reference list and sample of the materials used and distributed at Aboriginal engagement events, as well as meeting notes, and written comments provided by participants, to demonstrate how each potentially affected group was engaged on each of the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - baseline conditions, including potential or established Aboriginal and Treaty rights that may be affected by the Project; - alternatives assessment; - project components and related activities; - effects assessment, including valued components, spatial and temporal boundaries for the assessment, and adverse impacts to potential or established Aboriginal and Treaty rights; - mitigation measures, including Aboriginal accommodation measures to address impacts on Aboriginal and Treaty rights; - residual effects, including identification of outstanding Aboriginal issues; and - the follow-up monitoring program. <p>B. Provide a table with a summary of Aboriginal concerns by valued component, the proponent responses (including the extent to which this information was incorporated in the design of the Project as well as in the EIS, and the resultant changes), references to specific sections of the EIS and/or appendices that detail how the concerns has been addressed, and the proponent's commitments to address concerns.</p> <p>C. Demonstrate how Aboriginal groups were provided access to timely and relevant information required to identify impacts to Aboriginal and Treaty rights.</p> <p>D. Align engagement activities with each of the EA milestones, and provide a record of information presented. Information provided need to demonstrate that the proponent held and facilitated meetings by making key EA summary documents (baseline studies, EIS and key findings) available, including plain language summaries.</p> <p>E. Demonstrate that the engagement requirements were met during the development of the EIS. Where requirements were not met, conduct additional Aboriginal engagement activities in consultation with the Agency. Any concerns or information gathered from additional engagement</p>

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					<p>activities will need to be documented and included in the table requested in item B above. The proponent must also describe how the additional information was incorporated into the effects assessment.</p> <p>Response: At the request of the Agency, Treasury Metals has prepared an Aboriginal Engagement Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix DD and summarized in Section 9.0 of the revised EIS. The Aboriginal Engagement Report provides a detailed record of contacts with Aboriginal peoples, identifies concerns and questions raised by each Aboriginal person, a detailed list of concerns and how they were addressed in the EIS. The Aboriginal Engagement Report show Treasury Metals' efforts to provide relevant Project-related information and efforts to solicit information and concerns from the Aboriginal peoples. With respect to the comments regarding the potential effects on Lola Lake Provincial Park, please refer to the response to TMI_84-GW(1)-21, TMI_112-SW(1)-26, TMI_146-WL(1)-03, TMI_282-RG(1)-17 and TMI_283-RG(1)-18.</p>
11	AC(1)-02	CEA Agency	EIS Section 8.9.3	Sections 12.2, 12.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Outstanding public and Aboriginal concerns are discussed in section 8.9.3 (EIS). This text is limited to concerns related to water quality and impacts to an individual home owner nearby the site. Comments received during Agency consultation on the EIS indicate that this discussion is not complete.</p> <p>There is no discussion of outstanding potential adverse impacts to Aboriginal and Treaty rights that may result from residual and cumulative environmental effects in section 8.9.3 (EIS). This information is needed by the Crown for consideration as it assesses the adequacy of consultation and accommodation.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Describe the potential adverse impacts on potential or established Aboriginal and treaty rights and related interests that have not been fully mitigated as part of the environmental assessment and associated engagement with Aboriginal groups B. Describe outstanding public concerns related to potential environmental effects as described in section 5 of CEAA 2012 that have not been resolved as a result of changes to the project, mitigation measures, or public participation activities.</p> <p>Response: As part of the Round 1 IRs, the Agency has requested that Treasury Metals expand and update the</p>

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					<p>information presented in Appendix DD to the EIS. This information is provided as appendix DD to the revised EIS called the Aboriginal Engagement Report accompanying the Round 1 IR responses. The Aboriginal Engagement report provides a listing of the disaggregate comments from Aboriginal peoples, and how those were addressed in the Project design and revised EIS.</p> <p>Sections 5 and 6 of the Aboriginal Engagement Report describe the concerns that were raised by Aboriginal peoples identified by the CEA Agency and the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM). The concerns that appear to be open include the level of Aboriginal engagement and the lack of traditional knowledge studies. Treasury Metals is committed to continuing to engage with the Project area Aboriginal peoples to discuss the Project and to understand Project-related concerns. Treasury Metals has attempted to reach agreements with Project area Aboriginal peoples to conduct traditional knowledge studies and continues to be willing to undertake those studies with interested communities.</p> <p>As identified in Section 8.9.3 of the original EIS, the outstanding public concerns are related to water quality and noise impacts on an individual home owner. This information has been presented in Section 9.8 of the revised EIS. Concerns about potential changes to the environment (water quality and noise) as described in CEAA 2012 Section 5 were not identified. Water released by the Project during operations will meet Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO) and not impact the water quality in Blackwater Creek and downstream water bodies; therefore, no impacts as a result of change in water quality are anticipated. Treasury Metals will continue to work with the individual home owner to address their concerns.</p>
12	AC(1)-03	CEA Agency	Appendix C of Appendix S	Sections 5, 9, 11	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Aboriginal engagement activities to identify species at risk (SAR) in the project area or define the spatial boundaries for SAR have not been conducted. The proponent received no responses from any of the First Nations contacted through information requests in regard to wetland evaluations (Appendix C of Appendix S). As such, the proponent should consider devising an alternative approach to engaging Aboriginal communities and groups.</p> <p>Section 9.1.2 of the EIS Guidelines states the proponent should seek advice from Aboriginal groups and First Nations on SAR and species of conservation concern.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Engage Aboriginal groups and First Nations to define the spatial boundaries for SAR and acquire information needed to discern SAR location and prevalence in the local and regional study areas.</p> <p>B. Provide documentation of engagement results by Aboriginal group.</p> <p>C. Revise the baseline and effects assessment based on engagement results, including the identification of additional mitigation measures where needed.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p>

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					<p>A. Treasury Metals has made efforts to engage and elicit input from Aboriginal peoples regarding the Project. While no Project-specific traditional knowledge and traditional land use studies were prepared for, or shared with, Treasury Metals; limited traditional knowledge and information about traditional land use areas was collected from by Aboriginal peoples during the engagement process. Treasury Metals made efforts to incorporate the information shared and to address comments and issues raised in the original EIS.</p> <p>B. The engagement activities prior to filing the original EIS were summarized in Section 8, and more fully documented in Appendix DD to the original EIS. As part of the Round 1 IRs, the Agency has requested that Treasury Metals expand and update the information presented in Appendix DD to the original EIS. This information is provided as Appendix DD (called the Aboriginal Engagement Report) and is summarized in Section 9.0 of the revised EIS. The Aboriginal Engagement report provides a listing of the disaggregate comments from Aboriginal peoples, and how those were addressed in the Project design and revised EIS.</p> <p>C. Treasury Metals also recognizes that engagement does not stop with the filing of the EIS and will continue throughout the life of the Project. Treasury Metals will continue to try to engage the Aboriginal peoples meaningfully with respect to the Project. Treasury Metals will continue to discuss potential Project effects on traditional land use activities with potentially affected Aboriginal peoples throughout the life the Project. As additional information regarding an Aboriginal community's traditional land use and practices become available, Treasury Metals will review and consider it in the design of mitigation measures, follow-up monitoring and management plans for the Project, as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, a revised assessment of the effects of the Project on the environment, along with a discussion of the mitigation measures to address those effects is provided in Section 6.0 to the revised EIS.</p>
13	PC(1)- 01	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 8, 8.6, 8.8, 8.8.1 Appendix V	Sections 2.2, 3.3, 4, 5.7, 7.1.1, 7.2.1, 10.3, 11.3, 11.4, 11.5, 12.3, 14, 16, Figure 1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 8.6 (EIS) and Appendix V note the locations, persons, and organizations engaged in relation to public participation. Appendix V shows that the proponent presented and provided information on the project description and economic opportunities; however, it is not apparent whether the proponent engaged the public on the effects assessment, including the valued components and the spatial boundaries. The methods of public engagement and their relevance are also not clear. For greater clarity, the proponent needs to provide the materials used and distributed at the public meetings.</p> <p>Section 8.8.1 (EIS) states: “the detail as to how public concerns are to be addressed is included throughout the EIS”. With only a short summary of the measures to address key issues presented in section 8.8.1, it is difficult to know if the public concerns have been fully addressed in the EIS. Some</p>

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					<p>of the responses to the public concerns also contradict the information presented in the EIS. For example, the proponent states that no adverse impacts to fish habitat or fishing opportunities are anticipated but Appendix II indicates that the project infrastructure will overprint fish habitat in Blackwater Creek.</p> <p>Section 11.3 of the EIS Guidelines states: “the EIS will provide a summary of discussions; indicate the methods used and their relevance, locations, the persons and organizations consulted, the concerns raised, the extent to which this information was incorporated in the design of the project as well as in the EIS, and the resultant changes. The proponent will also provide a description of efforts made to distribute project information and provide a description of information and materials that were distributed during the consultation process.”</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide a summary of the information presented, including a reference list and sample of the materials used and distributed at the public meetings held by the proponent, to demonstrate that the public was engaged on each of the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Baseline conditions; 2. Effects assessment, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Valued components; and b. Spatial and temporal boundaries for the assessment; 3. Mitigation measures; 4. Residual effects. <p>B. Provide a table with a summary of public concerns by valued component, the proponent responses (including the extent to which this information was incorporated in the design of the Project as well as in the EIS, and the resultant changes), references to specific sections of the EIS and/or appendices that detail how the concerns has been addressed, and the proponent’s commitments to address concerns.</p> <p>C. Where the proponent cannot demonstrate that the above engagement occurred during the development of the EIS, additional engagement activities need to be implemented by the proponent in consultation with the Agency, prior to providing a response to this IR. Any concerns or information gathered from additional engagement activities will need to be documented and included in the table requested in request B above. The proponent also must describe how the additional information was incorporated into the effects assessment.</p>

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					<p>Response:</p> <p>A. Treasury Metals fully engaged public stakeholders as part of the overall development of the original and revised EIS and the Goliath Gold Project. Public outreach included meetings with the local communities of Wabigoon, and Dryden. Treasury Metals also completed a review of baseline studies with regulatory authorities prior to issuance in the original and revised EIS. Overall activities have been summarized within Section 9.0 of the revised EIS, and Appendix V. Documentation materials used and distributed at the public meetings prior to the revised EIS submission is included as part of this IR response, and further documentation supporting IR completion is also attached in the following documents (a description and date for each are listed in parentheses):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMI_13-PC(1)-01_Attachment_1 (City of Dryden, 23-04-15) • TMI_13-PC(1)-01_Attachment_2 (Notice of Meeting, 30-10-12) • TMI_13-PC(1)-01_ Attachment_3 (Town Office, 2013) • TMI_13-PC(1)-01_ Attachment_4 (Federal Baseline, 14-05-14) • TMI_13-PC(1)-01_ Attachment_5 (Inter-Governmental, 24-09-14) • TMI_13-PC(1)-01_ Attachment_6 (Open House, 06-05-15) • TMI_13-PC(1)-01_ Attachment_7 (MOECC Goliath Stakeholders, 07-08-14) • TMI_13-PC(1)-01_ Attachment_8 (Meeting Brochure, 06-05-15) • TMI_13-PC(1)-01_ Attachment_9 (Goliath Stakeholders Group, 07-08-14) • TMI_13-PC(1)-01_ Attachment_10 (Dryden Public Meeting, 30-10-12) <p>Documentation is dated as to the date it was presented/distributed. This record can also be traced via Appendix V.</p> <p>B. Treasury Metals has made efforts to engage public stakeholders regarding the Project. These efforts are summarized within Section 9.0 of the revised EIS, and presented within Appendix V. The mitigation measures associated with concerns of the general public have been summarized within Section 9.4.3 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>Further to this Treasury Metals has made efforts to engage and elicit input from Aboriginal peoples regarding the Project. Treasury Metals will continue to try to engage the Aboriginal peoples meaningfully with respect to the Project. The engagement activities prior to filing the original EIS were summarized in Section 8, and more fully documented in Appendix DD to the original EIS. As part of the Round 1 IRs, the Agency has requested that Treasury Metals expand and update the information presented in Appendix DD to the original EIS. This information is provided as Appendix DD to the revised EIS called the Aboriginal Engagement Report. The Aboriginal Engagement report provides a listing of the disaggregate comments from Aboriginal peoples, and how those were addressed in the Project design and revised EIS.</p> <p>C. Treasury Metals conducted numerous meetings with public stakeholder and Aboriginal peoples prior to the revised EIS submission, and has incorporation the comments within the design and</p>

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					operational standards of the Project. Treasury Metals also recognizes that engagement does not stop with the filing of the EIS and will continue throughout the life of the Project. Treasury Metals will continue to engage both public stakeholders and Aboriginal peoples meaningfully with respect to the Project. Treasury Metals feels that the level of engagement has met the requirements of the EIS guidelines and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.
14	PD(1)-01	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 1.4.1, 3.2.1, 3.3.2 EIS Summary Section 5.2	Section 5.7	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Section 1.4.1 (EIS) does not list dewatering ponds and wetlands as a project activity for the site preparation phase while sections 5.2 (EIS Summary) and 3.2.1 (EIS) indicate that site preparations include dewatering ponds and wetlands within footprint of the proposed mine infrastructure and constructing water realignment channels and ditches. In addition, section 3.3.2 (EIS) notes that there are no permanent ponds or lakes that require dewatering.</p> <p>It is not clear whether dewatering of ponds and wetlands will take place during site preparation and if this activity will take place, which ponds and wetlands will be dewatered.</p> <p>Site preparation should be scheduled to minimize potential disturbance of wildlife. This should also include aquatic life (spawning periods for dewatering activities).</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Clarify whether or not the site preparations activities include dewatering of ponds and wetlands. If so, identify and describe the wetlands and ponds to be dewatered.</p> <p>B. Clarify whether or not site preparation will be scheduled to minimize potential effects to fish and fish habitat.</p> <p>C. In relation to subsection 5(2) of CEAA 2012, should any of the ponds or wetlands be subject to the federal authority’s exercise of a power or performance of a duty or function, name and map the location of the water-bodies in question, describe any other potential environmental effects of dewatering activities to ponds and wetlands, identify mitigation measures, the significance of residual effects, and any follow-up monitoring that maybe required.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. During the site preparation and construction phase it will be necessary to dewater the upper reaches of Blackwater Creek Tributary 1, which will involve the removal of the temporary natural structures (beaver dams) that can be present within the waterway, as shown in TMI_129-FH(1)-08_Figure_8 for an aerial view of the stated area. In addition to this tailings storage facility (TSF) area (Blackwater Creek Tributary 2) will also require dewatering activities.</p> <p>B. All site preparation activities that have the potential to affect fish bearing waters will be scheduled to minimize potential effects to fish and fish habitat.</p> <p>C. Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS that has incorporated a revised assessment of the effects of the Project. Section 6.0 provides the predicted residual effects of the Project once the</p>

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					avoidance and mitigation measures have been implemented.
15	PD(1)-02	CEA Agency	EIS, Section 3.1, Figure 3.1.2	Sections 4, 5.6, 5.7	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 3.1 (EIS) describes the proposed use of the existing facilities, including the tree nursery ponds and the existing structures at the former tree nursery. However, there is no description of the infrastructure required to take water from the tree nursery ponds for mine operations. It is also not clear whether additional work on the tree nursery pond dams, irrigation ponds, or at the former tree nursery is proposed.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Describe the use of the existing facilities/infrastructure required to pump water from the irrigation ponds along the tributary of Thunder Creek. Include a map with its location. B. Clarify whether additional infrastructure or works are planned at the Tree Nursery site. If so, describe the environmental effects, mitigation measures, and follow-up measures that are linked to these activities.</p> <p>Response: A. Section 3.1.6 of the revised EIS describes that the existing structures and impoundments along Thunder Lake Tributary 2 and Thunder Lake Tributary 3 remain in place and functional. As described in Section 3.8 of the revised EIS, these ponds will be used to supply fresh water during the operations. The location of these ponds is shown in Figure 3.0-1C of the revised EIS. The Project design presented within the original EIS represents the understanding of the Project at the time of filing. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A summary of the refinements to the Project and pumping infrastructure since the completion of the EIS are presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. The refined engineering has also modified the water balance for the Project, including refining the expected requirements for fresh water. The refinements to the water balance are presented in Appendix F to the revised EIS. The conceptual water balance fully describes the overall water balance for the Project site and the water taking that will be required of the irrigation ponds. The effects of the water taking activities are described in Appendix JJ (Water Report) to the revised EIS, as well as forming part of the effects assessment on surface water quantity presented in Section 6.9 of the revised EIS. B. There will be limited need for additional infrastructure on site of the former MNRF tree nursery. Treasury Metals has proposed to make use of existing office and warehouse facilities. The location of the requisite pipeline will use the existing disturbance corridor along Tree Nursery Road, as shown in Figure 3.11.1 of the revised EIS. There will be two small explosives storage facilities will be placed on the grounds of the former tree nursery. Each will be equipped with full containment to prevent any effects on the surrounding areas. As such, no significant effects are predicted and no follow up</p>

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					measures will be required throughout the Project.
16	PD(1)-03	CEA Agency	Appendix II Section 3.0	Section 5.5	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 3.0 (Appendix II) indicates that habitat modifications will result from channel realignment and culvert replacement. However, it is not clear where the culvert replacement will take place.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide a map of all water crossings and culvert replacements associated with the Project. B. Describe the culvert replacement and how it will be designed to avoid impacts to fish and fish habitat including fish passage. If the proponent believes that it is not necessary to ensure fish passage, provide a justification.</p> <p>Response: Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A summary of the refinements to the Project since the completion of the original EIS are presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. One of the changes presented within this section is an updated figure showing the location of the water structures (Figure 3.0-1A of the revised EIS). All culverts installation will be designed ensure fish passage, if applicable. Specific details regarding the final engineering for the Project, such as culvert design and configuration, will not be available until the Project reaches the regulatory permitting stage. Treasury Metals recognizes the need to have advanced the engineering to provide those final levels of detail before they complete the regulatory permitting process for the Project.</p>
17	PD(1)-04	CEA Agency	EIS Section 3.6.1 Appendix D	Sections 5.7, 7.1.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Appendix D does not address the proposal to redirect the Tree Nursery Road (a public local roads board road).</p> <p>Section 3.6.1 states that "The process plant site will be located to the east of the mining pits, and just east of the Tree Nursery Road (Figure 3.6.3). The road will be diverted to the east side of the process plant. The plant security gate and car park access will be from this new section of Tree Nursery Road. The process plant and ancillary buildings will be located outside a 500 m radius blast zone from the edge of the open pit and on property owned by Treasury. The crushing facility will have a tentative clearance of 300 m from the edge of the pit. Aerial view of proposed processing plant can be seen in Figure 3.6.1"</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Clarify and provide the plans for realignment/redirecting of Tree Nursery Road. Include a map of the realigned corridor.</p>

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					<p>B. Describe the environmental effects (including impacts to Aboriginal peoples), mitigation measures, and follow-up measures for the activities related to redirecting the Tree Nursery Road.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A summary of the refinements to the Project since the completion of the original EIS are presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. Treasury Metals has identified an alternative location for the plant site (see Figure 3.0-1.A in Section 3.0 of the revised EIS), which could help reduce the overall environmental effects. This is especially true with respect to road re-alignment as the alternative location avoids the need for the re-alignment of Tree Nursery Road around the plant site. Treasury Metals has evaluated the effects of the Project on wildlife and fisheries, along with the associated effects of land use and Aboriginal peoples using this preferred alternative location. A review of the preferred location was determined to have a minimal effect on air quality and noise. Treasury Metals recognizes there would be the need to update the air and noise modelling required to support the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) process to reflect the preferred location as well as equipment details that will be available later in the engineering process for the Project.</p> <p>B. A description of the environmental effects associated with a re-alignment of Tree Nursery Road has been provided in Section 6.0 of the revised EIS. Additionally, mitigation measures (Section 6.0) and follow-up monitoring (Section 13.0) for land use and Aboriginal peoples has been presented in the revised EIS.</p>
18	PD(1)-05	CEA Agency	EIS Figures 3.5.1, 3.5.2	Section 5.6	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Figures 3.5.1 and 3.5.2 (EIS, pages 3-14 and 3-15) show the property boundary immediately adjacent to the overburden stockpile, the waste rock stockpile, and the pit. It appears that the property boundary has been extended in these areas, but it cannot be confirmed.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Confirm whether the property boundary has been extended away from the main mine facilities and is not as depicted in Figures 3.5.1 and 3.5.2. If the figures are inaccurate, provide revised figures that accurately reflect the layout, locations, and scale of the project components.</p> <p>Response: Accurate depictions of property boundaries and relative location of Project infrastructure are provided in Figure 3.0-1A of the revised EIS. All facilities associated with the Project (overburden stockpile, waste rock stockpile, open pit) will be located within the property boundary.</p>
19	PD(1)-06	CEA Agency	Appendix F Section 2.1.4	Section 5.6	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 2.1.4 of Appendix F states: "When the tailings storage facility reaches the design overflow</p>

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					<p>point, it will overflow and discharge effluent." It is unclear whether this means the overflow effluent will be discharged to the water treatment facility and NOT directly to the environment.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Explain to where the overflow effluent from the tailings storage facility (TSF) will discharge. Include a figure to depict the flow path, water management system, effluent transfer locations into and out of the TSF, and the receiving environment of the overflow effluent.</p> <p>B. If the effluent overflow does not go to the water treatment facility, describe the contingency measures that will be put in place to ensure there are no impacts to the environment from the effluent overflow discharge.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A water management strategy was developed prior to submission of the original EIS and provided in Appendix F of the original EIS. The design overflow point referenced in Appendix F, Section 2.1.4, references the point at which excess water is directed to the effluent treatment facility. As described in Section 3.7 of the original EIS, the tailings storage facility (TSF) will be designed such that any excess water that is directed to the TSF will either be retained and directed to the plant site for use as reclaim or to the effluent treatment plant for treatment.</p> <p>As a regulatory design requirement, the TSF is equipped with an emergency spillway to ensure that there is never the potential for the dam to be overtopped. The design of the TSF will also ensure sufficient capacity below the inlet of the emergency spillway to contain the Environmental Design Storm (EDS) as described in Appendix D of the revised EIS. The EDS for the Project has been assigned as the runoff volume resulting from the 1:1000 year 24-hour event. Given the life of the Project is anticipated to span 15 years, it is highly unlikely that there would be a storm during the life of the Project that would approach the EDS. In the extremely unlikely event that the Project experiences a storm approaching the EDS, water levels within the TSF may rise sufficiently to reach the spillway and be released.</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions. One of the refinements to the Project is that the location of the spillway has been relocated such that any excess water released from the TSF through the spillway will direct to the open pit. There would be no releases to the environment responses (also see TMI_344-AC(1)-18). The refinements to the Project since the submission of the original EIS are presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. Treasury Metals remains committed to ensuring that final effluent discharged during operations to Blackwater Creek during the life of the Project meet</p>

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					Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO).
20	AA(1)-01	CEA Agency	EIS Section 2 Appendix D Section 4.6.1 Appendix O Figure 2-2	Section 8.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 4.6.1 (Appendix D, page 24) states that the proponent assumes a natural clay basin will contain the tailings storage facility in the long term. However, it is noted that much of the onsite clays are interlayered with silt layers. Figure 2-2 (Appendix O) also shows that the surficial geology of the proposed footprint of the tailings storage facility consists of clay and sandy loam. Due to the uncertainty of its technical feasibility, the proponent needs to provide evidence and a clear rationale that the underlying clay basin is present and suitable for use in long term tailings storage. It is not clear whether the clay material found on the project site will be segregated from other overburden during stripping and stockpiling for capping the tailings in the tailings storage facility. The environmental effects of obtaining suitable clays from other parts of the project site or offsite locations need to be considered.</p> <p>The proponent also needs to provide a clear rationale that it is economically feasible, and that supply exists, to source any additional required clay from outside vendors. An alternative tailings storage facility that does not depend on clay as an underlying layer and for building a cap should also be provided.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide evidence and a clear rationale to support the current assumption that the natural clay basin underlying the tailings storage facility (TSF) is sufficient for long term storage purposes.</p> <p>B. Discuss how onsite clays will be segregated from other materials, if applicable.</p> <p>C. Explain the environmental effects of obtaining the required quantities of suitable clay material from the project footprint and offsite locations to build the TSF embankments; cap the TSF tailings, the backfilled west and central pits; and cap the waste rock stockpile area.</p> <p>D. Discuss the economic feasibility and supply options for sourcing sufficient amounts of suitable clay material from offsite locations.</p> <p>E. As part of the alternatives assessment, describe at least one long term tailings storage facility alternative that is not reliant on clay. Evaluate the feasibility of using a synthetic liner.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. At the time of the original EIS preparation site investigation data available for the site was limited</p>

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					<p>to the general area of the proposed open pit and was not available for the potential tailings storage areas. Available sub-surface information for the site indicated clay to sands near surface. This information as well as geological maps of Canada, available from the Ontario Geological Survey of Canada, were used to estimate the sub-surface ground materials at the site. Preliminary assumption was that clay would be present in the basin of the tailings storage facility (TSF) at the resultant preferred location (revised EIS Appendix D – Location 1) and this was used to advance the TSF Alternatives Assessment. Subsequent site investigations at the site, completed after completion of the TSF Alternatives Assessment, showed that the basin area of the preferred location generally consists of sands overlying silt and occasionally clay. This updated site data has been used by Treasury Metals to revise planning for TSF basin containment. The options that are available consist of utilizing locally available clay (i.e. open pit pre-stripping) as fill material in the basin or alternatively using a low permeable engineered liner system (i.e. HDPE). The option of using clay as a basin liner, provided from a borrow source at the site (i.e., within the site surface footprint), will be explored as the Project is advanced. Site investigations will be used to collect samples for laboratory testing to confirm suitability of the clay material as a basin liner. The results of the planned site investigation will also be used to identify the volume of local clay material available at the site that can be used as fill material for the basin.</p> <p>B. The information from the site investigation, discussed above in Part A, will be used to delineate the extents and depths of clays that may be used for construction fill materials. Segregation of clays from other materials at the site would be completed during construction and utilize the borrow area delineation, as discussed above, along with site surveys to control excavation extents and depth during excavation. Construction monitoring is also used to visually observe the excavation activities to provide field control to ensure that material mixing is avoided. Additional control is provided during construction fill placement that utilizes construction monitoring and Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC). The QA program will collect samples from the stockpiles to confirm that the material meets construction specifications prior to fill placement. Materials that do not meet specifications will not be approved for placement. Samples for the QC program are collected from material placed to confirm that the material meets the specifications.</p> <p>C. Treasury Metals has determined as part of the ongoing engineering refinements that clay will not be used in as a component of the potential low-permeability cover over the TSF for closure (refer to TMI_40-MW(1)-02). Potential environmental effects related to the removal of clay from borrow areas on the mine site are anticipated to consist of mobilization of suspended solids. This situation is generally created with the clearing, stripping and grubbing of topsoil that exposes the underlying soils to potential erosion from surface runoff. Environmental effects from obtaining clay from borrow sources on the mine site are anticipated to be limited as several environmental mitigation measures are planned for the Project and are summarized below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilization of temporary sediment control measures in immediate areas of the borrow source. • Site remediation of borrow sources consisting of site grading, placement of stripped topsoil over

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					<p>the graded area and re-vegetation to prevent erosion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presence of a site perimeter ditch/berm system to prevent runoff from leaving the site. The perimeter ditch/berm system would also be used to collect solids mobilized from runoff. <p>D. Treasury Metals intends to complete sufficient site work to source construction fill materials from the mine site. Several pit operations and contractors are located within the Dryden area that can be solicited to supply clay for fill placement if insufficient volumes are available at the site. Treasury Metals has compiled a list of local contractors providing soil supply services in the area. Economics of providing clay from an off-site source will be dependent on the costs that are predominantly influenced by haul distance. Cost comparisons will be used to identify the economic influence of using off-site clay borrow sources in the event that insufficient clay is available on-site. A low-permeable engineered product (i.e. HDPE Liner system) would be the preferred economic approach if costs associated with using off-site clay were assessed to be more expensive.</p> <p>E. The Alternatives Assessment for the TSF (revised EIS Appendix D-1) assessed three (3) potential TSF locations. Location 2 was identified as having potential sand foundations in the basin area, based on the available background data for the site, and was subsequently assessed with the inclusion of a liner system (synthetic liner) and represented an alternative that was not reliant on clay.</p>
21	AA(1)-02	CEA Agency	EIS Section 2	Section 8	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 2 (EIS) does not assess the potential adverse impacts on potential or established Aboriginal and Treaty rights and related interests from each alternative means in a manner that incorporates input from Aboriginal groups.</p> <p>Section 8 of the EIS Guidelines state that the EIS will identify and consider the effects of each alternative means, including "both environmental effects and potential adverse impacts on potential or established Aboriginal and Treaty rights and related interests".</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Assess the potential adverse impacts on potential or established Aboriginal and Treaty rights and related interests from each alternative means.</p> <p>B. Revise the quantitative analysis to include a weighting factor based on input from Aboriginal groups.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. There were four specific weighting factors used in the alternatives assessment that focused on potential effects to Aboriginal peoples (see Table 2.2.3), including "Aboriginal and Treaty Rights". The reviewer is also directed to Appendix X of the revised EIS as each alternative is compared to</p>

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					<p>effects on Aboriginal peoples in the Alternatives Assessment tables.</p> <p>B. Treasury Metals will continue to discuss potential Project effects on traditional land use activities with potentially affected Aboriginal peoples throughout the life the Project. As additional information regarding an Aboriginal community's traditional land use and practices become available, Treasury Metals will review and consider it in the design of mitigation measures, follow-up monitoring and management plans for the Project, as appropriate.</p> <p>To date, Treasury Metals have not established agreements required to be able to engage local Aboriginal peoples in technical aspects of the Project, such as evaluating technical Project alternatives. Treasury Metals continues to work towards partnerships with Aboriginal peoples and communities.</p>
22	AA(1)-03	CEA Agency	EIS Table 1.5.1, Section 2	Section 8	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Table 1.5.1 (EIS, page 1-20) shows that the proponent has applied for a Notice of Camp Opening permit with the Regional Health Unit while Section 2 (EIS) suggests that employees will be responsible for their own housing off-site. The proponent must clarify if they will be constructing and owning employee accommodations either on or off the Project site for the purposes of the Project.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Clearly indicate whether on and/or off-site employee accommodations will be constructed or provided.</p> <p>B. Describe the alternatives means for on and/or off-site employee accommodations, the preferred alternative and assess the environmental effects and potential impacts on potential or established Aboriginal and Treaty rights and related interests from each alternative means.</p> <p>C. Provide a map showing the locations of on and/or off-site employee accommodations alternatives.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. Treasury Metals does not intend to construct or provide either on-site, or off-site accommodations for employees though the life of the Project.</p> <p>Table 1.5.1 (revised EIS, page 1-20) details the anticipated provincial permits, this table will be updated to reflect the current development of the Project. No Notice of Camp Opening has been applied for at this time with the Regional Health Unit.</p> <p>B. Due to the immediate proximity of the City of Dryden, the village of Wabigoon, and relatively small workforce, neither a long-term construction camp nor permanent residences will be constructed for the Project. Therefore, means for on-site and/or off-site employee accommodations were not</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>considered as part of the alternatives assessment.</p> <p>C. Refer to the answer provided above in Part B.</p>
23	AA(1)-04	CEA Agency	<p>EIS Section 2</p> <p>Appendix D Section 4.4, Figure 4.1</p>	Section 8	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The co-disposal option (tailings in the tailings storage facility and open pit) was only considered for tailings storage facility location #1 because it was determined that its location was optimal due to “proximity to open pit and underground operations while minimizing travel distance and environmental harm” (Appendix D, Section 4.4). It appears that potential locations 4 and 6 are as close or closer to the open pit (Appendix D, Figure 4.1).</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Explain why tailings storage facility optional locations 4 and 6 were not considered for co-disposal.</p> <p>Response: The Alternatives Assessment for the tailings storage facility (TSF) considered seven (7) candidate locations. The assessment was augmented to include an assessment of four (4) potential tailings disposal technologies consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conventional Hydraulic tailings (slurry); • Thickened tailings (paste); • Dry Stack tailings; and • Conventional hydraulic tailings (slurry) into the TSF as well as co-disposal of a portion of the tailings with mine waste rock into the open pit and/or the underground. <p>The assessment of the seven (7) locations combined with the four (4) tailings depositional technologies resulted in the assessment of 22 options.</p> <p>Location 4 was not considered for Co-Disposal as the location was not within the Goliath Property Boundary and was not advanced past the pre-screening assessment for location.</p> <p>Location 6 was not considered for Co-Disposal due to closer proximity to the water bodies (Thunder Lake and Wabigoon Lake), and close proximity to population that is located South of Location 6 and the proposed Open Pit.</p> <p>The above notwithstanding, a new Alternatives Assessment for the Project has been developed and included as Appendix D-2 to the revised EIS.</p>
24	AA(1)-05	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 2,	Sections 5.6, 8	Summary of Comment / Rationale:

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			3.1.2		<p>Section 2 (EIS) does not assess alternative energy sources for the Project. Section 3.1.2 (EIS) does not describe the energy infrastructure, including power supply and scheduling details. The EIS Guidelines (Section 5.6) require this information.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Identify and assess alternative energy sources for the project.</p> <p>B. Describe the anticipated power demand, routing and location of related infrastructure.</p> <p>C. Identify the power supplier and the builder, owner, controller, and operator of the energy infrastructure.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. At the time the original EIS was prepared, Treasury Metals did not consider there was another viable option for power that was as desirable as utilizing the existing Hydro One power infrastructure that runs through the site, adjacent to the proposed plant site. An updated alternatives assessment has been completed in response to this IR, and is provided as TMI_24-AA(1)-05_Attachment_1.pdf. This evaluation confirms the option using the Hydro One infrastructure as the preferred alternative.</p> <p>B. Additional details regarding the power demand requirements were provided in Section 3.12 of the original EIS. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing the engineering for their Project. The refined electrical supply requirements are detailed in TMI_24-AA(1)-05_Attachment_2.pdf.</p> <p>C: Hydro One will supply the power to the Project. All power connections and approvals will be done through appropriate authorities within the regional system of power generation and distribution in Ontario such as Hydro One and the Independent Electricity System Operator.</p>
25	AA(1)-06	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 2.3.2.1, 2.4.4, Figure 3.8.4	Section 8	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>A number of water management ponds/facilities are referred to in Sections 2 and 3 (EIS) that are not clearly labelled on site maps. Some examples include:</p> <p>a) Figure 3.8.4 (EIS, page 3-54) does not show minewater collections sumps directing water to the waste rock pond.</p> <p>b) There is no "water management pond" or "mine rock pond" shown in any figure despite a reference to it in Section 2.3.2.1 (EIS): "Under an integrated approach, minewater will be pumped from the minewater collection sump(s) in the open pit and underground mine to the mine rock pond. Water from the mine rock including the integrated minewater will be used for processing. Excess</p>

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					<p>water in the mine rock pond not needed for processing will be transferred to either the water management pond or tailings management area pond.”</p> <p>c) The following statement, from Section 2.3.2.1 (EIS), is quite vague: “The integrated site water management system requires a number of large ponds to ensure adequate water availability for processing at all times and does not require any modification to contain and treat minewater.”</p> <p>d) Section 2.4.4 (EIS) lists a tailings storage facility reclaim pond in addition to a tailings storage facility seepage collection pond. The reclaim pond is not shown/ labelled on related maps, e.g. Figure 3.8.4 (EIS, page 3-54).</p> <p>e) Section 3.6.2.1 (EIS Report, pg. 3-19) indicates that during the start-up of the plant, and initial first fill a quantity of water will be taken from the “contact water sediment ponds”. These ponds are not identified in any of the figures.</p> <p>f) Figure 3.8.3 (EIS Report, pg. 3-49) shows a “Raw Water Reservoir” which is not shown in other figures.</p> <p>g) Figure 3.8.4 (EIS Report, pg. 3-54) shows a “Polishing Pond” and a “Collection Pond” south of the Tailings storage facility. However, Figure 3.0.1 (EIS Report, pg. 3-2) shows only one pond, that is, “Polishing Pond/Seepage Collection”.</p> <p>h) Figure 3.11.1 (EIS Report, pg. 3-57) shows a created water structure which is on the Blackwater Creek and no description is provided regarding this structure.</p> <p>i) Section 7.1 (Appendix F, pg. 30) mentions secondary waste rock contact water collection ponds and ditches, but these ponds and ditches are not shown on any figure.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide a figure that clearly shows all proposed ponds and water management areas.</p> <p>B. Revise all figures showing ponds/water management areas in the EIS, as outlined in part A of this IR.</p> <p>C. Provide references to relevant figures (maps) in the EIS when discussing ponds/water management.</p> <p>D. Provide a description of the function of each pond, along with their capacity and retention time.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A summary of the refinements to the Project since the completion of the original EIS are presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. All proposed water management structures are</p>

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					<p>described within Section 3.0 of the revised EIS. Further details in regards to the function of each pond, along with their capacity and retention time is also described in a preliminary fashion within Section 3.16 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>B. Refer to Figure 3.0-1A.</p> <p>C. Refer to the answer provided above in Part A.</p> <p><u>D. A full description of each pond, along with their capacity and retention times will be developed closer to the permitting stage of the Project.</u></p>
26	AA(1)-07	CEA Agency	EIS Section 2.3.3	Section 8	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 2.3.3 (EIS, pp. 2-13, 2-14) discusses alternative locations for the waste rock storage area. Alternative locations are not discussed for overburden or the low-grade ore stockpile.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide an assessment of alternative locations for the overburden and low-grade ore stockpiles.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> No alternative locations for the low-grade ore (LGO) stockpile were considered in the revised EIS given its temporary nature (will be fed to the mill and depleted by the end of mine life) and the critical need to be located proximate to the crushing facilities. Any alternative locations for the LGO stockpile would have been immediately ruled out as being uneconomic if not located directly adjacent to the crushing facilities.</p> <p>No separate alternatives assessment was done for the location of the overburden stockpile given the limited placement options on the Project site. In essence, the two viable options for locating the waste rock storage area (WRSA) were identical to the options available for the overburden stockpile. Once the preferred alternative for the WRSA was identified, the remaining location was where the overburden storage pile needed to be placed.</p>
27	AA(1)-08	CEA Agency	EIS Section 2.3.7.1, Figure 2.3.10 Appendix M	Section 8	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 2.3.7.1 (EIS, p. 2-31) discusses creeks near the project site and their ability to supply needed fresh water for mine processing: "The results of the flow gauging studies conducted are presented in Table 2.3.10 (p. 31) along with the maximum allowable water take, which is calculated as 10% of the flow of the creek... There are two ponds on the proposed project site, referred to as the tree nursery ponds. These dug ponds were used for irrigation during the historical operation of a tree nursery and are situated on the creek referred to as Thunder Lake Tributary 3 in the hydrogeology report (Appendix M). This creek was gauged and the results reported for measurements taken during 2013 indicate sufficient flow to meet the process plant requirements. To</p>

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					<p>meet the processing plant requirements, taking 26% of the flow of Thunder Lake Tributary 3 would be required"</p> <p>Given that the maximum allowable take is set at 10%, and 26% of the flow of Thunder Lake Tributary 3 would be required for mine processing operations, it is not clear whether the proponent intends to source the extra water from additional sources or whether a 26% take is viewed as sustainable.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Clarify the amount of water that will be required during construction, operation, decommissioning and abandonment phases in cubic meters/day for each water source, including the irrigation ponds (Thunder Lake Tributary 3) and any additional sources.</p> <p>Response: Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the site water balance and expected requirements for fresh water. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report that has been appended as Appendix JJ to the revised EIS. An updated water balance is provided in Section 2 of the Water Report. This section provides context to quantify estimates for the Project across each phase that will be used and hence estimated quantities to be taken from each source.</p>
28	AA(1)-09	CEA Agency	EIS Section 2.3.8.6	Section 8	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: While discussing alternative locations for water (effluent) discharge in Section 2.3.8 (EIS) the proponent does not identify potential spawning locations as a factor in selecting the preferred alternative (Blackwater Creek).</p> <p>The proponent also states in Section 2.3.8.6 (EIS, p. 2-33): "The potential risk to permitting is reduced due to no residents living directly along the creek" in reference to Blackwater Creek. The risk to permitting is not a valid consideration in assessing alternatives from an environmental impact perspective. In addition, the Agency visited the project site during the week of May 4-8, 2015 and noted that there are residents living in very close proximity to Blackwater Creek (e.g. The property on the west side of Tree Nursery Rd. just north of Anderson Road).</p> <p>Under Section 2.3.8.6 (EIS) the proponent states that locating the water discharge along Blackwater creek provides "...the ability for Treasury to quantify its impact on the environment." This statement is unclear because it implies that quantification is not possible at other locations.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Revise the evaluation of the preferred alternative for water discharge location to consider fish</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>spawning habitat.</p> <p>B. Identify and assess impacts to residents living in close proximity to Blackwater Creek and add these residents to related maps.</p> <p>C. Clarify the reasoning behind the selection of the preferred alternative for water discharge.</p> <hr/> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. An evaluation of the preferred alternative for water discharge is provided in Appendix X to the original EIS, and has been updated in TMI_28-AA(1)-09_Table_1 and Appendix X of the revised EIS. The preferred location in both cases was Blackwater Creek.</p> <p>Consideration will be given to the physical flow rate receiving capacity of Blackwater Creek throughout the seasons with the possible regulation of flows and temporary storage of effluent with discharge over spring and summer period. Blackwater Creek intersects the TransCanada highway and railway, and the flow capacity of these crossings will need to be determined and taken into consideration when determining the maximum effluent discharge flow rate. In addition, due to the controlled discharge and nature of the effluent is not expected to impact aquatic life within Blackwater Creek, or impact spawning habitat located downstream of the discharge site.</p> <p>Therefore, due to its proximity to the processing plant, tailings storage facility (TSF), and eventual destination in Wabigoon Lake versus Thunder Lake, Blackwater Creek is the preferred final effluent receiver.</p> <p>B. As described in Appendix X to the revised EIS, and revised in TMI_28-AA(1)-09_Table_1, the alternatives assessment did consider feedback from residents within the assessment.</p> <p>C. Blackwater Creek is capable of meeting the Project's water discharge needs. Water discharge would be treated, restricted, and controlled and is not expected to have any adverse effects. Aquatic life is will not be adversely affected due to effluent, changes in flow, or changes in quality. All aspects of the creek including aquatic life will be monitored in all phases of development. Lastly, Blackwater Creek provides the lowest cost option and one of the options identified as preferable to members of the public.</p>
29	AA(1)-10	CEA Agency	EIS Summary Figure 4.2 EIS Sections	Sections 5.2, 8	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Figure 4.2 (EIS Summary) indicates that the explosive storage facility is currently located on provincial Crown lands. This location overlaps with forest research value–breeding and genetic tree orchards that have been established since the 1980's along the Nursery Road, have significant value</p>

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			2.3.15.1, 3.13.1, Table 1.5.1		<p>to Dryden’s local forest industry, and have also been used by Lakehead University. Section 5.2 of the EIS Guidelines requires the proponent to identify all environmental and other specific regulatory approvals and legislation that are applicable to the Project at the federal, provincial, regional and municipal levels. (Note: If the intent is to locate the explosives storage facility on Crown land, then a provincial permit will be required.)</p> <p>Sections 2.3.15.1 and 3.13.1 (EIS) state that, in addition to the preferred location, one alternative location has been identified. Descriptions of the two locations in the EIS are brief and no reference(s) to appendices containing descriptions of the locations or reasoning behind the selection of the preferred alternative are provided.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Evaluate and describe alternative locations and the associated environmental effects of each for the explosives storage facility. Provide a reference to this discussion in the EIS.</p> <p>B. Provide a map and update existing maps, as required, to show alternative locations for the explosives storage facility.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Refer to Section 3.13.1 of the revised EIS for a description of the Explosives Storage Facility and the rationale for the preferred location. As part of the Project design basis summarized in the Section 3.0 of the revised EIS, Treasury Metals is designing its infrastructure on lands (surface rights and mining rights) that are held by Treasury Metals. Following a review of minimum permissible distances that are published by Natural Resources Canada (Explosives Act), a review of existing roads available to Treasury Metals and a review of the traditional trails in the vicinity of the Project that present a risk of being travelled by members of the public, only one suitable site for the explosives storage magazines was identified and this is presented on Figure 3.0-1A of the revised EIS.</p> <p>B. Please refer to the updated maps in Section 3.0 of the revised EIS.</p>
30	AA(1)-11	CEA Agency	Appendix D EIS Section 2	Sections 8.1, 10.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Mine waste disposal alternatives have not been thoroughly characterized from a technical, environmental and socio-economic perspective in the Alternatives Assessment Report (Appendix D). Following the pre-screening step, all mine waste disposal alternatives need to be thoroughly characterized. Complete characterization of each alternative ensures that every aspect and nuance of the alternative is properly considered. Furthermore, the provision of a thorough characterization in a clear and concise format that directly compares alternatives ensures complete transparency of the</p>

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					<p>alternatives assessment process. Some examples of additional characterization criteria, which could be provided for each alternative following pre-screening, are provided below for the consideration by the proponent:</p> <p>Technical Characterization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of starter dams • Tailings Impoundment Area (TIA) volume • TIA footprint • Closure design • Water management system design (including water treatment system, seepage and run-off collection, etc.) • Design and construction of impermeable covers over wastes • Technical risks <p>Environmental Characterization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downstream water quality • Impacts to groundwater • Size of watersheds affected • Number of fish species affected within a TIA footprint • Loss of wetlands • Presence of fish species at risk • Presence of non-fish aquatic species at risk • Presence of terrestrial species at risk • Presence of plant species at risk • Impacts of changes to freshets <p>Socio-economic Characterization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Aboriginal community response • Regional community response • Aboriginal values and traditional use effects <p>These and other relevant characterization criteria can be used to introduce additional sub-accounts and indicators into the alternatives assessment. The proponent is referred to section 2.4 and Tables 3 to 6 of Environment Canada’s guidelines for additional information on characterization of</p>

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					<p>alternatives: http://ec.gc.ca/pollution/default.asp?lang=En&n=125349F7-1</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Document the assessment of alternatives for mine waste disposal. Rationalize the preferred alternative and document the alternatives assessment process, including engagement of Aboriginal communities as applicable, (e.g., the inclusion of additional characterization criteria in the Alternatives Assessment (AA) Report, or the provision of a rationale as to why certain characterization criteria have not been included in the AA report).</p> <p>Response: A. As part of the first round of Information Requests, additional information was requested and recommendations and areas of clarification were provided for the Alternatives Assessment by the Agency and stakeholders. To address these various information requests, an update to the alternatives assessment has been prepared by Treasury Metals in Section 2.0 of the revised EIS and TMI_34-AA(1)-15_Attachment_1. Additionally, Treasury Metals has prepared a new multiple accounts analysis for the location and storage methods for the TSF, as well as the location of the minewater pond. Please refer to Section 2.0 of the revised EIS for updated maps and tables. Updates to Tables 4.1 through 4.9 are provided within TMI_34-AA(1)-15_Attachment_2. See also the responses to the following IRs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMI_32-AA(1)-13 • TMI_33-AA(1)-14 • TMI_34-AA(1)-15 • TMI_35-AA(1)-16 • TMI_36-AA(1)-17 • TMI_37-AA(1)-18 • TMI_38-AA(1)-19
31	AA(1)-12	CEA Agency	Appendix D EIS Section 2	Section 8.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: According to the Alternatives Assessment (AA) Report (Appendix D), alternative 1D (co-disposal of waste rock and tailings in a single facility) has been selected as the preferred disposal alternative. It is not clear in the AA Report where waste rock would be disposed of should an alternative other than 1D be the preferred alternative.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Clarify additional options for waste rock disposal if alternative 1D cannot be pursued.</p> <p>Response:</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					Should alternative 1D not be available waste rock will continue to be deposited in the excavated mining facilities as planned. There is no requirement to have tailings mixed with waste rock to continue placement of waste rock.
32	AA(1)-13	CEA Agency	Appendix D Tables 4.4, 4.5 EIS Section 2	Section 8.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Table 4.4 (Appendix D) lists the quantity for each candidate alternative, either numeric or descriptive, associated with each indicator under the four accounts of the Alternatives Assessment Report. Then indicators are scored based on the quantity listed in Table 4.4 and in accordance with the designed scale described in Table 4.5 (Appendix D). However, the source of information provided in Table 4.4 for each indicator is not provided. Without the information source, it is not possible to verify the accuracy of the evaluation and understand its inherent uncertainty.</p> <p>The proponent should provide the source of the information used in Table 4.4 so that the necessary evaluation of the proposed amendments to Schedule 2 of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations can be undertaken. These sources include but are not limited to personal communication with an expert, literature review and field study.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide the source of the information used in Table 4.4.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> In response to various information requests, an update to the alternatives assessment has been prepared by Treasury Metals and presented in Section 2.0 of the revised EIS, as well as TMI_34-AA(1)-15_Attachment_1. Additionally, Treasury Metals has developed a new multiple accounts analysis for the storage location and storage methods for the TSF, as well as the location of the minewater pond. An update to Table 4.4 is provided within TMI_34-AA(1)-15_Attachment_2. Within the updated Table 4.4, a column has been provided detailing the source of the information.</p>
33	AA(1)-14	CEA Agency	Appendix D, Table 4.3 EIS Section 2	Sections 8.1, 10.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> The proponent has considered relevant sub-accounts and indicators under the alternatives characterization section in Table 4.3 (Appendix D). For a number of qualitative indicators, there is no description of why the indicator parameters are varying between each alternative.</p> <p>An example of this is for the indicator Sensitivity to Climate Variability, where Alternatives are ranked as having from low to moderate, to moderate to high sensitivities, respectively, but each alternative is characterized as having the same reclaim requirements (i.e. reclaim from pond during winter with ice buildup in pond, Table 4.3).</p> <p>According to current guidance (http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=1B095C22-1), it</p>

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					<p>should be clear to an independent reviewer what the basis is for the characterization criteria stipulated for any alternative.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Describe why and how indicator parameters are varying between each alternative. Repeat this process for all qualitative indicators.</p> <p>Response: In response to various information requests, an update to the alternatives assessment has been prepared by Treasury Metals in Section 2.0 of the revised EIS and TMI_34-AA(1)-15_Attachment_1. An update to Table 4.3 is provided within TMI_34-AA(1)-15_Attachment_2, which includes more detailed sub-account and indicator information. This more detailed information clarifies how and why indicator parameters vary between each alternative for qualitative factors.</p>
34	AA(1)-15	CEA Agency	Appendix D, Table 4.5 EIS Section 2	Sections 8.1, 10.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The proponent has considered relevant sub-accounts and indicators under the alternatives characterization section. For a number of qualitative indicators, there is no description of how and why indicator scores, shown in Table 4.5 (Appendix D), are defined. An example of this is for the indicator "Noise", where alternatives are either characterized as having Low noise generation or High noise generation due to truck traffic (Table 4.3). However, Table 4.5 does not define what constitutes "High", "High to Medium", "Medium", "Medium to Low", "Low" or "<Low" noise. Without information such as this, it is difficult to understand the work completed by the proponent in developing the Alternatives Assessment. With respect to the qualitative indicators used throughout the multiple accounts analysis, the proponent needs to define the indicator scale in a systematic and transparent manner. Without this information, the impacts of the proposed mine waste disposal alternative cannot be fully understood and therefore it cannot be determined if the preferred option is the one that best mitigates effects on Valued Components. Examples of qualitative value scales are provided in Tables 9 and 11 of Environment Canada's guidelines: http://ec.gc.ca/pollution/default.asp?lang=En&n=125349F7-1.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Define the range of sensitivities used to score qualitative indicators (e.g. for the indicator "Noise", what the difference is between "High", "High to Medium", "Medium", "Medium to Low", "Low" or "<Low" noise). Repeat this process for all qualitative indicators.</p> <p>Response: Additional detail has been provided for the indicator scale for all qualitative indicators in Table 4.5 of</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>Appendix D to further define the range of sensitivities. In response to various information requests, an update to the alternatives assessment has been prepared by Treasury Metals and presented in Section 2.0 of the revised EIS as well as TMI_34-AA(1)-15_Attachment_1. Additionally, Treasury Metals has prepared a new multiple accounts analysis for the storage location and storage method of the TSF, and the storage location of the minewater pond. That stated, An update to Table 4.5 is provided within TMI_34-AA(1)-15_Attachment_2 listing all qualitative indicators.</p>
35	AA(1)-16	CEA Agency	<p>Appendix, Tables 4.4-4.6</p> <p>EIS Section 2</p>	Section 8.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>The Alternatives Assessment (Appendix D) seeks to differentiate between each alternative. The selection of value scales for assessing some quantitative indicators to compare alternatives in terms of how these value scales differentiate each alternative is in question. For example, for the indicator "Preliminary Estimate of Total Embankment Height" in Table 4.6, the scale of values presented therein ensures that the scores for each alternative are concentrated in a narrow range, i.e. the scores range from 3 to 5. The proposed value scale does not sufficiently differentiate each alternative in accordance with the objectives of the EIS Guidelines. Since the values of this indicator range from 18 to 34 m (see Table 4.4), it would have been more appropriate to establish a scale of values more representative such as:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> < 19 m ("best") – score of 6 19 - 22.5 m – score of 5 22.5 - 26 m – score of 4 26 - 29.5 m – score of 3 29.5 - 33 m – score of 2 > 33 m ("worst") – score of 1. </p> <p>This is also the case for the following indicators in the Alternatives Assessment: Potential Loss to flura[sic] and Fana[sic] with construction and operations, Length of Access Roads, Distance from Plant Site to Far End of Facility for pipeline or haul road, Elevation Difference From Plant Site at Final Embankment Elevation, for tailings pumping, Estimate of Slope Angle during operations, Distance From Plant Site to Far End of Facility, Estimate of Water Treatment Volume per year, Capitol[sic] Costs, \$M, Life of Mine (differentiating), Operational Cost Estimate, \$M, Life of Mine, Closure Cost Estimate, \$M, Life of Mine (differentiating), and Extent of structure above topography and sight lines.</p> <p>Current guidance (http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=1B095C22-1 and http://ec.gc.ca/pollution/default.asp?lang=En&n=125349F7-1) state that the Alternatives Assessment seeks to differentiate alternatives. Providing value scales that are more representative of these indicator ranges would better differentiate the alternatives.</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide and implement value scales that are more representative of the discussed indicator ranges in order to better differentiate the alternatives.</p> <p>Response: The “worst” and “best” values for quantitative indicators have been assigned the end values of the scoring range. This has provided a scale and range that are more representative of the discussed indicator range and will assist in differentiation of the alternatives. Please refer to TMI_34-AA(1)-15_Attachment_1 and TMI_34-AA(1)-15_Attachment_2 for an updated Table 4.5 and scoring ranges.</p>
36	AA(1)-17	CEA Agency	Appendix D, Table 4.5 EIS Section 2	Section 8.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Further to the objective of differentiating between alternatives, the value scale ranges used to score quantitative indicators in Table 4.5 (Appendix D) should be constant to ensure that scoring is proportional for each value in the scale. The selection of value scales for assessing some indicators to compare alternatives in terms of how these value scales differentiate each alternative is in question. For example, the value scale ranges for the indicator Direct Distance from Plant Site to Structure are not constant:</p> <p>The score of “4” is assigned a range of approximately 300 m (1,200 to 900 m) while the remaining scores encompass a range of approximately 400 m (score of “2” ranges from 2,000 to 1,600 m; score of “3” ranges from 1,600 to 1,200 m; score of “5” ranges from 900 to 500 m).</p> <p>Assigning ranges which are not constant within a value scale could favour alternatives with scores that encompass a greater range, or against alternatives with scores that encompass a lesser range. This also applies to the following indicators: Length of Additional Infrastructure Required, Length of Access Roads, Capital[sic] Costs, \$M, Life of Mine (differentiating), and Closure Cost Estimate, \$M, Life of Mine (differentiating).</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Assign and apply value scale ranges used to score quantitative indicators that are constant to ensure that scoring is proportional for each value in the scale.</p> <p>Response: The value scales for each of the quantitative indicators have been adjusted to ensure that scoring is proportional for each value in the scale. Please refer to TMI_34-AA(1)-15_Attachment_1 and TMI_34-AA(1)-15_Attachment_2 Table 4.5, for reference.</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
37	AA(1)-18	CEA Agency	Appendix D, Tables 4.4 to 4.6 EIS Section 2	Section 8.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> According to current guidance (http://ec.gc.ca/pollution/default.asp?lang=En&n=125349F7-1), sub-accounts need to be sufficiently decomposed to allow measurability. However, sub-accounts should also be non-redundant. The multiple inclusions of indicators whose metrics are measured identically effectively favours those candidate alternatives having a high score for those indicators.</p> <p>The following indicators have metrics which are measured identically in the Alternatives Assessment (Appendix D):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potential for Greenhouse Gas Emission (number of truck hours) and Noise - Number of Main Watersheds Affected and Number of Watersheds - Distance from Plant Site and Operation Distance - Storage Facility and Associated Infrastructure Footprint and Existing Vegetation, ecosystems will be lose[sic] - Slope Stability and Visual Impact - Risk to Human Health and Risk to Worker Safety - Economic Benefits to Regional Communities and Regional Job Creation and Diversity - Aboriginal Rights and Extent of Traditional Land Use <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Remove those indicators from the Alternatives Assessment (Appendix D) that effectively result in “double-counting” and reassess data accordingly for further clarity.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The information request has been reviewed and WSP understands that the accounts are required to be sufficiently decomposed to allow measurability. The following response is provided:</p> <p><u>For subaccounts “Potential for Greenhouse Gas Emission” and “Noise”:</u> These two have been combined into “Potential for Greenhouse Gas and Noise Emissions”, as the increased amount of truck traffic would increase the potential for both gas and noise emissions.</p> <p><u>For subaccounts “Number of Main Watershed Affected” and “Number of Watershed”:</u> The “Number of Streams Directly Impacted” and “Number of Water Bodies Directly Impacted” have been combined into a single subaccount titled “Permanent Streams Impacted”. The Category “Indirect Impacts (Downstream flow Reductions)” remains as a separate account.</p> <p><u>For subaccounts “Distance from Plant Site” and “Operation Distance”:</u> It is recommended that these two subaccounts remain separate as the quantitative indicator values are different for each of the categories. Distance from the Plant Site (Environmental Category) refers to the road and haul distance from the plant site to a structure. An increase in distance results in</p>

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					<p>more construction, higher consumables used and increased emissions. Operation Distance refers to the distance of the pipeline or access roads required for placement of fill. It takes into account preliminary pipeline or haul road alignments, and perimeter distance of facility for piping or placement of tailings.</p> <p><u>For subaccounts "Storage Facility and Associated Infrastructure Footprint" and "Existing Vegetation":</u> It is recommended that these two subaccounts remain. However, "Existing Vegetation" indicator parameters have been changed from the hectares affected to the number of ecosites affected.</p> <p><u>For subaccounts "Slope Stability" and "Visual Impact":</u> These two subaccounts have been combined into the "Slope Stability" account.</p> <p><u>For subaccounts "Risk to Human Health" and "Risk to Worker Safety":</u> These two subaccounts have been combined into a single category titled "Risk to Worker Health and Safety"</p> <p><u>For subaccounts "Economic Benefits to Regional Communities" and "Regional Job Creation and Diversity":</u> These two subaccounts have been combined into a single category titled "Economic Benefits to Regional Communities"</p> <p><u>For subaccounts "Aboriginal Rights" and "Extent of Traditional Land Use":</u> These two subaccounts have been combined into "Extent of Traditional Land Use" that measures qualitatively the potential impacts to Traditional Land Use by Person.</p> <p>In response to various information requests, an update to the alternatives assessment has been prepared by Treasury Metals (TMI_34-AA(1)-15_Attachment_1). An update to Table 4.1 to 4.9 of Appendix D are provided in TMI_34-AA(1)-15_Attachment_2. These tables have additionally been updated in Appendix D of the revised EIS. A new multiple accounts analysis has been developed by Treasury Metals for the storage location and storage method for the TSF, as well as the storage location of the minewater pond.</p>
38	AA(1)-19	CEA Agency	Appendix D, Tables 4.3, 4.4 EIS Section 2	Section 8.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Current guidance (http://ec.gc.ca/pollution/default.asp?lang=En&n=125349F7-1) states that when selecting indicators thought should be given to the parameter that will be used to define measurability. Assigning measurability is relatively simple for sub-accounts that readily lend themselves to parametric terms. The following indicators have been defined qualitatively: Potential Impacts to Water Quality, Construction material availability and Tailings Storage Expansion Capacity.</p> <p>It is unclear why the Alternatives Assessment (Appendix D) provides qualitative indicator scales to evaluate indicators which could readily lend themselves to parametric terms. Examples of this</p>

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					<p>include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potential Impacts to Water Quality: instead of being ranked, could be defined in terms of water quality predicted parameters (e.g. concentrations of metals, pH, DO, etc.) - Construction material availability: instead of being ranked, could be defined in terms of amount of construction material available or required - Tailings Storage Expansion Capacity: instead of being ranked, could be defined in terms of volume of capacity to which the TIA could be expanded <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Define indicators which readily lend themselves to parametric terms, otherwise provide further justification as to why these indicators have been defined qualitatively.</p> <p>Response: The indicators used in the Alternatives Assessment for the TSF were reviewed by Treasury Metals and a subsequent new multiple accounts analysis was developed to respond to the concerns raised. The following indicators were incorporated into the new multiple accounts analysis and are discussed below:</p> <p><u>Impacts to Water Quality:</u> At the time of completion of the Alternatives Assessment, the potential impacts to water quality due to the presence of a tailings storage facility (TSF) was completed in qualitative terms. The design of the TSF had not yet been advanced to a level whereby a selection of the construction materials had been completed in order to complete the TSF design. A design of the TSF with details on foundation materials, construction specifications and material specifications would be required to complete studies to determine the pH or metal leaching (ML) concentrations. A site investigation is currently underway to determine the types of materials available on site for the construction of the dam (borrow sources), foundation materials and parameters that will assist with the design of the TSF. As a result, qualitative parameters were selected in order to rank each of the alternatives.</p> <p><u>Construction Material Availability:</u> This account had been defined in terms of a qualitative indicator for several reasons. The design of the TSF had not been advanced to a level sufficient to predict the type and volume of materials required for construction in terms of quantity, or quality. In addition, borrow source studies and investigations have not been completed to a sufficient level of detail to accurately predict the amount of material available on or off site. Site investigation programs are underway and material testing is currently being planned on site to determine the amount of and parameters for the materials that</p>

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					<p>may be available on site. The TSF design will be advanced once the availability of material and the associated material parameters for the materials to be used has been defined.</p> <p><u>Tailings Storage Expansion Capacity:</u></p> <p>The design input for the TSF is the requirement to hold the current requirement/volume of tailings produced to mine the proposed underground and open pit mine in accordance with the mining plan (minus any tailings that are planned to be stored elsewhere such as underground as fill). Should additional ore reserves be proven, further studies and design work that would be required to plan for the storage of these additional materials in accordance with all applicable codes, guidelines and permit requirements that would need to be followed. It is unknown at this time if additional capacity would be required or what potential if any additional capacity volume required. This indicator was selected to measure the possibility of expanding the TSF if required from a ranking perspective as some geographical locations have little opportunity for expansion, and some in situ parameters such as foundation materials may limit the ability to store additional capacity. Insufficient data is available at this time to use parametric parameters for this account.</p>
39	MW(1)-01	CEA Agency	EIS Summary Section 4.4.1 EIS Section 2.4 Appendix K Appendix L	Section 5.6	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>The EIS executive summary and the EIS project description sections state that approximately 23 million tonnes of waste rock will be produced during the open pit mine life with an additional 2 million tonnes being generated and stored on surface from underground mining. Approximately 40% (12 million tonnes) of total open pit waste rock will be used to backfill the pits to minimize the volume and footprint of the waste rock stockpile. The waste rock stockpile will have a footprint of 37 ha, a height of 30 m above grade, and side slopes of 3H: 1V.</p> <p>In Appendices K and L, the amount of total waste rock to be produced at the site is described as approximately 46 million tonnes waste rock. About 20 million tonnes of mine rock will be relocated to the mined out open pits and the remaining 26 million tonnes will be stored in the waste rock storage area (WRSA). The WRSA will have a footprint of 625 000 m² (62.5 ha) and a height of 20m. The information presented does not match and it is unknown which of the information presented is factually correct.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Clarify the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The total mass and volume of waste rock that would be produced from the integrated open and underground mining operations, 2. The total mass and volume of waste rock to be deposited in the mined out pit,

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>3. The total mass and volume of waste rock to be deposited in the WRSA,</p> <p>4. The final footprint and dimension of the WRSA and the open pit,</p> <p>5. The total volume of the integrated mined out pit,</p> <p>6. The stripping ratio of waste rock to ore, and</p> <p>7. The mass and volume of overburden mined and stored in the overburden stock pile.</p> <p>B. Revise relevant studies and appropriate sections of the EIS and appendices using the correct information. If the revised information alters significance determinations, describe the changes and provide mitigation, monitoring, and follow-up plans as appropriate.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. As requested, please find the following clarifications;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The total mass and volume of waste rock that would be produced from the integrated open and underground mining operations is 26.56 Million Tonnes, or 9.66 (in situ) Million cubic metres (m³). The total deposited volume of waste rock would be approximately 13.61 Million m³. 2. The total mass and volume of waste rock to be deposited in the mined out pit is 13.66 Million Tonnes, or 6.95 Million m³. 3. The total mass and volume of waste rock to be deposited in the waste rock storage area (WRSA) is 12.9 Million Tonnes, or 6.66 Million m³. 4. The final footprint and dimension of the WRSA and the open pit are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WRSA footprint: 369,747 square metres (m²) • WRSA dimensions: length: 1264 m; approximate average width: 315 m; maximum height: 25–30 m • Ultimate open pit footprint: 330,624 m² • Open pit dimensions: length: 1370 m; approximate average width: 296 m; maximum depth: 130–180 m 5. The total volume of the integrated mined out pit is 13.77 Million m³. 6. The stripping ratio of waste rock to ore is estimated at 5.74:1. 7. The mass and volume of overburden (OVB) mined and stored in the overburden stock pile is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mined in situ mass of OVB: 5.90 Million Tonnes • Mined in situ volume of OVB: 2.95 Million m³ • Stored volume of OVB: 4.13 Million m³ • OVB stockpile footprint: 255,747 m² • OVB stockpile dimension: length 855 m; approximate average width: 285 m; maximum

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>height:15m</p> <p>B. The supporting studies were completed in a conservative nature such that significance of effects could be considered well within a reasonable estimate of the Project going forward. As any updated studies, would be expected to produce results that are superior to the conservative estimates, Treasury Metals will continue to rely on the aforementioned estimates for effects and significance.</p>
40	MW(1)-02	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 2.3, 2.3.6 Appendix X	Section 8	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Project preferred options for both waste rock and tailings management and options at decommissioning (closure) consisted of various locations of the waste rock storage area (WRSA) and tailings storage facility (TSF) sites. At decommissioning (closure) the waste rock will be covered first with a layer of pioneer or base stabilization layer to fill rock voids followed by a low permeability clay layer and a granular shedding on top of the clay layer.</p> <p>At decommissioning (closure) the tailings beach will be graded and covered, similar to the waste rock pile, first with a layer of pioneer or base stabilization layer followed by a low permeability clay layer, a granular shedding on top of the clay layer, and a final top soil layer for re-vegetation purposes.</p> <p>The abandonment (post-closure) performance of simple and composite clay covers on waste rock pile at the Equity Silver Mine, Barrick Gold Corporation, Houston, B.C. and pyritic shale rock pile at the Halifax International Airport, N.S. has not been successful. At both of these sites, the covers did not perform as designed, requiring collection and chemical treatment of the drainage effluents.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide information on the type of pioneer layer to be placed on the various waste management sites and the estimated thickness and long-term performance of these layers.</p> <p>B. In light of the poor performance track record of simple clay covers provide additional conceptual design features that could be incorporated in the proposed clay covers at the project site to prevent long-term acid rock drainage (ARD) and metal leaching (ML).</p> <p>C. Provide and describe monitoring and follow-up programs to reliably verify predicted effects (or absence of them), and to confirm both the assumptions and the effectiveness of the proposed clay covers. Provide contingency measures as a means of addressing unforeseen effects related to the proposed clay cover.</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>D. Provide information on the expected longevity of the designed clay covers.</p> <p>Response: <i>Part A - Type of Pioneer Layer</i></p> <p>The type of pioneer layer would consist of a geotechnical layer placed to provide a suitable base for construction equipment access. The material would consist of a well graded free draining material placed to a minimum thickness of 0.3 m to ensure that a suitable base is provided. A material such as a MTO Granular B Type I or Type II would be used as the pioneer layer (OPSS.PROV 1010).</p> <p><i>Part B – Conceptual Design Features for Clay Cover</i></p> <p>Treasury has determined as part of the ongoing engineering refinements that a clay cover will not be used in as a component of the potential low-permeability cover over the tailings storage facility (TSF) for closure. Treasury will advance design for tailings on the basis they are potentially acid generating (PAG) and will manage the risk of acid rock drainage (ARD) and metal leaching (ML) in accordance with Section 59 of the Mine Rehabilitation Code of Ontario (O. Regulation 240/00).</p> <p>Treasury will select and optimize an engineered cover to mitigate chemical issues in accordance with Section 59 of Schedule 2 of O. Regulation 240/00. The cover will be based on empirical data that is gathered over the life of the mine (Peck, 1969). A concept for a dry cover that does not utilize clay as the primary low-permeable zone is provided below for information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 cm of organic soils capable of maintaining a vegetative cover; • 50 cm of protective soil (fine grained material free of sharp oversized particles); • A protective geotextile cushion may be required to ensure protection from angular rocks or zones for HDPE liner; • a 2 mm HDPE geomembrane; • a 6 mm thick GCL, needle punched; and • 15 to 30 cm bedding material. <p>A conceptual configuration for a wet cover would consist of placement of a granular cover over the final surface of the tailings. The material would consist of material similar to the pioneer layer discussed above. The ponded water level over the final tailings surface would be maintained at approximately 1.0 m or as determined as part of detailed closure design. A detailed water balance will be used to ensure proper management of the pond during average, wet and dry annual conditions.</p>

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					<p>A trade-off study is planned to assess each alternative for TSF closure as part of the planned pre-feasibility design work being executed in 2017. Selection of the suitable closure cover and execution of preliminary and detailed design is part of the Treasury Metals commitment registry.</p> <p><i>Part C – Monitoring of Clay Cover Performance</i></p> <p>As noted above, utilizing a clay cover as a low-permeable layer has been removed from the Project concepts. Closure cover performance monitoring will however be implemented as part of closure activities and will consist of installation of groundwater monitoring wells within the TSF embankment and also in the downstream areas. Monitoring wells can also be installed within the basin to monitor water levels in the tailings and also to collect groundwater samples. Settlement monuments established on the cover can be used to monitor potential long-term tailings consolidation and the effects on the cover. Groundwater sampling as per Regulation 240/00 section 53 will be used. This data will be compared to pre-closure baseline data to monitor the anticipated and actual performance of the TSF closure cover.</p> <p><i>Part D – Expected Longevity of the Designed Clay Cover</i></p> <p>As noted above, utilizing a clay cover as a low-permeable layer has been removed from the Project concepts.</p>
41	MW(1)-03	CEA Agency	Appendix D, Section 3.2.1 EIS Section 1.4.3	Section 5	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 3.2.1 (Appendix D) states: "This concept assumes that disposal of tailings solids into underground mine workings can occur after Year 5 of operations and that an assumed 40% can be removed from the tailings stream (directed to the on land tailings facility after Year 5) and directed to the underground mine workings."</p> <p>While no explicit schedule is provided, there does not appear to be evidence that the goal of diverting 40% of the tailings stream to underground mine workings after year 5 is reasonable.</p> <p>The requested information will also be required in complete detail during the provincial permitting phase when submitting the required closure plan.</p> <hr/> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Describe how the tailings and exhausted underground mine workings volumes were estimated to provide evidence that the 40% goal is feasible.</p> <p>B. Provide contingency measures as a means of addressing unforeseen effects should the 40% goal</p>

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					<p>not be feasible.</p> <p>Response: The assumed 40% of tailings to be disposed in the underground mine was a rough estimate based on previous experience. Further engineering studies will be required prior to obtaining a more accurate value can for the volume of material that will be able to be placed in the underground workings.</p> <p>Should a value of lower than 40% be possible to be place in the underground workings, Treasury Metals would revert to alternative listed as conventional tailings and place all material within the outlined capacity of the tailings storage facility (TSF).</p> <p>Regardless of the total volume of tailings that will be placed in the underground workings, the alternatives assessment has helped to indicate that the co-disposal method is the preferable option and Treasury Metals will continue with this method in future technical studies.</p>
42	MW(1)-04	CEA Agency	Appendix D	Sections 8.1, 10.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The analysis in Appendix D is incomplete and does not account for the disposal of all mine waste. It only covers the tailings storage location and deposition technology. There is no mention of the disposal of other mine waste such as waste rock, low grade ore (LGO) and overburden.</p> <p>The Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER), as per paragraph 5(1)(a), stipulate that for mine waste to be deposited in a natural water body frequented by fish, the water body must be listed in Schedule 2 of the MMER, designating it as a tailings impoundment area (TIA). In this context, a TIA is a natural water body frequented by fish into which deleterious substances (e.g. tailings, waste rock, low grade ore, overburden, and any effluent that contains any concentration of the deleterious substances specified in the MMER and is of any pH) are disposed.</p> <p>Information pertaining to which water bodies will be impacted by mine waste is essential to the determination of effects to these water bodies.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Describe the disposal of all types of mine wastes including tailings, waste rock, low grade ore, overburden and mine effluent, and indicate whether or not any water bodies frequented by fish will be impacted by the disposal of these mine wastes. B. Provide maps that overlay the proposed mine waste options with the local water bodies and specify which water bodies are deemed to be fish frequented.</p>

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					<p>C. If any of the mine wastes listed in responses to questions A and B of this IR are not required to be subject to the MMER Schedule 2 amendment requirements, provide appropriate explanation and rationale.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A summary of the refinements to the Project since the completion of the original EIS are presented Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. One of the refinements presented in Section 3.0 is a change to the shape of the waste rock storage area (WRSAs). As a result of these changes, virtually all of the WRSAs now falls within the Blackwater Creek catchment. The WRSAs, low-grade ore stockpile, and overburden stockpile are shown in Figure 3.1-1A of the revised EIS. All stockpiles will be within the operations area and will be surrounded by a perimeter ditch that captures any runoff and directs it to the treatment plant. All water captured within the operations area will be discharged into Blackwater Creek. None of these stockpiles will overprint any water bodies.</p> <p>B. Please refer to TMI_42-MW(1)-04_Figure_1.</p> <p>C. Only the tailings storage facility (TSF) will be placed over a waterbody and therefore trigger the need for Schedule 2</p>
43	MW(1)-05	CEA Agency	EIS Section 5.4.1 EIS Appendix Figure 1.1	9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: No contour information appears on Figure 1.1 (Appendix D) which is referenced in section 5.4.1 (EIS) as evidence that the project area is one of relatively low relief and that the landslides, slope erosion and potential for instability is limited in the project area. This has implication on the proposed tailings storage facility.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide contour information on Figure 1.1 (Appendix D) or change the reference in section 5.4.1 (EIS) to the appropriate figure containing topographic information.</p> <p>Response: Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A summary of the refinements to the Project since the completion of the original EIS are presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. The requested topography is provided in Figure 3.0-1A.</p>
44	MW(1)-06	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 2, 3, 6, 13	Sections 7.2.1, 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Local study areas and regional study areas (LSA/RSA) in relation to acid rock drainage/ metal leaching (ARD/ML) is not clearly defined, justified, or referenced in the EIS.</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>Section 7.2.1 of the EIS Guidelines requires the EIS to clearly indicate the spatial boundaries to be used in assessing the potential adverse environmental effects and provide a rationale for each boundary.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Define the LSA/RSA as it relates to ARD and provide a rationale for the defined LSA/RSA.</p> <p>B. Provide and reference a map that clearly indicates creeks, lakes etc. that could act as receptors for ARD/ML.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>As described in the original EIS (EIS: Section 6.3.1), neither geology nor geochemistry represent assessment endpoints and thus no LSA/RSA were assigned in the original EIS. The potential for the ore and waste rock excavated as part of the Project to cause ARD/ML was evaluated in the EIS, and detailed in Appendices K and L to the original EIS (Appendix JJ has replaced Appendix L in the revised EIS). As described in those Appendices, the determination of ARD/ML was conducted on samples of ore and waste rock collected at the site.</p> <p>The potential for ARD/ML to affect surface water and groundwater was considered as part of those components of the original EIS, rather than part of geochemistry.</p> <p>Since the filing of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has continued to advance the engineering to support the Project should it proceed. As part of that work, Treasury Metals has updated their water balance, which has modified the potential effects on the quality of surface water and groundwater. The revised water balance and associated revisions to the potential effects on surface water and groundwater is provided in Sections 2 and 6 of Appendix JJ to the revised EIS called the Water Report (see also TMI_85-GW(1)-22). The modelled seepage migration routes predicted to occur in the post-closure phase are shown as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Figure 22 of Appendix M seepage paths for the uncapped TSF. This scenario is equivalent to the TSF closed with a wet cover. • Figure 24 of Appendix M seepage paths for the capped TSF. This scenario is equivalent to the TSF closed with a dry cover. • Figure 25 of Appendix M seepage paths for the capped WRSA. This is the planned closure conditions for the WRSA.
45	MW(1)-07	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 6, 11, 13	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 9.1.2 of the EIS Guidelines requires the EIS to include “ARD/ML prevention/management strategies under a temporary or early decommissioning scenario, including low grade ore.” This</p>

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					<p>information is not provided under sections 6, 11, or 13 of the EIS.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide an ARD/ML prevention management strategy under a temporary or early decommissioning scenario.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The following is noted with regards to the low-grade ore (LGO) stockpile:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under current operational assumptions, temporary suspension does not materially affect the LGO stockpile, since storage is already planned to exist on a time-line measured in years (duration of mining activities). • Ditching and seepage collection is included in the Project plan, with direction of any run-off and seepage to the water management system for possible treatment or recycling within the milling process (Section 3.8 of the revised EIS). • Temporary suspension effectively results in a delay in blending of ore, but this time frame would be short in relation to the operational timeline of the LGO stockpile. • In the event suspension leads to closure, all LGO that remains will be placed in the mined out open pit or tailings storage facility (TSF). <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A summary of the refinements to the Project since the completion of the original EIS are presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. One of the refinements presented in the the revised EIS is to provide a description of an acid rock drainage/metal leaching (ARD/ML) management strategy as applicable to temporary suspension for the Project.</p>
46	MW(1)-08	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 2.3.11, 3.5.1, 3.7.2	Section 5.7	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> It is unclear whether the proponent will use mine waste rock as a source of aggregate on the project site.</p> <p>Section 3.5.1 (EIS) indicates potentially acid generating waste rock will be separated. Section 2.3.11.2 (EIS) states: "No site has been identified to date that contains non-acid generating (NAG) rock suitable for aggregate construction." While section 3.7.2 (EIS) states: "Subsequent raising of the embankments will utilize NAG mine waste rock with downstream slopes of 1.5H:1V while maintaining the upstream slope at 2.5H:1V." It is unclear whether NAG rock can be obtained from the waste rock to use for construction of the tailings storage facility (TSF) embankments. If there is no NAG rock available on site, as suggested in 2.3.11.2 (EIS), clarify from where the rock will be obtained for construction of the TSF embankments.</p>

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					<p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Clarify where NAG rock will be obtained for the construction of the TSF embankments and use as aggregate.</p> <p>B. Confirm whether or not onsite potentially acid generating/metal leaching waste rock will be separated and provide justification for the choice.</p> <p>C. If potentially acid generating/metal leaching rock will be separated, provide detailed methods to be used in this segregation process.</p> <p>D. If aggregate must be sourced offsite, describe the potential impacts associated with obtaining and delivering this material to the project site.</p> <p>E. Revise the EIS document to provide consistency across sections when discussing the use of waste rock as aggregate or material for decommissioning activities.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>During preparation of the original EIS, it was recognized that the waste rock material sampled had a high proportion of PAG identified and thus was unlikely to be suitable for use in construction. The preferred alternative identified in the Alternatives Assessment (EIS Section 2.3.11.4) was to utilize a commercial off-site aggregate supply.</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A summary of the refinements to the Project since the completion of the original EIS are presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. As presented in the Section 3.16 of the revised EIS, additional characterization studies in peripheral areas of the open pit may be executed in advance of the detailed design. If a suitable on-site NPAG aggregate source can be identified with low metal leaching (ML) potential (especially within peripheral open pit limits), this material could provide some or all of the aggregate material for the Project. The above approach recognizes the fact that drilling to date that has defined the PAG nature of the development rock has been largely focused toward mineralized areas of the future open pit and there has been less sampling in peripheral areas of the pit.</p> <p>The details and methods on waste rock separation between PAG and NAG will be developed during the permitting process of the Project.</p>
47	MW(1)-09	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 3.3.1, 3.5.2, 11.3.3	Section 5	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Based on statements in sections 3.3.1, 3.5.2, and 11.3.3 (EIS), it is assumed the overburden material is chemically stable, but no evidence has been provided. The geochemistry of the</p>

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					<p>overburden material is a fundamental piece of information missing from the effects prediction. Note that the requested information will also be required in complete detail during the provincial permitting phase when submitting the required closure plan.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Analyze and describe the chemical stability of the overburden material and any potential environmental effects associated with the overburden stockpile, including feasible mitigation methods and conceptual decommissioning (closure) options.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The overburden in the vicinity of the future open pit is primarily a deep water glaciolacustrine clay sometimes with a thin 1 to 2 m thick sand layer in contact with the bedrock (Minning et al., 1994 and revised EIS, Appendix M). The clay is also locally interbedded with thin shallow water deposits of silt and sand. These materials are expected to be primarily derived from distal mixed sources that are unlikely to result in concentration of local bedrock sourced materials. It is rare for locally sourced overburden materials to result in acid rock drainage/metal leaching (ARD/ML) concerns and due to dilution and homogenization distally sourced materials exhibit even lower concern related to ARD/ML. Locally sourced till materials have not been mapped in the area.</p> <p>The Project design presented in Section 3 of the original EIS represents the understanding of the Project at the time of filing. The level of detail presented in the original EIS for the design of the Project is appropriate to identify and evaluate the potential effects of the Project. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, and refined a number of aspects of the Project design. A summary of these refinements to the Project are presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. However, the design of the Project is not finalized, and specific details regarding the Project will continue to be refined as the Project advances through the regulatory permitting process. Treasury Metals recognizes the need to have advanced the engineering to provide those final levels of detail, including confirmation of low ARD/ML potential of overburden materials, before they complete the regulatory permitting process for the Project.</p> <p>References Minning, G.V., Cowan, W.R., Sharpe, D.R., & Warman, T.A. 1994. Quaternary Geology and Drift Composition, Lake of the Woods Region, Northwestern Ontario. Geological Survey of Canada Memoir 436.</p>
48	MW(1)-10	CEA Agency	EIS Section 11.2.1	Section 10	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> The description of the cover to be used for the waste rock storage area (WRSA) is not comprehensive. While it is not expected that the final cover design be provided, the proponent must</p>

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			Appendix L Section 5.1		<p>show the capacity to develop adequate cover onsite, from both a conceptual design and materials availability perspective.</p> <p>It is expected that similar cover would be used for the low grade ore (LGO) stockpile in the event that this pile remains upon decommissioning (closure) and abandonment (post-closure) phases.</p> <p>It was noted in section 5.1.1 (Appendix L) that “the location of the waste rock storage area (WRSA) has not been finalized at this time.” However, it was determined through the alternatives assessment, section 2.3.3.4 (EIS), that “the preferred location for the storage of waste rock material is to the north of the open pit combined with a co-disposal within the completed open pit to the extent possible.”</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide a conceptual design for the waste rock storage area (WRSA) cover, including approximate layer type, configuration and thickness, and identify whether the materials required are available for the project. Also provide the conceptual design for the low grade ore stockpile in the event that this pile remains upon decommissioning (closure) and abandonment (post-closure) phases.</p> <p>B. List and describe environmental factors that could result in reduced efficacy or failure of the covers over time.</p> <p>C. Describe monitoring and follow-up plans to confirm both the assumptions and the effectiveness of the WRSA and the low grade ore stockpile covers, as applicable, to limit acid rock drainage.</p> <p>D. Provide a map of the confirmed location of the WRSA.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. The Project design presented in Section 3 of the original EIS represents the understanding of the Project at the time of filing. The level of detail presented in the original EIS for the design of the Project is appropriate to identify and evaluate the potential effects of the Project. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, and refined a number of aspects of the Project design. A summary of these refinements to the Project are presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. Preliminary design details regarding the waste rock storage area (WRSA) are presented within the Section 3.5.1 of the revised EIS.</p>

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					<p>However, the design of the WRSA is not finalized, and specific details regarding final design will not be available until the Project reaches the regulatory permitting stage, decommissioning (closure) and abandonment phase design is also of this nature. Treasury Metals recognizes the need to have advanced the engineering to provide those final levels of detail before they complete the regulatory permitting process for the Project.</p> <p>B. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A summary of the refinements to the Project since the completion of the original EIS are presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. Preliminary design details regarding the WRSA are presented within Section 3.5.1 of the revised EIS. However, the design of the WRSA is not finalized, and specific details regarding final design will not be available until the Project reaches the regulatory permitting stage, decommissioning (closure) and abandonment phase design is also of this nature. Further details regarding the overall effects and mitigation methods associated with the WRSA are presented in Part C of this response.</p> <p>C. The low-grade ore (LGO) stockpile is temporary in nature and will be depleted by the completion of mining operations. Should there be ore remaining in the LGO stockpile at closure, this ore will be removed and placed with waste rock in the mined out open pit or in the tailings storage facility (TSF). No cover will be required for the LGO stockpile.</p> <p>At closure, a portion of the waste rock will remain on the surface and will be covered with a low-permeability cover to isolate the waste rock from oxygen and prevent acid rock drainage (ARD) in the long-term. As part of the monitoring to be proposed for the post-closure phase of the Project will be monitoring of the efficacy of the cover for the WRSA with respect to both the seepage and runoff. The proposed monitoring for groundwater and surface water quality, originally described in Section 13 of the original EIS, has been elaborated on in Section 13 of the revised EIS with details on proposed follow-up monitoring programs</p> <p>D. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A summary of the refinements to the Project since the completion of the original EIS are presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. One of the refinements presented in the Section 3 of the revised is a change to the shape of the WRSA (Section 3.5.1). This new shape is presented in Figure 3.5.1-1 of the revised EIS.</p>
49	MW(1)-11	CEA Agency	Appendix F Section 6	Sections 5.6, 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>During the decommissioning (closure) phase, as water is deliberately drained off the tailings to allow for tailings consolidation and the capping materials are emplaced, acid generation will occur and contaminants will seep into the tailings mass. This pulse of contamination eventually will seep out</p>

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					<p>from the tailings storage facility. No information is provided to explain how contaminated this pulse will be and how long it will take to appear in downstream monitoring wells and ultimately receiving waters. This type of information is important for determining the duration of seepage interception and treatment after decommissioning (closure).</p> <p>Additional information should be provided on the estimated amount of acid rock drainage (ARD) and metal leaching (ML) that will occur during the decommissioning (closure) phase. This additional information should include and consider: (1) how long the tailings storage facility (TSF) dewatering capping will take to complete, and use this to estimate the amount and extent of ARD/ML that may take place; (2) the concentrations of contaminants of concern and estimated volumes of this pulse of ARD seepage that will escape the TSF; (3) the estimated length of time for the seepage to be detected in the monitoring wells; and (4) the potential impact of this seepage on the receiving waters.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide additional information on the ARD/ML that will occur during the decommissioning (closure) phase, specifically: 1) the length of time it will take for the tailings storage facility (TSF) dewatering and capping to be complete; 2) the estimated amount and extent of ARD/ML that may take place, calculated by using the results of 1); 3) concentrations of contaminants of concern and estimated volumes of the pulse of ARD seepage that will escape the TSF; 4) estimated length of time for the seepage to be detected in the monitoring wells; and 5) the length of time it will take for the pulse to appear in receiving waters; and 6) the potential impact of the seepage on the receiving waters.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ . The Water Report includes a refined analysis of the geochemistry associated with the operations, closure and post-closure phases of the Project (Section 5 of the Water Report), including consideration of the potential ARD during the closure phase. There will be no seepage that leaves the site during the closure phase of the Project as groundwater will still be flowing towards the open pit until water levels in the open pit have reach near pre-development levels. Any initial pulse of seepage from the TSF in the closure phase will</p>

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					<p>ultimately report to the open pit and will not leave site until it meets either PWQO or is less than background. However, it should be noted that the tailings will not be exposed for extended periods of time as the active closure phase will last approximately two years.</p> <p>Refined modelling of surface water quality, including consideration of the contribution from seepage, is presented in Section 6 of the Water Report.</p>
50	MW(1)-12	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 11, 13.5	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 9.1.2 of the EIS Guidelines requires the EIS to include pit water quality geochemical modeling in the abandonment (post-closure) period. This information is not provided in sections 11 or 13.5 of the EIS.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide pit water quality geochemical modeling for the abandonment period.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> As described in the original EIS (EIS, Section 11.2.2), and restated in Section 3.14 of the revised EIS, the open pits will be allowed to flood following cessation of mining activities. Flooding of the open pits will ensure that the backfilled waste rock (deposited in the pits) and pit walls remain underwater during the post-closure phase. As both the pit walls and backfilled waste rock are currently classified as PAG, placing them under a water cover is a standard practice to minimize ARD/ML. The filling of the open pit with water is expected to take approximately between 5 to 9 years, with water derived from three sources: surface water runoff and precipitation (25.5%), effluent treatment discharge (37.6%), and groundwater from wells outside of the mine zone of influence (36.9%). By accelerating the filling of the open pit, Treasury Metals will help to minimize the time for the onset of ARD/ML. Because the time to filling was accelerated, the quality of the water in the pit, once filled, was identified as being near background conditions for surface water and groundwater (original EIS: Section 11.4.3).</p> <p>As the pit lake will be filled in an accelerated manner, extensive ARD/ML effects on pit water quality is not warranted. However, Appendix C to Appendix F of the original EIS did include a pit water quality geochemical model for the post-closure period.</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. An updated water quality model for the pit during the</p>

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					<p>post-closure and abandonment phase is provided in Section 6 of the Water Report.</p> <p>An adaptive management strategy has been added to the commitment registry that if operational monitoring determines that ARD is commencing prior to the flooding of the open pit: 1) the pit flooding will be accelerated to create a water cover as quickly as possible; and 2) bactericide will be applied to suppress ARD and/or alkalinity will be added to the pit at closure to neutralize any acidic drainage prior to the filling of the pit, in accordance with standard industry practice, to preserve the predicted water quality in the flooded pit to the extent possible.</p>
51	MW(1)-13	CEA Agency	EIS Section 11.2.2	Sections 10, 11	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: In describing the flooded pit, section 11.2.2 (EIS) states: “the elevation of the spillway will be set to ensure the lake level is maintained within the overburden above the bedrock.” No specific detail is provided as to the depth of water cover that is possible over the overburden-bedrock interface or the mine waste rock that will be used to backfill some of the pit.</p> <p>For this design to be successful, it will be necessary to ensure that adequate water cover is maintained in perpetuity (including abandonment) to mitigate acid rock drainage/metal leaching conditions.</p> <p>The requested information will also be required in complete detail during the provincial permitting phase when submitting the required closure plan.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Describe how water cover can be maintained in the pit, including details of the extent of water cover over both the overburden-bedrock interface and the stockpiled mine waste rock.</p> <p>Response: Following closure, approximately 250 ha of the site will drain to the open pit, as described in Section 3.14.9 of the revised EIS. This will result in a surplus of water reporting to the pit post-closure to maintain the water cover. Furthermore, pre-development static water levels have been observed to be approximately 388.5 m, as described in pages 51 (water levels) and 66 (map) of Appendix M of the revised EIS, and this is higher than the pit spillway elevation (388m) and the uppermost lift of backfill (387m).</p> <p>Figure 3.5.1-2 from the revised EIS presents the planned dimensions of the backfilled open pit post-closure, including spot elevations of the spillway, backfill, the bedrock pit rim and the surrounding overburden. The spillway channel is planned to be at elevation 388 m, which is approximately 1 metre above the elevation of the uppermost lift of backfill. Portions of the pit wall will be above the water level in the flooded pit. The exposed surface area associated with the excavation wall is orders</p>

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					<p>of magnitude lower than the backfill material and the potential for impacts from pit highwalls due to acidic generation and metal leaching (ML) are not significant relative to the flooded pit volume. However, the potential of these high walls to contribute acidic drainage will be assessed at closure to determine if a surface covering treatment to exclude water and/or oxygen is warranted and this will be reviewed as part of the closure plan filing in accordance with Ontario Regulation 240/00 (as amended).</p> <p>As indicated in Section 3 of the revised EIS, the soils surrounding the open pit are generally observed to be low-permeability clay (refer to Section 3.14.1). The overburden embankments surrounding the open pit will be sloped to a minimum 2H:1V and track packed (overlapping prints) for long-term physical stability. Following a shallow surface scarification / preparation, the clay embankments above elevation ~388 m will be vegetated by an application of hydroseed containing commercially available seed (no invasive species) and straw or biodegradable matting for interim erosion protection until the seed germinates and becomes established. Embankments below elevation ~388 m will be covered with coarse mine rock (no fines) for erosion protection and protection during wave run-up.</p> <p>Due to the low-permeability soils surrounding the pit and the pre-development static water level being observed to be ~0.5m higher than the planned pit spillway elevation, the outward seepage from the flooded pit through the overburden embankments is not expected to lower the water level in the open pit once it is flooded to the overflow spillway elevation of 388 m.</p>
52	MW(1)-14	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 2, 3, 6, 13 Appendix F Appendix C Section 4.0 Appendix K Sections 2.2, 4.3	Section 9	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> While preliminary geochemical baseline studies have been completed, the EIS indicates that additional testing will be required to confirm geochemical modelling predictions and effectiveness of proposed mitigation strategies.</p> <p>Section 13 (EIS) does not identify the appropriate enforceable duration for monitoring of acid rock drainage (ARD)/metal leaching (ML). Given that preliminary testing indicates that ARD onset will take decades to occur, monitoring or the lack thereof should reflect this. This information is important as it must be shown that the tailings storage facility effluent can be treated to meet PWQO.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Outline what additional testing is needed and the plans to complete the testing to confirm geochemical modelling predictions and effectiveness of the proposed mitigation strategies. Refer to Prediction Manual for Drainage Chemistry from Sulphidic Geological Materials, MEND Report 1.20.1 (MEND, 2009) for sampling information. B. Outline a monitoring program for ARD/ML and provide justification for the duration.</p>

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					<p>Response:</p> <p>A. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions. In preparing an updated pit water quality model, further interpretation of existing baseline data in the context of revised mine planning has been completed and is documented in Section 5 of the Water Report. Additional studies (planned or in process) in support of detailed design are presented in Section 13.3.2 of the revised EIS under geochemical monitoring. It was recommended that Treasury Metals conduct this monitoring during the early phases of mine development and operations to gain a better understanding of the potential geochemical effects.</p> <p>B. Geochemical monitoring programs have been developed and included in Section 13.3 of the revised EIS. These monitoring program included pit lake monitoring, pit lake discharge monitoring, and geochemical monitoring. These proposed monitoring programs are anticipated to occur during different phases of the Project, but inclusively will begin during operations and will cease in post-closure.</p>
53	MW(1)-15	CEA Agency	EIS Section 5.4.3.4 Appendix K	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Section 5.4.3.4 (EIS) indicates it was conservatively estimated that the time to onset of acid rock drainage (ARD) for the waste rock, which is all classified as potentially acid generating (PAG), would be between a few tens of years to many tens of years.</p> <p>For exposed tailings beaches in the tailings storage facility (TSF) the ARD onset time was estimated to be only a few years.</p> <p>The waste rock is classified as PAG and the waste rock stockpile is estimated to contain approximately 5% of fine broken material of size fraction similar to that of the humidity cell test (HCT) material. This suggests the ARD onset in the waste rock pile should be the earliest humidity cell ARD onset time adjusted for temperature effect, irrespective of other particle size fractions of the waste rock; however Appendix K does not seem to accept this and assumes acidic drainage in the waste rock stockpile will be delayed to a greater extent than observed in the HCTs.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide additional information on the methodology followed for estimating the ARD onset time including: times of neutralization potential and acid potential depletions, reaction rate kinetics and drainage effluent (Ca + Mg)/SO₄ based neutralization potential ratio as a function of time.</p> <p>B. For waste rock, provide a more definitive ARD onset time rather than the broader estimated time</p>

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					<p>of a few tens to many tens of years.</p> <p>C. Explain whether or not the ARD onset in the waste rock stockpile should be the earliest humidity cell ARD onset time adjusted for temperature effect, irrespective of other particle size fractions of the waste rock.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. NP depletion time estimates were made for each rock type based on the available humidity cell tests. These estimates were projected against the range of NP observed for each rock type and adjusted for seasonal effects. Considering mid-range NPs for each rock type, MSS and BMS lithologies were projected to exhibit net-acid conditions in 10 to 20 years and the BS and MSED lithologies were projected to exhibit net acid conditions in 30 years or more.</p> <p>B. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including a re-evaluation of the acid generating potentials of rocks and the time for the onset of acidification. This information is presented in Section 5.2.4 of Appendix JJ (the Water Report) to the revised EIS. The revised geochemical modelling indicates that ARD onset may occur in as little as a few years. Additional geochemical studies are proposed to gain a better understanding of the onset of ARD of the waste rock.</p> <p>C. As identified in response to Part B., an updated evaluation of acid rock drainage (ARD) onset for waste rock is provided in Section 5 of Appendix JJ (the Water Report) to the revised EIS. To support Project planning, this evaluation considers the potential effect of possible earlier net acid on-set time in waste rock.</p>
54	MW(1)-16	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 5.4.3, 5.4.3.1	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>For estimating the ARD onset time and total loading rates of various contaminants of potential concern (COPCs), it was assumed that the waste rock pile at the project mine site would contain approximately 5% by weight of fine broken material in the particle size fraction of <6 mm (0.25") used in the humidity cell tests. Materials larger than the above size fraction would also oxidize and contribute to the total COPCs load but at a lower rate due to decreasing specific surface area with increasing particle size.</p> <p>The estimated 5% wt. percentage for <6 mm size fractions appears to be on the low side for the altered felsic metavolcanic rocks (sericite schist, biotite-muscovite schist) and metasedimentary rocks. Actual field data for a granitic waste rock pile in northern Saskatchewan had a wt. percentage of about 8-10% of < 6mm size fractions. It is expected that biotite-muscovite schist type rock at the</p>

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					<p>Goliath site would contain similar or higher weight percentage. The proponent should use a more realistic weight fraction number for rock lithologies that would be mined at the project site.</p> <p>The proponent should provide supporting information on how the expected weight percentage of 5% for COPCs load estimation for the waste rock pile was obtained. Was it based on blast hole rock fragment calculations/measurements or actual field data from other mine sites containing similar rock lithologies?</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide supporting information on how the expected weight percentage of 5% for the contaminants of potential concern (COPCs) load estimation for the waste rock pile was obtained.</p> <p>B. Justify the use of the current weight fraction number or revise accordingly.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Consistent with the current stage of the Project, site-specific data on blast rock grain size is not yet available. A range of approaches and scaling factors may be appropriate to adjust loading rates from test conditions to the field scale. While a 5% scaling factor was discussed in Section 5 of the original EIS, the reviewer is also directed to the post-closure water quality model (Appendix C of Appendix F to the original EIS) where a more conservative scaling factor of 10% was used. We also note that for the site water quality model presented in the EIS an effective surface area scaling factor of 10% was used (Appendix C of Appendix F to the original EIS).</p> <p>B. As noted in Part A, a greater value of 10% was used in the post-closure water quality model (Appendix C of Appendix F to the original EIS).</p> <p>We further identify that since the submission of the original EIS, an updated feasibility level water balance and post-closure pit water quality estimates have been developed to reflect the current design of the evolving Project. Scaling factors and current assumptions as they relate to the waste rock storage area (WRSA) as well as the open pit, are provided in Section 5.3 of Appendix JJ to the revised EIS called the Water Report (which is described more fully in TMI_345-AC(1)-19).</p>
55	MW(1)-17	CEA Agency	EIS Section 5.4.3 Appendix K Table 3.11	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>In Table 3.11 (Appendix K) some COPCs loading rates functions are expressed as:</p> <p>$y = 6E-8 + 6E-7$ (for iron, Fe) $y = 3E-7 + 1E-6$ (for lead, Pb) $y = 5E-6 + 3E-7$ (for uranium, U) $y = 5E-6 + 1E-5$ (for zinc, Zn)</p>

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					<p>Clarification on these functions is needed for the review.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Clarify Table 3.11 (Appendix K) by providing detail on: 1) What the loading rate function equations for Fe, Pb, U and Zn represent; and, 2) How the average loading rates given in the last column of Table 3.11 (Appendix K) were obtained by such loading rate functions.</p> <p>Response: 1) The above noted functions appear to contain typographical errors in the Table as noted by the reviewers. However, we note that these loading rate functions were not used in developing the water quality model (Appendix C of Appendix F of the EIS) and so the typographical errors do not affect the results, or conclusions presented in the original EIS. 2) As noted above, these terms were not relied on in the calculations presented in the original EIS.</p> <p>We also note that since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. The refined water balance will modify some of the water predictions. To capture these changes and the changes suggested by the response to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ.. Updated geochemistry assumptions and calculations are provided in Section 5 of the Water Report and have been used in geochemical effects assessment of the revised EIS. Therefore, the calculations and loading rates identified in the reviewer’s questions reference information that is no longer part of the EIS.</p>
56	MW(1)-18	CEA Agency	Appendix C of Appendix F Section 4.0	Sections 10, 11	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: One assumption of the model presented in section 4 (Appendix C of Appendix F) is that: “backfilled pits are effectively isolated from water and oxygen, thus prevented from undergoing further ARD reactions or generating leachate.”</p> <p>It is not clear how the proponent expects to isolate the waste rock that is used to backfill the pits from water. It is anticipated that the pits will flood, thus saturating the waste rock, with the intention of limiting the oxidation of this material.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Clarify and justify the assumption described in section 4, revise as necessary.</p> <p>Response:</p>

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					<p>The reviewer is correct in their assessment. Once the pit is flooded, the backfilled materials are effectively isolated from sulphide oxidation by the water cover. However, there will be a period of time when the backfilled materials in the pit will be exposed. This is considered in a revised pit water quality model presented in Section 5 of Appendix JJ to the revised EIS (the Water Report).</p>
57	MW(1)-19	CEA Agency	Appendix K Section 2.3.3	Section 9	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 2.3.3 (Appendix K) requires clarification for interpreting the geochemical evaluation results. It was described in this section that “the samples were constantly agitated for approximately 24 hours prior to sampling the leachate,” and that “all flasks were intermittently agitated over a 24 hour period.”</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Clarify which technique was used for the shake flask extractions.</p> <p>Response: A. The laboratory has confirmed that all SFE samples underwent intermittent agitation over a 24 hour period. The constant agitation procedure was not available due to a broken shaker table. Intermittent vs. constant agitation is not anticipated to impart a substantial effect on results for these tests.</p>
58	MW(1)-20	CEA Agency	EIS Section 5.4.3 Appendix K Section 2.3.3	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The soluble masses of constituents in the tailings and mine rock were assessed by shake flask extraction (SFE) tests. The tests involved leaching of the test materials with DI water using water to solid ratio of 3:1.</p> <p>Although no regulatory criteria exist for constituent concentrations in SFE, values were compared with Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO). For screening purposes, results of the SFE were compared to 100 times (100X) the PWQO in order to identify aqueous constituents that may require additional investigation. The 100X screening level was chosen to represent the “natural dilution contact water would undergo as it enters the surface water.”</p> <p>It is understood that the 7Q20 of Blackwater Creek, the proposed discharge receiver, is essentially zero. Therefore, it cannot be expected that 100 times dilution will be achieved.</p> <p>The proponent should provide the rationale for using the dilution factor of 100 for comparing the SFE results to PWQO as the SFE leachates (liquid to solid wt. factor of 3) are already about 30 times dilute in comparison to actual drainages from waste rock pile where the contact liquid to solid weight ratio is about 0.1:1 (wt. factor 0.1) or less.</p>

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					<p>In addition, the SFE leachate results provide the total concentrations of soluble constituents present in the test materials and have no relationship to the actual leachates that will be produced from tailings or waste rock management sites. The proponent should provide the purpose of their comparisons with appropriate regulatory water quality objectives.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide a revised comparison datum to represent more realistic dilution rates and comment on any additional aqueous constituents that may require further investigation.</p> <p>B. Provide the purpose of comparisons with appropriate regulatory water quality objectives.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A) The SFE test is a standardized test recommended under guidance in MEND (2009). The intent of the test is to provide an assessment of short-term leaching of metals from a sample. However, it is recognized that the test does not simulate actual site drainage conditions. Rather the test is applied as a standardized screening tool. The intent of the test is to identify potential elements of interest in early leaching conditions from mine rock and including neutral metal leaching (ML) conditions.</p> <p>Flows over blasted rock surfaces and through waste rock piles are dynamic processes that includes variable contact time and mixing of contact and non-contact waters. Sizeable dilution of contact waters are expected during rain events that result in flows from mine development. The screening approach for this type of data can be site specific and follow different approaches considering different assumptions and anticipated mine development conditions. In particular, it should also be noted that the 3:1 ratio of the test is considered to be sufficiently high to minimize potential solubility limitation in the test without excessive dilution. The test procedure is also designed to generate a suitable water volume for analysis. The very low water rock ratio of 0.1 to 1 by mass identified by the reviewer is akin to porewater below saturation in most porous media. This water rock ratio has little environmental relevance to surface water quality, which is a primary concern in environmental assessment.</p> <p>We note that since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. The refined water balance will modify some of the water predictions. To capture these changes and the changes suggested by the response to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. An updated analysis of all SFE data in support of this work is provided in Section 5 of the Water Report. One aspect of this data analysis is direct comparison (1:1) of SFE results to Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO) as a screening level assessment.</p> <p>B) The use of environmental water quality objectives such as PWQO in screening of SFE results is</p>

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					<p>commonly completed to provide an environmental reference to the screening process. However, the referenced guideline has no direct relevance to the extracted concentration. Rather results are compared in a relative sense with higher concentrations relative to guidelines representing a higher potential for ML that may warrant further consideration.</p>
59	MW(1)-21	CEA Agency	<p>Appendix K Section 2.4.3</p> <p>EIS Section 5.4.3.1</p>	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>The following equation, the Arrhenius equation, was used in section 2.4.3 (Appendix K) to translate laboratory humidity cell test (HCT) results for mine rock and tailings reaction rates, k_1, to more appropriate field reaction rates, k_2:</p> $\ln(k_1/k_2) = (E_a / R) (1/T_1 - 1/T_2)$ <p>by assuming that laboratory temperatures, T_1, were 20 °C, “while temperatures under field conditions for the stockpile [T_2] will be approximately equal to the average air temperature at the site,” 2°C. A temperature adjustment factor of 0.12 was estimated and used for reaction rates of metal loading from the stockpile in the EIS.</p> <p>While this transformation is necessary, it was hypothesized that using the average annual air temperature may not be accurate since near surface ground temperature is known to fluctuate with air temperature and the Arrhenius equation is not a linear function.</p> <p>This theory was tested by calculating the average monthly field reaction rate, k_2, using average monthly air temperatures for the site taken to be -16.8, -12.7, -5.8, 3, 10.8, 16.2, 18.9, 17.8, 11.7, 4.2, -5.2, and -13.5 for January through December (1981 to 2010 Canadian Climate Normals for Dryden Airport, Environment Canada). The average of these 12 monthly reaction rates was 0.29, approximately 240% of that estimated using the average annual air temperature.</p> <p>The calculated contaminants of potential concern loadings are unnecessarily biased on the low side due to inclusion of winter temperatures when the waste rock pile is mostly frozen and there is no subsurface flow or drainage. In some cases the waste pile may remain warm or hot depending upon the rate of sulphide oxidation within the pile. Therefore, the low temperature adjustment factor of 0.12 is unjustified and should be revised.</p> <p>Given the exponential nature of the Arrhenius equation, it may be more appropriate to use more detailed temperature data when transforming laboratory reaction rates to field condition reaction rates. The requested information will also be required in complete detail during the provincial permitting phase when the updated geochemical model is provided.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p>

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					<p>A. Recalculate the temperature adjustment factor for reaction rates and provide details on any changes this alteration has on the geochemistry evaluation of the site.</p> <p>B. Recalculate and provide the contaminants of potential concern (COPCs) loadings rates on a monthly basis for ice free period using the temperature adjustment factors corresponding to the monthly average daily temperatures as shown in figure 5.1.1. (EIS, page 5-3) for the Dryden area. Add together the individual monthly COPCs loadings to obtain the total annual load and provide this sum.</p> <p>C. Revise and provide the predicted effluent concentrations accordingly on a monthly basis and use these values for developing the monitoring program.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. We acknowledge arguments can be made for various scaling factors applied for modelling and challenges can arise especially where models are required to be developed on the basis of annual averages. However, we note that water quality modelling completed for the Project (Appendix C of Appendix F) conservatively applied the available humidity cell rates without a temperature correction factor. A revised geochemistry evaluation has been developed by Treasury Metals, which has included a temperature correction factor of 1 and is substantially more conservative than either of the factors described in the geochemistry evaluation from the original EIS.</p> <p>B. Request is not applicable since the new geochemical model included in Section 5.0 already assumes laboratory temperature loading rates. The request from the reviewer references the outdated geochemical modelling which was used in the original EIS.</p> <p>C. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. The refined water balance will modify some of the water predictions. To capture these changes and the changes suggested by the response to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report to be appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. Updated geochemistry assumptions and calculations are provided in Section 5 of the Water Report</p>
60	MW(1)-22	CEA Agency	Appendix K Section 3.3.1	Section 9	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 3.3.1 (Appendix K) states: "one or more of the BS [biotite schist], BMS [biotite muscovite schist], and MSS [muscovite sericite schist] HCTs [humidity cell tests] did not reach steady-state for one or more COPCs [constituents of potential concern] prior to concluding the experiments." It is not clear whether or not those HCTs that did not reach a steady-state would be continued through to completion.</p>

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					<p>Please note the Prediction Manual for Drainage Chemistry from Sulphidic Geologic Materials (MEND, 2009) suggests that “the humidity cell test ends when the rates of sulphate generation and metal leaching have stabilized at relatively constant rates for at least five weeks.”</p> <p>Having a complete understanding of the anticipated drainage chemistry is an integral part of the effects assessment and must be adequately addressed in order for impacts to be evaluated appropriately.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Confirm that HCTs were allowed to progress through to completion, or adequately justify how the results collected are sufficient for the purposes of the effects assessment for the Project.</p> <p>Response: Several humidity cells for each of the four major rock types were operated for approximately one year and allowed to reach generally steady state conditions under neutral pH conditions. One low NP cell for each rock type was continued for an additional 22 weeks (total of 85 weeks). Three of the continued cells (BMS-C, BS-C and MSS-C) exhibited a steady decline in pH in the latter period of testing and had a pH below 5 at the end of testing. The MSED sample also exhibited a slight decline in pH toward the end of testing with a minimum pH of 5.4 reported at the end of testing.</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has continued to refine their engineering, including re-evaluating potential implications of more conservative assumptions regarding the acid generating potential of mineralized materials. This evaluation is presented in Section 5 of Appendix JJ to the revised EIS (the Water Report).=</p>
61	MW(1)-23	CEA Agency	EIS Section 11.5.1	Section 5, 11, 12	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The period length of five years for dam stability monitoring during decommissioning (closure) and abandonment (post-closure) does not appear adequate to ensure the physical integrity of the dam in perpetuity.</p> <p>There was no mention of waste rock storage area or tailings storage facility slope stability monitoring. Monitoring the integrity of the slopes and dams is required to ensure they are functioning as intended. It is expected that such monitoring will be conducted during decommissioning (closure) and abandonment (post-closure) phases.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Revise the dam stability monitoring program to include monitoring of the integrity of the waste rock storage area or tailings storage facility slopes and provide details regarding the justification of</p>

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					<p>the monitoring program.</p> <p>B. Describe physical stability monitoring for the waste rock storage area and tailings storage facility, including covers, slopes, feasible mitigation measures that will be initiated in the event that deficiencies are observed, and assigned responsibilities to identify and implement the mitigation measures.</p> <p>Response: The statement should have read to include that stability monitoring on the tailings storage facility (TSF) and other structures will be completed as needed until sufficiently deemed acceptable by the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNMD) or any other applicable provincial ministries. These efforts will fully be described within the closure plan to be consulted on and filed with the MNMD along with financial assurance for the costs to complete.</p> <p>Additionally, a revised conceptual closure plan has been added to Section 3.14 of the revised EIS. However, the finalized closure plan will be developed and provided to MNMD further into the permitting process of the Project.</p>
62	MW(1)-24	CEA Agency	EIS Section 5.4.1, Figure 5.4.1 Appendix D Figure 2.2	Section 9.2.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The Wabigoon Fault is a regional structure that transects the southern edge of the Goliath project property. Information provided in the EIS related to the fault is that, north of the Wabigoon Fault, rock units dip steeply (70-80°) south whereas south of the fault, rocks face steeply north. No information regarding the fault itself is provided in the EIS.</p> <p>Impacts related to the proximity of the Wabigoon Fault to the proposed development cannot be assessed without information on the fault. This has implications on mine waste management, seepage and the tailings storage facility.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Describe the character, width, age and movement history of the Wabigoon Fault, specifically addressing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Whether it is a structure along which movement will take place over the course of the project; and 2) Whether it is a structure that will localize/mobilize/affect drainage and water (contaminated or fresh groundwater). <p>B. Describe any potential environment impacts that could reasonably be expected to occur in connection with the Wabigoon Fault and how the impacts will be mitigated.</p> <p>Response:</p>

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					<p>The Wabigoon fault is a regionally significant structure. However, Beakhouse & Pigeon (2003), the primary source for the location of the Wabigoon fault in the Dryden area, indicate that it is an inferred structure. The reasons for mapping the Wabigoon fault in the area are described in the preliminary reports of Beakhouse (2000, 2001). It is 'interpreted to be a major regional structure separating two contrasting domains within the western Wabigoon Subprovince' (Beakhouse, 2001). This is based on north of the inferred structure being steeply dipping, southward-younging, foliated metavolcanic and metasedimentary units, whereas as south of the inferred structure metavolcanics predominate that are steeply dipping, northward-younging and less foliated. Beakhouse (2000, 2001) draws no conclusions on the geological nature of the Wabigoon fault.</p> <p>However, some inferences on the possible characteristics of the inferred structure can be drawn based on the observations made by Beakhouse (2000, 2001). Firstly, in comparison to other greenstone belts, overall the Wabigoon Subprovince has relatively high grade metamorphism from upper greenschist facies to upper amphibolite. In addition, locally, there is evidence described of increasing intensity of the foliation (i.e., ductile strain), particularly 200 to 400 m south of the inferred location of the Wabigoon fault. This information indicates that the Wabigoon fault is more likely a high-strain ductile shear zone (e.g., a mylonite where crystal plastic deformation is dominant) and not a brittle fault with possibly enhanced hydraulic conductivity.</p> <p>The exact geological nature of the Wabigoon fault remains speculative in the Dryden area. However, the inferred fault is at least 2 km south of the proposed Goliath open pit and associated infrastructure. The overall structural grain of the Wabigoon Subprovince in the Dryden area is east – west; it is well defined from geological mapping in the area. The hydrogeological site investigation (revised EIS, Appendix M, Section 4.2.3) shows there is some evidence of enhanced hydraulic conductivity in the bedrock along the steeply dipping zone of mineralization and deformation striking east – west through the proposed Goliath open pit, referred to as the Central Unit in Appendix M of the revised EIS. The Wabigoon fault may have some significance if there are permeable structures cross-cutting the east – west structural grain connecting the Wabigoon fault to the east – west striking Central Unit and the Wabigoon fault itself was a zone with enhanced hydraulic conductivity. One cross-cutting structure has been mapped in the area of the proposed Goliath open pit; the NW Fault. This fault is projected to reach surface to the north of the inferred location of the Wabigoon fault as shown in Figures 7 and 8 of Appendix M of the revised EIS. The outcrop mapping and drilling along the zone of mineralization of the Goliath ore body undertaken by Treasury Metals has not revealed any evidence to suggest that there are cross-cutting north – south striking structures that connect the area of the Wabigoon fault with the Central Unit.</p> <p>In conclusion, the present information and data indicate that the inferred Wabigoon fault is not a significant factor in the environmental assessment.</p> <p>References Beakhouse, G.P. 2000. Precambrian geology of the Wabigoon area. In: Summary of Field Work and</p>

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					<p>Other Activities, Ontario Geological Survey, Open File Report 6032.</p> <p>Beakhouse, G.P. 2001. Project Unit 00-012. Precambrian Geology of the Thunder Lake Segment, Wabigoon Area. In: Summary of Field Work and Other Activities, Ontario Geological Survey Open File Report 6070.</p> <p>Beakhouse, G.P. & Pigeon, L. 2003. Precambrian Geology of the Thunder Lake Area. Ontario Geological Survey, Preliminary Map P.3529, scale 1:20 000.</p>
63	MW(1)-25	CEA Agency	Appendix F Section 4.2	Sections 5, 11	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Beached tailings are a likely possibility. Mitigation measures or a contingency plan to address the effects of this possibility are not discussed in the EIS. With the significant positive water balance in the tailings storage facility (TSF), it should be possible for the proponent to maintain adequate water cover to mitigate the possibility “that tailings are deposited above the intended water cover, or the water level in the tailings storage facility drops to the point that tailings solids become exposed to air.”</p> <p>It is planned that “water cover of 1.2 m will be maintained” on the TSF. This amount of cover does not appear sufficient. When determining the water cover required, the proponent must consider undulations in the tailings (e.g., plan that 1.2 m is the minimum amount of water cover at any point within the TSF), extreme drought events, and wave erosion.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide adequate justification for the water cover on the TSF and include mitigation measures and contingencies that will ensure adequate water cover is maintained until the dry cover is to be administered.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The standard operating procedure under the tailings deposition plan will require frequent re-location of the tailings discharge to establish a uniform deposition of tailings solids along the entire perimeter of the tailings storage facility (TSF). The primary deposition method will be spigotting so long as the tailings slurry does not freeze before it exits the discharge pipeline. The risk of freeze-up is expected to be minor because slurry typically exits a CIL process at more than 20 degrees Celsius and also because the operating practice will be to discharge tailings during winter months as close to the mill as possible to minimize pumping distances to the tailings discharge point. The spigotting method of tailings deposition promotes a uniform deposition across a large section of dam embankment, minimizing the risk that solids will “cone up” and an elevated beach above the water cover will be created. Furthermore, the tailings grind is considered “ultra-fine,” which will promote a flat tailings deposition slope and further minimize the risk of an elevated beach.</p>

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64	GW(1)-01	CEA Agency	Appendix M Section 4.3 EIS Section 5.6.3.4	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Groundwater quality in bedrock has not been assessed. This is necessary for baseline purposes and is most important for the shallow bedrock as it is most likely to be affected by seepage.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide groundwater quality monitoring data for the shallow bedrock.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The wells BH1A, BH2A and BH4A are all screened to bedrock. The screen of BH1 has a small overlap with the thin discontinuous sand at the base of the overburden; the screen of BH2A overlaps approximately 50% with the clay and the thin discontinuous sand at the base of the overburden and BH4A is screened almost entirely in bedrock with a small amount in clay. These wells will provide water quality data on the primary flow horizon (i.e., the shallow bedrock and discontinuous sand at the base of the overburden) in the Project area from which private wells are likely to abstract water. Groundwater quality monitoring data are provided in Appendix E of Appendix M of the revised EIS for these three wells.</p>
65	GW(1)-02	CEA Agency	EIS Section 3.7.6	Sections 7.1.2, 11.4, 16	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Seepage monitoring should be able to detect changes in groundwater quality both in the early stages of operations and in the abandonment phase. Seepage can take many years, even decades, to travel to a monitoring well depending on its distance from the seepage source and hydrogeological conditions. If the seepage does lead to groundwater quality impacts it could manifest in impacts to fish and fish habitat when it discharges into surface water.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Identify proposed groundwater monitoring locations that are intended to detect and measure seepage. Justify their locations based on seepage flow directions, volumes, travel times, and the location of environmentally sensitive areas.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The question refers to the brief overview of the groundwater monitoring program presented in the Project Description (Section 3.7.6). The information required to answer the reviewers question was presented in the original EIS. Details on the comprehensive groundwater monitoring program that has been developed for the Project is provided in Section 13.10 of the revised EIS. The location of the groundwater monitoring wells proposed are shown in Figure 13.10.2-1 in the revised EIS, with justification of locations provided in Table 13.10.2-1.</p>
66	GW(1)-03	CEA Agency	EIS Section	Section 10	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p>

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			6.2.1.8 Appendix K		<p>Some potential effects to groundwater are not discussed in the EIS. These include seepage from the pit, contamination related to explosive residuals, and estimated loadings to receivers resulting from seepage from the mine facilities including the waste rock storage area (WRSA), low grade ore stockpile (LGO), tailings storage facility (TSF, TMA), and the pit.</p> <p>While information regarding seepage quantity is provided in Appendix M, and loading rates for the tailings storage facility (TSF) and waste rock storage area (WRSA) are estimated in Appendix K, the estimated quality of the seepage from the mine facilities, including receiver loading estimations, does not appear to be discussed.</p> <p>Effects associated with seepage, including seepage quantity and surface water loading estimates should be considered in the hydrogeological model sensitivity analysis.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Describe seepage water quality during operations, decommissioning and abandonment from the major mine features, including the pit, WRSA, TSF, and LGO stockpile, groundwater impacts associated with explosives, and seepage loadings to receivers. Include conservative estimates of loadings to surface water, predicted effects to offsite groundwater and feasible mitigation measures.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> A. During operations, dewatering activity will be required to keep both the open pit and underground mine workings free of water and to provide a safe working environment. As described in the revised EIS (Section 5.3, Appendix M), these dewatering activities will lower the groundwater table around the perimeter of the open pit and mine workings, creating what is referred to as a drawdown cone. Within this drawdown cone, groundwater will migrate towards the open pit. During operations, only a limited quantity of seepage is expected to originate from on-site structures, such as the tailings storage facility (TSF), waste rock storage area (WRSA) and low-grade ore (LGO) stockpile. The seepage that will result from these on-site structures will be captured largely by the perimeter collection ditches around each structure. Seepage that may originate from the toe of the TSF dam will be captured via a perimeter collection ditch and pond, and returned back to the tailings pond on the surface of the TSF. Any seepage from the on-site structures and TSF that escapes the seepage collection systems will be captured within the drawdown cone caused by dewatering and will ultimately report to the open pit. This seepage water will be collected as part of the dewatering activities and transferred to the water management system, where it will either be recycled for use in the process plant or treated prior to discharge to the environment. The open pit will be virtually free of water during operations. The open pit is not expected to be a source of seepage during operations, and will ultimately act as a sink for any seepage captures within the drawdown cone</p>

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					<p>caused by dewatering. Based on the effects of the expected drawdown of groundwater in the area of the open pit and underground mine, the off-site migration of seepage waters during operations is expected to be negligible, and therefore loadings to off-site surface water and groundwater were not estimated for operations.</p> <p>Upon closure of mining activities, the open pit and underground workings will be allowed to flood, and the groundwater table will be re-established. Under closed (flooded) conditions, groundwater modelling suggests the open pit will continue to act as a sink for groundwater, with the excess water ultimately being discharged through the spillway into Blackwater Creek. However, the same modelling shows that seepage from the surface facilities and TSF will ultimately drain to surface watercourses following closure and the flooding of the pit. Updated surface water modelling to reflect the potential effects of this seepage on water quality have been provided in the Water Report. Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been added to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, as well as reflecting the refined water balances developed as Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. An updated water quality model for seepage during the post-closure and abandonment phase is provided in Section 6 of the Water Report.</p>
67	GW(1)-04	CEA Agency	Appendix D Section 4.7.1	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 4.7 (Appendix D) states: "The summaries for each of the accounts (from Environment Canada, Guidelines for the Assessment of Alternatives for Mine Waste, September 2015) are as follows: • Environmental Account – Characterizing the local and regional environment surrounding the proposed TIA. These include elements such as climate, geology, hydrology, hydrogeology, water quality and potential impacts on aquatic, terrestrial and bird life." However, in section 4.7.1 (Appendix D), under the subaccount, "Water Impacts", groundwater quality and quantity are not listed as indicators. Groundwater quality and quantity, which are valued components (see section 9.1.2 of the EIS Guidelines), must be included in the environmental account to predict the direct and indirect effects caused by the development, construction, operation, and decommissioning of a given location and tailings disposal technology.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Incorporate groundwater quality and quantity in the environmental account, as defined in current guidance, and include groundwater quality and quantity under the subaccount, "Water Impacts".</p>

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					<p>Response: Treasury Metals commissioned Amec Foster Wheeler to undertake a multiple accounts analysis (MAA) of features of the Project that may require an amendment of the MMER, , and prepare a report suitable for initiating discussions with the various agencies who would need to be consulted. This work has been undertaken in accordance with current guidance noted in the comment. A report entitles "Draft Assessment of Alternatives for Storage of Mine Waste for the Goliath Gold Project" has been included as Appendix D-2 to the revised EIS. This document, prepared in accordance has been developed to specifically support the process for getting an amendment to MMER, should one be required. The draft MAA includes all components identified in the guidance.</p>
68	GW(1)-05	CEA Agency	Appendix C of Appendix F Section 3.0 Appendix K Sections 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 3.3.2	Section 9	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Scaling factors were used to adjust laboratory results for source term calculation in the groundwater quality model. The proponent states: "The scaling factors were selected based on applicability to site conditions at the Project and were calibrated against the data collected from field cells in operation since November 2012. The details of the scaling factors applied to each source term are presented in Table 1." It was assumed that Table 1 was referring to the table of assumptions at the end of Appendix C (of Appendix F) as no Table 1 could be found. The values used as scaling factors are not discussed in detail. Further information is required to assess the validity of these values.</p> <p>Some scaling factors used were in the range of 0.03, suggesting that some laboratory tests over estimate loading rates by a factor of 3,333%. Such a significant discrepancy between laboratory and field conditions warrants additional justification.</p> <p>Section 2.4.2 (Appendix K) states that: "the barrel tests results are assessed in parallel with the laboratory humidity cell results to verify the appropriateness of the scaling factors used to scale laboratory conditions to field conditions." However, it appeared as though the results of this assessment were not provided. Additionally, section 3.3.2 (Appendix K) states that "loading rates were not calculated for the barrel tests as equilibrium values had not yet been reached for each of the four mine rock types, at the time of this report." There was no discussion of when these results would be provided. These results are needed to verify the appropriateness of the scaling factors used.</p> <p>Section 2.4.3 (Appendix K) states: "it was assumed that approximately 5% of the material comprising the expected Goliath mine rock material will be of similar size to the material tested in the humidity cells (less than 1 inch to silt/clay size). As such, a scaling factor of 0.05 was applied to the calculated laboratory loading rates." This logic is unreasonable, as the remaining 95% of the mine rock material</p>

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					<p>will not have zero surface area and cannot be excluded from the effects assessment.</p> <p>No water quality model sensitivity analysis results were provided for these scaling factors.</p> <p>The requested information will also be required in complete detail during the provincial permitting phase.</p>
					<p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide the results of the barrel tests and discuss the assessment of the appropriateness of these scaling factors as they relate to barrel test results.</p> <p>B. Provide additional details and discussion regarding the development and use of these scaling factors. Include water quality model sensitivity analysis results for these adjustment factors to provide a range of potential, including worst case scenario, effects.</p> <p>C. Justify the use of the particle size scaling factor of 0.05 to adjust loading rates instead of a particle size scaling factor that represents 95% of the mine rock material. Revise the water quality model as appropriate and describe any change in anticipated effects.</p>
					<p>Response:</p> <p>A. The table of assumptions presented at the end of Appendix C of Appendix F is the information referred to as Table 1. The net surface area scaling factor of 0.03 presented in Appendix C represents the combined net scaling of field waste rock surface areas per unit mass at 10% of HC surface areas and an actively flushed surface within the pile of 30%. The seemingly low scaling value reflects the assumption of a coarse grained partially flushed waste rock pile in comparison to the fine grained well flushed humidity cells.</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including updated geochemistry assumptions and calculations related to geochemical inputs potentially affecting surface water quality. This analysis is presented in Section 5 of the Water Report (Appendix JJ of the revised EIS). This analysis includes consideration and description of the available Field Cell data. Additionally, the field barrel results are presented in Table 1A in Appendix A of Appendix JJ (the Water Report) of the revised EIS</p> <p>B. Refer to Section 5 of the Water Report as it provides the analysis of the field barrel tests for the revised EIS.</p> <p>C. Refer to Section 5 of the Water Report as it provides the analysis of the field barrel tests for the revised EIS.</p>

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69	GW(1)-06	CEA Agency	Appendix C of Appendix F Section 3.0, Table 1	Section 9	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Assumptions are made throughout Table 1 (Appendix C of Appendix F) for various ‘active depths’. No justification for the selection of these depths is given.</p> <p>The requested information will also be required in complete detail during the provincial permitting phase when submitting the required Closure Plan.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide details on how the active depths were considered and whether the assumptions made are conservative.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing its engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This updated water balance modifies some of the water related predictions. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report that has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. An updated water quality model for the pit during the post-closure and abandonment phase, including assumptions and supporting rationale such as active depth, is provided in Section 5 of the Water Report. Specifically, Section 5.3.5 of Appendix JJ to the revised EIS lists the assumptions in the geochemical model, including a 10 cm active layer within covered, but unsaturated tailings.</p>
70	GW(1)-07	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 3.7.4, 3.8.5.4 Appendix F Sections 2.1.4, 4.2, Appendix C Appendix K Section 4.3 Appendix M Section 5.3.5	Sections 5.6, 10.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> The embankments for the tailings storage facility (TSF) are proposed to be constructed upon overburden, rather than upon bedrock that has been exposed by excavation of the overburden. Seepage will therefore occur which has the potential to impact both surface and groundwater quality.</p> <p>Some inconsistency exists within the EIS, where Section 2.1.4 (Appendix F) suggests that all seepage from the TSF will be captured: “seepage from the dam will be collected and returned to the tailings storage facility.” This claim is also made in Section 4.2 (Appendix F): “...any dam seepage being returned to the impoundment.” Again in Appendix C (of Appendix F): “for the purposes of this preliminary water quality model, all run-off and seepage waters are considered to be collected and diverted to the TSF.” And further in Section 4.3 (Appendix K): “All drainage from the temporary stockpiles will report to one of three collection ponds and treated at the processing plant before being discharged to the environment.” Note the reference to “all drainage” in Section 4.3 (Appendix K). This concept is also discussed in Section 6.5 (Appendix L). It is not reasonable to suggest that all seepage will be collected. This idea is supported in Appendix M where it is stated that some seepage from the waste rock storage area (WRSA) and the tailings</p>

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					<p>management area (TMA) is expected to eventually discharge to Blackwater Creek, Hoffstrom's Bay Creek, Thunder Lake Tributary 3 and Thunder Lake.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Revise the seepage assessment to include and account for the amount of seepage that will flow beneath the embankments and assess the potential ground and surface water quality impacts associated with its release.</p> <p>B. Update the wording to remove any suggestion that all seepage from any of the mine facilities will be captured.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. The reviewers point is noted, however; during operations, there will be active dewatering of the open pit and underground mine. The dewatering of the open pit will result in a substantial drawdown of groundwater. Therefore, any seepage that is not captured by the perimeter ditches will be captured in the open pit. As a result, there will be no seepage that leaves the site during the operations phase.</p> <p>B. Once operations cease and the open pit is flooded, the groundwater will gradually return to conditions similar to those prior to development of the mine. Once this occurs, groundwater flow will no longer be directed to the open pit and seepage will have the potential to be transported off-site. The potential off-site effects of seepage during the post-closure phase are provided in Section 3 (groundwater) and Section 6 (water quality) of the Water Report (Appendix JJ of the revised EIS).</p>
71	GW(1)-08	CEA Agency	Appendix M Section 3.1.1, Figure 4	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>A good understanding of the surficial geology of the area around the proposed pit is essential for both hydrogeological modelling and site layout purposes.</p> <p>The surficial geology map shown in Figure 4 (Appendix M) is erroneous for the area surrounding the proposed pit and along the perimeter of the drawdown zone. For example, the map shows glaciolacustrine sediments in an area where the proponent mapped a series of bedrock outcrops. Moreover, the map differs considerably from that of Cowan and Sharpe (1991) cited by the proponent, which appears to be more accurate in many respects. The missing surficial units may play a key role on groundwater recharge and flow.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Update Figure 4 (Appendix M) (i.e. the map of surficial geology of the project site and, at a minimum, the area of the drawdown cone and its perimeter). Based on the updated figure, make</p>

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					<p>necessary changes to the discussion and analysis in subsequent sections of the EIS and supporting documents.</p> <p>B. Update conceptual model, groundwater recharge, flow model, etc. based on the revised surficial geology information.</p> <p>Response: Since the publication of both the Cowan and Sharpe (1991) and the Roed (1980) surficial geology maps the following additional data has become available, or been collected by Treasury Metals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The water well records from wells drilled after publication of these maps (note these have occurred around Thunder Lake and Wabigoon are not a significant addition to areas immediately around the proposed Goliath open pit). • The Beakhouse and Pigeon (2003) map, which has delineated locations of bedrock outcrops (shown on Figure 4 of Appendix M to the revised EIS), and has provided some localized comments on sediments at surface. • Bedrock outcrop mapping undertaken by Treasury Metals in the immediate vicinity of the proposed Goliath open pit (shown on Figure 4 of Appendix A of Appendix M to the revised EIS). This information is taken to be more accurate than the outcrop location data from Beakhouse and Pigeon (2003) and is used in preference where mapped as indicated on Figure 4 of Appendix M to the revised EIS. • The overburden thickness from the exploration boreholes, whose locations are clustered around the east – west trending zone of mineralization that runs through the proposed Goliath open pit. • Nine groundwater quality wells drilled by Treasury Metals in May 2013 (See Appendix A of Appendix M to the revised EIS for borehole logs). • Twenty geotechnical boreholes drilled by Treasury Metals in March 2014 (See Appendix B of Appendix M to the revised EIS for borehole logs). <p>As noted in Section 3.1.1 (page 6) of Appendix M to the revised EIS, these data were used to create the 3D delineation of superficial deposits used in the groundwater model to assess the impacts of the proposed Goliath open pit. Both the Cowan and Sharpe (1991) and Roed (1980) maps are 1:100,00 scale maps; neither provide detailed information on the surficial geology in the area of interest around the proposed Goliath open pit. Nevertheless, they may provide supplemental information, particularly in areas of limited data.</p> <p>It is noteworthy that around the proposed Goliath open pit and immediately to the west and north, the Cowan and Sharpe (1991) map is discordant with the detailed site-specific data as listed above and discussed in Section 3.1.1 of Appendix M. These areas are mapped by Cowan and Sharpe (1991)</p>

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					<p>as 1 ('drift and rock: rock dominated terrain (25% to 80% outcrop) with scattered boulders; thin till and stratified deposits, 1 – 3 m thick in depressions') and 6b ('littoral and shallow water deposits: sand with silty fine sand'). This discordance is demonstrated by the information shown on Figure 5b of Appendix M (section B-B' on Figure 4 of Appendix M) where clay (interpreted to be glaciolacustrine) is the predominant superficial deposit in this area where elevations are below 395 to 400 masl.</p> <p>Overall, the Roed (1980) map is more consistent with the site specific geologic data. It is also more consistent with the local hydrologic monitoring (see Section 3.2, page 10 of Appendix M), which indicates Hoffstrom's Bay Tributary (HS5) and Little Creek (HS6) having little or no baseflow (i.e., rising on clay as indicated by Roed (1980)), whereas the unnamed creeks Thunder Lake Tributary 2 (HS7) and Thunder Lake Tributary 3 (HS4) have much higher baseflow (i.e., rising on sand as indicated by both Cowan and Sharpe (1991) and Roed (1980)).</p> <p>In conclusion, the site specific data as indicated on Figure 4 of Appendix M was used to generate the 3D delineation of superficial deposits used in the groundwater model. The Roed (1980) map is used in preference to the Cowan and Sharpe (1991) to provide supplemental information as it is known to be more accurate in the vicinity of the proposed Goliath open pit.</p> <p>Ultimately, a larger extent of clay cover around the proposed Goliath open pit is more conservative as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It leads to a greater predicted drawdown cone (inflows are controlled by the transmissivity at the open pit); and • Overall groundwater flow rates are predicted to be lower, which limits the dilution potential of any contaminants entering the groundwater. <p>Using the mapping provided by Cowan and Sharpe (1991) would result in less conservative results.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Beakhouse, G.P. & Pigeon, L. 2003. Precambrian Geology of the Thunder Lake Area. Ontario Geological Survey, Preliminary Map P.3529, scale 1:20 000.</p> <p>Cowan, W.R. & Sharpe, D.R. 1991. Surficial Geology, Wabigoon Lake, Ontario. Geological Survey of Canada, Map 1774A, scale 1:100,000.</p> <p>Roed, M.A. 1980. Northern Ontario Engineering Geology Terrain Study 22, Wabigoon Lake Area (NTS 52F/NE), District of Kenora. Ministry of Natural Resources.</p>
72	GW(1)-09	CEA Agency	Appendix M	Section 9.1.2	Summary of Comment / Rationale:

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			<p>Sections 3.2, 5.1.3, 5.3.5, Figure 9, Table 8</p>		<p>In Appendix M, an estimate that recharge rate equals the minimum daily flow is used. This is an extreme value and corresponds to extreme minimal recharge. It would be preferable to use the average minimum daily flow over a period of 7 days or more and to calculate the base flow, thus providing minimum and maximum recharge values. In section 5.3.5 (Appendix M), the HELP model was used to calculate infiltration through the tailings management area. This model could also be used to validate the recharge estimated, based on streamflow data.</p> <p>The recharge rates were not included in the model sensitivity analysis. A discussion of the source of these values, justification for their applicability, evidence that they are conservative, and an assessment of model sensitivity to these values are requirements of the effects assessment.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Calculate the average minimum daily flow over a period of 7 days and the base flow at the gauging stations in order to obtain minimum and maximum recharge values. Validate these results using the HELP model.</p> <p>B. Update Figure 9 (Appendix M) and add the drainage area for each station and the value of the base flow in m³/d.</p> <p>C. Update the groundwater flow model and results with the recharge values obtained.</p> <p>D. Adjust the recharge values in Table 8 (Appendix M) based on the updated surficial geology map, justify their applicability, provide evidence that they are conservative and assess the hydrogeological models sensitivity to these values.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>Measuring low flows from small low gradient runoff-dominated creeks which experience frequent beaver impoundment is problematic and often the accuracy of gauged flows are low. For instance, this is why only the gauges with the best stage-discharge relationships have been used to calibrate the groundwater model as explained in the response to TMI_76-GW(1)-13.</p> <p>Deriving recharge from baseflow is problematic as the hydrograph response that is attributable to groundwater is highly variable between different geologic strata. This is the reason why baseflow analysis is no longer being used in some countries (e.g., United Kingdom examples documented in Shepley et al. 2012) for the management of large water supply aquifers (i.e., > 100,000 m³/d) with high baseflow indexes (i.e., > 0.50). The problem is worse for runoff dominated creeks with very little baseflow given the likely inaccuracy of the gauged low flows. Consequently, the method of analysis</p>

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					<p>proposed by the reviewer for the analysis of the stream flow data is not considered appropriate. Ultimately the recharge is a calibration parameter that needs to fit with the estimated hydraulic conductivities to produce the hydraulic gradients observed from groundwater level monitoring and be consistent with the low-flows measured in the creeks. Overall, this objective has been achieved with the groundwater model constructed for the Project.</p> <p>Finally, as discussed in TMI_71-GW(1)-08, the recharge values are not considered high and this is conservative regarding both the estimation of drawdown from dewatering of the mine and the dilution potential of any contaminants entering groundwater.</p> <p>Reference Shepley, M.G., Whiteman, M.I, Hulme P.J. & Grout, M.W. 2012. Groundwater Resources Modelling: a Case Study from the UK. Geological Society, London, Special Publication, v. 364.</p>
73	GW(1)-10	CEA Agency	Appendix M Section 5.1	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> In the numerical groundwater flow model, the hydraulic conductivity (K) of the fault is lower than that of the surrounding rocks, which is unexpected. Evidence supporting this value is needed.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Explain why the hydraulic conductivity of the fault is lower than that of the surrounding rocks.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The nature and the significance of the Wabigoon Fault is discussed in the response to Information Request MW(1)-24. The Wabigoon Fault is an inferred structure in the Thunder Lake – Wabigoon Lake area and its geological characteristics are not well known. It may be considered a ductile shear zone based on the brief overview of the surrounding geology given by Beakhouse (2000, 2001). Ductile shear zones are characterized by crystal plastic deformation with generally no development of brittle fractures. Such a shear zone may have lower hydraulic conductivity than the surrounding bedrock, particularly in the direction perpendicular to the shear zone foliation (in this case east – west).</p> <p>The representation of the Wabigoon Fault in the groundwater model can therefore be described as that of a ductile shear zone. One sensitivity run has been undertaken without the Wabigoon Fault having lower hydraulic conductivity, with little overall effect on the zone of influence of the proposed Goliath open pit. This result is consistent with the conclusion of TMI_62-MW(1)-24; the inferred Wabigoon fault is not considered a significant factor in the environmental assessment given its distance of 2 km and more from the proposed Goliath open pit.</p> <p>References Beakhouse, G.P. 2000. Precambrian geology of the Wabigoon area. In: Summary of Field Work and</p>

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					<p>Other Activities, Ontario Geological Survey, Open File Report 6032.</p> <p>Beakhouse, G.P. 2001. Project Unit 00-012. Precambrian Geology of the Thunder Lake Segment, Wabigoon Area. In: Summary of Field Work and Other Activities, Ontario Geological Survey Open File Report 6070.</p>
74	GW(1)-11	CEA Agency	Appendix M Figure 14	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The hydraulic conductivity (K) values of the groundwater model presented in Figure 14 (Appendix M) could be more variable for depths 0-100 m. For the first 100 m, it is unclear whether this variability of K values been considered in the sensitivity analysis.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Discuss variability of K values for the first 100 m in the sensitivity analysis.</p> <p>Response: The calibrated model has the following hydrostratigraphic units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The shallow bedrock (< 7 m below top of bedrock) with a hydraulic conductivity of 1E-6 m/s; • The intermediate bedrock with a thickness of 100 m with a hydraulic conductivity of 1E-7 m/s; <p>The hydraulic conductivity data collected on the shallow and intermediate bedrock shows variability, typical of fractured crystalline bedrock. Higher estimated values tend to be associated with small packer test intervals, whereas lower estimated values are associated with longer interval tests. The hydraulic conductivity values applied in the model are broadly in the line with the collected data falling broadly between the longer and shorter interval tests (see Figure 14 of Appendix M to the revised EIS). As the model is based on the equivalent porous media principal, it is the longer interval data that are likely more applicable in representing the hydraulic conductivity of the bulk rock mass. The hydraulic conductivity values and hydrostratigraphy applied at the Goliath Gold Project are consistent with other recent studies in similar rock, such as the Rainy River Gold Project nearby.</p> <p>In the sensitivity analysis, the hydraulic conductivity of the shallow and intermediate bedrock have been increased / decreased individually by a factor of two. The aim is to capture the possible variability of the hydraulic conductivity of the bulk rock mass, rather than the highest (or lowest) values measured as these are less likely to be representative. In addition, using an extreme value for the hydraulic conductivity, results in simulations that have relatively poor calibrations, indicating a predictive simulation that is less reliable.</p>
75	GW(1)-12	CEA Agency	Appendix M	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p>

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			Figure 17		<p>Figure 17 (Appendix M), which presents the results of the model calibration, does not show the location of the wells. Although the bias is low, it is not possible to interpret the spatial trends without identifying/labelling the wells.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Add and label the wells in Figure 17 (Appendix M) and discuss the spatial trends of the residuals.</p> <p>B. Provide a plot of the mean value of the residuals (measured minus simulated values) and the mean of the residuals in absolute value in the graph.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. As requested, a revised version of Figure 17 from Appendix M is given below in this response.</p> <p>The calibration data does not appear to be biased with respect to depth or simulated hydrostratigraphic units since statistics of the discrepancies between computed and observed hydraulic heads in the overburden, overburden + weathered shallow bedrock and deeper bedrock wells are similar.</p> <p>B. As requested, please find enclosed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mean and absolute mean errors in five overburden calibration wells (BH3AS, BH3AD, BH5A, BH6D, BH7A) are 0.85m and 2.38m, respectively; • mean and absolute mean errors in four overburden / shallow bedrock wells (BH1A, BH2A, BH4A and BH8A) are 1.19m and 2.41m, respectively; and • mean and absolute mean errors in the remaining 13 deeper bedrock calibration wells (shown as grey circles and a diamond in Figure 17) are 0.07m and 2.23m, respectively.

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76	GW(1)-13	CEA Agency	Appendix M Figure 19	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: For a better understanding and assessment of the groundwater model and its calibration, Figure 19 (Appendix M) should show all the gauging stations.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Include all gauging stations at which base flow is affected by the Project in Figure 19 (Appendix M), namely those within the drawdown area. Readjust the limits (minimum and maximum base flow) according to the revised information.</p> <p>Response: The creeks in the area of the proposed open pit are runoff dominated with relatively small baseflows. Obtaining an accurate continuous record of flows across all flow conditions is often difficult. Using continuous flow data to calibrate a groundwater model requires a reasonable correspondence of the stage-discharge relationship and gauged spot flows for low-flow conditions. This is important in the</p>

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					<p>present situation where the baseflow is a small proportion of the total flow and consequently inaccuracies at low-flow may be high. As noted in Section 3.2 of Appendix M to the revised EIS, the best stage-discharge relationships have been obtained for gauging stations TL1a (Blackwater Creek – glaciolacustrine clay and ‘sand-clay/silt-sand’), HS5 (Hoffstrom’s Bay Tributary – glaciolacustrine clay and bedrock) and HS7 (Thunder Lake Tributary 2 – sand and gravel from glaciofluvial outwash), which have therefore been used for calibration as indicated in Section 5.2 of Appendix M to the revised EIS. These three gauging stations provide sufficient flow calibration targets for the groundwater model. The other stations do not have good enough stage-discharge relationships at low-flows to calibrate the groundwater model. This will not have a significant effect on the overall calibration and accuracy of the model, as the three utilized gauging stations cover all the main overburden watershed categories within the Project area.</p>
77	GW(1)-14	CEA Agency	Appendix M Figure 2	Section 10, 11	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Figure 2 (Appendix M) shows that the waste rock storage area (WRSRA) rests partly on bedrock outcrops and thin deposits, which can allow and even promote vertical migration of potential contaminants in several parts of the project site. The proponent needs to explain how vertical infiltration from the WRSRA will be controlled. For example, whether the bottom of the WRSRA will be covered with a clay layer or an impermeable material.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Explain how vertical infiltration from the WRSRA will be controlled.</p> <p>Response: Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A Summary of Refinements to the Project since the completion of the original EIS is presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. Additional details regarding the design of the waste rock storage area (WRSRA) can be found in Sections 3.5 and</p>
78	GW(1)-15	CEA Agency	Appendix M Section 5.3.3, Figures 20, 21	Section 10, 11, 12	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: While the proposed groundwater monitoring locations appear reasonable, additional groundwater monitoring locations will be required to provide an adequate groundwater monitoring network.</p> <p>It does not appear as though any domestic use wells were included in the groundwater monitoring program. Wells of interest surrounding the Project should be considered for inclusion in the groundwater monitoring quality and level monitoring programs.</p> <p>Figures 20 and 21 show that several wells will be affected by drawdown due to mine dewatering. The proponent has not explained whether it would remediate any damage that these activities could</p>

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					<p>cause to individual wells (water level and quality). Mitigation measures will have to be planned for all wells, regardless of their context.</p> <p>Additionally, the impact of drawdown on streams is unclear.</p> <p>The requested information will also be required in complete detail during the provincial permitting phase when applying for required Permits to Take Water.</p> <hr/> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Include surrounding domestic use wells in the groundwater monitoring program, upon receiving permission from the well owners.</p> <p>B. Describe mitigation measures for the wells affected by dewatering of the pit.</p> <p>C. Replace the basemap in Figures 20 and 21 with the revised surficial geology map requested in GW(1)-09.</p> <p>D. Describe and quantify the impact of drawdown relative to total and base flows.</p> <p>E. Describe the impact of drawdowns on streams in the LSA.</p> <hr/> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>Groundwater monitoring wells have been installed by Treasury Metals and these are presently being monitored. New groundwater monitoring wells will be installed as part of the groundwater monitoring program, which is presented in Section 13.10 and 13.11 of the revised EIS. Treasury Metals has had discussions with nearby residents who have expressed concerns about their wells. Private wells may be incorporated in the groundwater monitoring program, given the consent of owners.</p> <p>Treasury Metals has also identified a comprehensive set of mitigation measures in various responses to the Round 1 IRs. These mitigation measures can all be found in Table 6.22-1 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>A comprehensive set of mitigation measures for private wells will also be incorporated into the Contingency Plan required by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC).</p> <p>The use of the overburden basemaps is discussed in the response to TMI_72-GW(1)-09. Based on this discussion, the present basemaps of Figures 20 and 21 are considered appropriate.</p> <p>The effects of dewatering on surface water are described in Section 5.3.4 and summarized in</p>

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					<p>Section 6.0 of Appendix M of the revised EIS. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. An updated hydrologic model to evaluate the effects of the refined water balance on surface water quantities is provided in Section 6 of the Water Report.</p>
79	GW(1)-16	CEA Agency	EIS Section 13.6.2 Figure 13.6.1	Section 11	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> According to section 13.6.2 (EIS), monitoring well locations will be determined on the basis of flow directions provided by the model. If the adjustments to the model suggest a different flow pattern, the monitoring program will have to be adjusted accordingly. For effective adjustment, the well network must cover all possible flow directions. However, the locations of monitoring wells down gradient of the low grade stockpile have not been proposed.</p> <p>It is recommended that the monitoring program be designed to detect all changes in direction of lateral and vertical flow, even after mine decommissioning, until water quality parameters have returned to baseline conditions.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Revise the monitoring program to detect all changes in direction of lateral and vertical flow, even after mine decommissioning, until water quality parameters have returned to baseline conditions.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> It is assumed that this request relates to changes requested to the conceptual and numerical groundwater model in TMI_71-GW(1)-08, particularly with respect to the superficial deposits. The response to TMI_71-GW(1)-08 provides a full explanation of the use of data to represent the superficial deposits in the groundwater model. The conclusion to TMI_71-GW(1)-08 is that the data have been used appropriately and there is no need to revise the conceptual or numerical groundwater model constructed for the Project. With respect to the present Information Request we therefore conclude that the proposed groundwater monitoring network as provided in Section 13.10 and 13.11 of the revised EIS, based on the groundwater modelling described in Appendix M, will detect the changes to the flow directions caused by the operation of the mine including the dewatering of the proposed Goliath open pit and the operation and closure of the tailings storage facility (TSF).</p> <p>Regarding the location of wells around the low-grade ore (LGO) stockpile, details on the groundwater monitoring program is provided in Section 13.10 and 13.11 of the revised EIS. There are upstream and downstream monitoring wells planned around the LGO stock pile that are shown</p>

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					<p>in Figure 13.10.2-1 of the revised EIS. A further refinement of the groundwater monitoring program is provided in the Water Report (Appendix JJ to the revised EIS).</p>
80	GW(1)-17	CEA Agency	Appendix M Section 5.3.5	Section 10, 11	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The current groundwater flow model predicts potential tailings management area (TMA) and waste rock storage area (WRSA) seepage to receiving environments. Given that it is highly likely that the seepage will be contaminated, it is recommended that the proponent monitor groundwater and develop a plan to collect groundwater that will not be intercepted by the drainage ditches a short distance from the TMA and WRSA, should it exceed provincial water quality limits. It is recommended that monitoring wells be installed all around the facilities and in each aquifer to confirm the direction of migration of potential contaminants.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide additional detail for the groundwater monitoring program to detect exceedances of water quality standards in the direction of flow from structures and provide a mitigation/contingency plan in the event of exceedances to prevent the spread of contaminants to receiving environments.</p> <p>Response: Groundwater monitoring wells have been installed by Treasury Metals and these are presently being monitored. New groundwater monitoring wells will be installed as part of the groundwater monitoring program, which is presented in Section 13.10 and 13.11 of the revised EIS. Treasury Metals has had discussions with nearby residents who have expressed concerns about their wells. Private wells may be incorporated in the groundwater monitoring program, given the consent of owners.</p> <p>Treasury Metals have also identified a comprehensive set of mitigation measures through preparing responses to the Round 1 IRs. These mitigation measures can all be found in Table 6.22-1 of Section 6 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>A comprehensive set of mitigation measures for private wells will also be incorporated into the Contingency Plan required by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC).</p>
81	GW(1)-18	CEA Agency	Appendix M Figure 4	Section 10	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: A large part of the project site is overlain by lacustrine clay. In this context, groundwater drawdown is known to cause significant ground settlement and can affect mine infrastructures.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Identify potential areas and extent of ground settlement within the project area.</p> <p>B. Indicate areas at risk of damage due to ground settlement caused by groundwater drawdown due</p>

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					<p>to mine dewatering and propose mitigation measures, as required.</p> <p>Response: The glaciolacustrine clay is relatively thin and of low-permeability. Clays are very unlikely to dewater under gravity when the water table is drawn below the base of the bedrock surface. Consequently, subsidence at the Project is unlikely to occur from groundwater drawdown.</p>
82	GW(1)-19	CEA Agency	Appendix M Section 5	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The uncertainty of the groundwater flow model is associated with hydraulic parameters such as hydraulic conductivity and recharge, but also with the selected conceptual geological model.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Review and revise the groundwater flow model results and sensitivity and the discussion on the basis of the corrected information. B. Incorporate the revised groundwater flow model in the follow-up program. Review the model simulation results annually and adjust the groundwater quality and level monitoring plan, as required.</p> <p>Response: It is assumed that the corrections referred to under A) relate either to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature and the significance of the Wabigoon Fault as discussed in the response to TMI_62-MW(1)-24; and /or • The overburden mapping used for the assessment of recharge as discussed in the response to TMI_71-GW(1)-08. <p>The responses to these Information Requests both conclude that these aspects of the conceptual model have been assessed appropriately and no changes are required to the numerical groundwater.</p>
83	GW(1)-20	CEA Agency	Appendix M Figures 24, 25	Section 10	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The particle-tracking results in Figures 24 and 25 (Appendix M) show the possible migration pathways of potential contaminants. However, it is not possible to identify the aquifer through which the water flows, or the travel time toward receiving environments. It is unclear whether all wells identified on the map are part of the monitoring program that will be implemented during the mine activities and at the time of mine decommissioning.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Indicate the aquifer through which the water flows and the travel time towards the receiving</p>

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					<p>environments for Figures 22 to 25 (Appendix M).</p> <p>B. Identify the wells that are part of the monitoring program to be implemented during the mining activities and at the time of mine decommissioning.</p> <hr/> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. The particles depicted in Figures 24 and 25 of Appendix M to the revised EIS travel through the shallow bedrock and the discontinuous basal sand that lies between the clay and the shallow bedrock. The calculation of travel times requires the estimation of the kinematic porosity of the shallow bedrock and the basal sands. Although this can be estimated based on laboratory experiments and small-scale tests, it is extremely difficult to estimate for large rock masses, particularly the fractured bedrock. Travel times may be of the order of decades.</p> <p>B. Details on the proposed groundwater monitoring program is provided in Section 13.10 and 13.11 of the revised EIS. The proposed wells indicated in Table 13.10.2-1 and shown on Figure 13.10.2-1 of the revised EIS will be monitored. Groundwater level monitoring will be continued in these wells up to cessation of dewatering operations. It is planned that the groundwater quality monitoring would be continued up to the time when both the tailings storage facility (TSF) and waste rock storage area (WRSA) are capped. Both groundwater level and quality monitoring will be continued until completion of a satisfactory review of the monitoring data collected during mine operation and / or closure by the relevant government agencies.</p>
84	GW(1)-21	CEA Agency	<p>EIS Section 6.2.1.12</p> <p>Appendix G Section 9.3.6.1</p> <p>Appendix F of Appendix M Figure 1</p> <p>Appendix S Table 3.4</p>	Section 5, 9.1.2, 10	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>The proponent states in section 6.2.1.12 (EIS): "Makeup water may be required for operation of the processing plant and may be obtained from groundwater wells or via pipeline from the old tree nursery irrigation ponds located on the Hoffstrom's Bay tributary on the Treasury offices site which has potential to reduce water quantity and, indirectly, habitat quality."</p> <p>No details are provided on these withdrawals.</p> <p>The hydrogeology of the project area as shown in Figure 1 (Appendix F of Appendix M) includes a portion of Lola Lake Provincial Park, which is an extensive wetland area. Section 9.3.6.1 (Appendix G) states: "...it [Lola Lake Wetland] likely provides the area with significant ecological functions such as groundwater discharge, wildlife habitat and carbon storage (Harris pers. comm. 2011). The presence of iron precipitates (Appendix VII-2, Plate 11) and rich minerotrophic indicators including sticky tofieldia (<i>Triantha glutinosa</i>), tufted clubrush (<i>Trichophorum cespitosum</i>), and creeping juniper (<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i>) indicates that there is a strong flow of nutrient rich groundwater from the peatland (NE to SW) into the ponds at the tree nursery grounds and eventually into Thunder Lake."</p>

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					<p>In addition, Table 3.4 (Appendix S, page 17) indicates the olive sided flycatcher, a migratory bird and threatened species at risk, was identified in the portion of Lola Lake Provincial Park wetland area adjacent to the irrigation ponds.</p> <p>The potential environmental effects on the wetland area from the groundwater withdrawals are unclear.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide information on makeup water withdrawals: quantity, location of withdrawal sites, and impact on groundwater (drawdown).</p> <p>B. Based on the information gathered for WL(1)-03 and request A above, reassess and describe the potential effects and any residual effects from groundwater drawdown on wetlands, including the Lola Lake Provincial Park wetlands, adjacent to the irrigation ponds, considering the magnitude, extent, duration, frequency, reversibility criteria to determine significance of adverse environmental effects.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. To clarify, the potential sources of makeup water are described fully in Section 3.8.3 of the revised EIS. The fresh water needed for the Project was identified as coming from the irrigation ponds at the former Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests (MNRF) tree nursery. These ponds are located on the Thunder Lake Tributary 3. There are errors in the identified sources of fresh water presented in the description of potential effects for fish and fish habitat. The irrigation ponds at the former tree nursery are not located on the Hoffstrom's Bay Tributary, and groundwater will not be used as a source of fresh water.</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. As part of the refinements, Treasury Metals is now considering accessing fresh water from the irrigation pond on Thunder Lake Tributary 2, as well as the two irrigation ponds on Thunder Lake Tributary 3. There will be no effect on groundwater drawdown associated with this fresh water withdrawal.</p> <p>B. As detailed in the response to TMI_146-WL(1)-03, the Lola Lake Nature Reserve has been excluded from the wetlands surveyed in 2016 because the wetland is not predicted to be affected as a result of the Project. Treasury Metals has prepared a Wetlands Baseline Study (2016), which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix S. The Wetlands Baseline Study provides a</p>

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					<p>summary of the baseline information collected to support the EIS as well as information collected since the submission of the original EIS.</p> <p>The supply of fresh water will come from the irrigation ponds at the former MNRF tree nursery. One of these ponds is located on Thunder Lake Tributary 2, which is in a different watershed than Lola Lake. The other two irrigation ponds are located on Thunder Lake Tributary 3. Since these ponds are well downstream from Lola Lake, withdrawals from the ponds would have no measurable effect on flows and water levels in Lola Lake Provincial Park. Additionally, the drawdown associated with the dewatering of the open pit and underground mine will not extend into the park.</p>
85	GW(1)-22	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6.3.1.10	Section 9	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 6.3.1.10 (EIS) states: "Previous assessment of surface water hydrology in the watersheds surrounding the proposed mine development area have found that aquifer discharge provides for a negligible amount of creek base flow so depression of the groundwater surface would likely not impact the surface water regime to any significant extent."</p> <p>This statement may need to be modified based on the information and model updates that may result from the proponent's response to IRs on groundwater and surface water.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Analyze the impacts to the surface water regime, based on responses to IRs on groundwater and surface water, and update the effects assessment accordingly.</p> <p>Response: Based on the responses to the Round 1 IRs, notably TMI_71-GW(1)-22, there would be no significant changes that would warrant changing that statement. Specifically, the response to TMI_71-GW(1)-22 confirmed that the surficial geology supports the following description of base flows in the creeks feeding into Thunder Lake:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoffstrom's Bay Tributary (HS5) and Little Creek (HS6) having little or no baseflow (influenced by clay as indicated by Roed (1980)); and • Unnamed creeks Thunder Lake Tributary 2 (HS7) and Thunder Lake Tributary 3 (HS4) likely have higher baseflow (influenced by sand as indicated by both Cowan and Sharpe (1991) and Roed (1980)). <p>Subsequent to the filing of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been refining the water balance for the site. As part of this work, Treasury Metals has revisited the water balance for the Project to optimize the process to the extent possible, to avoid or reduce potential effects on the environment. These changes have the potential to affect four components of water, namely: surface water quality, surface water quantity, groundwater quality, and groundwater quantity. To capture these water</p>

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					<p>component effects, as well as to reflect the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report to be appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. The Water Report represents a technical document describing the updated predictions of effects to water as a result of the Project.</p> <p>As described in the response to TMI_2-EA(1)-02, Treasury Metals acknowledges that the Round 1 IRs included a number of questions related to the organization and approach used in the EIS. Treasury has prepared a revised EIS to resolve this.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Cowan, W.R. & Sharpe, D.R. 1991. Surficial Geology, Wabigoon Lake, Ontario. Geological Survey of Canada, Map 1774A, scale 1:100,000.</p> <p>Roed, M.A. 1980. Northern Ontario Engineering Geology Terrain Study 22, Wabigoon Lake Area (NTS 52F/NE), District of Kenora. Ministry of Natural Resources.</p>
86	GW(1)-23	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 11.2.2, 11.4.3	Section 5, 10, 11	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>The details of the source of the groundwater (an estimated 524 233 m³/year, approximately 1 436 255 L/day) to be used for enhanced pit flooding are not provided in section 11.2.2 (EIS).</p> <p>Section 11.4.3 (EIS) mentions that pit filling will be augmented by other groundwater/surface water sources, but no details regarding these sources are provided.</p> <p>The requested information will also be required in complete detail during the provincial permitting phase when applying for required PTTWs.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Discuss the source of groundwater to be used for enhanced flooding of the pit and any associated effects and required mitigation measures related to groundwater quality and quantity.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>The sources of water for the enhanced flooding of the pit are set out in Table 11.2.1 of the original EIS. In total, groundwater is projected to supply 524,233 m³/year of the water used to fill the pit. This value is equivalent to 1,436 m³/d. This number is in the range of the annual dewatering yield, estimates exclusive of rainfall (see Table 3.8.2 of the EIS). Therefore, the groundwater rates for the flooding of the pit are in the range of dewatering rates shown in the EIS.</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been enhancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify</p>

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					<p>some of the water related predictions presented in the EIS. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. Updated groundwater numbers are will be presented in Section 3 of the Water Report.</p>
87	SW(1)-01	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 3.5.1-3.5.3, 3.8.4, 3.8.8	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>In sections 3.5.1 to 3.5.3 (EIS), the proponent has indicated that ditching and seepage collection will be installed around the edges of the mine rock, overburden, low grade ore and other stockpiles. However, no design details are provided. It is not clear how deep the ditches will be, and whether or not they will be dug to bedrock. This information is important in order to understand the effectiveness of the collection system, especially with respect to seepage.</p> <p>Section 3.8.8 (EIS) states that surface water runoff (SWR) from site (rain) is not expected to require treatment. Limited information is given regarding how SWR will be diverted from the site. If SWR were to combine with seepage then it would likely require treatment. Ditches and SWR are not shown in Figure 3.8.4 (EIS, page 3-54) as referenced in section 3.8.8 (EIS). In addition, the proponent has not indicated to where this surface water runoff will discharge. It is important to know whether this SWR will also be discharged to Blackwater Creek and where with respect to the other final discharge point as it could have both an individual and a combined impact on Blackwater Creek. Further information is also required to determine whether this point of discharge will be considered as another final discharge point under the MMER.</p> <p>The proponent states in 3.8.4 (EIS) that “freshwater may also be required for truck wash facilities within the maintenance facilities and dust control during summer open pit operations. This water used for these purposes is anticipated to be sourced from any supplemental mine water runoff that does not require further treatment for use.” If this is the case, it is unclear how the water will be segregated and its suitability for these purposes will be determined.</p> <p>The proponent should provide a figure showing all ditches to be installed on the project site in order to ensure that mine contact water will be collected for treatment and that surface drainage will be diverted to avoid contamination.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Confirm whether there is one drainage ditch to collect both surface water runoff and seepage or two separate ditches. If runoff and seepage are combining in a shared ditch, provide methodology and rationale for determining whether treatment is needed. Describe the contingency measures to be put in place in cases where water quality exceeds the standards.</p> <p>B. Provide a figure showing all drainage ditches (runoff and seepage collection) to be installed on the project site.</p> <p>C. Provide a description of these drainage and seepage collection ditches, including but not limited</p>

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					<p>to, their design capacity and where the water and/or effluent collected by each of the drainage and seepage collection ditches will be deposited.</p> <p>D. Confirm to where the surface water runoff will be discharged.</p> <p>E. Provide methodology for determining that mine water is suitable for additional purposes such as washing trucks and dust control or general discharge into the environment.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>Section 5.6 of the revised EIS the revised EIS describes the components of the runoff and seepage collection system that will surround the operations area (as defined in the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations revised EIS) and water management.</p> <p>A. One perimeter ditch will be constructed around the operations area (as defined revised EIS Section 6.6.2 of the revised EIS and as defined in Metal Mining Effluent Regulations) to collect both surface water runoff and seepage from the entire operations area. Water that is not required for use in the mining or milling process will be treated and discharged via a single effluent discharge point to Blackwater Creek in accordance with Metal Mining Effluent Regulations, provincial regulations and provincial approvals.</p> <p>B. Refer to Figure 3.0-1A of the revised EIS revised EIS and the figures included therein.</p> <p>C. Refer to Section 3.8 of the revised EIS revised EIS and the figures included therein.</p> <p>D. All surface runoff from the operations area will be contained, as described above in A, and there will be no discharge of surface runoff. Water that is contained in the operations area that is not required for process will be treated and discharged via a single effluent discharge point as described in A.</p> <p>E. Mine water will be used for dust suppression at the operations area, where runoff and seepage are contained, and as a substitute for the tailings storage facility (TSF) water during periods of low water. These uses do not require clean water with low suspended solids or low dissolved solids. During periods of low water when fresh water is not available from the fresh water pumphouses on Thunder Lake Tributary 2 and Thunder Lake Tributary 3 (refer to Section 3.8.3 and 3.8.4 of the revised EIS revised EIS), mine water could be treated in the effluent treatment plant (filtration and/or treatment in reverse osmosis) so that it could be used in the process plant as a substitute for fresh water. Similar utilization of water that is collected in the perimeter runoff and seepage collection ditches is planned, as described in Section 3.8 of the revised EIS.</p>
88	SW(1)-02	CEA Agency	EIS Section 4.3.2.2	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Section 4.3.2.2 (EIS) indicates: "The ditches will be lined to ensure that seepage is contained within the ditch and that erosion damage does not occur." The proponent needs to explain what will be used to line the ditches and whether all ditches on the project site will be lined.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p>

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					<p>A. Describe how the perimeter seepage collection ditches for the tailings storage facility will be lined and indicate whether all ditches on the project site will be lined.</p> <p>Response: Section 3.8 of the revised EIS describes the components of the runoff and seepage collection system that will surround the operations area (as defined in the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations and the revised EIS).</p>
89	SW(1)-03	CEA Agency	EIS Figures 3.8.3, 3.8.4	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Figure 3.8.3 (EIS, page 3-49) shows the leachate and runoff from the waste rock pile collection pond discharging into the low grade ore stockpile collection pond for leachate and runoff. However, in Figure 3.8.4 (EIS, page 3-54), there is no connection between the water output from the waste rock storage collection pond and the low grade stockpile collection pond. A good understanding of how mine water is conveyed between the different water management structures is essential to ensure that mine water is being treated and has no significant impact to water quality.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Confirm and describe how leachate and runoff is conveyed from the waste rock pile collection pond and the low grade ore stockpile collection pond and provide figures to further describe mine water conveyance.</p> <p>Response: Section 3.8 of the revised EIS describes water management. A perimeter runoff and seepage collection system that surrounds the entire operations area (as defined in the revised EIS and in accordance with the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations) will prevent discharge to the environment. Any surplus water within the operations area containment structures (runoff collection ponds, minewater pond, tailings storage facility (TSF)) will be treated and discharged to Blackwater Creek in accordance with the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations, provincial legislation and provincial approvals. This will be the only effluent discharge for the operational phase of the Project.</p>
90	SW(1)-04	CEA Agency	Appendix F Sections 2.1.6, 4.1.1	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 4.1.1 (Appendix F) states: "Based on geochemistry test work, it is assumed that all runoff water from the Goliath site will potentially be acidic and contain at least trace amounts of dissolved metals." However, section 2.1.6 (Appendix F) indicates: "Surface water runoff from the processing plant site is not expected to require treatment. In the future, provision could be made for containment and pumping of the contaminated surface water to the tailings storage facility using a portable pump."</p>

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					<p>By design, plant site surface water will drain into the surrounding terrain and ultimately to Blackwater Creek.”</p> <p>The two sections appear to contradict each other. An explanation is required from the proponent as to why surface water runoff from the processing plant site does not need to be collected and treated.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Explain the predicted quality of surface water runoff from the processing plant site with a rationale as to why it will not require collection and treatment.</p> <p>B. Indicate how this surface water runoff will be monitored to determine if it can be released into the receiving environment.</p> <p>C. Describe the contingency measures, should surface water runoff not meet water quality standards.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining of the water balance for the site, including the collection and treatment of site surface water runoff. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. The updated water balance, including discussions regarding collection of various site waters, is provided in Section 2 of the Water Report. As per the refined water balance, all surface water runoff within the Project boundary will be collected and ultimately treated prior to discharge to the environment (Blackwater Creek). This includes surface water runoff from within the processing plant site boundary area.</p> <p>B. All surface water runoff from the operations area of the Project site will be collected and directed to the effluent treatment plant prior to being discharge to the environment (i.e., Blackwater Creek). Treasury Metals remains committed to ensuring that all water discharged to Blackwater Creek during the operations phase meets Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO). As part of the revised EIS, Treasury Metals described the water quality monitoring proposed to support the environmental management plan for the Project (Section 12.3), as well as the proposed environmental monitoring for surface water quality (Section 13.8 of the revised EIS). Treasury Metals expects the details of these monitoring plans will be developed and finalized as part of the regulatory permitting process for the Project. Treasury Metals also expects to engage input and feedback from regulators, Aboriginal peoples and interested stakeholders in the development of the final environmental management plans.</p> <p>Further monitoring and management details associated with surface water can be found in Section</p>

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					<p>12 and Section 13 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>C. Treasury Metals remains committed to collect all surface water runoff from within the Project boundary. This collected runoff will ultimately be treated prior to discharge to Blackwater Creek. The water discharged to Blackwater Creek during operations will meet PWQO, or the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) limits when PWQO are not available for a parameter.</p>
91	SW(1)-05	CEA Agency	Appendix M Section 5.3.5	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Seepage has been predicted from the tailings management area and the waste rock storage area in Section 5.3.5 (Appendix M). However, it appears that seepage has not been predicted for the overburden stockpile and the low grade ore stockpile.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Confirm whether seepage has or has not been predicted for the overburden and low grade ore stockpiles. If seepage has not been predicted from these stockpiles, provide an explanation as to how this conclusion was drawn. If it has been predicted, describe the potential effects and mitigation measures that would be applied.</p> <p>Response: The overburden stockpile and low-grade ore (LGO) stockpile are both adjacent to the proposed Goliath open pit and lie well within the drawdown cone of the pit. Some limited vertical seepage to groundwater is likely to occur in areas where the stockpiles are situated directly on bedrock. This seepage will be captured by dewatering of the open pit, which will provide full hydraulic containment during operation and prior to full water level recovery in the open pit when mining has ceased. As both stockpiles will be removed on cessation of mining, seepage from these stockpiles is not a consideration when the mine is closed and the water level in the open pit has fully recovered.</p>
92	SW(1)-06	CEA Agency	Appendix M	Sections 9.1.2, 10.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The proponent has estimated seepage volumes, but has not determined the potential effects of seepage upon the surface water quality of nearby waterbodies. Such an assessment should consider the estimated seepage volumes that will report to surface waters and the concentrations of contaminants of concern it is predicted to contain over time.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Assess the potential effects of seepage upon surface water quality during operations and through the abandonment phase.</p> <p>Response: During operations, only a limited quantity of seepage is expected from the various onsite structures</p>

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					<p>(i.e., tailings storage facility (TSF), waste rock storage area (WRSA) and low-grade ore (LGO) stockpile). This seepage resulting from the onsite structures will be controlled by seepage collection systems, with the collected seepage being transferred to the overall water management systems. Seepage resulting from the toe of the TSF dam will be captured via a collection ditch and pond and returned to the tailings pond on the TSF surface. Any seepage during operations that escapes the various seepage collection systems will be captured within the drawdown cone (refer to IR Response TMI_66-GW(1)-03 for further details) caused by mine dewatering, and will ultimately report to the open pit. From the open pit, the seepage water will be captured as part of the dewatering activities and transferred to the water management system whereby it will be used in the process plant or treated prior to discharge.</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. . The updated water quality model includes an assessment of the effects of seepage on surface water quality and is provided in Section 6 of the Water Report.</p>
93	SW(1)-07	CEA Agency	EIS Section 2.3.2	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 2.3.2 (EIS) indicates that residual hydrocarbons will be removed in sumps. The proponent has not explained how this would be achieved in the sumps. If not removed, residual hydrocarbons have the potential to lead to adverse effects on water quality and ultimately fish and fish habitat.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Explain how residual hydrocarbons will be removed in sumps (in pit or underground).</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The description of the mine water management systems for the Project is described Section 3.8 of the revised EIS. Sumps will be used in the open pit and underground mine workings to help collect the mine water, and facilitate its removal from the mine to the water management system. To the extent possible, water collected from the open pit and underground mine will be used in the process, and discharged with the tailings to the tailings storage facility (TSF). Ultimately, all of the water collected at the site will be treated in the effluent treatment plant before being discharged to Blackwater Creek. Treasury Metals has committed (Table 10.0.1) that the effluent from the Project during operations will meet Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO), or the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) limits if no PWQO exist for a compound. While there was mention of "...sumps (in pit or underground) to remove bulk suspended solids and residual hydrocarbons" in introductory text in Section 2.3.2 (alternatives assessment for mine water</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					management), Treasury Metals is not relying on sumps to provide treatment for residual hydrocarbons present in the open pit and underground mine.
94	SW(1)-08	CEA Agency	EIS Section 3.3.2	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 3.3.2 (EIS) indicates that surface water runoff will be prevented from entering the open pit by means of a small berm or ditch and that the water will be collected to form part of the recycled water used for processing in the plant facility. This small berm or ditch is not shown in any of the figures and the proponent does not indicate where this water will be collected.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide a figure showing the small berm or ditch around the open pit and indicate where the surface water runoff will be collected.</p> <p>Response: Please refer to Figure 3.0-1A of the revised EIS for locations and facilities regarding ditching and water infrastructure.</p>
95	SW(1)-09	CEA Agency	Appendix F Sections 1.3, 2.0, 2.3 EIS Section 3.8.5	Section 9.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The proponent has conducted a revised site water balance to accompany the revised EIS (Appendix F). The preliminary assessment indicates a positive water balance, where excess water is anticipated for average years and that excess water will be continually treated via an effluent treatment plant. The proponent also states that a further study that considers seasonal variations and storm event variations will be required in subsequent stages of the Project. Effluent discharges are expected to vary throughout the year, with the highest discharge occurring during spring thaw. Extremely wet or dry year scenarios resulting from climate variability are not considered in the calculations. Considerations of extreme climate conditions are important to assess infrastructure requirements and consideration of mitigation measures in case of extreme excess or shortage of water during mine operations.</p> <p>The proponent should comment on measures that would be considered if, during a dry period, there is not enough water cover over the tailings to minimize acid generation of the tailings solids.</p> <p>On the other hand, the maximum operating level of the tailings storage facility (TSF) is said to be set to contain runoff from average and wet precipitation conditions. An additional containment storage volume will be provided based on the Environmental Design Storm (1000-yr event). The ability to remove excess water in a timely manner to maintain the maximum operational level and to maintain the 1000-yr storage above seems to be governed by the effluent treatment plant capacity. Should wet conditions prevail during mine operation, it is unclear whether there is any ability to increase the effluent treatment rate to prevent excess water from accumulating in the TSF. Evaluation of wet year precipitation conditions and consideration of seasonal variation are critical to the preliminary design.</p>

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					<p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Elaborate on the adequacy of the TSF sizing, effluent treatment rate selected, and possible mitigation measures in consideration of natural variation in weather conditions, including seasonal variations.</p> <hr/> <p>Response:</p> <p>The tailings storage facility (TSF) has been adequately sized to contain tailings solids, as well as operational and stormwater. Available capacity of the TSF is based on the natural ground contour information and the selected embankment alignments. The contour information for the site was enhanced in 2016 with the completion of a site LIDAR survey, which will be used to generate more accurate topography that will be utilized as the design is advanced to the detailed level.</p> <p>Storage of tailings solids is based on the life of mine tonnage throughput and tailings solids in situ density that has been assigned as 1.1 t/m³ at this stage of the Project based on technical literature and experience with similar projects. Confirmation of the tailings solids in situ density is more accurately determined as the Project is advanced using laboratory testing. An allowance for the tailings beach slope was also included in establishing the required height of the perimeter embankments of the TSF.</p> <p>Containment is also provided for operational water that includes the planned water cover. The peak water levels are identified as an output from the completion of a water/solids balance that includes assessments for the average, dry and wet annual precipitation.</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ.. An updated water balance is provided in Section 2 of the Water Report. Section 2 of the Water report describes the expected variability in discharges from the Project within each year and from year to year. The required treatment rate is based on the expected water to be handled at the site. As described in the Section 3 of the revised EIS, and Section 2 of the Water Report, the Project will be designed such that it has the ability to store a portion of the water collected within the site to manage variations in water. The planned treatment system is designed to be modular and expandable in a stepwise manner and additional units can be added to ensure the system has the capacity to treat the total volume of water that will be generated.</p> <p>Additional allowances have been provided to containment of the environmental design storm above the peak operating water level along with sufficient freeboard to ensure that water does not overtop the dam during the occurrence of the Inflow Design Flood if the spillway becomes active.</p> <p>Treasury is planning on incorporating a mine dewatering pond as part of the surface water management for the site. The mine dewatering pond will be used to supplement water for the cover</p>

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					during periods of low annual precipitation.
96	SW(1)-10	CEA Agency	EIS Section 3.5.3	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 3.5.3 (EIS) indicates that there may be several smaller runs of mine piles of varying grade in the general area of the low-grade stockpile. The proponent has not indicated whether these piles will be within the ditching and seepage collection of the low grade stockpile. If these runs of mine piles are not within the ditching and seepage collection of the low grade stockpile, surface water runoff may be contaminated and could impact water quality.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Confirm whether the smaller runs of mine stockpiles are within the ditching and seepage collection area of the low grade stockpile. B. Describe how surface water runoff will be collected, seepage will be controlled and provide mitigation measures for the additional stockpiles if they are not located within previously described ditching and seepage collection areas.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> A. The smaller run of mine stock piles will be located directly adjacent to the crushing facilities and will be wholly within the overall ditching and seepage collection plan for the general operations, as required by the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER) and the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) requirements. Since the filing of the EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing the engineering design of the Project. The revised EIS (Section 3) contains additional details on the water collection systems. B. Refer to the response provided in Part A.</p>
97	SW(1)-11	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 3.6.2, 3.6.4	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 3.6.2 (EIS) and section 3.6.4 (EIS) mention an emergency stockpile but no further information is provided about this stockpile.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Clarify the purpose of this emergency stockpile, its location, size, potential to leach contaminants of concern and any measures that would be implemented to collect and contain effluent (seepage and runoff) so its flow and quality can be measured via a final discharge point prior to its release to the receiving environment. B. Provide the location of the final discharge point for the emergency stockpile and describe potential</p>

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					<p>impacts on the environment resulting from discharge.</p> <p>Response: Treasury Metals may elect to use a small stockpile for providing rock feed to the crusher to ensure consistent feed to the mill in the event of a temporary stop in feed coming from the mine production. The location of this stockpile will be wholly within the footprint of the operations area and the associated runoff/seepage collection system. As such, this stockpile will not create an additional area where seepage and runoff collection is required. The operations area is described in more detail within Section 3 of the revised EIS.</p>
98	SW(1)-12	CEA Agency	EIS Figure 3.8.2 Appendix F Figure 2-2	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The direct pond precipitation values in Figure 3.8.2 (EIS, page 3-47) are different from the net precipitation value presented in Figure 2-2 (Appendix F, page 10).</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Clarify the difference between the direct pond precipitation values in Figure 3.8.2 (EIS, page 3-47) and the net precipitation value presented in Figure 2-2 (Appendix F, page 10).</p> <p>Response: The direct pond precipitation value presented on Figure 3.8.2 of the original EIS is the annual volume in cubic metres (m³) and does not include evaporation, which is shown as being unknown on this figure. In contrast, Figure 2-2 of Appendix F to the original EIS presents the daily net precipitation (less evaporation) in units of tons per day.</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ.. The direct precipitation and net precipitation used in the revised evaluation and the refined water balance are captured within Section 2 of this report.</p>
99	SW(1)-13	CEA Agency	EIS Table 3.8.3	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Table 3.8.3 (EIS, page 3-50) shows the predicted tailings supernatant concentration for Ammonia (as N) with an asterisk, which means "Assumed Values". The proponent should explain what is meant by assumed values. Furthermore, there is a second note with two asterisks, which means "At least one value used in determination was based on limit of detection". The proponent should explain what is meant by this note and to which parameter(s) this note refers.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>A. Explain what is meant by "Assumed Values" for Ammonia (as N) in Table 3.8.3.</p> <p>B. Explain what is meant by "At least one value used in determination was based on limit of detection" in Table 3.8.3 and indicate which parameter(s) are referred to in the statement.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Ammonia measurements were not available in the ICP solution test results. The 6 mg/L value used is a common SO₂/air cyanide destruction target value and was the assumption for the Project.</p> <p>B. The phrase "at least one value used in determination was based on limit of detection" was used to indicate that the limit of detection was used as the concentration of the component for the purposes of calculating averages where component concentrations were reported as being below the limits of detection. For example, the lab reports the Vanadium concentration as <0.1 ppm, however, we do not know what the exact value is. The actual concentration of Vanadium could range from 0 to 0.0999 ppm. Therefore, the worst case was assumed and the limit of detection concentration was used, which in this example would be 0.1 ppm. In Appendix F of the original EIS, Table 4.1 presents leach solution assays. In this table a number of assay results are reported with a "<" symbol in front of them. This symbol indicates that the actual assay result is below the limit of detection. Hence, Be (Beryllium) is reported as <0.1 in the first column (Whole Ore Leach). This indicates that the actual Beryllium assay was less than 0.1 mg/L. In this instance, the water quality calculations would have assumed the worst case and used 0.1 mg/L as the Beryllium concentration. Where multiple results were averaged, one result may have been a limit of detection assumption while the others may have been actual values hence the phrase "at least one value used in determination was based on limit of detection".</p>
100	SW(1)-14	CEA Agency	EIS Table 3.8.3 Appendix F Sections 4.4, 4.5, Table 4.3	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Table 3.8.3 (EIS, page 3-50) is identical to Table 4.3 (Appendix F, page 24). Section 4.4 (Appendix F) explains that a PHREEQCI model was used to predict preliminary and conservative concentrations for contaminants in the tailings storage facility (TSF) solution and the model is based on previously discussed yearly average water balance and geochemical test work performed by Ecometrix. It further states: "Neither cyanide destruction nor tailings attenuation test work have been performed to date and therefore assumptions have been made based on industry standards". The proponent should indicate what industry standards have been used to make the assumptions.</p> <p>In the MEND Report 3.50.1 - Study to Identify BATEA for the Management and Control of Effluent Quality from Mines, page 323 identifies some challenges associated with the INCO SO₂/Air process. In particular, it notes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Addition of copper catalyst may cause non-compliance with copper limit if not adequately

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					<p>precipitated and separated from effluent; - Generation of sulfate may be undesirable, depending on downstream processes or receiving bodies; and - Generation of ammonia may cause non-compliance with potential future ammonia limit as well as toxicity issues if not managed.</p> <p>The proponent should indicate whether the increase in copper, sulfate and ammonia into the predicted tailings supernatant concentrations was factored in the data in Table 3.8.3.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Identify the industry standards which have been used to make the assumptions about cyanide destruction and tailings attenuation.</p> <p>B. Explain whether the increase in copper, sulfate and ammonia from the INCO SO₂/Air process has been factored into the predicted tailings supernatant concentrations in Table 3.8.3 (EIS). If they have not, justify this decision.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. The detoxification circuit discharge solution concentrations as input into in the preliminary PHREEQCI model used to determine the tailings solution chemistry were based on industry standards. As detoxification test work was not performed prior to the development of the PHREEQCI model, results presented in literature were benchmarked against two comparable free milling gold circuits that Lycopodium was currently supervising test work for, in order to determine the solution concentrations of the detoxification discharge. The following two papers were used to determine "standard" detoxification removal factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Devuyt, E.A., B.R. Conrad, and G. Robbins. 1988. Commercial performance of Inco's SO₂-air cyanide removal process. Pages 87-88 in Proceedings Randol Gold Conference. Golden, CO: Randol International Ltd. - Devuyt, E.A., B.R. Conrad, G. Robbins, and R. Vergunst. 1989. INCO SO₂-Air Cyanide Removal Process Update. Pages 353-356 in Proceedings World Gold '89. <p>Based on these results, the detox removal factors calculated were applied to the adjusted solution assays measured in the Goliath leach test work as presented in Table 4.1 Appendix F. Example removal factors used include: Zn 99%, Co and Ni 78%, and Cu 98%.</p> <p>B. While typical SO₂/Air removal factors were assumed, additional copper added as catalyst was not included in the predicted tailings supernatant calculations. Nor were sulphate and ammonia</p>

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					<p>increased. The detoxification removal factors were applied to the baseline or naturally occurring concentrations in the leach solution and presented in Table 4.1 appendix F. However, the value of 6 mg/L ammonia (presented in Table 3.8.3 original EIS) was assumed based on the typical SO₂/Air detoxification circuit discharge target concentration.</p>
101	SW(1)-15	CEA Agency	EIS Section 5.8.1, Table 5.8.2	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Table 5.8.2 (EIS, page 5-58) shows total suspended solids (TSS) as one of the conventional parameters that were measured in 2010/2011 and 2012/2013. However, the 3rd paragraph of section 5.8.1 (EIS) indicates that total dissolved solids (TDS) were measured. The proponent should clarify whether TSS or TDS was measured.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Clarify whether TSS, TDS or both parameters were measured in 2010/2011 and 2012/2013.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> TSS was the parameter measured within the 2010/2011 and 2012/2013 surface water quality program.</p>
102	SW(1)-16	CEA Agency	EIS Table 6.4.2	10.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Table 6.4.2 (EIS) under the potential effects states: “Increased flows in Blackwater Creek in years 1 - 3 due to increases in the runoff coefficient of developed areas and discharge from the secondary treatment plant, including mine dewatering and process water” and under the column labeled magnitude it states “No surface water quantity effects in receiving waters anticipated as flow changes are within natural variation and channel capacity”</p> <p>This information is not consistent as the plant is estimated to discharge 1900-1400 m³/d over and above the natural flow, which is outside of the natural variation.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Quantify the base flow requirements in Blackwater Creek. B. Describe the methods used and provide the results of hydrologic modelling to determine effects to Blackwater Creek as a result of variable flow rates throughout all project phases. C. Clarify whether Blackwater Creek will have to handle more water than it currently does. If so, describe the possible impacts (i.e. erosion of the stream banks and sediment running downstream) and indicate how these impacts will be mitigated.</p>

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					<p>D. Provide a description of the proposed monitoring plan for Blackwater Creek, including monitoring parameters, methods, sampling locations, applicable standards, duration and frequencies. These plans should clearly outline action levels that may trigger certain mitigations.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. As detailed in Appendix M of the revised EIS, Blackwater Creek has very little base flow. Blackwater Creek lies predominantly on fine-grained glaciolacustrine sediments and the lack of base flow in 2011 indicates there are no significant aquifers discharging to Blackwater Creek.</p> <p>B. The effects to Blackwater Creek as a result of the development and subsequent closure of the Project site were assessed in Appendix O (Hydrologic Modelling Study, which has been replaced by the Water Report (Appendix JJ) in the revised EIS. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals have been refining the engineering of the Project, including the water balance for the Project. The refined estimated effects of the Project on surface water flows have been presented in Section 4 of the Water Report (Appendix JJ to the revised EIS). The revised evaluation considers expected variations, by month, of withdrawals and discharges identified in an updated water balance for the Project that was included as Appendix JJ to the revised EIS.</p> <p>C. The results of the hydrologic model presented in Appendix O of the EIS indicated that the average annual flow in Blackwater Creek will increase during both the operations phase and post-closure phase of the Project. This hydrologic model has been replaced by the hydrologic model presented in Appendix JJ of the revised EIS. As discussed in Part B to this response, the engineering and associated water balance for the Project has been refined since the submission of the original EIS. These refinements will alter the predictions of changes to surface water flows in Blackwater Creek from those presented in the original EIS. The refined estimates have been presented in Section 4 of the Water Report (Appendix JJ to the revised EIS). During operations, annual flow in Blackwater Creek are expected to change between -2.2% and +1.8%, depending on the climatic conditions. Flows during post-closure are estimated to change between +11.1% and +26.1%, depending on the climatic conditions. These estimated changes in flow are well within the capability of Blackwater Creek to carry the flow and no enhanced erosion is expected at these estimated flows.</p> <p>The effect associated with the new surface water quantity modelling has been presented in Section 6.0 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>D. An expanded discussion of the monitoring to support the revised surface water quantity predictions has also been presented in the Section 13.9 of the revised EIS.</p>
103	SW(1)-17	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6.2.1.8	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: It is unclear whether the open pit will be filled with treated effluent, surface runoff from the developed</p>

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			Appendix C of Appendix F Section 5.5		<p>areas, water from the dewatering activities in the underground stopes, or a combination of these. Section 6.2.1.8 (EIS) indicates that during the development of the underground mine in years 4 to 12, the treated effluent will be directed to the open pit and total runoff in the Blackwater Creek will be reduced as surface runoff from the developed areas will be collected, treated, and discharged to the pit lake rather than to Blackwater Creek. However, in Appendix C of the Water Management Plan (Appendix F), it is indicated that the water from the dewatering activities in the underground stopes will be used to fill the pit and that the quality of this water is assumed to be the same as pit run-off water. Additional leaching or dissolution from the pit walls is assumed to cease once the pit wall is submersed. Therefore, the water quality within the pit lake is equivalent to the long term water quality of the underground seepage, which is very similar to the long term waste rock storage facility (WRSF) run-off. Without the inclusion of secondary reactions, it follows that the water quality within the pit lake will remain constant over time and after decommissioning, and will be roughly equivalent to the long term water quality of the waste rock run-off.</p> <p>The proponent should provide information on secondary reactions that could occur in the pit lake to alter its water quality, including a discussion of the magnitude, duration, and likelihood of these reactions and their potential to lead to significant adverse effects in the receiving environment downstream of the open pit.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide clarification on the method and source of water to be used to fill the open pit.</p> <p>B. Provide information on any secondary reactions that could occur in the pit lake to alter its water quality. Describe the potential for significant adverse effects in the receiving environment downstream of the open pit resulting from secondary reactions and propose mitigation measures to address such effects.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Section 3 of the Water Report (Appendix JJ) of the revised EIS provides details regarding the sources of water to be used in filling the pit. Because of operational and safety reasons, the filling of the pit will not commence until operations are complete. The pit will therefore be filled using a combination of runoff and precipitation, treated water from the tailings storage facility (TSF), and groundwater. During closure, water will be withdrawn from the TSF, treated and then discharged to the pit to aid in filling.</p> <p>B. A model of the expected water quality in the open pit, once flooded, was presented in Appendix C of Appendix F to the original EIS. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has</p>

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					<p>been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions presented in the original EIS. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a stand-alone Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ.. An updated water quality model for the pit during the post-closure and abandonment phase is provided in Section 5 of the Water Report.</p>
104	SW(1)-18	CEA Agency	EIS Section 3.8.7, Table 3.8.3	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 3.8.7 (EIS) identifies reverse osmosis (RO) as the proposed method for treating the mine contact water from the tailings storage facility to achieve provincial water quality objectives (PWQO) values prior to its discharge into Blackwater creek. The Agency is not aware of any current use of RO systems to treat effluent from existing metal mines. The following is a link to a report that was published September 2014 by the Mine Environment Neutral Drainage (MEND) program: http://mend-nedem.org/wp-content/uploads/MEND_3.50.1_BATEA.pdf. A review of RO can be found from pages 363 to 369 which points to a limited amount of full-scale experience with this technology in mine effluent treatment applications and the high capital and operating costs associated with the technology. The proponent must provide examples and evidence of where RO systems have been used to treat effluent to PWQO or better values that has similar characteristics and volumes as predicted for the Project, especially since Table 3.8.3 (EIS, page 3-50) shows several parameters (aluminum, cadmium, copper, iron, mercury, phosphorus, thallium, and zinc) in the predicted tailings supernatant to exceed PWQOs and/or Canadian Water Quality Guidelines (CWQGs).</p> <p>Furthermore, the proponent should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - consider the feasibility of using such a treatment system beyond the intended effluent treatment time if such measures are deemed necessary based on water quality at this time; - explain how treatment would occur and what would be the effectiveness of the measure if this was deemed necessary due to water quality changes 20 years into the abandonment phase; - identify whether it will be necessary to remineralize the purified water before discharging it into the environment; and - describe and provide a quantitative analysis of the need for remineralization and the remineralization process. <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide examples and evidence of where RO systems have been used to treat effluent to PWQO, CWQG or better values that has similar characteristics and volumes as predicted for the Project.</p>

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					<p>B. Describe the feasibility (economic and practical) of using the RO treatment system and the intended effluent treatment time if such measures are deemed necessary based on monitoring results.</p> <p>C. Describe conditions (e.g. water quality exceedances) that would trigger the need to treat runoff and seepage into the abandonment phase.</p> <p>D. If purified water requires remineralization prior to being discharged into the environment provide quantitative analysis and justification of the remineralization process.</p> <hr/> <p>Response:</p> <p>A and B. Reverse osmosis (RO) treatment systems are commercially available from long established vendors such as GE Water and Veolia and have been used for both short-term and long-term mining applications. Standard simulation modelling to predict effluent quality for given influent quality is available from suppliers, based on previous operating experience of these systems.</p> <p>Capital and operating costs have been compiled as part of the Optimization Study, further details and costs associated with RO treatment will be released publicly as part of the feasibility report prior to construction.</p> <p>Section 3.8 of the revised EIS describes the strategy that will be used to reduce ammonia and TDS in influent, thereby reducing the burden on the RO treatment system. Section 3.8 also describes the recycling of water at the mine site, thereby reducing the annual effluent discharge volume and the associated treatment requirements. The reject water from the RO treatment system will be re-used in the mill process, as described in Section 3.8 of the revised EIS, prior to deposition in the tailings storage facility (TSF).</p> <p>C. Runoff from the Operations Area, which effectively includes all of the mining and processing site, will be diverted to the open pit at closure. This water will be consolidated in the pit with backfill, sources of alkalinity to neutralize potential ARD and treated water from the TSF that meets monthly effluent criteria in Schedule 4 of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations. Post-closure, water in the TSF supernatant pond would be treated using a mobile effluent treatment system such as Veolia’s Aquamove system (http://www.veoliawatertechnologies.ca/en/industrial/aquamove/) to biologically oxidize ammonia via a Moving Bed Biological Reactor (“MBBR”) process, precipitate and remove metals using a clarifier and ensure that effluent that is not acutely lethal. This mobile treatment system will replace RO treatment and would not generate a large volume of treatment residuals (i.e. reject brine) that would require disposal. The sludge that is generated from the portable treatment system would be consolidated in a Geotube for dewatering (permeate from the Geotube would report to open pit) prior to placement in a designated area on the waste rock storage area (WRSA) prior to covering with an engineered low-permeability dry cover in accordance with provincial approvals including a closure plan that is certified in accordance with Ontario Regulation 240/00 (as amended).</p>

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					<p>When the open pit is flooded to the spillway elevation, it will decant to Blackwater Creek via the existing channel, as described in the revised EIS.</p> <p>An enhanced pit water quality model has been provided in Section 5 of the Water Report (Appendix JJ to the revised EIS). This model looks at the quality of water within the pit as it is filling, as well as the long-term water quality expected to discharge from the pit lake well into the post-closure phase. The assessment of the discharges from the pit lake to surface waters, specifically Blackwater Creek is captured in a refined surface water quality model presented in Section 6 of the Water Report.</p> <p>The potential effects of the Project on surface water quality is described in Section 6.0 of the revised EIS. Further to this the revised EIS identifies the mitigation, follow-up monitoring, and management plans associated with surface water quality (Section 12, Section 13). The Project will include a proactive monitoring program and adaptive management plan during the flooding of the open pit will ensure that actions are taken in a timely manner to ensure that pit overflow water quality does not impact the receiving waters. If the pit needs to be drawn down or treated in-situ, a portable treatment system will be used to treat water from the pit, as described in part A. & B. Large diameter, vertical well screen will be installed in the backfilled open pits to facilitate monitoring and pumping if necessary.</p> <p>D. While the RO treatment system is in use for the construction and operational phase of the Project, treated water will contain low total dissolved solids that are below background concentrations in Blackwater Creek and this presents a toxicity risk. To mitigate this risk, treated effluent will be re-mineralized by passing it through a filter canister containing crushed limestone. Based on experience of suppliers such as GE Water, this step typically increases hardness to above 40 mg/L. This detailed design of the re-mineralization step and the target hardness concentration will be subject to provincial approvals including the sewage Environmental Compliance Approval that is issued by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC).</p>
105	SW(1)-19	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 6.4.1.8, 13.8.1	Sections 6.4, 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>The description of the effluent discharge is unclear. The proponent states that treated water will initially be discharged into Blackwater Creek during the development of the open pits (years 1 to 3) which will result in slightly higher than natural flows, but that afterward there will be a reduction in Blackwater Creek flow from years 4 to 12 since the water/effluent will be redirected into the pit to accelerate filling. The way it is described it seems that there would be no effluent discharged to the environment after year 3. The proponent needs to clarify this.</p> <p>The proponent should note that if a mine has more than one final discharge point, effluent and water quality monitoring has to be conducted at all final discharge points.</p> <p>Effluent discharged into Blackwater Creek is eventually discharged into a section of Keplyn Bay that</p>

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					<p>is transected by a Canadian Pacific Rail causeway. This section of the bay drains under the causeway via a set of three culverts into the main waterbody of Wabigoon Lake. The proponent should provide evidence that the three culverts are capable of handling effluent discharge volumes in addition to natural flow. If it will be necessary to modify the causeway to provide increased drainage the necessary modifications should be described.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Describe the effluent discharges that are planned throughout the life of the project over time and by project phase.</p> <p>B. Provide predicted effluent chemistry for the point of discharge to Blackwater Creek. This should include, but not be limited to, metals, sulphate and general chemistry parameters.</p> <p>C. Confirm whether treated effluent will only be discharged into Blackwater Creek for 3 years (during the development of the open pits, years 1 to 3) and indicate where the final effluent will be discharging starting in Year 4.</p> <p>D. Provide an effluent water quality monitoring plan that accounts for all final discharge points.</p> <p>E. Provide evidence that the three culverts are capable of handling effluent discharge volumes in addition to natural flow. Describe the necessary modifications, if it will be necessary to modify the causeway to provide increased drainage.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. The following describes the water discharges that are planned during the various phases of the Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site preparation and construction phase: Industry standard sediment and erosion control measures will be applied during the initial site development while the water management structures are being constructed. A perimeter runoff and seepage collection system will be constructed early in the site preparation and construction phase. Once constructed, there would be no further discharges to surface water during this phase. • Operations phase: All site runoff and collected seepage from potentially acid generating (PAG) mining areas (i.e., tailings storage facility (TSF), waste rock storage area, low-grade ore (LGO) stockpile) will be collected and directed to the water management system. Water resulting from the dewatering of the open pit and underground mine workings will also be collected and directed to the water management system. Where feasible, collected water will be used in the extraction process. All excess water not required for use in the process will ultimately be treated in the

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					<p>effluent treatment plant prior to discharging to the receiving environment (Blackwater Creek), which will be a single effluent discharge point location.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closure phase: During closure, all runoff from the site will be directed towards the open pit to help speed filling. There will be no releases from the site to surface water during closure. • Post-closure phase: During post-closure, all runoff from the operations area will continue to be directed to the open pit. As the pit is filling, Treasury Metals will test the quality of the water to determine whether treatment will be required. <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a stand-alone Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ.. Updated annual discharge flows to the environment are provided in Section 2 of the Water Report.</p> <p>B. The effluent discharge quality during the operations phase were including in Table 3.8.8-1 of the revised EIS. Treasury Metals has committed to ensuring that the discharges from the Project during operations will meet the Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO).</p> <p>C. Refer to the response provided above in (A), which outlines a summary of effluent discharge by Project phase, and which indicates that treated effluent will discharge to Blackwater Creek during the entire operations phase.</p> <p>D. Refer to Section 13.8 of the EIS for an effluent quality monitoring plan.</p> <p>E. Culverts are typically designed to safely convey the peak flow from a given return period event. Expected peak flows to the Canadian Pacific Rail causeway would be significantly larger than the expected effluent discharge rate from the mine.</p> <p>Table 3.6 of Appendix G in the original EIS provides an estimate of peak flows for various catchment areas for the Project site; the estimated 10 year peak flow at TL3 (located at the lower end of Blackwater Creek) is shown to be 1.7 m³/s. Note that TL3 is located upstream of TransCanada Highway 17, and that the Canadian Pacific Rail causeway, would be designed to pass an even higher peak flow. The anticipated effluent discharge rate is expected to be approximately 2,057 m³/day or 0.024 m³/s (Table 3-6 of Appendix O in the original EIS), which represents a peak flow increase (in relation to TL3) of approximately 1.4% during the 10 year event. The effluent discharge would therefore represent less than 1.4% of the flow at the three culverts under the Canadian Pacific Rail causeway under a 10 year peak flow. Assuming that the causeway has been designed to pass a more severe event (i.e., a 25 year storm), the discharge would represent an even smaller percentage of the peak flow at the causeway, and therefore the three culverts under the Canadian</p>

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					<p>Pacific Rail causeway are expected to be capable of handling the extra effluent volume from the Project site.</p> <p>Although the exact design criteria for the three culverts under the Canadian Pacific Rail causeway is unknown, it is likely in excess of the 10 year storm. Typically, drainage culverts for higher use roads, such as a highway, would be designed to convey the peak flow from a 50 to 100 year event, while culverts for local roads would be designed to convey the peak flow from a 10 to 25 year event (MTO Drainage Manual, 2008). As part of the final engineering design phase, detailed calculations on the capacity of these three culverts and water crossing downstream from the Project site will be evaluated and the findings shared with the relevant agencies.</p>
106	SW(1)-20	CEA Agency	Table 12.4.1	Section 12	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>The proponent only provides a general statement in regards to the surface water quality monitoring program that they will undertake during pre-development to abandonment. They do not provide any specific parameters or frequency of sampling in the information that has been presented. Water quality monitoring for environmental effects monitoring (EEM) under the MMER is only conducted at an exposure and reference area for each discharge point, thus not all receivers listed would be monitored as part of the MMER. For environmental assessment (EA) purposes, a certain amount of detail should be provided on monitoring programs that form the basis of EA follow-up. While the specifics of monitoring protocols can be developed at a later stage, a robust framework for the follow-up should be described. The ability to monitor for and adaptively manage against adverse water quality impacts before they become significant is a key factor in managing to reduce the potential for significant adverse environmental effects. Given the amount of potentially acid generating material associated with the site and the potential for significant impacts to water quality through acid rock drainage/metal leaching, the ability to detect and manage impacts to water quality is important.</p> <p>The surface water quality monitoring framework should include but not be limited to: the valued components of concern for follow-up on water quality changes, rationale for inclusion of water quality monitoring, potential adaptive management measures to consider if monitoring results indicate or forecast the occurrence of adverse effects, the regulatory instruments that relate to this aspect of the follow-up program and responsibilities for producing, reviewing and making decisions on the information that is produced.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide a framework that can be used to develop the water quality aspects of the follow-up</p>

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					<p>monitoring program for the Project.</p> <p>Response: A. A water quality monitoring program will be developed and comply with the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER) as outlined in Section 13.8 of the revised EIS. The level of detail pertaining to water quality monitoring provided in the revised EIS is consistent with the quality of effluent discharge (Treasury Metals is committed that all effluent discharged to Blackwater Creek during operations will meet Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO)) and the fact that all effluent will be discharged from a single point location to Blackwater Creek. However, the need for water quality monitoring is recognized. Water quality monitoring would include both surface water and groundwater sampling at reasonable frequencies and some of the sampling stations monitored during the baseline studies would continue to be monitored through the life of the Project at appropriate frequencies.</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has continued to develop and refine their water balance for the site, which is detailed in a document to accompany the IR Round 1 responses, referred to as the Water Report (Appendix JJ to the revised EIS). Details on the updated water balance are provided in Section 2 of the Water Report, while Section 6 provides the estimates of water quality within the receiving environment. Furthermore, suitable measures for follow-up and a framework for monitoring that is based upon the updated water balance is presented in Section 13 of the revised EIS.</p>
107	SW(1)-21	CEA Agency	Table 12.4.2	Section 12	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: For the monitoring of total suspended solids (TSS) and turbidity, the proponent only specifies that this will be monitored downstream of active construction areas, however, higher flows are predicted into Blackwater Creek that also have the potential to contribute TSS and increase turbidity in the downstream through the process of erosion. As such, it is recommended that the proponent develop plans to monitor, and, if necessary, mitigate for impacts of these higher flows into Blackwater Creek.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Develop a plan to monitor TSS, turbidity, and erosion and if necessary, mitigate against the impact of higher flow rates into Blackwater Creek.</p> <p>Response: During the site preparation and construction phase of the Project, there is an opportunity for increased TSS and turbidity downstream of the construction activities. These effects will be mitigated as per Table 6.22-1 of the revised EIS prior to the completion of the perimeter runoff and seepage collection systems around the operations area. Once the system is in place, there will be no</p>

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					<p>discharges to surface water until the start of mining and processing.</p> <p>During operations, there will be a minimal change in the annual flows in Blackwater Creek as detailed in Section 4 of the Water Report (Appendix JJ of the revised EIS), a document prepared by Treasury Metals that describes the effects of the refined Project and associated water balance. The estimated changes in flows in Blackwater Creek are within the capacity of the creek and are not projected to cause erosion or sedimentation downstream from the single discharge point.</p> <p>As part of the EA process, Environmental Management Plans will be developed which will include plans to monitor TSS, turbidity and erosion at appropriate monitoring locations downstream in Blackwater Creek, and if necessary, measures to mitigate against higher flow rates into Blackwater Creek. These plans will be developed with input from interested stakeholders and Aboriginal peoples.</p>
108	SW(1)-22	CEA Agency	Table 12.4.2	Section 12	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>For water quality monitoring the proponent states that the various method detection limits for parameters will be to Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) standards. Environment Canada's target method detection limit (during environmental effects monitoring) for the sampling of total mercury in water quality and effluent quality is 0.00001 mg/L (0.01 µg/L), which is lower than that under CCME. Environment Canada recommends that the proponent use a method detection limit of 0.00001 mg/L (0.01 µg/L) for mercury as stated in the comments provided on the proponent's baseline report on May 21, 2014.</p> <p>Additional information is needed to assess the potential impact of mercury loadings to surface water receivers. This information should include, but not necessarily be limited to, consideration of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing pre-development mercury loadings from the various watersheds; • Estimating the potential concentrations of mercury within the final effluent and other associated drainages; • The potential impact that increased sulphates may have on increasing the methylation rates; • Potential mitigation measures to reduce the discharge of mercury from the site; • The development of a monitoring plan that considers mercury in, at a minimum, the water column and fish tissue. Criteria should be developed that would trigger remedial measures; • Data should be collected using advanced sampling and analytical protocols for mercury to define baseline conditions, determine potential loadings, and to monitor the potential impacts of the project over time. <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Use a method detection limit of 0.00001 mg/L (0.01 µg/L) for mercury and revise water quality</p>

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					<p>studies accordingly.</p> <p>B. Provide additional information on the following to assess the potential impact of mercury loadings to surface water receivers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing pre-development mercury loadings from the various watersheds; • Estimating the potential concentrations of mercury within the final effluent and other associated drainages; • The potential impact that increased sulphates may have on increasing the methylation rates; • Potential mitigation measures to reduce the discharge of mercury from the site; • The development of a monitoring plan that considers mercury in, at a minimum, the water column and fish tissue. Criteria should be developed that would trigger remedial measures; • Data should be collected using advanced sampling and analytical protocols for mercury to define baseline conditions, determine potential loadings, and to monitor the potential impacts of the project over time. <hr/> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. The reviewer has identified a typographical error in Table 12.4.2, which lists the biological monitoring proposed as part of the environmental management plan. The column entitled “standard” is intended to indicate the relevant standards against which the monitored values will be compared. During the site preparation and construction and closure phases, the monitored results will be compared to the relevant Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) standards.</p> <p>Details of the baseline water quality sampling results are presented in Appendix G (KCB, 2012) and Appendix P (DST, 2014). These appendices show the following ranges of laboratory MDL values for mercury:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table 4.4 of Appendix G (KCB, 2012) indicates that all of the mercury measurements conducted in 2011 were below the laboratory MDL of 0.00005 mg/L (0.05 µg/L). • Table 2.2 of Appendix P (DST, 2014) indicates that sampling conducted in 2012 and 2013 used a laboratory MDL of 0.00010 mg/L (0.1 µg/L). • Result summary tables in Section 3 of Appendix P (DST, 2014) show three laboratory MDL levels for mercury. The column entitled “MDL” indicates an MDL of 0.0005 mg/L (0.05 µg/L). However, this value appears to be a typographical error when the actual laboratory results are investigated. The actual laboratory results appended to the Appendix P show that for the vast majority of the samples (82%) the laboratory MDL for mercury was 0.00001 mg/L (0.01 µg/L), or the MDL recommended by Environment Canada (EC). For the remaining 18% of the samples the laboratory MDL for mercury was 0.00010 mg/L (0.1 µg/L). <p>For the more recent baseline surface water studies (DST, 2014), 82% of the samples collected were analyzed using a laboratory MDL of 0.00001 mg/l (0.01 µg/L), or at the MDL recommended by EC. All future surface water sampling programs that include mercury will be conducted using the EC</p>

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					<p>recommended MDL, where feasible.</p> <p>B. As described in the response to part A (above), advanced sampling and analytical protocols for mercury were used for the vast majority (82%) of the samples collected as part of the baseline surveys completed by DST (2014). These samples were analyzed using a laboratory MDL value consistent with the EC recommended MDL level of 0.00001 mg/L (0.01 µg/L).</p> <p>The pre-development mercury levels in the watercourses around the Project site were determined from the baseline monitoring data presented in Appendix P to the EIS (DST, 2014). This document was considered more appropriate, as the analytical techniques and protocols used for the vast majority (82%) of the samples are consistent with current EC recommendations.</p> <p>A series of tables summarizing the baseline water quality sampling is provided in TMI_108-SW(1)-22_Attachment_1.pdf. The attachment includes the following four tables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table 1a provides a summary of the baseline dissolved mercury concentrations, organized by watercourse and waterbody. The individual numbers in the table correspond to the averages presented in Table 1b. • Table 1b provides a list of the dissolved mercury concentrations presented in Appendix P (DST, 2014). All of the concentrations of dissolved mercury presented in Appendix P have been reproduced in the table. The averages for each location have been calculated using two methods. The first approach averages all of the data, with values below the laboratory MDL levels assumed to be equal to the MDL levels. The second approach calculates the averages for only those samples (82%) for which the laboratory MDL levels meet the EC recommended levels of 0.00001 mg/L (0.01 µg/L). Again concentrations below the relevant MDL were assumed to be equal to the MDL. • Table 1c provides a summary of the baseline total mercury sampling results, organized by watercourse and waterbody. The individual numbers in the table correspond to the averages presented in Table 1d. • Table 1d provides a complete list of the total mercury concentrations presented in Appendix P (DST, 2014). The averages for each location have been calculated using all of the concentrations and only those concentrations (82%) where the laboratory MDL levels meet the EC recommended levels of 0.00001 mg/L (0.01 µg/L). The concentrations below the relevant MDL were assumed to be equal to the MDL. <p>Treasury Metals has committed to achieve mercury concentrations in the effluent that are at, or below, the baseline mercury concentrations in Blackwater Creek (Table 10.0.1 of the revised EIS). The specific value identified in the EIS was 0.00002 mg/L (0.02 µg/L), which is the average pre-disturbance mercury concentration at SW11, upstream of the Project. Treasury Metals is confident that the technology proposed for water treatment can achieve this level of mercury treatment. There will be no other discharges from the Project during operations, as all runoff from the site will be collected, managed, and ultimately treated before being discharged to Blackwater Creek. Specific</p>

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					<p>estimates of mercury in seepage during the post-closure phase were not provided as part of the EIS, nor were the resulting effects of the small volumes of seepage predicted to reach surface watercourses during the post-closure phase. These concentrations can be found in the Water Report. The Water Report (Appendix JJ of the revised EIS) is a document prepared by Treasury Metals to accompany the Round 1 IR responses to capture refinements to the water balance since the submission of the original EIS, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs. An updated surface water quality model for the receiving waters is provided in Section 6 of the Water Report.</p> <p>Methyl mercury is principal state of mercury of most concern from an environmental perspective as it can be readily taken up and biomagnified by fish and wildlife. The methyl mercury in the environment derives primarily from the conversion of inorganic mercury in reducing environments by sulphate reducing bacteria (SRB). Sulphate levels are in the range of 10 to 50 mg/L (Ulrich et al. 2001) were found to be the optimum range for methylation by SRB. Therefore, increasing sulphate levels to the optimal range could have the effect of increasing the rate of methylation. In contrast, increases in sediment sulphide concentrations eventually limit the availability of mercury for methylation (Krabbenhof et al. 2006). For methylation by SRB to take place, there needs to be a supply of organic material present. It is expected that any organic material within the tailings storage facility (TSF) will be rapidly covered with deposited tailings, removing the supply of organic material required by the SRB. Regardless of the presence or absence of organic materials in the TSF, or the relative concentration of sulphates, the risk assessment completed to support the revised EIS (see Appendix W) conservatively assumed that all mercury present would be bioavailable in the methyl mercury form. Even with these conservative assumptions it was demonstrated the Project would not represent an unacceptable incremental risk.</p> <p>Treasury Metals has already committed to a water treatment system they are confident can limit the concentration of mercury in the effluent released during operations to the background concentrations of mercury in Blackwater Creek. During the post-closure phase, releases from the site are predicted to be relatively small, with the only practical mitigation being efforts to limit the volume of seepage expected. A more thorough re-evaluation of the available mitigation measures for protecting surface water quality is provided in Section 6 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>Section 13 of the revised EIS provides a framework for the environmental monitoring programs to be conducted as part of the environmental management plan for the Project. The EIS identifies, under physical monitoring (Table 13.8), sampling for water quality, including metals, during all phases of the Project. The EIS also identifies, under biological monitoring (Table 13.13), sampling for water quality, including metals, during construction and closure, and fish tissue sampling during operation and closure. Section 13 of the revised EIS provides a summary of the environmental monitoring suggested by the predicted effects of the Project. Section 13.8 discusses the surface water quality monitoring at a high level. The details of any required surface water monitoring program will be developed as part of the provincial regulatory permitting process with the Ministry of the Environment</p>

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					<p>and Climate Change (MOECC) and through compliance with the federal Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER). Additional details regarding proposed monitoring programs can be found in the revised EIS.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Krabbenhoft, D.P, B.A. Branfireun and A. Heyes. (2006). Chapter 8: Biogeochemical Cycles Affecting the Speciation, Fate and Transport of Mercury in the Environment, p. 139-156. In: M.B. Parsons and J.B. Percival, eds. Mercury: Sources, Measurements, Cycles and Effects. Mineralogical Association of Canada, Short Course 34, Halifax, Nova Scotia.</p> <p>Ullrich, S.M., T.W. Tanton and S.A. Abdrashitova. 2001. Mercury in the Aquatic Environment: A Review of Factors Affecting Methylation. Critical Reviews in Environmental Science and Technology 31(3): 241-293.</p>
109	SW(1)-23	CEA Agency	Appendix F Section 3.2.1	Sections 5.6, 7.1.2, 10.1.1, 11	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>The cyanide destruction circuit is anticipated to be designed to meet the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER) discharge limits at the point of discharge to the tailings storage facility (TSF). In the event that anticipated cyanide destruction cannot be attained in this manner, retention time of water in the TSF should be considered as a contingency for natural attenuation of cyanide.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide an estimate of the retention time of TSF water and the anticipated effluent concentration and discharge rates as it relates to natural attenuation of cyanide for the purposes of a contingency for the cyanide destruction circuit.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>An estimate of the retention time of the tailings storage facility (TSF) water has been completed in accordance with Ontario Regulation 560/94, "Effluent Monitoring and Effluent Limits – Metal Mining Sector. Operation of the TSF will consist of deposition of tailings solids resulting in variations in the tailings beach surface area over time. A water cover is planned for the TSF operations and the minimum required volume of water, to maintain the cover, will also vary during operation resulting from the variations in beach surface area. The retention time within the TSF will also vary resulting from the variations in the tailings beach surface area. The water treatment rate for the Project was identified in the original EIS in Appendix F, Figure 2-2 (Page 10) as 1,467 t/day. The estimated retention time over the life of the facility will vary with a minimum of 271 days, maximum of 451 days with an average over the 12 years of operations of 394 days. This has been updated and included in the revised conceptual water balance presented in Appendix F of the revised EIS></p> <p>As detailed within section 3.6 in the revised EIS, the process plant cyanide detoxification is intended to be designed to destroy the CIL tailings cyanide levels to < 1mg/L CN_{WAD}. This level will meet the current Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER) limit for maximum authorized monthly mean</p>

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					<p>concentration. The preliminary detoxification circuit feed and discharge design cyanide levels are summarized in Table 1, below.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1003 321 1969 479"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3" data-bbox="1003 321 1969 363">Table 1: Preliminary Cyanide Detoxification Circuit Design and Target Parameters</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="1003 363 1461 399">Parameter</th> <th data-bbox="1461 363 1715 399">Unit</th> <th data-bbox="1715 363 1969 399">Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1003 399 1461 427">Feed Cyanide Concentration</td> <td data-bbox="1461 399 1715 427">CN_T (mg/L)</td> <td data-bbox="1715 399 1969 427">200</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1003 427 1461 454">Feed Cyanide WAD Concentration</td> <td data-bbox="1461 427 1715 454">CN_{WAD} (mg/L)</td> <td data-bbox="1715 427 1969 454">150</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1003 454 1461 479">Target Discharge Cyanide Concentration</td> <td data-bbox="1461 454 1715 479">CN_{WAD} (mg/L)</td> <td data-bbox="1715 454 1969 479">< 1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>In the unplanned or upset process event of the detoxification circuit being offline, CIL tailings could potentially be discharged to the TSF for short period of time at the feed concentrations nominated above while still meeting the MMER limits. While there may be times when the detoxification circuit may not reach 100% efficiency and discharge could occur in the range of 10-50 mg/L CN_{WAD}, Treasury Metals will strive to maintain an the average target cyanide concentration within the TSF over the long term basis.</p> <p>Future air/SO₂ cyanide detoxification test work will be completed during the next stage of plant feasibility study to confirm the plant CN_{WAD} discharge target of 1mg/L can be achieved and to confirm the detoxification circuit design parameters.</p> <p>As described in Section 3.8 of the revised EIS, the operating strategy will be to minimize the need for effluent discharge from the TSF by segregating mine water in the minewater pond and runoff / seepage in the runoff collection ponds. In the event that there is surplus water in the TSF due to precipitation, the precipitation would dilute the cyanide concentration significantly. In the event of a water surplus in the TSF and a need for treatment and discharge, the following contingencies will be utilized to reduce cyanide concentrations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hydrogen peroxide treatment to the TSF supernatant pond and/or incorporation into the reverse osmosis ("RO") effluent treatment process, if RO treatment is insufficient. The treatment process and contingency treatments will be reviewed as part of the sewage Environmental Compliance Approval process with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC). Consolidation of the TSF surplus water with other surplus water at the site (i.e. runoff collection ponds, minewater pond) prior to RO treatment would reduce cyanide concentrations. 	Table 1: Preliminary Cyanide Detoxification Circuit Design and Target Parameters			Parameter	Unit	Value	Feed Cyanide Concentration	CN _T (mg/L)	200	Feed Cyanide WAD Concentration	CN _{WAD} (mg/L)	150	Target Discharge Cyanide Concentration	CN _{WAD} (mg/L)	< 1
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110	SW(1)-24	CEA Agency	Appendix F Sections 4.1.1, 4.1.5	Section 10.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Nutrients from blasting residue and from treated sewage wastewater (proposed to be discharged into the tailings pond) can potentially cause eutrophication within the tailings pond. Depending on the design of the effluent treatment system, this could potentially interfere with the functioning and effectiveness of the system.</p>															

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					<p>The proponent should assess the potential for eutrophication to occur within the tailings pond, and the problems that eutrophication may cause with the effluent treatment process and its ability to achieve provincial water quality objective values (as stated by the proponent) when discharging to the receiving environment. The assessment should consider potential loadings of nutrients into the tailings pond and whether these loadings pose a potential for eutrophication. If the potential for eutrophication is high, it is recommended that the proponent provide information concerning the implications this has for the performance of the effluent treatment system.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Assess the potential for eutrophication to occur within the tailings pond, and the problems that eutrophication may cause with the effluent treatment process and its ability to achieve provincial water quality objective values when discharging to the receiving environment.</p> <p>B. Provide mitigation measures to ensure tailings pond effluent meets water quality standards in the event that eutrophication occurs.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. The limiting nutrient for algal blooms and eutrophication (in waters such as those found in Northern Ontario) is typically phosphorus and not nitrogen (Horn and Goldman, 1994). Phosphorus is not present in blasting agents, process plant reagents or leachate from rock based on shake flask extraction tests with de-ionized water (refer to Appendix C of the geochemistry report presented in Appendix K of the revised EIS). The shake flask extraction tests with de-ionized water are regarded as more representative of field conditions compared to the acid wash extraction because the tailings storage facility (TSF) water from a Carbon in Leach (CIL) gold recovery process is alkaline. Although grey water will be pumped to the TSF, phosphorus free soaps and detergents will be used at the Project site and grey water is not expected to contain a significant amount of phosphorus.</p> <p>B. Contingency measures to quickly reduce phosphorus concentrations in the TSF supernatant pond would include the addition of metal based coagulants or other non-toxic water treatment chemicals that are used to precipitate or sorb phosphorus and render it non-biologically available. These measures can be implemented on short notice and do not require significant lead time or suitable conditions (<i>i.e.</i> temperature, pH, water chemistry) as is often the case with biological treatments.</p> <p>The reclaim pump in the TSF supernatant pond will be over-sized so that it can circulate water within the supernatant pond and reduce the likelihood of it becoming anoxic. In the event that anoxic conditions prevail in any of the on-site ponds and phosphorus in sediment is solubilized into the water column, TMI would deploy industrial aerators to increase dissolved oxygen and prevent this occurrence. Examples of industrial aerators include Octo-Air aerators: https://canadianpond.ca/products/aeration-en/octoair-10-industrial-diffuser-aeration/ Aerators would be deployed carefully to avoid increasing suspended solids concentrations.</p> <p>The reverse osmosis (“RO”) effluent treatment plant that is planned includes a pre-treatment step</p>

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					<p>that uses backwashing multi-media filters. In the event that there are elevated suspended solids in influent water due to algal growth, influent would be chemically conditioned (<i>i.e.</i> addition of coagulant and/or flocculant) to agglomerate the suspended matter and ensure it is effectively removed by the filters. Backwash frequency would be increased if the load of suspended solids is increased. The multi-media filters serve to protect the RO membranes from deteriorating influent quality due to elevated suspended solids.</p> <p><u>References</u> A.Horn and C.Goldman (Horn and Goldman), 1994. <i>Limnology</i>. Published by McGraw-Hill.</p>
111	SW(1)-25	CEA Agency	Appendix F Sections 4.4, 11, Table 4.3 F	Sections 9.1.2, 10.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Although the proponent has committed to a collection system for their seepage, there will be a percentage of seepage that cannot be collected and will discharge to the watershed.</p> <p>Anticipated seepage water quality indicates that some contaminants of concern (COCs) will exceed provincial water quality objectives (PWQO) in the seepage from some mine facilities. Because the small tributaries within the project area have no assimilative capacity, seepage will be required to meet very stringent criteria at the point of discharge to surface waters (<i>i.e.</i>, PWQO or background concentrations). The proponent will need to provide expected receiver loading calculations. Updated source concentrations and calculated discharge loadings to surface water receivers will need to be incorporated into the assessment to evaluate the impact to surface waters.</p> <p>Section 4.4 (Appendix F) states: "These concentrations, along with corresponding MMER and PWQO guidelines, are presented in Table 4.3 Predicted Tailings storage facility Supernatant Concentrations Based on Preliminary Data and Worst Case Assumptions." Table 4.3 (Appendix F) does not include PWQO criteria values as claimed in section 4.4. When comparing the values in the table to PWQO, concentrations of most COCs exceed or significantly exceed the criteria in this scenario.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Describe seepage water quality during operations, decommissioning and abandonment from the major mine features, including the pit lake, WRSA, TSF, and LGO stockpile, surface water impacts associated with explosives, and seepage loadings to receivers. Include conservative estimates of loadings to surface water, predicted effects to offsite surface water and feasible mitigation measures.</p> <p>B. Quantify and assess potential impacts to surface water from the pit lake and TSF discharges. Provide a monitoring program and a contingency plan, and include trigger criteria and feasible mitigation and remediation measures.</p> <p>C. Update Table 4.3 (Appendix F) to include PWQO criteria and discuss the significance of the PWQO exceedances in this scenario and the impact on TSF effluent treatment.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>A. During operations, dewatering activity will be required to keep both the open pit and underground mine workings free of water and to provide a safe working environment. As described in the revised EIS (Section 5.3, Appendix M), these dewatering activities will lower the groundwater table around the perimeter of the open pit and mine workings, creating what is referred to as a drawdown cone. Within this drawdown cone, groundwater will migrate towards the open pit. During operations, only a limited quantity of seepage is expected to originate from on-site structures, such as the tailings storage facility (TSF), waste rock storage area (WRSA) and low-grade ore (LGO) Stockpile. The seepage that will result from these on-site structures will be captured largely by the perimeter collection ditches around each structure. Seepage that may originate from the toe of the TSF dam will be captured via a perimeter collection ditch and pond, and returned back to the tailings pond on the surface of the TSF. Any seepage from the on-site structures and TSF that escapes the seepage collection systems will be captured within the drawdown cone caused by dewatering and will ultimately report to the open pit. This seepage water will be collected as part of the dewatering activities and transferred to the water management system, where it will either be recycled for use in the process plant or treated prior to discharge to the environment. The open pit will be virtually free of water during operations. The open pit is not expected to be a source of seepage during operations, and will ultimately act as a sink for any seepage captures within the drawdown cone caused by dewatering. Based on the effects of the expected drawdown of groundwater in the area of the open pit and underground mine, the off-site migration of seepage waters during operations is expected to be negligible, and therefore loadings to off-site surface water and groundwater were not estimated for operations.</p> <p>Upon closure of mining activities, the open pit and underground workings will be allowed to flood, and the groundwater table will be re-established. Under closed (flooded) conditions, groundwater modelling suggests the open pit will continue to act as a sink for groundwater, with the excess water ultimately being discharged through the spillway into Blackwater Creek. However, the same modelling shows that seepage from the WRSA and TSF will ultimately drain to surface watercourses following closure and the flooding of the pit. Updated surface water modelling to reflect the potential effects of this seepage on water quality have been provided in the Water Report. Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report (Appendix JJ to the revised EIS) to accompany the Round 1 IR responses to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, as well as reflecting the refined water balances developed as Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. An updated water quality model, which includes the effects of seepage during the post-closure and abandonment phase, is provided in Section 6 of the Water Report.</p> <p>B. Since the submission of the EIS, Treasury Metals has continued to develop and refine their water balance which is detailed in a stand-alone document to accompany the IR Round 1 responses, referred to as the Water Report. Details on the estimated pit lake water quality are provided in Section 2 of the Water Report, while estimates of surface water quality are provided in Section 6 of</p>

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					<p>the Water Report. Furthermore,</p> <p>Treasury Metals remains committed to ensuring that all the effluent discharged to Blackwater Creek during operations will meet Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO) (see also TMI_66-GW(1)-03).</p> <p>C. Excess tailings supernatant water will be treated to meet PWQO prior to being discharged to Blackwater Creek.</p>
112	SW(1)-26	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 3, 5	Section 5	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>There is considerable confusion and a number of inconsistencies in the EIS and appendices regarding where the proponent will source fresh water for mining operations.</p> <p>Studies outlining the ability of irrigation ponds and their tributaries (Lola Lake Nature Reserve) to supply needed water to the project site have not been conducted.</p> <p>The proponent states in section 3.8.3 (EIS) once operations commence an additional 600m³/d of fresh water will be required and will be taken from either underground wells or irrigation ponds. Section 3.8.4 (EIS) then states that the 600 m³/d will come from groundwater wells without mentioning ponds. Other sections of the EIS then suggest that additional mine processing water will be taken only from the irrigation ponds.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Conduct and provide surface water studies on Lola Lake Nature Reserve’s ability to supply the appropriate amount of mine process water via Thunder Lake Tributary #3 without adversely affecting the wetland in the Nature Reserve.</p> <p>B. Clearly describe all source(s) of mine processing water and include the justification for the assertion the sources are able and available to supply the demand. Update relevant sections of the EIS to provide consistency across sections.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. No water level changes as a result of the Project are predicted for the Lola Lake Provincial Park. The Project is located within the Blackwater Creek watershed, which drains into Wabigoon Lake. The Lola Lake Provincial Park is located within the watershed that drains into Thunder Lake Tributary 3, and eventually drains into Thunder Lake via Thunder Lake Tributary 2.</p> <p>Withdrawing water from the irrigation ponds, at the former Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests (MNRF) tree nursery, downstream of the existing drainage structures, as described in the response to Information Request TMI_84-GW(1)-21, will not affect the water levels or flows at Lola Lake, which is upstream of the irrigation ponds.</p>

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					<p>As discussed in the response to TMI_146-WL(1)-03, baseline data collection in Lola Lake Provincial Park is not considered warranted as it is not expected that the Project will have any effect on the water levels within the park.</p> <p>B. Sources of process water include the two (2) tributaries of Thunder Lake (maximum of 5% of flow), the runoff collection ponds surrounding the mine site, the minewater pond and the tailings storage facility (TSF). This is described in Section 3.8.6 of the revised EIS, which describes the strategy to source adequate process water during a design dry year and an average hydrologic year are presented. During the design dry year, the following contingencies may have to be implemented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water in the runoff collection ponds may have to be filtered to remove TSS using the pre-treatment system for the reverse osmosis ("RO") treatment system. • Mine water may have to be treated using the RO system prior to use in the mill process. • TSF water may have to be treated using the RO system prior to use in the mill process.
113	SW(1)-27	CEA Agency	Appendix O Sections 2.5, 3.4	Section 9.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Many approaches have been used by the proponent to estimate the runoff coefficient. The runoff coefficients estimated from the measured data (Table 2-10, Appendix O, page 15) range from 0.04 (station HS5) to 0.65 (station HS4). The runoff coefficients estimated using the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) Northern Ontario Hydrology Method (NOHM) range from 0.18 (station HS4) to 0.47 (station HS7). However, for the three stations located on the Blackwater Creek, i.e. TL1A, JCTA and TL3, the estimated runoff coefficients are in a close range (0.36 to 0.37).</p> <p>The runoff coefficient estimated on the Blackwater Creek using the NOHM method are consistent with the regional runoff coefficients derived from the data of the hydrometric station 05QD016 (0.29) and the Hydrological Atlas of Canada (0.33).</p> <p>There seems to be a consensus for the values of runoff coefficients between 0.3 and 0.4. However, there seems to be some discrepancies between the observed runoff coefficients reported in Tables 2-10 and 3-4 (Appendix O, pages 15 and 22).</p> <p>It is our understanding that the runoff coefficients were used as a means of validating the hydrologic model. It is not clear whether they were used, or will be used, for the sizing and design of the project's infrastructure. If they were used, it is also not clear what long-term runoff coefficients were used for calculations.</p> <p>This information is needed to assist in the analysis of the site surface water run-off predictions and capacity of the infrastructure to manage surface water.</p>

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					<p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Report the long-term estimate that is being used and elaborate on the discrepancies between the observed runoff coefficients reported in Tables 2-10 and 3-4 (Appendix O, pages 15 and 22) if runoff coefficients are used, or will be used, in the sizing and design of the project's infrastructure.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions, including the modelling of surface water quantity (i.e., hydrology). To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report (Appendix JJ to the revised EIS) to accompany the Round 1 IR responses. An updated hydrologic model of surface water quantity for all phases of the Project is provided in Section 4 of the Water Report.</p>
114	SW(1)-28	CEA Agency	Appendix O Section 3.3	Section 9.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> The results of the baseline model showed that flows from simulated events generally peaked higher than observed data. Adjusting input parameters during model calibration, the proponent found that the model could not estimate the peak flow for rainfall events. For example, Figure 3-3 (Appendix O, page 20) shows that the model overestimated the peak flow resulting from the July 25, 2013 rainfall event by around 50% while the discharge for the August 29, 2013 rainfall event was underestimated by around 40%.</p> <p>The Green Ampt infiltration method used in the model to take into account losses by infiltration is more suitable to single event simulations (USACE 2000. HEC-HMS technical reference manual). The Continuous Soil-moisture Accounting (SMA) Model is reported to be more adapted to continuous simulations (See Chu, X. and A. D. Steinman. 2009. Combined event and continuous hydrologic modeling with HEC-HMS. American Society of Civil Engineers Journal of Irrigation and Drainage Engineering 135:119–124).</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Clarify whether any alternative infiltration loss method was applied to assess whether concurrence between simulated and observed peak flows could be improved.</p> <p>B. Describe the suitability of using peak flow estimates from the hydrologic model in the sizing and design of the project's infrastructure.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p>

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					<p>A. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions, including the modelling of surface water quantity (i.e., hydrology). To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a standalone Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ.. An updated hydrologic model of surface water quantity for all phases of the Project is provided in Section 4 of the Water Report.</p> <p>B. Treasury Metals were confident that the engineering available at the time the original EIS was filed was suitable for evaluating the potential effects of the Project on the environment. Since the filing of the original EIS, Treasury metals has advanced the engineering of the Project, and will continue to refine the engineering to help supplement a final Feasibility study. Subsequently to the Feasibility study, Treasury Metals will complete an engineering design for all components of the Project including the site infrastructure. Each of the aforementioned components will take into account the most current engineering practices and will require the approval of a professionally designated engineer prior to construction.</p>
115	SW(1)-29	CEA Agency	Appendix O	Section 9.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Although the hydrologic model is based on accepted practices, the possibility for its validation is limited given that the flow monitoring period at the site is over a short period of time. Part of the baseline data used to validate the hydrologic model was questioned by Environment Canada in the comments submitted May 21, 2014.</p> <p>Further information is required concerning the impact of uncertainties that could result from the baseline data on the model results. This information could be presented in the form of a sensitivity analysis on the main input parameters.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide a sensitivity analysis on the main input parameters or conduct some other test in order to provide further information on the impact of uncertainties on the effects assessment, mitigation, and follow-up that could result from the baseline data.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The hydrologic analysis provided in Appendix O was completed to support the original EIS. The modelling was done using the best information available. Since the submission of the original EIS, an updated feasibility level water balance has been developed to reflect the current design of the evolving project. This water balance modifies some of the water predictions. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. Section 4 of</p>

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					<p>the Water Report includes an evaluation of the range of hydrologic conditions expected over the life of the Project by including an expected wet and dry year in the analysis, along with the evaluation of the average conditions.</p>
116	SW(1)-30	CEA Agency	Appendix O	Section 9.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> In its present state the absolute value of peak flow predicted by the model is not validated. Therefore, the model should not be used for determining the size of structures such as ditches, storage ponds, etc. Other methods, or combination of methods, for determining the extreme flows such as the one presented in sections 3.5.2.3 and 3.5.2.4 (Appendix G) should be preferred.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Validate the absolute value of peak flow predicted by the model if the model is to be used in determining the size of structures such as ditches, storage ponds, etc.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The hydrologic model was developed to determine water quantity impacts from mine development. As indicated in Section 5.0 (Appendix O to the original EIS), “the model is suitable for long-term hydrology only and should not be used for developing storage pond outlet works in response to short duration, high intensity rainfall events”. Therefore, the hydrologic model will not be used for determining the size of structures such as ditches, storage ponds, etc. The hydrologic modelling presented in Appendix O of the original EIS has been replaced by the Water Report (Appendix JJ) to the revised EIS.</p> <p>Sizing of the structures, such as ditches and storage ponds, will be completed at the detailed design stage of the Project and will utilize industry standard sizing methods.</p>
117	SW(1)-31	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6.4.1.8	Section 9.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 6.4.1.8 (EIS) reports the effects of the Project on surface water quantity at different stages of the mine life. A quantification of the effect of the mine on both flow rates and water levels is required to improve understanding of the Project’s effect on water quantity over time and to support the arguments being made.</p> <p>To better understand the effect of the Project on surface water, the proponent should present a summary table showing the flow rates/water levels at different monitoring stations for each of the following stages of the mine cycle: baseline (long term conditions), construction, operations, decommissioning and abandonment.</p> <p>The proponent should also describe the major changes to the baseline conditions using numbers</p>

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					<p>that can identify their significance. This could be done by presenting the baseline values, the values at each phase of the mine life, and the change from the baseline values (absolute values and percentage).</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide a summary table showing the flow rates/water levels at different monitoring stations for each stage of the mine cycle.</p> <p>B. Describe the major changes to the baseline conditions using numbers that can identify their significance.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, an updated feasibility level water balance has been developed to reflect the current design of the evolving project. This feasibility level water balance modifies some of the water predictions presented in the original EIS. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. The Water Report (Section 4) includes an assessment of water quantity effects on Blackwater Creek at various monitoring stations, and during the various phases of the mine life.</p> <p>The Round 1 IRs also asked a number of questions regarding the approach used in the original EIS for characterizing the predicted effects of the Project, including the approaches used to describe or characterize the “magnitude” of predicted changes. In addition to responding to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals have prepared a revised EIS revised effects assessment for the Project that has been included as Sections 6, 7 and 8 of the revised EIS that addresses the questions related to the impact methodology. Section 6.9 of the revised EIS revised EIS provides a summary of the changes in water quantity detailed in the Water Report (Appendix JJ). Section 8.1 of the revised EIS revised EIS describes the specific numbers used for assigning levels of magnitude to the predicted changes. The determination of significance includes other parameters than magnitude, all of which are considered in Section 8.1.</p>
118	SW(1)-32	CEA Agency	Appendix O Section 2.4.3	Section 9.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Evaporation is an important meteorological element in water balance and hydrological impact assessments. However, only the long-term annual average evaporation rate was reported in the assessment and used in hydrologic modeling. Rationale should be provided for the application of long-term mean evaporation data as the inputs chosen for the analysis.</p> <p>The analysis should include a broad range of inter-annual evaporation values (well beyond annual mean values) to demonstrate that the system is robust enough to withstand a range of climate</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>situations including wet and drought conditions. There can be a substantial variation in annual evaporation rates from year to year and understanding this temporal range is important to support the selection of suitably conservative evaporation rate(s) for subsequent water balance calculations.</p> <p>The proponent should provide additional analysis in the water balance assessments and hydrological impact modeling using a range of inter-annual evaporation data (i.e. the minimum and maximum annual lake evaporation from the observed historical period). Specifically, the observed lake evaporation data at Rawson Lake station (ID: 6036904, approximately 80 km southwest of the project site) are available for the period 1969–1999. During the period the minimum and maximum observed annual evaporation values are 432.4 mm and 629.8 mm, respectively in 1993 and 1987.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide additional analysis in the water balance assessments and hydrological impact modeling using a range of inter-annual evaporation data.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the site water balance. The refined water balance will affect a number of water related predictions, including those for surface water quantity (i.e., hydrology). As a result, Treasury Metals has refined the hydrologic modelling. This refined surface hydrology model will modify some of the water related predictions and is carried through the updated calculations. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. An updated model in regards to surface water hydrology is provided in Section 4 of the Water Report, further details regarding evaporation inputs are described within this section.</p>
119	SW(1)-33	CEA Agency	Appendix O Sections 4.2, 4.3	Section 9.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Hydrologic model outputs for four low-flow years (1979, 1989, 2005, 2013) and four high-flow years (1974, 1991, 1996, 2000) were presented in the report to represent the dry and wet conditions at the project site. These analyses are important because the dry and wet conditions influence hydrological impact and water balance. However, the information regarding evaporation data used for those years' model runs is missing from the report.</p> <p>The evaporation data should be the observed or estimated values for each of the individual years rather than the long-term average value for every year of the analysis. Annual evaporation rates vary greatly from year to year; for example, annual evaporation rates are 438.1 mm and 592.0 mm, respectively for 1979 (low flow year) and 1991 (high flow year).</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Identify and report the evaporation data used in hydrologic modeling study for these 8 years.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>The hydrologic analysis provided in Appendix O was completed to support the original EIS. The sensitivity values presented in the original EIS are provided to show the robustness of the prediction.</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, an updated feasibility level water balance has been developed to reflect the current design of the evolving project. The updated water balance analysis modifies the water predations presented in the original EIS. To capture these changes, as well as changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ..</p> <p>Section 6 of the Water Report includes an updated analysis of surface water quality effects of the Project. The updated analysis includes an assessment of wet and dry conditions at the Project site. Separate evaporation rates have been selected for the average, wet and dry years, reflecting the variability in annual evaporation rates.</p>
120	SW(1)-34	CEA Agency	EIS Section 3.7.1 Appendix D Section 2.5	Section 9.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>The proponent reported that the 1000-year return period value for the 24-hour storm extreme rainfall is 125 mm for the project area. This return value appears low for a 1:1000 year event. This value is closer to the 1:100 year event expected for the area. For example, the 100-year return values of the 24-hour storm extremes are 160 mm and 123 mm, for Kenora and Thunder Bay respectively, based on data through 2004. The Ontario Ministry of Transportation provides an on-line rainfall Intensity-Duration-Frequency look-up utility. This utility estimates that the on-site, interpolated 100-year return 24-hour rainfall value is 123 mm (http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/IDF_Curves/terms.shtml).</p> <p>The rainfall extreme return values for the project area presented in the assessment reports were derived based upon the methods and estimated coefficients/maps in "Rainfall Frequency Atlas For Canada" (Hogg and Carr, 1985). The Rainfall Frequency Atlas uses data ending before 1985. The use of the Hogg and Carr IDF maps is suspect due to the age of the data.</p> <p>It is important that Intensity-Duration-Frequency calculations include the most recent rainfall data and extremes available. For example, a 24-hour rainfall amount of 153.5 mm was recorded at Kenora on July 27, 1993.</p> <p>The proponent should also be careful about deriving a 1000-year rainfall extreme return value since uncertainty is increased when deriving long return period rainfall values (>100 years) from relatively short data records (<50 years).</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Revise analysis using Environment Canada's or Ministry of Transportation's rainfall extreme return values which include recent rainfall extreme data</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>Work completed for to support the original EIS utilized existing data for the site that included IDF values presented in the Environmental Baseline Study 2010/2011 (original EIS Appendix G) for</p>

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					<p>consistency. A check of the data was completed with Hogg and Carr, 1985. The recommended MTO reference, above (http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/IDF_Curves/terms.shtml), was used to identify the IDF curves for the Project and the results with comparison to data provided in the EIS are provided in the Table 1.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1003 383 1969 846"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4" data-bbox="1003 383 1969 418">Table 1: Comparison of Return Period Storm Depths</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="1003 418 1203 521" rowspan="2">Return Period (years)</th> <th colspan="3" data-bbox="1203 418 1969 456">Storm Depth (mm)</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="1203 456 1457 521">Hogg and Carr (1985)</th> <th data-bbox="1457 456 1711 521">Dryden Meteorological Station (6032117)</th> <th data-bbox="1711 456 1969 521">MTO</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1003 521 1203 557">2</td> <td data-bbox="1203 521 1457 557">43</td> <td data-bbox="1457 521 1711 557">44</td> <td data-bbox="1711 521 1969 557">57</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1003 557 1203 592">5</td> <td data-bbox="1203 557 1457 592">-</td> <td data-bbox="1457 557 1711 592">62</td> <td data-bbox="1711 557 1969 592">77</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1003 592 1203 628">10</td> <td data-bbox="1203 592 1457 628">67</td> <td data-bbox="1457 592 1711 628">74</td> <td data-bbox="1711 592 1969 628">90</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1003 628 1203 664">25</td> <td data-bbox="1203 628 1457 664">79</td> <td data-bbox="1457 628 1711 664">90</td> <td data-bbox="1711 628 1969 664">107</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1003 664 1203 699">50</td> <td data-bbox="1203 664 1457 699">87</td> <td data-bbox="1457 664 1711 699">101</td> <td data-bbox="1711 664 1969 699">119</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1003 699 1203 735">100</td> <td data-bbox="1203 699 1457 735">96</td> <td data-bbox="1457 699 1711 735">113</td> <td data-bbox="1711 699 1969 735">131</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1003 735 1203 771">200</td> <td data-bbox="1203 735 1457 771">105</td> <td data-bbox="1457 735 1711 771">—</td> <td data-bbox="1711 735 1969 771">—</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1003 771 1203 807">1,000</td> <td data-bbox="1203 771 1457 807">125</td> <td data-bbox="1457 771 1711 807">—</td> <td data-bbox="1711 771 1969 807">—</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1003 807 1203 846">PMP</td> <td data-bbox="1203 807 1457 846">320</td> <td data-bbox="1457 807 1711 846">—</td> <td data-bbox="1711 807 1969 846">—</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The results of the comparison are showing that the MTO values are higher than other data for the site and can be adopted for the Project.</p>	Table 1: Comparison of Return Period Storm Depths				Return Period (years)	Storm Depth (mm)			Hogg and Carr (1985)	Dryden Meteorological Station (6032117)	MTO	2	43	44	57	5	-	62	77	10	67	74	90	25	79	90	107	50	87	101	119	100	96	113	131	200	105	—	—	1,000	125	—	—	PMP	320	—	—
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121	SW(1)-35	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6.4.1.12	Sections 4, 10.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 6.4.1.12 (EIS) suggests that the impacts of different flows are reversible. However, there is no consideration of loss of flow to groundwater fed streams such as Hughes Creek. If this is reversible, describe the timeframe for reversibility and how this may change the duration score of the significance analysis.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Clarify the effects of altered flows on fish and fish habitat, taking into account the loss of flow to groundwater fed streams and using the framework to determine significance of adverse environmental effects.</p> <p>Response: A. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including the hydrological effect of the Project. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ.. An update to the</p>																																															

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					<p>estimated effects to surface water hydrology is provided in Section 3 of the Water Report.</p> <p>Further to this Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS document to accompany the Round 1 responses revised EIS. Section 6.0 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner. The information required to respond to this information request is set out in the revised EIS Section 6 of the revised EIS.</p>
122	FH(1)-01	CEA Agency	EIS Summary section 4.5.1, Figure ES.5.2	Sections 4, 10.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 4.5.1.1 (EIS Summary) indicates that the tree nursery ponds, connected to Thunder Lake Tributary 3, are the preferred water source for operations of the mine. Figure ES.5.2 (EIS Summary, page ES-54) shows that the tree nursery ponds are connected to Thunder Lake Tributary 2.</p> <p>Water taking has the potential to impact fish and fish habitat within the tree nursery ponds and the associated tributary of Thunder Lake as well as areas upstream from the tree nursery ponds. The water intake structures also have potential to impact fish and fish habitat.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Clarify whether the tree nursery ponds are located on the Unnamed Thunder Lake Tributary 2.</p> <p>B. Describe the impacts to fish and fish habitat in the tree nursery ponds, the associated unnamed tributary of Thunder Lake and upstream reach of the tributary from the tree nursery ponds, resulting from water taking.</p> <p>C. Confirm whether impacts to fish and fish habitat from water taking have been accounted for in the total amount of area lost. If not, include it in the assessment of fish habitat lost within the fish habitat compensation and offsetting plans.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. There are three irrigation ponds located at the former Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests (MNRF) tree nursery. One of the ponds is located on Thunder Creek Tributary 2, while two are located on Thunder Lake Tributary 3.</p> <p>B. The sources of process water for the Project will include the irrigation ponds at the former MNRF tree nursery located on Thunder Lake Tributary 2 and Thunder Lake Tributary 3. Withdrawals from these ponds will vary during the year, and will be no more than of 5% of average flow per month. As a result, no impacts are predicted to fish and fish habitat in either the ponds or associated tributaries. As described in the response to TMI_112-SW(1)-26 and the revised EIS, alternative sources of water to maintain operations are available during dry periods.</p> <p>Blackwater Creek (maximum of 5% of flow), the runoff collection ponds surrounding the mine site, the minewater pond and the tailings storage facility (TSF). Treasury Metals has provided a refined assessment of the effects of the Project on fish and fish habitat has been provided in the revised EIS, as detailed in Table 1.</p>

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					<p>C. Given that less than 5% of the average monthly flows will be withdrawn from Thunder Lake Tributary 2 and Thunder Lake Tributary 3, no impacts to fish and fish habitat are expected. As a result, neither the irrigation ponds nor the tributaries on which they reside are expected to require consideration within the offsetting plans. Treasury Metals will continue to consult with the relevant agencies and stakeholders to develop the final offsetting plans. revised EIS</p>
123	FH(1)-02	CEA Agency	<p>EIS, Section 3.3.4.1</p> <p>Appendix G Section 10.4.2.2.1, Figure 10.4</p>	Section 10.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 3.3.4.1 (EIS) indicates that a small laydown area may be used to accommodate larger items for spare parts and other maintenance necessities and will be located within the general footprint of the maintenance and mill facilities. Figure 3.0.1 (EIS, page 3-2) shows the Laydown Area overprinting the main channel of Blackwater Creek.</p> <p>The creation of the small laydown area over the main channel of Blackwater Creek may impact water quality and fish and fish habitat. In addition, Appendix G notes that commercial baitfish licenses are tied to the pond (site 7 on Figure 10.4 of Appendix G, page 255) on the main channel of Blackwater Creek upstream of Norman Road. If the laydown area is built over the main channel of Blackwater Creek, fish habitat will be destroyed and the passage of fish to and from the pond will be restricted.</p> <p>No information is given in regard to surface water runoff and seepage from this area(s) and whether or not it will be collected.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Quantify the impacts to fish and fish habitat as a result from the construction and operation of the laydown area.</p> <p>B. Evaluate the effects to fish and fish habitat from this activity, using the framework to determine significant adverse environmental effects.</p> <p>C. Identify how avoidance measures to fish and fish habitat were considered in choosing the location for the small laydown area. If the impacts to fish and fish habitat are unavoidable, identify mitigation measures that will be implemented to minimize the impacts on fish and fish habitat.</p> <p>D. Provide a description of the planned duration for which the laydown area will be used.</p> <p>E. Assess the need for surface water runoff and seepage collection systems in the laydown area(s). Describe how runoff and seepage from these areas will be collected and update relevant map(s)/figure(s).</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A summary of the refinements to the Project since the completion of the original EIS are presented in the revised EIS to accompany the Round 1 responses. One of the refinements presented in Section 3 of the the revised EIS is the use of pre-existing laydown areas as previously</p>

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					<p>indicated in Section 3.15.2 of the EIS. These areas will not impact fish and fish habitat resources.</p> <p>B. As per the response to “A”, the preferred alternative for the laydown area at the Project does not impact fish and fish habitat resources. A refined assessment of the predicted effects of the Project on fish and fish habitat is provided in Section 6 of the revised EIS revised EIS.</p> <p>C. The use of existing infrastructure as a proposed laydown area, limits the overall footprint of the Project therefore limiting the overall effect of the development, and avoiding further effects to fish and fish habitat resources. Additionally, the Project makes use of the former Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests (MNR) tree nursery, as stated in Section 3.15.2, avoiding the need for new habitat effects by using this brownfield development.</p> <p>D. The laydown area would be used for the site preparation and construction periods for the development.</p> <p>E. If any components have the potential to impact water resources the component will be housed within the site runoff and collection facilities as detailed within the revised EIS.</p>
124	FH(1)-03	CEA Agency	<p>EIS Summary, EIS Section 4.10 Figure ES4.19</p> <p>EIS, Figure 3.11.1</p>	Section 4, 10.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Figures ES4.19 (EIS Summary, page ES-42) and 3.11.1. (EIS, page 3-57) show a created water structure just south of the collection pond (south of Norman Road) in the main channel of Blackwater Creek. The purpose of this created water structure is not clear and is not described in the narrative text.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Describe the purpose and details of the created water structure.</p> <p>B. Evaluate the effects on fish and fish habitat from the creation of this water structure, if applicable.</p> <p>C. Provide information on any mitigation measures that will be implemented to reduce the effects on fish and fish habitat during the construction and use of the created water structure, if applicable.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. This structure was to be created to dissipate the discharge from the volume in such a way as to avoid erosion within Blackwater Creek. The Project design presented in Section 4 of the Executive Summary of the EIS represents the understanding of the Project at the time of filing. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A summary of the refinements to the Project since the completion of the original EIS are presented in a stand-alone revised EIS to accompany the Round 1 responses. The water structures detailed within Figures ES4.19 (EIS Summary, page ES-42) and 3.11.1. (EIS, page 3-57) are no longer part of the design. An update of planned water structures is presented within the revised EIS within Section 3.8, and delineated within Figure 3.0-1A.</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>B. There would be no adverse effects associated within this structure to fish and fish habitat.</p> <p>C. As described in the response to Part A, this structure was to be constructed to reduce the potential effects of discharges to Blackwater Creek. The procedures used to mitigate and monitor the effects of in-stream construction are provided in the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner.</p>
125	FH(1)-04	CEA Agency	<p>EIS Summary Sections 4.7, 4.7.6, 4.13, 4.13.9 Figures ES4.17, ES4.18</p> <p>EIS Appendix F Section 4.1.4</p>	Section 4, 8	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 4.7.6 (EIS Summary) and Figure ES4.17 (EIS Summary, page ES-39) indicate that only one minor watercourse realignment of approximately 429 m in Blackwater Creek Tributary 2 is needed to carry out the project. Figures ES4.17 and ES4.18 (EIS Summary, page ES-40) do not provide any detail regarding the design of the new channel, other than to state the new channel will be trapezoidal and provide like for like habitat. The channel will not provide like for like habitat unless it is designed and engineered to do so.</p> <p>Section 4.13 (EIS Summary) indicates that the new alignment of Blackwater Creek will naturalize over the life of the mine and become the permanent creek channel. In section 4.7.6 and Figure 4.17, the EIS Summary indicates that the only watercourse realignment required is in Blackwater Creek Tributary 2.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide habitat mapping (all life history requirements: spawning, nursery, rearing, food supply, migration areas) for Blackwater Creek and its tributaries that will be impacted by the mine and mine infrastructure.</p> <p>B. Clarify which watercourses, wetlands, or waterbodies will be diverted or dewatered to accommodate the mine site.</p> <p>C. Describe the effects of fish and fish habitat from the watercourse and wetland alterations or disruptions for the life of the mine and identify mitigation measures.</p> <p>D. Clarify whether or not a watercourse re-alignment, other than that in Blackwater Creek Tributary 2, is proposed in Blackwater Creek. Provide the conceptual designs for the proposed watercourse realignments, including fish habitat features.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. A refined assessment of the effects on fish and fish habitat has been presented as part of the revised EIS.</p> <p>B. As described in the original EIS and the revised EIS, there are two tributaries of Blackwater Creek that will be overprinted as a result of the Project. Blackwater Creek Tributary 1 will be overprinted by</p>

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					<p>the open pit mine (see Table 2). The upper reaches of Blackwater Creek Tributary 2 will be overprinted by the tailings storage facility (TSF), while the sections below the TSF will be overprinted by the minewater pond (see Figure 3.0.1A of the revised EIS). The preferred plant site location (see Figure 3.0.1A of the revised EIS) avoids the need for Blackwater Creek Tributary 2 to be re-aligned. An illustration of the wetland areas directly affected by the Project are shown on TMI_125-FH(1)-04_Figure_1. The majority of the area affected corresponds to the sections of Blackwater Creek Tributary 1 and Blackwater Creek Tributary 2, discussed previously.</p> <p>A summary of the refinements to the Project since the completion of the EIS are presented in a Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. One of the refinements presented within the revised EIS is a change to the preferred alternative for the location of the plant site. As a result of these changes, the re-alignment of Blackwater Creek Tributary 2 as defined above would no longer be required. This refined plant site would reduce the potential effects to fish and fish habitat. An update of planned water structures is presented within the revised EIS within Section 3.8, and delineated within Figure 3.0.1.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="999 732 1955 911"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4">Table 2: Blackwater Creek Tributary 1</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Potential Effects</th> <th>Mitigation</th> <th>Offsetting</th> <th>Return to Pre-disturbance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overprinting of a section of watercourse by the open pit mine </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect cannot be avoided </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offsets as required under Section 35(2) Fisheries Act authorization </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be a permanent loss in watercourse </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="999 959 1955 1341"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4">Table 3: Blackwater Creek Tributary 2</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Potential Effects</th> <th>Mitigation</th> <th>Offsetting</th> <th>Return to Pre-disturbance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overprinting of a section of watercourse by the construction of (TSF) </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect cannot be avoided </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishery offset and under Schedule 2 of MMER Offsets as required under Section 35(2) Fisheries Act authorization </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be a permanent loss in watercourse </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overprinting of a section of watercourse by the construction of the minewater pond </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect cannot be avoided </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishery offset and under Schedule 2 of MMER Offsets as required under Section 35(2) Fisheries Act authorization </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be a permanent loss in watercourse </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>C. A refined assessment of effects to fish and fish habitat (see Table 1).</p> <p>D. No watercourse re-alignments are currently planned on the main channel of Blackwater Creek as</p>	Table 2: Blackwater Creek Tributary 1				Potential Effects	Mitigation	Offsetting	Return to Pre-disturbance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overprinting of a section of watercourse by the open pit mine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect cannot be avoided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offsets as required under Section 35(2) Fisheries Act authorization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be a permanent loss in watercourse 	Table 3: Blackwater Creek Tributary 2				Potential Effects	Mitigation	Offsetting	Return to Pre-disturbance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overprinting of a section of watercourse by the construction of (TSF) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect cannot be avoided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishery offset and under Schedule 2 of MMER Offsets as required under Section 35(2) Fisheries Act authorization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be a permanent loss in watercourse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overprinting of a section of watercourse by the construction of the minewater pond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect cannot be avoided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishery offset and under Schedule 2 of MMER Offsets as required under Section 35(2) Fisheries Act authorization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be a permanent loss in watercourse
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					part of the Project.
126	FH(1)-05	CEA Agency	EIS Summary Section 6.6	Section 4	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 6.6 (EIS Summary) indicates that groundwater drawdown due to open pit mine development is predicted to cause base flow reductions around 5% and 1% in Thunder Lake tributaries 2 and 3 and Hughes Creek respectively. Losses of groundwater input in watercourses reliant on recharge, especially in low flow times, for example the winter, could impact fish and fish habitat.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Quantify effects to fish and fish habitat as a result of groundwater drawdown in Thunder Lake tributaries 2 and 3 and Hughes Creek. B. Provide a description of the environmental monitoring plan for effects of groundwater drawdown on fish and fish habitat during the operation and decommissioning phases, including monitoring parameters, methods, sampling locations, applicable standards, duration and frequencies. These plans should clearly outline action levels that may trigger certain mitigations.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> A. As described in the response to TMI_71-GW(1)-08 and TMI_72-GW(1)-09, groundwater was determined to provide a limited role in surface water flows within the study area, especially in dry years. At times during dry years, flows in these streams will reduce to effectively zero, a situation that would not occur if significant amounts of groundwater flows were flowing into the watercourses. As groundwater is not a significant contributor to flows in the surface water courses, the drawdown of the water table as a result of dewatering the open pit and underground mine is not expected to measurably affect the flows in Thunder Lake Tributary 2, Thunder Lake Tributary 3, or Hughes Creek. Additionally, the watercourses mentioned in the question are at, or beyond, the limits of the conservative drawdown cone (see Figure 21 of Appendix M to the revised EIS. A refined effects assessment for the Project has been provided in the revised EIS. B. The revised EIS provides additional details regarding the mitigation, follow-up monitoring, and management plans to address the predicted effects to groundwater quantity and surface water quantity.</p>
127	FH(1)-06	CEA Agency	EIS Summary sections 12.4.2, 12.4.2.12 EIS, Sections 6.2.1.12, 6.4.1.12	Sections 4, 9, 9.1, 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Sections 12.4.2 (EIS Summary) and 6.2.1.12 (EIS) indicate that the Project will result in approximately 6 ha of fish habitat loss due to the location of the tailings storage facility and pit excavation and that both a Fisheries Act authorization and an amendment to Schedule 2 of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations will be required. However, Appendix II indicates that the total amount of habitat lost will be 9.5 ha. Section 3.3 (Appendix II) presents uncertainty in relocating the stream channel in the footprint of the current location of the overburden stockpile, thus, the impacts of the proposed mine waste disposal</p>

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			Appendix II Section 3.3		<p>alternatives cannot be fully understood and therefore it cannot be determined if the proposed mitigation measures are appropriate.</p> <p>Section 5.0 (Appendix II) states that “no current locations for in-kind offset habitat locations have been selected due to non-finalized Project design, and lack of First Nation and public input into the design of the NNLP.” However, section 6.4.1.12 (EIS) states that potential candidate sites for fish habitat compensation are Thunder Lake, Thunder Creek and Wabigoon Lake. There is not enough detail to quantitatively assess whether the habitat lost can be mitigated. In the absence of conceptual details of the fish habitat compensation/ offsetting measures, the significance conclusions for fish and fish habitat are not supported by evidence of mitigation measures. The conceptual plans for fish habitat offsetting/ compensation, taking into consideration Aboriginal and public input are required to ensure that the amount of habitat lost can be offset and mitigated.</p> <p>Appendix II provides limited information on proposed offsetting/ compensation strategies. The appendix states “The local fish species sampled within the LSA may not represent or support commercial, recreational, or Aboriginal value, and therefore may not be of interest to DFO, and there is only inconclusive evidence to support the presence of large bodied fish”.</p> <p>To clarify, the Fisheries Act prohibition against causing serious harm to fish states “No person shall carry on any work, undertaking or activity that results in serious harm to fish that are part of a commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fishery or to fish that support such a fishery”.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide detailed outline of the effects to fish and fish habitat in each watercourse, waterbody, and wetland as a result of the mine and mine infrastructure.</p> <p>B. Provide updated tables that identify the fish habitat effects by mine component, the amount of habitat created or restored to offset the loss of fish habitat, a summary breakdown of project components with consideration under Fisheries Act section 35(2) or the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations Schedule 2 amendment.</p> <p>C. Provide an updated figure that shows the watercourses, waterbodies and wetlands impacted by project components.</p> <p>D. Clarify the intent with respect to the overburden stockpile and the stream channel realignment.</p> <p>E. Describe proposed fish habitat compensation/offsetting measures for Thunder Lake, Wabigoon Lake and Thunder Creek and any other measures that have incorporated Aboriginal and public input. Provide a map that shows the potential locations of the fish habitat compensation measures in relation to the project site.</p> <p>F. Responses comment E above need to integrate results of discussions with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Environment Canada, and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) and engagement with the Aboriginal groups and the public prior to finalizing the response to FH-06.</p>

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					<p>G. Provide baseline information regarding all commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fisheries present in the Local Study Area and Regional Study Area, including all forage and baitfish that support said commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fisheries.</p> <p>H. Provide a map that identifies any commercial bait fisheries within the Local Study Area. Provide effects assessment on all commercial bait fisheries within the Local Study Area and identify mitigation measures that will prevent significant adverse environmental effects.</p> <p>I. Provide a description of the environmental monitoring plan for effects to fish, commercial bait fisheries, and fish habitat, including monitoring parameters, methods, sampling locations, applicable standards, duration and frequencies. These plans should clearly outline action levels that may trigger certain mitigations.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>Project design presented in Section 3 of the original EIS represents the understanding of the Project at the time of filing. The level of detail presented in the EIS for the design of the Project is appropriate to identify and evaluate the potential effects of the Project. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, and refined a number of aspects of the Project design. A summary of these refinements to the Project are presented in the revised EIS. However, the design of the Project is not finalized, and specific details regarding the Project will not be available until the Project reaches the regulatory permitting stage. Treasury Metals recognizes the need to have advanced the engineering to provide those final levels of detail before they complete the regulatory permitting process for the Project.</p> <p>Section 6 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner, and was prepared to address questions related to the organization of information presented in the EIS, as well as changes suggested by the responses to Round 1 IRs.</p> <p>A. A refined assessment of the potential effects of the Project on fish and fish habitat is provide in Section 6.14 of the revised EIS. This section will describe the effects to fish and fish habitat in each watercourse, waterbody, and wetland as a result of the mine and mine infrastructure.</p> <p>B. Section 6.14 of the revised EIS will include updated tables that identify the fish habitat effects by mine component and a summary breakdown of Project components with consideration under Fisheries Act section 35(2) or the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations Schedule 2 amendment. An overall strategy to address fish habitat offsetting will be included in the report, but specifics will be determined subsequently, in consultation with Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Environment Canada (EC), Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), and Aboriginal peoples.</p> <p>C. See attached figure TMI_127-FH(1)-06_Figure_1.</p> <p>D. The revised EIS clarifies the intent with respect to the overburden stockpile and the stream</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>channel re-alignment.</p> <p>E. The revised EIS will include the overall strategy to address fish habitat offsetting will be included in the report, but specifics will be determined subsequently, in consultation with DFO, EC, MNRF and Aboriginal peoples.</p> <p>F. The final plans for offsetting of fisheries habitat that would be lost as result of the Project is a permitting activity that will need to be finalized before Treasury metals can proceed with activities that directly affect fisheries habitat, as described in the response to part E.</p> <p>G. The potential effects of the Project on commercial and recreational Aboriginal fisheries potentially affected by the Project are described in Section 6.21 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>H. The potential effects of the Project on commercial bait fisheries potentially affected by the Project are described in Section 6.21 of the revised EIS..</p> <p>I. Biological monitoring of fish and fish habitat in the receiving environment (Blackwater Creek) will be conducted by the mine in order to meet the Environmental Effects Monitoring (EEM) requirements under the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER). The EEM program provides guidance regarding the parameters to be monitored and on how the studies are designed and conducted. As required by the MMER, a study design will be submitted to EC for approval at least six months prior to the field studies commencing. As part of its socio-economic monitoring plans, Treasury Metals are willing to work with the appropriate Agencies, stakeholders and Aboriginal peoples to identify a plan for follow-up monitoring and management plans to address potential effects of the Project on commercial and bait fisheries.</p>
128	FH(1)-07	CEA Agency	<p>EIS Summary Sections 12.4.2, 12.4.2.12</p> <p>EIS section 6.4.1.12, Table 6.4.2</p> <p>Appendix G</p> <p>Appendix Q</p>	Sections 4, 9, 9.1, 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Sections 12.4.2.12 (EIS Summary) and 6.4.1.12 (EIS) state that a potential effect to fish during the operation phase is fish mortality resulting from changes in water quality due to increased sediment from runoff and/or release of deleterious substances and from potential degradation of habitat availability and quality. The proponent predicted these effects to be significant.</p> <p>Mitigation measures identified in section 6.4.1.12 (EIS) include the implementation of comprehensive EMP measures (including erosion and sediment control measures) that minimize the potential for habitat disturbance; equipment used will be well-maintained and will carry appropriately stocked spill kits; operators will be trained in their use and have a spill response plan in place; and, disturbed soils will be stabilized where possible to limit potential for erosion and sediment mobilization. These mitigation measures are too vague to assess whether they are sufficient in preventing significant adverse environmental effects.</p> <p>Section 6.4.1.12 (EIS) states that the residual effect on fish mortality from changes in habitat quality is predicted to be significant and that the proponent will carry out monitoring to detect ongoing or potential adverse effects and manage such issues when they arise. Section 6.4.1.12 (EIS) also states that follow up fish surveys to assess species distribution and species composition will be</p>

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					<p>undertaken. These measures require further detail to allow the Agency to assess whether they are sufficient in preventing significant adverse environmental effects.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide details of additional mitigation measures (e.g. sediment and erosion control plan) to prevent increased sediment and release of deleterious substances into a waterbody.</p> <p>B. Provide detail on proposed monitoring plan, include duration (years), data collection methods (sampling methods), and means of analyzing data which will be implemented to detect ongoing or potential adverse effects. Include the proposed mitigation strategies or adaptive management or adaptive management strategies that will be used if adverse effects are detected.</p> <p>C. Describe all future fish survey plans</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Additional details for mitigation and management plans are provided in Section 6 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>B. Additional details of the proposed management plans are provided in Section 12 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>C. Biological monitoring of fish and fish habitat in the receiving environment (Blackwater Creek) will be conducted by the mine in order to meet the Environmental Effects Monitoring (EEM) requirements under the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER). The EEM program provides guidance regarding the parameters to be monitored and on how the studies are designed and conducted. In most cases the EEM studies include fish and benthic invertebrate studies. As required by the MMER, a study design will be submitted to Environment Canada (EC) for approval at least six months prior to the field studies commencing. This information is also provided in Section 13.13 of the revised EIS.</p>
129	FH(1)-08	CEA Agency	Appendix C of Appendix Q	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Appendix C of Appendix Q shows site photographs of Hoffstrom’s Bay and Kelpyn Bay. However, Appendix D of Appendix Q provides fish habitat data sheets for the waterbodies mentioned above as well as Blackwater Creek and the tributaries of Thunder Lake. Site photographs of Blackwater Creek and its tributaries and those of Thunder Lake are mentioned in the fish habitat data sheets but not provided.</p> <p>This information will assist the Agency in understanding the existing conditions within Blackwater Creek and its tributaries and those of Thunder Lake.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p>

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					<p>A. Provide the site photographs of Blackwater Creek and its tributaries and the tributaries of Thunder Lake.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. Please refer to the following figures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMI_129-FH(1)-08_Figure_1 – View of Blackwater Creek north of Normans Road. • TMI_129-FH(1)-08_Figure_2 – View of Blackwater Creek south of operations area during spring freshet. • TMI_129-FH(1)-08_Figure_3 – View of Blackwater Creek at Anderson Road during spring freshet. • TMI_129-FH(1)-08_Figure_4 – View of Blackwater Creek north of surface water collection site JCTA. • TMI_129-FH(1)-08_Figure_5 – View of Blackwater Creek south of crossing on Normans Road. • TMI_129-FH(1)-08_Figure_6 – View of Blackwater Creek at crossing at Tree Nursery Road (typical summer condition). • TMI_129-FH(1)-08_Figure_7 – View of Blackwater Creek south of surface water collection site JCTA. • TMI_129-FH(1)-08_Figure_8 – Aerial view of Blackwater Creek north of Normans Road.
130	FH(1)-09	CEA Agency	EIS Summary Sections 12.4.2, 12.4.2.12	Section 4	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 12.4.2 indicates that changes to water quantity could have an effect on downstream habitats and that mitigation through on-site water management plans will maintain the water balance.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide the water management plans for water diversions on, and around the mine site to address any downstream fish habitat impacts.</p> <p>B. Describe all potential mitigation measures.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. The Project design presented within the original EIS represents the understanding of the Project at the time of filing. Since the submission of the EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A summary of the refinements to the Project since the completion of the EIS are presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. The upper reaches of Blackwater Creek Tributary 2 will be overprinted by the tailings storage facility (TSF) and the minewater pond. The potential decrease in flows in Blackwater Creek will be offset by the effluent which will be discharged into a structure in the main channel of Blackwater Creek. The structure is designed to dissipate flows and prevent erosion within the creek channel.</p>


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					<p>B. The potential effects of the Project on surface water quantity are provided in Section 6 of the revised EIS. Section 6 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner.</p>
131	FH(1)-10	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 5.0, 5.8.4, Table 5.8.14	Section 4	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>There were several surveys done of fish and fish habitat presented in various appendices, e.g. Appendix G, Appendix Q, and Appendix II.</p> <p>In addition, the baseline work in Appendix G suggests that further field surveys should be considered as the majority of streams within the local study area were not assessed for their total lengths due to access, fish captures in several tributaries were not representative, and the captures were completed only over one field season. However, Appendix Q indicates additional field work was undertaken in 2012 that concentrated on Thunder Lake, Wabigoon Lake, Thunder Creek, Blackwater Creek and Thunder Lake Tributary 3.</p> <p>Without a summary, it is difficult to interpret whether these surveys were adequate in determining a baseline awareness of habitat types and fish occurrences. This information is required to properly assess effects to fish and fish habitat as a result of the project.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide a summary of fish and fish habitat information collected for the Project both within and outside of the Local Study Area—similar to Table 5.8.14—including habitat mapping (all life history requirements: spawning, rearing, migration areas, food supply, nursery), fish species assemblages, and all baseline data collected.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>The EIS relied on baseline fisheries data from two sources. Fisheries field investigations conducted in 2010 and 2011 are presented in Appendix G. The fisheries field investigations conducted in 2012 and 2013 are presented in Appendix Q. The 2012-2013 field investigations focused on areas where it was felt that additional baseline information would be helpful in assessing potential effects of the Project, or potential offsetting measures.</p> <p>Since submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been refining their understanding of fish and fish habitat in the study area. Treasury Metals has prepared fisheries report (Appendix Q to the revised EIS) to accompany the Round 1 responses, referred to as the Summary Fisheries Baseline Report (2011 – 2016). This report includes a well-organized summary of the baseline fish and fish</p>

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					habitat investigations that are presented in Appendix G and Appendix Q, as well as new information that has been acquired since the filing of the original EIS.
132	FH(1)-11	CEA Agency	Appendix G EIS Summary Sections 12.4.2, 12.4.2.13	Sections 9, 9.1, 9.1.2 Section 4	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Four (4) wetland communities of significance are identified within the EA baseline data; Lola Lake Wetland, Hughes Creek Wetland, Thunder Lake Wetland and Thunder Lake, Blackwater Creek and Nugget Creek Wetlands. The EIS states a permanent loss of 39.5 ha of wetlands as a result of the project.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Clarify the potential fish habitat within the four wetland communities. B. Identify connectivity of the wetlands to commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fisheries. C. Identify fish species present in the wetlands. D. Identify potential effects and mitigation measures to prevent significant adverse environmental effects to fish and fish habitat. E. Provide a description of the environmental monitoring plan for impacts to fish and fish habitat identified in these wetlands, including monitoring parameters, methods, sampling locations, applicable standards, duration and frequencies. These plans should clearly outline action levels that may trigger certain mitigations.</p>
					<p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. Those wetlands that are adjacent to Thunder Lake or Wabigoon Lake could, at times, provide habitat for one or more life stages of most of the fish that occur in those lakes although use by some species, such as cisco and lake whitefish, is unlikely. The small wetlands further upstream on the creeks, most of which are associated with beaver ponds, are expected to contain tolerant small-bodied fish species that are typical of those habitats. B. All of the wetlands are connected by flow to Thunder Lake or Wabigoon Lake which support commercial, recreational and Aboriginal fisheries. The wetlands themselves are included in a commercial bait license area. C. Those wetlands that are adjacent to Thunder Lake or Wabigoon Lake could, at times, provide habitat for one or more life stages of most of the fish that occur in those lakes although use by some species, such as cisco and lake whitefish, is unlikely. The small wetlands further upstream on the creeks, most of which are associated with beaver ponds, are expected to contain the fish species that were captured by minnow trapping in Blackwater Creek (Refer to Table 3.4.1 in the Fisheries Baseline Summary), which are typical of such habitats. These include brook stickleback, fathead minnow, finescale dace, northern redbelly dace, and white sucker. D. The need for direct alteration of wetlands has been reduced through Project redesign and is</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>limited to a small number that are associated with beaver ponds in the headwaters of Blackwater Creek. The treated effluent, which will be discharged to Blackwater Creek, will be treated to meet the Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO), established to be protective of sensitive aquatic receptors.</p> <p>E. Biological monitoring of fish and fish habitat in the receiving environment (Blackwater Creek) will be conducted by the mine in order to meet the Environmental Effects Monitoring (EEM) requirements under the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER). The EEM program provides guidance regarding the parameters to be monitored and on how the studies are designed and conducted. As required by the MMER, a study design will be submitted to Environment Canada (EC) for approval at least six months prior to the field studies commencing.</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been refining their engineering for the Project, and ultimately refining the assessment of potential effects of the Project on the environment, including the potential effects on fish and fish habitat. Additional information regarding the potential effects of the Project on fish and fish habitat is provided in Section 6 of the revised EIS.</p>
133	FH(1)-12	CEA Agency	Appendix Q Appendix G	Sections 9, 9.1, 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Fisheries surveys present in this appendix focused on Thunder Lake, Wabigoon Lake, Thunder Creek, Blackwater Creek and two tributaries to Thunder Lake.</p> <p>The baseline data in Appendix G states that a dam north of Highway 17 excludes the upstream migration of fish from Wabigoon Lake to Thunder Lake. DFO noted that the proponent could consider re-establishing connectivity within Thunder Creek to allow fish migration between Wabigoon Lake and Thunder Lake as an offsetting strategy.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide information on the feasibility of re-establishing connectivity within Thunder Creek to allow fish migration between Wabigoon Lake and Thunder Lake as an offsetting strategy.</p> <p>B. Provide further rationale and design elements for the fish habitat compensation and offsetting measures.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. As outlined in the EIS (see also response TMI_139-FH(1)-18), the Project will result in the unavoidable loss of fish habitat that will require Treasury Metals to seek authorization under Section 35(2) of the Fisheries Act. This authorization will likely require offsetting of the lost habitat. Compensation offsets would also be required under Section 2 of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER). Appendix II to the revised EIS provides a preliminary conceptual plan for offsetting and compensation requirements,</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>Treasury Metals will continue to engage the appropriate agencies (Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Environment Canada (EC), Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)) in defining the offsetting strategy as part of the Fish Management Plan. This may include evaluating the feasibility of re-establishing connectivity between Thunder and Wabigoon Lakes, should this action be appropriate to the scale of residual effects identified.</p> <p>B. See response to A.</p>
134	FH(1)-13	CEA Agency	<p>Appendix DD</p> <p>Appendix W</p> <p>Appendix C of Appendix F Section 5.5</p>	Section 10.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Appendix DD states: "A conceptual closure plan for the Goliath Gold Site has been developed. It is anticipated that a portion of the open pit will fill with water to create a small but very deep lake. Such a lake has the potential to support fish populations following closure of the Goliath Mine."</p> <p>The executive summary of Appendix W states: "Forage fish are present within Blackwater Creek and habitat quality for fish within this system is moderate. Therefore fish would likely be exposed to the mine-related COCs proposed to be discharged in effluent. Under Post-Closure conditions the Pit Lake may also support small fish and other aquatic organisms... The Post-Closure Phase analysis relied upon modelled concentrations in Pit Water that will passively discharge into Blackwater Creek."</p> <p>Section 5.5 (Appendix C of Appendix F) states: "Without the inclusion of secondary reactions, it follows that the water quality within the pit lake will remain constant over time and after closure, and will be roughly equivalent to the long term water quality of the waste rock run-off."</p> <p>It is unclear whether the habitat within the pit lake will be suitable for fish survival, and if so what the predicted contamination level of these fish will be. The impacts of the eventual overflow of the pit lake during post-closure to Blackwater Creek on fish habitat within the creek and Wabigoon Lake are unclear.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide information on the predicted water quality of the pit lake following decommissioning and abandonment of the mine in relation to Provincial Water Quality Objectives and Metal Mining Effluent Regulations, including pH and metal concentrations. Provide information on whether or not fish will be able to access the pit lake from natural waterways.</p> <p>B. Provide predictions of the contaminant concentrations in fish that may have access to the pit lake following decommissioning and abandonment phases. If the predictions of contaminant concentrations are high, identify mitigation measures to prevent this adverse environmental effect.</p> <p>C. Describe the effects of pit lake water entering Blackwater Creek and Wabigoon Lake during the decommissioning and abandonment phases to water quality (in relation to Provincial Water Quality</p>

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					<p>Objectives and Metal Mining Effluent Regulations) and use the framework to determine significance of adverse environmental effects. Provide predictions of the contaminant concentrations in fish in these waterbodies following the decommissioning phase.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Predicted water quality for the pit lake following flooding, including pH and metal concentrations, was discussed in Section 5.5 of Appendix F to the original EIS. Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. An updated water quality model for the pit during the post-closure phase is provided in Section 5 of the Water Report.</p> <p>The estimates indicate that it will take between 5 and 9 years for the pit lake to fill following the cessation of dewatering activities at the end of operations. As the pit lake is filling, Treasury Metals will monitor the quality of the water in the open pit to determine whether treatment would be required. The results provided in the Water Report indicate that, with batch treatment, the quality of the water in the pit lake would be able to achieve the Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO).</p> <p>The pit lake will be connected to Blackwater Creek Tributary 1 by means of a permanent overflow spillway (revised EIS Section 3) after the pit is fully flooded. This spillway will allow water to drain passively from the pit lake to Blackwater Creek in the post-closure phase. Whether fish are expected to eventually colonize the flooded pit, may depend on the final design of the overflow spillway, and whether the spillway will be designed to accommodate fish passage. The design of the pit lake and associated spillway will be determined during preparation of the final closure plan.</p> <p>B. Although the plans for closure of the pit lake are yet to be finalized, it is reasonable to assume that some form of aquatic life, including fish, will eventually colonize the pit lake during the post-closure phase. Due to the anticipated depth of the pit lake, only limited fish habitat is anticipated at the lake margins. The potential for the refined predictions of water quality in the post-closure pit lake (see Part A) to affect fish tissue has been evaluated in Section 6 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>C. While the predicted water quality in Blackwater Creek downstream of the Project is provided the EIS, it has been updated to reflect refinements to the Project engineering and water balance. These refined water quality predictions are provided in Section 6 of the Water Report. The potential effects of changes in water quality to fish and fish tissue are presented in the revised EIS. Additionally, Section 8 of the revised EIS provides determination of significance in changes in water quality, as well as the significance of changes in fish tissue as a result of changes in water quality.</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
135	FH(1)-14	CEA Agency	EIS, 6.4.1.12, Table 6.4.2	Section 10.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 6.4.1.12 (EIS) summarizes the potential effects on fish and fish habitat during construction, operations, decommissioning, and abandonment phases of the project.</p> <p>There is no description of effects from changes to water temperature. There are occasional references throughout the document to heating pipes to prevent freezing. There is also no description of whether or not riparian vegetation and trees adjacent to the stream will still be present to provide shade (which is important to regulate water temperature).</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Clarify whether there will be any effects to water temperature either due to effluent releases, or loss of shade from riparian vegetation. Describe how water temperature will impact fish and fish habitat using the framework to determine significance of adverse environmental effects.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>As described in Section 3.6.6.7 of the original EIS, “[w] Water services, where distribution lines are outside of climate controlled buildings or enclosures, will be insulated and heat traced for protection from freezing.” Section 3.7.5 of the original EIS also indicates that “...deposition pipelines will be connected to a flow control assembly located on the crest of the embankment that will be placed within a heated control building to prevent freezing.” These precautions are reasonable and prudent to prevent the possibility of freezing lines that could lead to ruptures and spills. In both cases, the heated systems do not represent discharges to the receiving environment.</p> <p>The effluent from the treatment facility will be directed to a polishing pond prior to being discharged to the environment. Therefore, temperatures are expected to be comparable to ambient levels.</p> <div data-bbox="997 1040 1476 1401" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">  </div> <p>There is not expected to be appreciable amounts of riparian vegetation removed or lost as a result of the Project. As shown in the included picture, there are currently large sections of Blackwater Creek with limited cover and riparian vegetation. As part of the site preparation and construction phase of the Project, Treasury Metals will need to remove vegetation and overburden from areas where Project facilities are to be located. To the extent possible, Treasury Metals has avoided siting Project components adjacent to watercourses. There are, however, sections of the Blackwater Creek Tributary 1 and Blackwater Creek Tributary 2 that will be lost or re-aligned as</p>

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					<p>part of the Project. Treasury Metals realizes that the elimination of fish habitat will require an Authorization under Subsection 35(2) of the Fisheries Act, which typically includes a requirement for offsetting of lost habitat. In addition, Section 27.1 of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER) also requires habitat compensation to offset losses of fish habitat.</p> <p>A more explicit consideration of changes in receiving water temperature on fish and fish habitat has been provided as part of the revised EIS. The revised EIS was prepared to effectively address issues related to the approach used in the original EIS for organizing and presenting information, and to address issues raised through the responses to Round 1 questions.</p>
136	FH(1)-15	CEA Agency	EIS Section 5.11.5	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 5.11.5 (EIS) notes that Aboriginal people fish in the vicinity of the Project. Section 5.11.5 states the following about fishing activities: “no large-bodied fish occur in Project waterbodies. However, Wabigoon Lake supports a number of large-bodied fish species of value to the public and First Nations: Walleye, Muskellunge, and Northern Pike.” The geographic extent of the “Project waterbodies” is not clear.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Clarify what is meant by “Project water bodies” and clarify the geographic extent of “Project waterbodies”.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> A. The term “Project waterbodies” does not have a specific definition, but was used to refer those waterbodies that are within, adjacent to, or in close proximity to the Project. This would include large portions of Blackwater Creek and its tributaries, as well as the portions of Thunder Lake Tributary 2 and Thunder Creek Tributary 3 in and adjacent to the former Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) tree nursery.</p>
137	FH(1)-16	CEA Agency	EIS Table 6.4.2	Section 10.1.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> The frequency rating in Table 6.4.2 (EIS) may have been incorrectly considered for fish habitat. The residual effect is described as “changes to water quality due to release of deleterious substance...” The risk is the deleterious substance release – this may occur infrequently but the effect is the change to water quality which if it occurs is listed as having “the potential to persist 10 years beyond project initiation”. The frequency rating downgrades the significance to “not significant” which may be inappropriate. This comment could be repeated for multiple effects ratings throughout the table.</p> <p>There are also parts of Table 6.4.2 that do not agree with Table 7.3.1. For example, surface water quality is said to be Level II for magnitude in Table 7.3.1, but Level I for magnitude in Table 6.4.2. Consistency in applying the approach is important to properly understand the environmental effects</p>

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					<p>of the Project.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Revisit significance ratings to ensure that the frequency column is addressing the frequency of the effect on those affected and not the frequency of the risk being considered.</p> <p>B. Verify the accuracy of magnitude, extent, duration, and frequency scores. Ensure there is accuracy and consistency between tables in Sections 6 and 7.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>The EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) provided the framework that was used in preparing the original EIS. Based on the feedback from CEAA and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions, there are a number of issues related to the approach used in the EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. Section 6 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner.</p> <p>Section 8 of the revised EIS sets out a clear and traceable approach for assigning significance, with the relevant criteria (e.g., magnitude, extent, frequency, duration) explicitly described. In accordance with the guidance provided by the Agency in the EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) the revised EIS provides the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • predicted effects of the Project (Section 6); • identification of mitigation, follow-up and management plans to reduce or eliminate the effects (Section 6); • the residual adverse effects that remain after mitigation (Section 6); • for the residual adverse effects of the Project, identification of the potential cumulative effects of the Project in combination with other past, present and reasonably foreseeable projects in the region (Section 6); and • a determination of significance for the residual adverse effects and cumulative effects (Section 7). <p>Following the framework set out in the EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) and the Operating Policy Statement provided by the Agency (CEAA, 2015), the summary of significance for each discipline is found in Section 7.3.2, Table 7.3.2-1. The impact matrices show the significance and relevant criteria for the residual adverse and cumulative effects of the Project.</p>
138	FH(1)-17	CEA Agency	EIS Section	Section 5.7	Summary of Comment / Rationale:

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
			6.4.3.1, Table 7.3.1,		<p>There are several sections of the EIS that still state water is being taken from Thunder Lake. For example:</p> <p>Section 6.4.3.1 (EIS) states: "On-site water management and water withdrawals from Thunder Lake have the potential to directly affect fish and fish habitat by altering flow in Blackwater Creek particularly during low-flow periods of the year and by affecting water levels in Thunder Lake."</p> <p>Table 7.3.1 (EIS, page 7-16) shows that "Changes to water quantity and subsequent habitat availability/quality in Thunder Lake due to Makeup Water Pipeline."</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Clarify whether or not water will be taken from Thunder Lake. If water will be taken from Thunder Lake, describe the quantity and potential environmental effects and proposed mitigation measures.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. The two items listed in the questions were a legacy of an earlier design of the Project. As described in Section 3.8 of the revised EIS, the plan for taking fresh make-up water required for the Project is to withdraw the water from the irrigation ponds at the former Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) tree nursery. This change to the fresh water supply was also flagged in the original EIS, and was attributed to helping reduce potential environmental effects and addressing specific concerns from stakeholders regarding intakes from either Thunder Lake or Wabigoon Lake. Therefore, no mitigation is required to address withdrawals from Thunder Lake.</p> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. The refined water balance for the Project, including sources of fresh water are presented in Section 2 of the Water Report.</p>
139	FH(1)-18	CEA Agency	EIS, Section 6.4.1.12	Section 10.1.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Section 6.4.1.12 (EIS) indicates that mitigation will involve the implementation of measures to return watercourses to pre-disturbance conditions as much as is possible. It is not clear which watercourse this mitigation measure is referring to as different sections within Blackwater Creek and the Unnamed Thunder Lake Tributary 2 may be degraded.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Identify the watercourses that the proponent plans to return to pre-disturbance conditions.</p> <p>B. Describe the measures to be implemented to return the watercourses, identified in the request above, to pre-disturbance conditions.</p> <p>Response:</p>

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					<p>A. The watercourses that will be directly impacted as a result of the Project development include: Blackwater Creek, Blackwater Creek Tributary 1, Blackwater Creek Tributary 2, Thunder Lake Tributary 2, and Thunder Lake Tributary 3. There was a typographical error in Section 6.2.1.12 of the EIS, suggesting that the irrigation ponds at the former Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) tree nursery were located on Hoffstrom’s Bay Tributary. This is not the case, these ponds are located on Thunder Lake Tributary 2 and Thunder Lake Tributary 3. The potential effects, mitigation, offsetting and post-closure conditions of these watercourses are discussed below.</p> <p>The main channel of Blackwater Creek is the proposed location for effluent discharge from the processing facility. The potential release of deleterious substances will be managed and mitigated by the commitment that effluent discharged during operations will meet Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO) limits. For those parameters without PWQO values, effluent quality will meet the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) limits. Treasury Metals is committing that effluent discharge meet background concentrations of mercury in Blackwater Creek. In order to safely operate the open pit and underground mine, it will be necessary to dewater the mine workings. This water will be used in the process, treated and discharged to Blackwater Creek. As a result, there will be an increase in flows within Blackwater Creek during the operations phase. To manage the potential effects of these increased flow rates, the effluent will be discharged through a constructed structure that is designed to dissipate the flows and reduce the velocities in order to avoid erosion risks. The effluent discharges will also be managed to remain within the capability of the watercourse. This will be achieved by using on-site storage, as required. The potential direct effects of the Project on Blackwater Creek are outlined below in Table 1.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="999 906 1955 1312"> <caption>Table 1: Blackwater Creek</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Potential Effects</th> <th>Mitigation</th> <th>Offsetting</th> <th>Return to Pre-disturbance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discharge of effluent to Blackwater Creek during operations </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treat effluent to meet PWQO in discharge </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality will be improved from background, or would meet PWQO </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Releases from pit lake following closure </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water in the pit lake will be tested, and if necessary treated to achieve PWQO </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality would be improved relative to background or would meet PWQO </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes in flows in Blackwater Creek during operations </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discharge structure to dissipate velocities Manage discharges On-site water storage </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flows in Blackwater Creek will be higher following closure, but within the capacity of the watercourse </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested</p>	Potential Effects	Mitigation	Offsetting	Return to Pre-disturbance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discharge of effluent to Blackwater Creek during operations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treat effluent to meet PWQO in discharge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality will be improved from background, or would meet PWQO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Releases from pit lake following closure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water in the pit lake will be tested, and if necessary treated to achieve PWQO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality would be improved relative to background or would meet PWQO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes in flows in Blackwater Creek during operations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discharge structure to dissipate velocities Manage discharges On-site water storage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flows in Blackwater Creek will be higher following closure, but within the capacity of the watercourse
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					<p>by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. The updated water balance for the site, including consideration of storage requirements is provided in Section 2 of the Water Report.</p> <p>Blackwater Creek Tributary 1 will be overprinted by the open pit and overburden storage areas, resulting in the unavoidable loss of sections of the watercourse. This will result in a loss of habitat that will require seek authorization under Section 35(2) of the Fisheries Act, which will likely require offsetting of the lost habitat. Compensation offsets would also be required under Section 2 of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER). Following closure, the pit will be filled with water and will eventually drain naturally through a spillway into the watercourse. The EIS included preliminary modelling for the pit water quality that suggested it will be comparable to the quality of the water used to fill the pit, and should be suitable for aquatic life. An updated water quality model for the pit during the post-closure and abandonment phase is provided in Section 6 of the Water Report. The potential direct effects of the Project on Blackwater Creek Tributary 1 are provided in Table 2.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1003 678 1955 1011"> <caption>Table 2: Blackwater Creek Tributary 1</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Potential Effects</th> <th>Mitigation</th> <th>Offsetting</th> <th>Return to Pre-disturbance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overprinting of a section of watercourse by the open pit mine </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect cannot be avoided </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishery offset and under Schedule 2 of MMER Offsets as required under Section 35(2) Fisheries Act authorization </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be a permanent loss in watercourse </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discharge from pit following closure </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accelerate filling to reduce acid rock drainage/metal leaching (ARD/ML) Wet cover for the TSF </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modelling suggests that pit water quality may need treatment to meet PWQO </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>There are two primary effects on Blackwater Creek Tributary 2 that result from the construction of the proposed tailings storage facility (TSF) and the construction of the minewater pond. The TSF and minewater pond will be constructed in the headwaters of Blackwater Creek Tributary 2, resulting in the unavoidable loss of habitat. Treasury Metals recognizes the need to seek authorization under Section 35(2) of the Fisheries Act, which will likely require offsetting of the lost habitat. Compensation offsets will also be required under Section 2 of the MMER. The loss of these sections would be permanent. There would also be a reduction in flow in the remaining sections of Blackwater Creek Tributary 2 during operations as runoff from the site will be collected and treated before discharge downstream in Blackwater Creek. The potential direct effects of the Project on Blackwater Creek Tributary 2 are provided in Table 3.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1003 1349 1955 1425"> <caption>Table 3: Blackwater Creek Tributary 2</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Potential Effects</th> <th>Mitigation</th> <th>Offsetting</th> <th>Return to Pre-disturbance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Potential Effects	Mitigation	Offsetting	Return to Pre-disturbance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overprinting of a section of watercourse by the open pit mine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect cannot be avoided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishery offset and under Schedule 2 of MMER Offsets as required under Section 35(2) Fisheries Act authorization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be a permanent loss in watercourse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discharge from pit following closure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accelerate filling to reduce acid rock drainage/metal leaching (ARD/ML) Wet cover for the TSF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modelling suggests that pit water quality may need treatment to meet PWQO 	Potential Effects	Mitigation	Offsetting	Return to Pre-disturbance				
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The effects are restricted to the withdrawals of fresh water from the irrigation ponds at the former MNR tree nursery. These effects will be managed based on the available flows at various times of the year. To ensure there is sufficient fresh water available to support operations, Treasury Metals has refined their engineering for the Project to include on-site storage to supply fresh water when natural flows are too low for the full required withdrawals from the watercourse. Once the withdrawals stop at the end of operations, the watercourse will return to the pre-development conditions. Table 4 lists the potential direct effects of the Project on Thunder Lake Tributary 2.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="999 938 1955 1068"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4" data-bbox="999 938 1955 967">Table 4: Thunder Lake Tributary 2</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="999 967 1241 997">Potential Effects</th> <th data-bbox="1241 967 1478 997">Mitigation</th> <th data-bbox="1478 967 1707 997">Offsetting</th> <th data-bbox="1707 967 1955 997">Return to Pre-disturbance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="999 997 1241 1068"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water withdrawal during operations phase </td> <td data-bbox="1241 997 1478 1068"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage withdrawals On-site water storage </td> <td data-bbox="1478 997 1707 1068"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None </td> <td data-bbox="1707 997 1955 1068"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will return to pre-disturbance once withdrawals stop </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="999 1078 1955 1230">The potential direct effects of the Project on Thunder Lake Tributary 3 are provided in Table 5. These effects are similar to those for Thunder Lake Tributary 2 (see Table 4). There will be no effluent discharged to the stream and no physical alterations to the watercourse. Once the requirement for fresh water withdrawals ceases at the end of operations, the watercourse will return to the pre-development conditions.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="999 1240 1955 1370"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4" data-bbox="999 1240 1955 1269">Table 5: Thunder Lake Tributary 3</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="999 1269 1241 1299">Potential Effects</th> <th data-bbox="1241 1269 1478 1299">Mitigation</th> <th data-bbox="1478 1269 1707 1299">Offsetting</th> <th data-bbox="1707 1269 1955 1299">Return to Pre-disturbance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="999 1299 1241 1370"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water withdrawal during operations phase </td> <td data-bbox="1241 1299 1478 1370"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage withdrawals On-site water storage </td> <td data-bbox="1478 1299 1707 1370"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None </td> <td data-bbox="1707 1299 1955 1370"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will return to pre-disturbance once withdrawals stop </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="999 1380 1955 1437">B. 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140	FH(1)-19	CEA Agency	EIS, Section 6.4.1.12	Section 11.1.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 6.4.1.12 (EIS) indicates that fish salvage will be conducted prior to construction, during operations, and during decommissioning phases to mitigate direct mortality of fish due to physical activities that occur within or adjacent to a watercourse. The details of this mitigation measure and where it will be implemented (i.e. which watercourse in what phase of the Project) will assist in understanding how the measure will prevent the direct mortality of fish due to project activities.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide the fish salvage plan with the locations and timing of its implementation.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> Treasury Metals as will continue to engage and solicited federal and provincial regulators as part of the continued evolution of the fish management plan (see response to TMI_133-FH(1)-12). Locations and timing for fish salvage programs will be developed through consultation with the agencies while finalizing this plan.</p>
141	FH(1)-20	CEA Agency	Appendix G Section 10.2, Figure 10.1	Section 7.2.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 10.2 (Appendix G) states: "LSA and a RSA were established to encompass the geographic areas over which Project activities could potentially influence key aquatic resource components". As the same LSA and RSA are used for all valued components, this statement does not provide sufficient rationale for choosing the spatial boundary for the fish and fish habitat assessment. There is no description to indicate whether community and Aboriginal traditional knowledge, current land and resource use by Aboriginal groups, ecological, technical and social and cultural considerations were taken into account.</p> <p>Section 7.2.1 of the EIS Guidelines indicates that spatial boundaries will be defined taking into account as applicable the appropriate scale and spatial extent of potential environmental effects; community and Aboriginal traditional knowledge; current land and resource use by Aboriginal groups; and ecological, technical, social, and cultural considerations.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide a revised local study area and regional study area that takes into account the appropriate scale and spatial extent of potential environmental effects on fish and fish habitat; community and Aboriginal traditional knowledge; current land and resource use by Aboriginal groups; and ecological, technical, social, and cultural considerations. Provide an explanation of how these factors were taken into consideration in revising the spatial boundary. B. If the existing LSA and RSA for the fish and fish habitat assessment already take the above factors into consideration, provide an explanation for choosing the spatial boundary as shown in</p>

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					<p>Figure 10.1 of Appendix G.</p> <p>Response: A. An expanded discussion regarding the study areas used in the original EIS have been provided in Section 6.1.4 of the revised EIS, Treasury Metals has made efforts to engage and elicit input from Aboriginal peoples regarding the Project. While no Project-specific traditional knowledge and traditional land use studies were prepared for, or shared with, Treasury Metals; limited information was obtained about traditional land use areas through the engagement process. Treasury Metals made efforts to incorporate the information provided in the revised EIS, and to address comments and issues raised by Aboriginal peoples during the engagement process.</p>
142	FH(1)-21	CEA Agency	EIS, Section 6.3.1.12	Section 7.1.1, 9.1.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 6.3.1.12 (EIS) states there are “two fish and fish habitat valued components identified during the environmental assessment” and the rationale for choosing these valued components is “because they are protected by the Federal Fisheries Act 2012 and the Project has potential to cause significant effects”. The importance of those valued components (VCs) identified in section 6.3.1.12 (EIS) is not clear. It is also not clear how Aboriginal, social, economic, recreational, and aesthetic considerations were taken into account.</p> <p>The VCs selected in Section 6.3.1.12 (EIS) do not include discussion of indicators or measurable parameters.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide further justification for the selection of the valued components identified in section 6.3.1.12 (EIS) taking into account Aboriginal, social, economic, recreational, and aesthetic considerations. B. Describe the indicators and measures of ecosystem health and integrity used to assess the potential for environmental effects on fish and fish habitat from the Project and relate the effects to the proposed mitigation, monitoring and follow-up measures.</p> <p>Response: The EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) provided the framework that was used in preparing the original EIS. Based on the feedback from CEAA and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions, there are a number of issues related to the approach used in the EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to</p>

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					effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. Section 6 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner.
143	FH(1)-22	CEA Agency	EIS, Section 5.8.4.8	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>No detail is provided on the sources of information used to compile the Fish Species of Management Concern in the RSA.</p> <p>Section 9.1.2 of the EIS Guidelines state: "The following information sources on species at risk and species of conservation concern should be consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SARA (); • COSEWIC; • Relevant Government agencies; • Local naturalist and interest groups; and • Aboriginal groups and First Nations." <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide the sources of information used to compile the Fish Species of Management Concern in the RSA, explaining how the following were consulted/engaged:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SARA (www.sararegistry.gc.ca); - COSEWIC; - Relevant Government agencies; - Local naturalist and interest groups; and - Aboriginal groups and First Nations. <p>B. If engagement did not occur with the people listed above to compile the Fish Species of Management Concern in the RSA, conduct engagement activities with groups listed above with a full explanation of the results from the engagement activities. Provide a revised effects assessment on any changes to the Fish Species of Management Concern in the RSA, if applicable.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. The sources of information for the Fish Species of Management Concern are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SARA (); The species at risk public registry (http://www.registrelep-sararegistry.gc.ca/sar/index/default_e.cfm) • COSEWIC; COSEWIC Species listings under their website (http://registrelep-sararegistry.gc.ca/document/default_e.cfm?documentID=586&submit=View) • Relevant Government agencies; Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources – management biologist,

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					<p>species at risk biologist, and regional fisheries biologist. The OMNR personnel have changed a number of times in these positions over the years, but Jill VanWellingham was consulted, as was Mark Sobchuck (regional fisheries biologist)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local naturalist and interest groups; Thunder Bay field naturalists, local fisherman and residents; and • Aboriginal peoples and First Nations: (see Aboriginal Engagement Report). <p>B. Not applicable</p>
144	WL(1)-01	CEA Agency	<p>EIS, Section 5.9.2.1</p> <p>Appendix G Section 8.2, Figure 8.1</p>	<p>Sections 7.2.1, 9.2.1</p>	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Section 5.9.2.1 (EIS) indicates the local study area (LSA) selected for the wildlife baseline is a 5 km radius circle centered on the existing portal (Figure 8.1 of Appendix G, page 144). The LSA was selected to focus field study efforts on identifying and assessing the wildlife community, important wildlife habitat and species at risk (SAR) located within, and near, the area in which most project facilities were anticipated to be located based on the information provided by the proponent at the time the studies were being completed.</p> <p>The wildlife regional study area (RSA) is defined by the watershed boundary to the north, east, and south and by the LSA boundary to the west (Figure 8.1). The RSA was selected to examine the wildlife community, SAR, and important habitat types within a broader area, to provide a regional context for the wildlife and habitat found in the LSA.</p> <p>The justification for the use of a 5 km radius circle centered on the existing portal to define the LSA and a small watershed (~145 km²) to define the RSA, which are used to assess the project effects on wildlife, is not clear. Wildlife, including migratory birds and SAR, require the presence of suitable habitat to carry out their life cycle processes; this suitable habitat is typically defined by an ecological matrix (group of habitat types). The scale of the ecological matrix is different for many species because of their specific requirements (i.e. home range).</p> <p>Wildlife species occupy suitable habitat, which is typically defined by an ecological matrix and likely not well represented by a buffer of a single point.</p> <p>The careful selection of an appropriate LSA and RSA is a crucial preliminary element that is necessary to determine potential effects of the Project on wildlife and design an appropriate sampling framework. Section 9.1.2 of the EIS Guidelines include reference to “Technical Report No. 508, A Framework for the Scientific Assessment of Potential Project Impacts on Birds (Hanson et al. 2010)”, which clearly identifies that project effects within a defined study area need to be related to local and regional population trends. This can only occur when an appropriate LSA and RSA are</p>

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					<p>chosen and the selection criteria for these are clearly documented. It may also be necessary to define different scales for an LSA or RSA depending on the focal species.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide justification for the use of a 5 km radius circle (buffer) centered on the existing portal to define the local study area and a small watershed (~145 km²) to define the regional study area which are used to assess the project effects on wildlife.</p> <p>Response: In the EIS, a common Local Study Area (LSA) and Regional Study Area (RSA) were used for the biological disciplines. The biological LSA and RSA were originally defined by Kohn Crippen Berger (KCB) in 2012. These study areas were kept for use during data collection from 2012 to 2014 so that the collected data would be comparable to previously collected data. In 2015, Treasury Metals retained KBM to gather additional biological baseline data. As part of this work, the LSA and RSA were redefined by KBM to better represent the Project and to make the LSA and RSA more ecologically meaningful. The LSA was defined as the lands and waters of the watershed in which the proposed development footprint is located. The RSA was defined as the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests (MNRF) defined Ecodistrict within which the LSA was located. The MNRF defines ecological units on the basis of bedrock, climate (temperature, precipitation), physiography (soils, slope, aspect) and corresponding vegetation. The ELC of Ontario is used for descriptive, planning, and resource management purposes. The upper levels in its hierarchy may be relevant for provincial and municipal land-use planning initiatives. The lower (finer-scale) levels of the hierarchy are most useful for detailed resource management prescriptions and other local and site planning applications. This ELC is classified into 3 hierarchical categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecozone: used for national and coarse-scale provincial reporting such as analyses of climate, demographics and watersheds; • Ecoregion: used for determining the significance or status of wetland classes and certain other natural heritage features (e.g., old growth forest), setting targets for Wilderness Class Provincial parks, State of the Forest reporting and studying natural disturbance regimes; and • Ecodistrict used for assessing biodiversity levels, defining seed zones, mapping ecosystem types and setting targets for the identification of natural heritage systems.
145	WL(1)-02	CEA Agency	EIS Section 5.9.2.1 - 5.9.2.4, Table 5.9.1	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Throughout the EIS, only the local and regional study areas have been characterized using Ecosite (ELC) information while the project footprint has been described using broad habitat classes</p>

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			<p>Appendix G Section 9.1.2, Table 9.5, Figures 9.4 -9.7</p> <p>Appendix R Executive Summary, Section 2.2</p>		<p>(terrestrial and wetland). Section 3 (EIS) indicates that the Project footprint will cover approximately 188 ha during operations; however, it is not clear what area this covers. Typically the project footprint consists of the geographic area disturbed or occupied by the physical activities and project components. The Ecosite information is necessary to determine the amount (and type) of wildlife habitat that will be lost directly as a result of the project activities, and the indirect effects such as noise and lighting.</p> <p>This is particularly important with respect to effects on species at risk.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide a map that defines the project footprint (spatially) along with the difference between the project site and project study area.</p> <p>B. Provide a revised version of Figure 9.4 (Appendix G) that delineates the project footprint defined in part A of this IR with respect to the local study area (LSA) and regional study area (RSA) in order to visually compare wildlife habitat within these 3 areas.</p> <p>C. Provide a table that lists the Ecosite information of the project footprint defined in part A of this IR, the LSA, and the RSA in order to compare wildlife habitat within these 3 areas.</p> <p>D. Provide the total area, including wetlands by Ecosite covered by all project components and by each project component (i.e. Waste rock Storage Area, Ultimate Pit, Overburden Storage Area, Low-grade Stock Pile, Processing Plant, Tailings storage facility, and underground workings) in percentages and in square kilometres to allow for a review of effects on migratory birds and wildlife. Refer to comment WL(1)-04 for more information.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. Maps showing the Project footprint and study areas are provided in the following attached figures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMI_145-WL(1)-02_Figure_1a (RSA, LSA and Project footprint) • TMI_145-WL(1)-02_Figure_1b (LSA and Project footprint) <p>B. Revised versions of Figure 9.4 (Appendix G), delineating the Project footprint, the regional study area (RSA) and local study area (LSA) are provided in the following figures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TMI_145-WL(1)-02_Figure_2a (Ecosite information for RSA, LSA and Project footprint) • TMI_145-WL(1)-02_Figure_2b (Ecosite information for LSA and Project footprint)

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					<p>The descriptions of the Ecosites listed on the figures are provided in TMI_145-WL(1)-02_Table_1.</p> <p>C. A listing of the areas and relative proportions of the Project footprint, LSA and RSA is provided in TMI_145-WL(1)-02_Table_2. The descriptions of the Ecosites listed in the table are provided in TMI_145-WL(1)-02_Table_1.</p> <p>D. The areas of various Ecosites covered by the individual Project components are provided in TMI_145-WL(1)-02_Table_3. It should be noted that the total areas provided in Part C of this response are larger than the total areas provided in TMI_145-WL(1)-02_Table_3 because the footprint consists of the area associated with all the Project components, as well as the areas between all those components. The individual components listed in TMI_145-WL(1)-02_Table_3 do not incorporate those "interstitial" spaces. The descriptions of the Ecosites listed in the table are provided in TMI_145-WL(1)-02_Table_1.</p>
146	WL(1)-03	CEA Agency	<p>EIS Sections 5.9.2.4, 5.9.3 6.2.1.13, 6.4.1.13, 9.1.2, 9.2.2.3</p> <p>Appendix R Figure 3.1</p> <p>Appendix S Figure 2.1</p> <p>Appendix G</p> <p>Appendix S Section 2.2</p>	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 5.9.3.3 (EIS) states: "Nine wetlands were identified as being potentially impacted by future development (Figure 5.9.3) and were assessed in the field using the OWES protocol."</p> <p>Section 2.2 (Appendix S) states: "Site visits, which included ground-truthing all accessible portions of each wetland, occurred throughout the early fall of 2012. All vegetation communities were visited in the field to confirm vegetation community boundaries and to identify vegetation forms and species."</p> <p>Field surveys for wetland vegetation during the early fall may not capture the species necessary to evaluate wetlands using the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System (OWES).</p> <p>From Figure 2.1 (Appendix S, page 10), it appears as though only nine wetlands identified to be directly affected by project activities were subsequently evaluated. Baseline surveys should have considered all wetlands within the local study area (LSA), and extended even to the regional study area (RSA) to ensure the projected areas of the groundwater drawdown are adequately sampled. An appropriate sampling framework (using the Ecosite information already available) should have been designed and documented. An important large wetland (Lola Lake Nature Reserve) was excluded from wetland surveys even though a portion of it is within the LSA, and the watershed it is within will likely be affected by project activities.</p> <p>Wetlands provide significant habitat for migratory birds and species at risk (SAR). In order to determine the potential effects of the Project on wildlife, including migratory birds and SAR, habitat information, including wetlands must be presented (Ecosite information), and the sampling</p>

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					<p>framework must be adequately justified.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide dates for the wetland vegetation surveys for the nine wetlands identified and a justification that the survey period conforms to the requirements of the OWES.</p> <p>B. Conduct baseline surveys, with an appropriately designed sampling framework using the Ecosite information that is already available, for all wetlands within the local study area, taking into consideration the projected areas of the groundwater drawdown, water taking for mine operations and habitats for migratory birds and species at risk. . Provide the results of these surveys.</p> <p>C. Provide a spatial representation of the wetlands that were sampled. Provide a summary and map of the wetlands by Ecosite within the project footprint.</p> <p>D. Provide additional information with respect to the sampling framework for wetlands to justify why only the 9 wetlands that were determined to be directly affected were sampled. In particular, explain why an important large wetland within the LSA (Lola Lake Wildlife Preserve) was excluded from wetland surveys.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Treasury Metals has prepared a document to accompany the Round 1 responses, referred to as the Wetlands Baseline Study (2016) (Appendix S of the revised EIS), which consolidated the information presented in Appendix S to the original EIS, and the more recent information collected since the EIS. Dates for the wetland evaluations were as follows: 2012 – September 20th to October 10th, and 2016 – June 1st to 15th. The OWES does not provide any dates during which surveys need to take place.</p> <p>B. Results of these surveys can be found in the Wetlands Baseline Study (2016), which has been provided as an accompanying document to the Round 1 responses.</p> <p>C. See attached figure (TMI_146-WL(1)-03_Figure_1.pdf) and Table 1 (below).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Table 1. Summary of wetland ecosites within the Project footprint</p>

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					<table border="1" data-bbox="1094 261 1522 618"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1094 261 1255 337">ECOSITE</th> <th data-bbox="1255 261 1417 337">Area (km2)</th> <th data-bbox="1417 261 1522 337">%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1094 337 1255 375">25</td> <td data-bbox="1255 337 1417 375">0.0027</td> <td data-bbox="1417 337 1522 375">2.49</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1094 375 1255 412">26</td> <td data-bbox="1255 375 1417 412">0.0128</td> <td data-bbox="1417 375 1522 412">11.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1094 412 1255 449">29</td> <td data-bbox="1255 412 1417 449">0.0004</td> <td data-bbox="1417 412 1522 449">0.36</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1094 449 1255 487">32</td> <td data-bbox="1255 449 1417 487">0.0312</td> <td data-bbox="1417 449 1522 487">29.13</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1094 487 1255 524">40</td> <td data-bbox="1255 487 1417 524">0.0233</td> <td data-bbox="1417 487 1522 524">21.77</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1094 524 1255 561">44</td> <td data-bbox="1255 524 1417 561">0.0367</td> <td data-bbox="1417 524 1522 561">34.28</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1094 561 1255 618">Total:</td> <td data-bbox="1255 561 1417 618">0.1071</td> <td data-bbox="1417 561 1522 618">100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="997 643 1969 854">D. A total of eleven wetlands were surveyed in 2016: The original nine sites, as well as two additional wetlands within the LSA. The Lola Lake Nature Reserve has been excluded because the wetland is upstream of the potentially impacted watershed, and thus it is not expected that the Project will have any effect on this wetland. However, a great deal of information about Lola Lake was obtained from Parks Canada including historical flora and fauna inventories, and this information has been included in the Wetlands Baseline Study (2016), provided as an accompanying document to the Round 1 responses.</p>	ECOSITE	Area (km2)	%	25	0.0027	2.49	26	0.0128	11.97	29	0.0004	0.36	32	0.0312	29.13	40	0.0233	21.77	44	0.0367	34.28	Total:	0.1071	100
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147	WL(1)-04	CEA Agency	Appendix G Figure 9.1, Sections 9.2.1 - 9.2.2.1.1	Section 9.1.2	<p data-bbox="997 881 1434 911">Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p data-bbox="997 919 1965 1078">Table 9.2 (Appendix G, page 193) indicates targeted vegetation surveys were conducted in the local study area (LSA) in June, July and August, 2011. General vegetation observations such as vegetation community identification, Ecosite verification and vegetation species inventories were also collected in conjunction with the other baseline studies such as the aquatic field program and the wildlife field program throughout 2010 and 2011 (Table 9.2).</p> <p data-bbox="997 1117 1955 1276">The vegetation sampling appears to be concentrated around roads only, and not distributed throughout all the Ecosites found within the LSA. The map in Figure 9.1 (Appendix G, page 190) should include the Ecosite mapping used in other maps provided in the EIS. A summary table presenting the distribution of sample points by Ecosite within the project footprint, LSA and regional study area (RSA) should also be provided.</p> <p data-bbox="997 1313 1940 1408">A description of the survey design (distribution) of sample locations is necessary to justify that the sample points are representative of the project footprint, LSA, and RSA in order to determine the characteristics of the available habitat and evaluate the effects to wildlife species and impacts to</p>																								

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					<p>Aboriginal current use of lands and resources, including plant harvesting.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide a revised Figure 9.1 (Appendix G) to include Ecosite mapping used Figure 9.4 (Appendix G, page 204).</p> <p>B. Provide a summary table presenting the distribution of sample points within the project footprint, LSA and RSA.</p> <p>C. Describe the survey design (distribution) of sample locations.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. The requested Figure is attached as TMI_147-WL(1)-04_Figure_1.pdf.</p> <p>B. Table 1 (below) includes the requested information.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="999 753 1969 1429"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7" data-bbox="999 753 1969 786">Table 1: Distribution of Sample Points.</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="999 786 1136 854" rowspan="2">Ecosite</th> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="1136 786 1415 818">RSA</th> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="1415 786 1694 818">LSA</th> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="1694 786 1969 818">Footprint</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="1136 818 1276 854">Count</th> <th data-bbox="1276 818 1415 854">%</th> <th data-bbox="1415 818 1556 854">Count</th> <th data-bbox="1556 818 1694 854">%</th> <th data-bbox="1694 818 1835 854">Count</th> <th data-bbox="1835 818 1969 854">%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Developed</td><td>12.0</td><td>9.5%</td><td>22</td><td>13.2%</td><td>21</td><td>22.1%</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>5.0</td><td>4.0%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0%</td><td>3</td><td>1.8%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>7.0</td><td>5.6%</td><td>23</td><td>13.8%</td><td>3</td><td>3.2%</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>1.0</td><td>0.8%</td><td>1</td><td>0.6%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>4.0</td><td>3.2%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>5.0</td><td>4.0%</td><td>4</td><td>2.4%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>11.0</td><td>8.7%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td><td>1</td><td>1.1%</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>3.0</td><td>2.4%</td><td>1</td><td>0.6%</td><td>2</td><td>2.1%</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>17.0</td><td>13.5%</td><td>27</td><td>16.2%</td><td>23</td><td>24.2%</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>2.0</td><td>1.6%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>22.0</td><td>17.5%</td><td>27</td><td>16.2%</td><td>20</td><td>21.1%</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>2.0</td><td>1.6%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0%</td><td>5</td><td>3.0%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>32</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0%</td><td>11</td><td>6.6%</td><td>20</td><td>21.1%</td></tr> <tr><td>33</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0%</td><td>7</td><td>4.2%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>35</td><td>1.0</td><td>0.8%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td><td>5</td><td>5.3%</td></tr> <tr><td>36</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0%</td><td>2</td><td>1.2%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>40</td><td>1.0</td><td>0.8%</td><td>1</td><td>0.6%</td><td>0</td><td>0.0%</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Table 1: Distribution of Sample Points.							Ecosite	RSA		LSA		Footprint		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Developed	12.0	9.5%	22	13.2%	21	22.1%	9	5.0	4.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	12	0.0	0.0%	3	1.8%	0	0.0%	13	7.0	5.6%	23	13.8%	3	3.2%	14	1.0	0.8%	1	0.6%	0	0.0%	16	4.0	3.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	19	5.0	4.0%	4	2.4%	0	0.0%	20	11.0	8.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	22	0.0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.1%	25	3.0	2.4%	1	0.6%	2	2.1%	26	17.0	13.5%	27	16.2%	23	24.2%	27	2.0	1.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	29	22.0	17.5%	27	16.2%	20	21.1%	30	2.0	1.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	31	0.0	0.0%	5	3.0%	0	0.0%	32	0.0	0.0%	11	6.6%	20	21.1%	33	0.0	0.0%	7	4.2%	0	0.0%	35	1.0	0.8%	0	0.0%	5	5.3%	36	0.0	0.0%	2	1.2%	0	0.0%	40	1.0	0.8%	1	0.6%	0	0.0%
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148	WL(1)-05	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 6.2.1.11, 6.4.1.11, 6.4.1.13 Appendix F	Section 9.1.2	<p data-bbox="1003 755 1971 787">Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p data-bbox="1003 795 1971 990">Section 6.4.1.13 (EIS) states: "As a result of being found in topographical depressions, wetlands may become the endpoint for contaminated runoff from mine operations. As waterfowl and wildlife (e.g., reptiles/amphibians) are attracted to wetlands for foraging and breeding, concentrations of contaminants could constitute an attractive nuisance to such species. This effect will be offset by diverting runoff to a tailings pool, with a fenced perimeter and possibly a screen over the top to prevent entry by migrating waterfowl."</p> <p data-bbox="1003 1023 1971 1120">Appendix F states: "Unforeseen storm events will cause the release of cyanide to the environment in the event of TSF overflow. The tailings facility will not be fenced as it is not expected to contain water that would be harmful to wildlife coming in contact."</p> <ol data-bbox="1003 1153 1971 1412" style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The possibility of birds, ungulates, species at risk, and other wildlife accessing the tailings storage facility (TSF) for drinking water, or otherwise is not discussed in sections 6.2.1.11, or 6.4.1.11 of the EIS. 2. As referenced above, there are two locations in the EIS that conflict on the need for fencing and netting around the TSF. In section 6.4.1.13 (EIS), reference is made to a fenced perimeter around the TSF with the possibility of netting to prevent entry of migratory birds and in Appendix F the inclusion of a fence around the TSF is not described. In particular, netting to prevent entry of migratory waterfowl from the TSF could be problematic as it has the potential to trap and cause harm 																												

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					<p>or mortality to migratory birds and other wildlife.</p> <p>There is also reference to a “tailings pool” in section 6.4.1.13 (EIS). This terminology is not used elsewhere in the document. The location of the tailings pool is not shown on the map. This information will inform the Agency of adverse environmental effects on Aboriginal health due to the potential for wildlife, hunted by Aboriginal peoples, to drink water from the tailings management area and bioaccumulate contaminants.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Describe and analyze the possibility of birds, ungulates, species at risk and other wildlife using the tailings storage facility for drinking water and provide an analysis to determine if there is a risk to wildlife that may access the tailings storage facility. Provide a revised assessment of significant adverse effects on wildlife as described in EIS section 6.4.1.11, based on this information.</p> <p>B. Clarify the intent and rationale for including or not including features to exclude wildlife from the tailings storage facility.</p> <p>C. Clarify whether the tailings pool is different from the tailings storage facility. If it is indeed different, provide information on its location (shown on a map), size, and planned use and operation.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. The processing plant described in the original EIS includes cyanide recovery and destruction prior to the discharge of tailings to the tailings storage facility (TSF). The quality of the water in the TSF is intended to meet Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER) requirements for all parameters, as shown in Table 3.8 of the revised EIS. Therefore, the use of the TSF by birds, ungulates, species at risk and other wildlife will not present an immediate threat to their health and well-being. An ecological risk assessment (Appendix W to the EIS) considered the potential effects of wildlife accessing the TSF and using it to drink. No unacceptable risks were identified in Appendix W for wildlife using the TSF.</p> <p>Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS to address issues raised by the Agency and other reviewers related to the organizing of information presented in the original EIS as well as addressing issues raised through the responses to Round 1 questions. An updated assessment of the potential effects of the Project on wildlife and wildlife habitat is provided in Section 6.12 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>B. As the quality of the tailings water discharges to the TSF will meet MMER requirements (refer to Table 3.8 of the revised EIS), and the ecological risk assessment identified no unacceptable risk, there was no need identified in the EIS to restrict wildlife access to the. Although no exclusion</p>

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					<p>measures are required for the TSF to protect wildlife health, Treasury Metals may consider some form of mitigation as they do not wish to encourage wildlife to use areas in and around the Project site.</p> <p>C. The current design for the TSF, as described in Section 3 of the EIS, includes subaqueous discharges of tailings with a water cover to isolate the tailings from oxygen. The tailings pool refers to the water cover of the tailings storage facility.</p>
149	WL(1)-06	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 11.3, 13.7	Section 9.1.2, 16	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 13.7 (EIS) states: “A wildlife monitoring plan will be implemented to ensure that effects on wildlife are properly mitigated. EMP monitoring will be based, where possible, on standard survey protocols used during baseline studies so that any changes in local species populations may be detected.”</p> <p>The baseline information gathered is primarily presence/absence information. If population changes such as abundance are to be detected, this information needs to be collected during the baseline. The monitoring survey design should be carefully planned to ensure that it is effective in answering the questions that are being posed. No specific monitoring plans were included. This information is crucial to determining whether or not the collection of baseline data has been sufficient.</p> <p>In addition, no wildlife objectives for progressive rehabilitation or the decommissioning and abandonment phases are stated. There should be some measures in place to support the return of wildlife to the site that are valued components. This information is necessary to quantify the effects of the Project on wildlife in the decommissioning and abandonment phases. It will also assist the Agency in determining the potential impacts of the Project on Aboriginal peoples’ current uses of lands and resources for traditional purposes.</p> <p>Section 6 (EIS) indicates that many of the valued components will be impacted by the mine in such a way that is reversible. For example, loss of habitat of wildlife SAR, ungulates, upland birds, wetland birds, and furbearers are said to be partially reversible. Impacts to fish abundance and distribution, and decreases in fish habitat quality are said to be partially reversible. There are no details of how these valued components (and other valued components with ‘reversible’ impacts) will be monitored to ensure that they are in fact reversed.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Describe the framework for the monitoring programs for all valued components (including wildlife species at risk, ungulates, upland birds, wetland birds, furbearers, fish and fish habitat) that are designed to properly determine whether or not the impacts are reversed as claimed in Section 6 of</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>the EIS. Provide justification for the selection of valued components that require follow-up monitoring. Also provide justification if valued components are not selected to require follow-up monitoring.</p> <p>B. Provide wildlife objectives for the selected valued components for each project phase including the decommissioning and abandonment phases that can be incorporated into a follow-up monitoring program.</p> <p>Response: A. Based on the feedback from CEAA and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions, there are a number of issues related to the approach used in the EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. Section 6 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner.</p> <p>The information required to respond to this information request is set out in the revised EIS, which includes a summary of follow-up monitoring (Section 13) for the selected VCs and commitments (Section 10) made through the EIS and in response to IR Round 1.</p> <p>B. The objective is to avoid a significant residual adverse effect to wildlife during each phase of the Project. The revised EIS will present the objectives of the follow up monitoring though each phase of the Projects development.</p>
150	WL(1)-07	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 6.2.1.9, 6.4.1.12, 6.4.1.13, 13.1.2, Figure 13.6.1 Appendix F Section 7.2.1 Appendix M Figure 20	Section 10	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Section 6.2.1.9 (EIS) does not discuss the potential effects of dewatering on the wetlands within the anticipated zone of influence (ZOI).</p> <p>Section 6.4.1.12 (EIS) states: “permanent loss of up to 39.5 hectares (0.4 km²) of wetlands would occur”. It is assumed that this loss is due to destruction related to mine facilities construction. However, since, it is stated that wetlands are “a dominant landcover type in this region” in section 6.4.1.13 (EIS), it is expected that other effects to wetlands are likely. Based on Figure 20 (Appendix M), the area of the 5 m drawdown cone is approximately a circle with a 1.8 km radius or an area of approximately 10 km². No discussion of the effects to the remaining wetlands that are within the dewatering area was provided.</p> <p>Appendix F proposes that using the two ponds near the proponent’s office is the preferred alternative for the process plant freshwater source. There is no discussion regarding the impact of this dewatering on the wetlands associated with these ponds.</p> <p>There also appears to be a discontinuity in the model simulation results as shown in the southwest</p>

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					<p>corners of the Base Case 5 m Drawdown and Zone of Influence (ZOI) boundaries in Figure 13.6.1 (EIS, page 13-7). This artefact was not discussed.</p> <p>The requested information will also be required in complete detail during the provincial permitting phase when applying for the required permits to take water.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Describe the anticipated effects of water takings on the wetlands that are located within anticipated zone of influence (ZOI).</p> <p>B. Describe the numerical artefact observed in the model simulation results on the southwest corner of the drawdown contours as shown in Figure 13.6.1 (EIS, page 13-7) and any errors in the model results that may be associated.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Naturally occurring wetlands typically form in areas where infiltration is limited, and water is retained at the surface, even during dry periods. These same characteristics will make the wetlands resistant to effects of the drawdown cone formed by dewatering of the open pit and underground mine. A refined assessment of potential effects of the Project on wetlands has been provided in the revised EIS.</p> <p>B. There are no numeric artifacts within the groundwater model, which is described in detail in Appendix M to the revised EIS. As described in Section 3.1.3 of Appendix M to the revised EIS, there is regional geologic structure called the Wabigoon Fault, which strikes generally east-west through the groundwater modelling domain, approximately two to three kilometres south of the open pit. What may appear to be a numeric anomaly in Figure 13.6.1 of the EIS is in fact the influence of the Wabigoon fault.</p>
151	WL(1)-08	CEA Agency	Appendix G, section 8.3.3	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Section 8.3.3 (Appendix G) states: "Moose aquatic feeding areas, calving sites, mineral licks, and animal denning sites were mapped from OMNR data."</p> <p>The information that has been collected by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) in the past is minimal and has been collected for the purpose of forestry operations specifically in areas where forestry is planned. It is very likely that no surveys were done in the project area for calving sites, mineral licks, and animal denning sites. As a result, MNRF surveys in this area were extremely limited. Data collection on moose aquatic feeding areas, calving sites, mineral licks, and animal denning sites is not sufficient to determine whether or not these Significant Wildlife Habitat features occur in this area.</p>

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					<p>This information will assist the Agency in determining the potential impacts of the Project on Aboriginal peoples' current uses of lands and resources for traditional purposes.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Collect data on moose aquatic feeding areas, calving sites, mineral licks, and animal denning sites to determine if Significant Wildlife Habitat features occur in the local and regional study areas.</p> <p>Analyze results from the data collected on moose aquatic feeding areas, calving sites, mineral licks, and animal denning sites to identify potential impacts on the ability of Aboriginal peoples to exercise traditional land use practices.</p> <p>Response: A. During environmental baseline data collection efforts, all wetlands within the LSA (with the exception of Lola Lake) were investigated for Moose Aquatic Feeding Area (MAFA) potential and ranked according to the provincial MAFA ranking protocol. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) spatial data, as well as the Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) database was consulted. The NHIC database has records of significant wildlife features including rutting/calving areas, migration routes, mineral licks and denning sites. In addition to these database searches, efforts were made to actively search for these significant wildlife areas during all field investigations. A summary of the field investigations completed to support the EIS, as well as investigations completed since the submission of the EIS, are provided in Summary Wildlife Baseline Report (2011–2016), a stand-alone report prepared by Treasury Metals to accompany the Round 1 responses. The Summary Wildlife Baseline Report (2011–2016) replaces the information provided in Appendix R to the EIS.</p>
152	WL(1)-09	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6	Section 11	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Mitigation measures are vague in regard to species at risk. The proponent needs to elaborate on the following proposed mitigation: "Maintain outflow water quality standards to maintain wetland health" The specific processes to be put in place remain unclear.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Describe the specific mitigation measures to be put in place to protect plant and wildlife species at risk.</p> <p>Response: Treasury Metals has committed (Table 10.0.1 of the revised EIS) that discharges from the Project during operations will meet Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO) at the point of discharge. As the PWQO were established to protect sensitive aquatic receptors, maintaining the quality of these</p>

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					discharges will ensure that aquatic SAR downstream of the Project are protected. An expanded discussion on mitigation measures is provided in Section 6 of the revised EIS.
153 (revised)	WL(1)-10	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 5.10, 6.3.1.11, Table 6.3.1 Appendix G Section 8.6, Table 8.12	Sections 7.1.1, 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Section 9.1.2 of the EIS Guidelines states “As background for the analysis of the project’s effects on Species at Risk (SAR), the EIS will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Identify all SARs that may be affected by the project, using existing data and literature as well as surveys to provide current field data, as appropriate; – Provide assessments of regional importance, abundance and distribution that optimize the ability to detect all species at risk and sufficient survey effort to obtain comprehensive coverage; and – Identify residences, seasonal movements, movement corridors, habitat requirements, key habitat areas, identified critical habitat and/or recovery habitat (where applicable) and general life history of SARs that may occur in the project area, or be affected by the project.” <p>However, the information in the EIS on SAR and their habitats is unclear. For example, the EIS indicates no reptile valued components (VCs) were identified because no reptile, amphibian, or terrestrial invertebrate SAR were detected in the local study area (LSA), while Section 8.6 and Table 8.13 of Appendix G indicate that habitat for snapping turtle, a federal SAR, occurs in the LSA and the species may also breed in the area.</p> <p>In addition, Section 5.10.2 of the EIS identifies the following SAR that are not included in the effects assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plants: Western Silvery Aster (<i>Symphyotrichum sericeum</i>) - Mammals: American Badger (<i>Taxidea taxus</i>), Grey Fox (<i>Urocyon cinereoargenteus</i>), Eastern Timber Wolf (<i>Canis lupus lycaon</i>) - Reptiles: Snapping Turtle (<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>) - Arthropods: Monarch (<i>Danaus plexippus</i>) <p>The effects assessment for the American Badger should focus on the subspecies <i>Taxidea taxus taxus</i> since that subspecies is considered to be potentially present in the study areas for the Project.</p>

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					<p>Section 7.1.1 of the EIS Guidelines states the “proponent will identify the VCs deemed appropriate to ensure the full consideration of the factors listed in subsection 19(1) of CEAA, 2012 as well as the 2012 amendment to section 79 of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i>.” To comply with Section 79 of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i>, potential effects to all SAR, as well as appropriate mitigation and follow-up measures, must be identified. These measures should be consistent with the applicable federal recovery strategies http://sararegistry.gc.ca/sar/recovery/recovery_e.cfm and management plans http://sararegistry.gc.ca/sar/recovery/management_e.cfm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This information on SAR and their habitat, including a revised effects assessment, details on the potential effects, appropriate mitigation and follow-up measures, is required for the Agency to complete its analysis on the effects of the Project on all SAR. <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Identify and describe residences, seasonal movements, movement corridors, habitat requirements, key habitat areas, identified critical habitat and/or recovery habitat (where applicable) and general life history of all SAR that may occur in the project area, or be affected by the Project. Include ecosite information and maps for all SAR habitats within the project footprint and LSA. B. Provide an assessment of the regional importance, abundance, and distribution for each SAR. Describe how surveys were used to obtain a sufficient level of coverage for SAR (e.g. snapping turtle), including a summary of locations and timing in relation to ecosite information and identification of the survey protocols that were followed. C. Revise the effects assessment to include all SAR species as VCs, including all bird, mammal, plant, reptile, and arthropod SAR identified in the EIS. Provide the indicators used to assess potential project effects on each VC. Use an impact matrix to describe the potential effects on each SAR species, including SAR habitats, for each project phase. D. Describe the mitigation measures to address the potential effects to all SAR, ensuring that the measures are consistent with applicable recovery strategies and management plans. E. Describe the residual effects on all SAR (including all bird, mammal, plant, reptile, and arthropod species) and their habitat and the significance of those residual effects, based on the Agency’s methodology for assessing significance (including the criteria of magnitude,

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					<p>geographic extent, timing, duration, frequency, reversibility, and ecological and social context).</p> <p>Describe the follow-up program for the SAR and their habitats, including objectives and any monitoring measures that will be implemented, to verify the predictions of effects and evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures.</p> <hr/> <p>Response:</p> <p>The RSA presented in the original EIS was defined as the entire Wabigoon Ecoregion, providing a comprehensive representation of the conditions and species that are likely to exist in the Project area. However, this approach will also capture species with highly limited distributions that would not otherwise be associated with the Project area. Also, several SAR were mentioned in the original EIS to illustrate the due diligence of the field investigations. For instance, American Badger (<i>Taxidea taxus taxus</i>; a subspecies listed as Endangered in Ontario) and Gray Fox (<i>Urocyon cinereoargenteus</i>; listed as Threatened in Ontario) were initially mentioned in Section 2.2.4.1 of the original EIS describing the methodology employed for conducting mammal encounter surveys. Transects were placed to targeted key SAR habitats to improve the likelihood of detecting these species should they be present, but not because they were present. As such, several of the SAR presented in TMI_153-WL(1)-10 are artifacts of the EIS that were not thoroughly explain in the round 1 submission. The species presented below in this document will not occur within the Project area, either due to restrictions to geographical distribution or habitat. Detailed responses for of the remaining SAR that are expected to, or may occur within the Project area have been included in the attached files.</p> <p>Notes Regarding IR responses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For the purposes of this assessment, SAR habitat falling within the updated Project footprint is considered "lost" for the duration of Project activities until post-closure regeneration. - For the purposes of this assessment, SAR habitat falling within the 50 dB noise contour of each project phase is considered degraded by human activity (i.e., functional habitat loss). - A critical threshold of 20% was used to assess the effects of habitat loss within the LSA. This threshold was selected as a conservative estimate for the degree of habitat loss the LSA can withstand while providing the same conditions for SAR. The cumulative effect of functional habitat loss was assessed against the same threshold. This approach to assessing the effects of habitat loss has been used successfully in existing Federal environmental impact assessments in the past (see link below for examples). - SAR biology and behavior were used as indicators for assessing the risk of direct mortality,

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					<p>contaminant exposure and vehicle collisions.</p> <p>Example of Critical Habitat Loss Threshold Use</p> <p>Value Creations Inc. Advanced TriStar Project - Wildlife Consultant Report, Section 3.2.4.6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/e5b33b7c-1b85-448a-90bf-c594d57bdc3d/resource/cf4705ee-7e32-4ee9-a30e-bffcf4fc54b4/download/CR-11---Wildlife.pdf <p>SAR Not Assessed</p> <p>Western Silvery Aster</p> <p>Western Silvery Aster (<i>Symphotrichum sericeum</i>; listed as Endangered in Ontario) occurs in only two areas in Ontario, roughly 130–150 km from Dryden. In the northern Ontario portion of its range, this species is only found in Bur Oak (<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>) savannah on shallow soil over mafic (i.e., basic) bedrock. This habitat is very uncommon, with most bedrock across the Boreal Shield composed of acidic (usually granite) rock. These observations represent the north-eastern extent of the species' global range. Although Western Silvery Aster was captured in the RSA, suitable habitat does not occur within the LSA. Project effects will not impact the existing populations. No assessment is required for this species.</p> <p>Gray Fox</p> <p>Gray Fox distribution is closely associated with the presence of deciduous forest, with denning usually occurring in shrublands close to water. Recent (i.e., within the last 20 years) observations in the Wabigoon Ecoregion were located near the US and Manitoba borders, roughly 150–170 km from Dryden. This represents the northern extent of this species' global range. The primary threats to Gray Fox in northern Ontario are trapping and road mortality. Although this species was captured in the RSA and habitat capable of supporting Gray Foxes exists within the LSA, the Project footprint does not include sufficient shrubland to support a denning family unit. The Project effects will not impact existing populations. No assessment is required for this species.</p> <p>Eastern Wolf</p> <p>The Eastern Wolf (<i>Canis lycaon</i>; listed as Threatened federally)—formerly assessed as Eastern Timber Wolf (<i>C. lupus lycaon</i>), recently listed as provincially Threatened by COSSARO under Algonquin Wolf (<i>Canis sp.</i>)—was included as a statement to illustrate that they were not present in the study area.</p> <p>Eastern wolves exploit a relatively narrow ecological niche, inhabiting mixedwood forests with low levels of human disturbance, and requiring larger prey (e.g., White-tailed Deer [<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>] and American Beaver [<i>Castor canadensis</i>]) to meet their energy requirements. Eastern Wolf distribution is limited to southeastern Ontario, the nearest record occurring in Killarney Provincial Park, over 900 km from Dryden. Although Eastern Wolf-Grey Wolf hybrids—the Great Lakes-Boreal Wolf (<i>C. lupus x C. sp. cf. lycaon</i>)—may extend further into central and northern</p>

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					<p>Ontario, the hybrids are ecological analogues of Grey Wolves (<i>Canis Lupus</i>). Although the Great Lakes-Boreal Wolf range extends over the Project area, they are not afforded the same protection as the Eastern Wolf proper.</p> <p>Eastern Wolves do not occur within the local or regional study areas. No assessment is required for this species.</p> <p>Woodland Caribou</p> <p>Although historically Woodland Caribou occurred in the LSA, no caribou records have been reported in that area since 1990-1999. A portion of the existing Woodland Caribou range is captured by the RSA, but the wildlife assessment focuses on the scale at which the Project will have the greatest impact (LSA and Project footprint). The Project area is found in Cervid Ecological Zone C1. This zone is currently being managed for moderate to high densities of moose, and low densities of white-tailed deer. There are currently no management objectives for woodland caribou other than recoding and documenting any sightings. As such, no assessment for this species is required.</p> <p>Monarch</p> <p>The range of Monarch butterflies (<i>Danaus plexippus</i>; listed as Special Concern in Ontario) extends across the Project area. Monarchs require four distinct habitats for different parts of their life history, including overwintering, breeding, staging and nectar (feeding) habitats. Monarchs overwinter in Mexico, and the Project area does not appear to be an important migratory staging area or exist within a high volume migratory corridor. The Project area could potentially be used for breeding and nectar habitats.</p> <p>Breeding habitat is confined to where milkweed (<i>Asclepias sp.</i>) grows, since this serves as the sole food for their caterpillars. Although Swamp Milkweed (<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>) was identified in the LSA, it was not abundant enough to provide high quality Monarch breeding habitat. Monarchs breeding activity within the Project area is expected to be negligible.</p> <p>Several flowering plants occur within the LSA, so adults may feed throughout Project area. However, adult Monarch abundance is considered very low because there were no observations during three years of fieldwork and the lack of abundant breeding habitat.</p> <p>Generally, species listed as "Special Concern" in Ontario are not afforded any additional protection. Nevertheless, Project effects are not expected to impact Monarchs. No Assessment is needed for this species.</p> <p>Skillet Clubtail Dragonfly</p> <p>The 2011 COSARO Species at Risk Evaluation for Skillet Clubtail Dragonflies indicated that it was present in the Rainy River area, which falls within the Kenora Forest, but there was insufficient data to accurately estimate its distribution in the area. As such, it was included in the list of potential SAR that may occur within the LSA or RSA. However, Rainy River is ~170 km southwest of the Project area, and the nearest NHIC observation of this species is >1,300 km east of the LSA. Further, Skillet</p>

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					<p>Clubtail Dragonflies were not observed during the field survey programs, while 1 other provincially rare (but non-SAR) clubtail species was reported. As such, we are confident this species is not present in the Project are. No assessment is needed for this species.</p> <p>The responses to the specific sections of the request are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. See Table TMI_153-WL(1)-10_Table 1, and Figures TMI_153-WL(1)-10_Figures 1 to 8 B. See Table TMI_153-WL(1)-10 Table 2 C. See Table TMI_153-WL(1)-10 Table 3 D. See Table TMI_153-WL(1)-10_Table 4 E. See Section 6.12 for the assessment of effects on wildlife and wildlife habitat, Section 6.12.6 of the revised EIS for a listing of the residual effects on wildlife and wildlife habitat, and TMI_153-WL(1)-10 Table 5 <p>A description of the proposed follow-up monitoring programs is provided in Section 13 of the revised EIS, and specifically Section 13.12 for the proposed follow monitoring for wildlife.</p>
154	WL(1)-11	CEA Agency	Appendix R Section 2.3	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 2.3 (Appendix R) indicates that small mammal trapping was completed in October 2013. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) protocols suggest that mammal trapping be done between July – September. If any conclusions are drawn based on the catch-per-unit-effort during the small mammal trapping, the accuracy of these conclusions may be questionable.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Conduct additional small mammal trapping surveys according to Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests (MNRF) protocols and prescribed time period, and include the survey findings and results in the updates to related EIS sections and appendices.</p> <p>Response: Additional small mammal trapping occurred throughout the summer of 2016 in multiple locations throughout the LSA. Small mammal trapping surveys followed the methodologies found in the OMNR Wildlife Techniques manual and the Inventory Methods for Small Mammals: Shrews, Voles, Mice & Rats Standards for Components of British Columbia’s Biodiversity No. 31. The results and methodology are presented in an updated terrestrial report, entitled Summary Wildlife Baseline Report (2011–2016), which is provided as Appendix R of the revised EIS.</p>
155	WL(1)-12	CEA Agency	Appendix R Section 3.3.2	Section 9.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 3.3.2 (Appendix R) states: “Five out of six monitoring locations where the ultrasonic recorders were deployed recorded Little Brown Myotis (<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>), one location detected Northern Myotis (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>) Ultrasonic recorders only indicate presence/absence as opposed to quantity (Table 3.9).”</p>

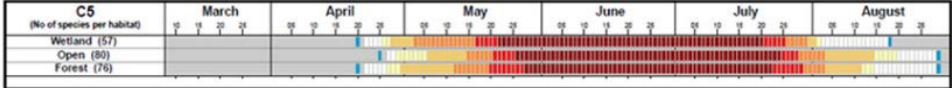
TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>Little Brown Bat and Northern Myotis are listed as endangered species in Part 2 of Schedule 1 of the federal Species at Risk Act. Also both these species are listed as endangered on the Species at Risk List of Ontario and receive species and habitat protection under Ontario’s Endangered Species Act.</p> <p>The presence of bats suggests that there is potential for protected bat habitat to occur within the project footprint. Specifically, there is the potential for natural and anthropogenic maternity roosts for both species.</p> <p>To determine whether maternity roost habitat is present, bat roosting surveys of Little Brown Myotis and Northern Myotis during the roosting period at the abandoned structures located at UTM: 528144 E, 5511709 N are required. The old underground ramp, where exploration occurred and is now sealed may also be a potential roosting and/or hibernacula site for bats. In addition, the quantification of the quality of potential maternity roost habitat present through ELC delineation and snag density calculations is required. Dryden District MNRF will provide more information for guidance on survey and habitat quantification methodologies.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Determine the use of the abandoned structures by protected bat species, using exit surveys executed in accordance with Ontario Ministry of natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) protocols and recommended procedures. Provide documentation of results, and where signs of protected species are detected, revise the effects assessment accordingly.</p> <p>B. Provide Ecosite (ELC) information for potential high quality bat habitat.</p> <p>C. Conduct a snag survey in accordance with MNRF protocols and recommended procedures to determine the quality of bat habitat within the project footprint based on ELC information and snag tree calculations. Provide documentation of results, and revise the effects assessment accordingly.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. Some exit surveys of structures were completed by the Dryden district of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF). Only one bat was seen (species unknown) as part of a visual survey completed by MNRF staff on June 11, 2016. The survey was completed as per directions provide to Treasury Metals and in accordance with the recommendations taken from the draft Ontario Summer Maternity Roost Monitoring Emergence Counts document (2012).</p> <p>B and C. A description of the ecosite information and the results of snag survey is provided in the Summary Wildlife Baseline Report (2011–2016), presented as Appendix R to the revised EIS. An updated assessment of effects and significance is provided in Section 6 of the revised EIS.</p>

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156	WL(1)-13	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 6.4.1.13, 11.3, 11.5, 12.4.2, 13.7 Appendix R	Sections 9.1.2, 11.4, 16	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Species at Risk (SAR) information in the project phase tables presented in section 6 (EIS) focuses primarily on bats. Considering that six bird SAR were identified in the local and regional study areas, these birds should also be discussed.</p> <p>Section 3.2.5 (Appendix R) states: “Avian SAR detected at the Project Study area include Bald Eagle, Common Nighthawk, Barn Swallow, Canada Warbler and Olive-sided Flycatcher (Figure 3.4). Other SAR that may occur based on available habitat but were not detected in 2012 include American White Pelican (<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i> – Threatened), Black Tern (<i>Chlidonias niger</i> – Special Concern), Bobolink (<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i> – Threatened), Eastern Whip-poor-will (Threatened), Golden Eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> – Endangered), Least Bittern (<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i> – Threatened), Peregrine Falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i> – Special Concern), Short-eared Owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i> – Special Concern), and Yellow Rail (Endangered).”</p> <p>Follow-up monitoring is listed as none required for changes in VC populations as a result of habitat removal.</p> <p>A follow-up program should be designed to determine if the predictions regarding displacement of migratory birds and SAR are accurate. The monitoring plan should be informed by information collected during baseline studies and presented in the effects assessment. The effects assessment should estimate the amount of habitat (by Ecosite type) to be removed and the associated breeding bird community population (using density estimates) by species. The follow-up program should therefore assess the use of the local study area (and regional study area, if applicable) by breeding birds (including SAR) to determine if the residual effects were properly predicted during the construction and operation phases. Once reclamation has begun, habitat restoration should be monitored to determine the habitat characteristics (by Ecosite) and evaluate the breeding bird community (migratory birds and SAR) compared to the baseline conditions.</p> <p>Follow-up monitoring should also be considered to gauge the level of common nighthawk activity on and in the vicinity of roads. The monitoring results will inform mitigation planning, i.e. scheduling traffic to avoid peak time periods when nighthawks are observed roosting on gravel roads.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Revise the effects assessment to include bird SAR as VCs. Provide the indicators used to assess potential project effects on the VC.</p> <p>B. Design a follow-up program to determine if the predictions regarding displacement of migratory birds and bat and bird SAR are accurate.</p> <p>C. Design and provide a follow-up monitoring program to gauge the level of common nighthawk activity on and in the vicinity of roads.</p>

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					<p>Response:</p> <p>A. Bird SAR have been included as an additional VCs in the refined effects assessment provided in the revised EIS. The indicator used to determine the Project effects for all bird SAR was the amount of suitable habitat present.</p> <p>B. Additional information regarding follow-up monitoring for wildlife and wildlife habitat (including bird SAR) is provided in Section 6.12 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>C. Information regarding follow-up monitoring to gauge the level of common nighthawk activity on and in the vicinity of roads is provided in Section 6.12 of the revised EIS.</p>
157	WL(1)-14	CEA Agency	EIS Section 5	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Section 5.9.5 (EIS) states that intensive nest searches were not conducted. The proponent used evening surveys for bird IDs, which the proponent claims are allowable but admits will likely result in lower detection probability. This statement suggests additional survey work is needed. However, it is unclear whether the proponent intends to complete a more comprehensive survey.</p> <p>Also, the proponent should explain the difference between stick and active nests referred to in section 5.9.5 (EIS): “No active stick nests were detected within the LSA; however, active nests were detected for several species.”</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Explain why current survey sampling methods are adequate and justify why further studies are not necessary to reliably predict migratory bird species and bird SAR in the project area.</p> <p>B. Clarify the statement from section 5.9.5 (EIS) about active stick nests and active nests.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. We were unable to locate any reference to “evening surveys for bird IDs” in section 5.9.5. However, we assume this is in reference to the marshbird surveys that were conducted in 2013 (Section 5.10.3.2 of the original EIS). The marshbird survey protocol directs one to: “Survey either during the morning or the evening. However, survey routes that are established for morning surveys must always be surveyed in the morning, and vice versa for routes established for evening surveys” (Bird Studies Canada http://www.birdscanada.org/volunteer/glmp/index.jsp?targetpg=glmpbird). Conducting marshbird surveys in the evening is an acceptable survey methodology. Despite this, additional marshbird surveys were conducted throughout the LSA in 2016 in order to provide a larger data set.</p> <p>B. Standard practice is for intensive nest searches to be conducted immediately (within 1 to 2</p>

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					<p>weeks) before timber is due to be harvested, and only if the harvesting will be occurring during the breeding window for any potential avian species to be nesting and rearing young on site. Conducting intensive nest searches years before a site is due to be harvested has no merit, as the nest may not be active or even present when the timber is cut. At this time, timber harvesting is scheduled to take place outside of any bird breeding window, therefore nest searches are not required. With regard to the active stick nests and active nests – section 5.9.5 of the original EIS is referring to the following: <u>Active Stick Nests</u> – nests that are comprised primarily of large sticks and that are associated with raptors and birds of prey (except owls, which are cavity nesters); <u>Active Nests</u> – nests associated with most other avian species, primarily songbirds, waterfowl and cavity nesters.</p> <p>Section 5.9.5 states that no active stick nests were found during any surveys, meaning that no raptor/birds of prey nest sites were observed, however, some active songbird nests were observed (barn swallow and common grackle) as well as a common loon nest.</p>
158	WL(1)-15	CEA Agency	EIS Section 5.10.3.2 Appendix R Section 2.2.1	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 5.10.3.2 (EIS) states: “The 2013 marsh bird surveys were conducted in accordance with Bird Studies Canada protocols. However, the choice of evening surveys, though allowable in the protocol, will result in lower detection probability of target species. In addition, the Bird Studies Canada protocol does not do a good job of surveying one of the target species (Least Bittern), which is why a new national Least Bittern survey protocol has been developed as part of the proposed Least Bittern Recovery Plan (Environment Canada 2011).”</p> <p>If the 2013 Marsh Monitoring Program surveys were not adequate to detect Least Bittern, then the proponent should provide justification as to why the national Least Bittern protocol was not used, considering it was publicly available in late 2011 with the separate release of the Proposed Least Bittern Recovery Strategy and Survey Protocol.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide scientific justification as to why the national Least Bittern protocol was not used.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> A. In order to make the 2013 marshbird surveys comparable with the 2011 marshbird surveys, the surveys were done in the evening. These surveys included surveying for Least Bittern, although the Least Bittern protocol was not used at that time. However, Least Bittern surveys have subsequently been completed at 11 wetlands in the LSA in 2016 using the new Least Bittern protocol. These studies are detailed in the updated Summary Wildlife Baseline Report (2011 – 2016) that has been provided as Appendix R to the revised EIS.</p>
159	WL(1)-16	CEA Agency	Appendix G	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
			EIS Section 11.3.5		<p>The proponent states in Appendix G: "Barn swallows were observed foraging over ponds, lakes, fields and other open habitat in the LSA and were commonly observed along roads. Active nests were observed on buildings on the former tree nursery grounds in June 2011."</p> <p>Section 11.3.5 (EIS) states: "All buildings and infrastructure will be dismantled and removed from site to a licensed landfill." and "The former Tree Nursery buildings will be retained and serve as the base of operations for closure and monitoring activities as well as ongoing mineral exploration programs."</p> <p>Barn swallows are migratory birds that are assessed and designated as a threatened species by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. In addition, this species is listed as threatened on the Species at Risk List of Ontario and receives species and habitat protection under Ontario's Endangered Species Act. As such, barn swallow surveys should be conducted in accordance with MNRF protocols and recommended procedures. (See also RG(1)-19 in Table 1 of Annex A2.)</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Complete an Information Gathering Form to provide information on any potential impacts to barn swallows on the project site. This includes nesting barn swallows within the old tree nursery buildings, as well as any other nest locations that may be found.</p> <p>B. Conduct surveys in accordance with MNRF protocols and recommended procedures to confirm the presence or absence of barn swallows. If barn swallows are confirmed to be present, revise the effects assessment, and the follow-up program.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. An IGF and AAF have both been completed and submitted to the Dryden district of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) office.</p> <p>B. To address this request, Treasury Metals conducted additional Barn swallow surveys within all abandoned structures on the Treasury Metals property. A description of the monitoring to address this request is provided in the Summary Wildlife Baseline Report (2011–2016), which is appended to the revised EIS as Appendix R. A refined assessment of effects is provided in Section 6 of the revised EIS.</p>
160	WL(1)-17	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6.4.1.11	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>To minimize the potential for effects on roosting bats and nesting birds, Treasury will conduct all habitat clearing activity outside of bat and bird migration and breeding periods.</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>There appears to be no explicit timing restriction for the clearing of vegetation. Current guidance includes a compilation of information on core nesting periods for all regions in Canada. Proponents can access the latest “General Avoidance Information” at: http://www.ec.gc.ca/paom-itmb/default.asp?lang=En&n=1B16EAFB-1. This information is provided to proponents in order for them to make timing decisions with respect to construction activities.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Develop and incorporate in the environmental management plan explicit timing restrictions for the clearing of vegetation to avoid impacts to migratory birds in accordance with current guidance, including http://www.ec.gc.ca/paom-itmb/default.asp?lang=En&n=1B16EAFB-1</p> <p>Response: The following information will be included in the EMP with regard to clearing of vegetation and migratory birds:</p> <p>Wherever possible, timber harvesting and vegetation clearing will take place during the winter season in order to avoid the possibility of negatively affecting any migratory bird nest or bat roosts. When timber harvesting or vegetation clearing needs to take place outside the winter season, activities will be scheduled according to Environment Canada’s (EC) Nesting Calendar for Zone C5 (Figure 1.). Under normal circumstances, harvesting and vegetation removal will not be permitted after April 15th for Wetlands and Forested sites, and April 20th for Open sites. Harvesting will not be allowed to resume until August 18th for Wetlands and August 30th for Forested and Open sites.</p> <p>There is currently no publicly available direction provided by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) regarding timing restrictions for harvesting potential roost sites, however, by following EC’s Nesting Calendar, bat roosts will also be protected, as the onset and duration of the roosting season for bats is similar to the nesting season for migratory birds (Late April to August).</p> <p>Figure 1. (From EC’s website: http://www.ec.gc.ca/paom-itmb/default.asp?lang=En&n=4F39A78F-1)</p> 
161	WL(1)-18	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6	Sections 5, 10, 11	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Potential effects of wildlife interacting with project tailings is not described in effects assessment tables although it is briefly mentioned in section 6.4.1.11 (EIS), where the proponent proposes building a fence around tailings ponds and possibly covering ponds with a net to restrict entry from</p>

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					<p>above. It is unclear whether the fence will be left in place after abandonment, if it is constructed. If a fence will be constructed, long-term fence maintenance requirements should also be outlined. No information is presented to describe whether a net covering the tailings pond is economically feasible or effective.</p> <p>Section 11.1.1 of the EIS Guidelines states: “The EIS will indicate what other technically and economically feasible mitigation measures were considered, including the various components of mitigation, and explain why they were rejected. Trade-offs between cost savings and effectiveness of the various forms of mitigation will be justified.”</p> <p>This information will inform the Agency of adverse environmental effects on Aboriginal peoples’ health due to the potential for hunted wildlife to drink water from the tailings management area and bioaccumulate contaminants.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Clarify plans to keep wildlife from interacting with tailings pond. B. Describe the anticipated effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures to limit wildlife interaction with the tailings storage facility.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A., B. Although Treasury Metals does not want to encourage wildlife interaction with the tailings storage facility (TSF), the EIS did not identify an environmental reason for erecting a fence or other mitigation to keep wildlife away from the TSF. The screening level risk assessment presented in Appendix W to the revised EIS demonstrated that there would not be any unacceptable risks to wildlife, or health consequences to Aboriginal peoples’ health if they were to harvest wildlife that accessed the TSF. While no specific mitigation measures to discourage wildlife from accessing the EIS were set out in original EIS, Treasury Metals continue to refine the design of the Project.</p> <p>An expanded evaluation of the predicted effects of the Project on wildlife and wildlife habitat has been provided in Section 6.12.4 of the revised EIS.. The revised EIS also sets of the mitigation measures (Section 6.12.5), follow-up monitoring (Section 13.12) and management plans (Section 12.9) to address the predicted effects. Finally, the revised EIS also describes the effectiveness of the mitigation measures and the resulting residual effects, if any.</p>
162	WL(1)-19	CEA Agency	Appendix G Section 8.3.2.1, Figure 8.2 Appendix R	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Fifty-nine stations located at least 250 m apart were selected to sample the full range of habitats present in the local study area (LSA).</p> <p>The distribution of bird and bat survey points (Breeding Bird Survey, Marsh Monitoring Program, Whip-poor-will, and Bats) within the LSA is an important aspect to determine whether potential</p>

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			Sections 2.2.1, 2.2.4, 3.3.2, Tables 3.2 – 3.8, 3.9, Figure 3.6		<p>project effects are accurately predicted. It appears as though the area for the tailings storage facility and the habitat type contained within it are not adequately sampled. Maps presenting any point count or song recorder locations with Ecosite information and a table with a summary of all point counts by Ecosite (ELC) for the project footprint, LSA, and RSA would be of assistance in understanding the sampling that was conducted. This information is needed to determine if the project footprint has been adequately characterized and the effects on migratory birds and SAR can be accurately determined.</p> <p>All of the bird and bat survey information from 2011 to 2013 (DST and KCB baseline reports combined) should be summarized to facilitate the review.</p> <p>A summary of Ecosite information by major habitat types (Coniferous, Deciduous, Succession, Wetland, and Upland) is required in order to determine specific habitat associations and effects on migratory birds and species at risk. The proponent should also provide a summary table with the number of each species and amount of habitat to be removed within the project footprint. To allow for a review of effects on wildlife, the footprint information should be provided as a total and by project component (i.e. Waste Rock Stockpile Area, Ultimate Pit, Overburden Stockpile Area, Low-grade Ore Stockpile, Processing Plant and Tailings storage facility).</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide maps presenting all point count or song recorder locations that include Ecosite information, and a table with a summary of all point count locations by Ecosite (ELC) for the project footprint, LSA and RSA.</p> <p>B. Provide a summary of all of the bird and bat survey information from 2011 to 2013, following the format in Appendix R, Tables 3.2 – 3.8.</p> <p>C. Provide a summary of Ecosite information by major habitat types (Coniferous, Deciduous, Succession, Wetland, and Upland) in order to determine specific habitat associations and effects on migratory birds and species at risk.</p> <p>D. Provide a summary table with the number of each species and amount of habitat to be removed within the project footprint. Present the footprint information as a total and by project component.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. See attached figure and tables (TMI_162-WL(1)-19_Figure_1, TMI_162-WL(1)-19_Table_1, and TMI_162-WL(1)-19_Table_2).</p> <p>B. The tables requested are included, or appended to the Annex A1 responses. Table 3 corresponds to Appendix R.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="999 1338 1974 1435"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4">Table 3: Most common bird species from point counts (representing 80% of total birds counted)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Common Name</th> <th>Scientific Name</th> <th>Abundance</th> <th>Rank</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>White-throated Sparrow</td> <td><i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i></td> <td>177</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Table 3: Most common bird species from point counts (representing 80% of total birds counted)				Common Name	Scientific Name	Abundance	Rank	White-throated Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>	177	1
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					Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	104	2		
					Nashville Warbler	<i>Vermivora ruficapilla</i>	97	3		
					American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	85	4		
					Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	75	5		
					Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus calendula</i>	72	6		
					Ovenbird	<i>Seiurus aurocapilla</i>	67	7		
					Hermit Thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>	57	8		
					Red-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta canadensis</i>	50	9		
					Magnolia Warbler	<i>Dendroica magnolia</i>	49	10		
					Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	38	11		
					Least Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax minimus</i>	38	12		
					Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	37	13		
					Chipping Sparrow	<i>Spizella passerina</i>	36	14		
					Chestnut Sided Warbler	<i>Setophaga pensylvanica</i>	34	15		
					Mourning Warbler	<i>Geothlypis philadelphia</i>	33	16		
					American crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	32	17		
					Winter Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	32	18		
					Blue Jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>	31	19		
					Alder Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax alnorum</i>	30	20		
					Black-capped Chickadee	<i>Poecile atricapilla</i>	28	21		
					Song sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	27	22		
					Tennessee Warbler	<i>Oreothlypis peregrina</i>	26	23		
					Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	25	24		
					Golden-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus satrapa</i>	23	25		
					Gray Jay	<i>Perisoreus canadensis</i>	23	26		
					Swamp Sparrow	<i>Melospiza georgiana</i>	23	27		
					Lincoln's Sparrow	<i>Melospiza lincolni</i>	21	28		
					Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	20	29		
					Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	19	30		
					Table 4 corresponds to Table 3.3 in Appendix R.					
					Table 4: Bird species ranked according to distribution across point counts					
					Common Name	Scientific Name	Abund.	# of Points	% of Points	Density
					White-throated Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>	177	118	0.81	0.39
					Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	104	90	0.62	0.23
					Nashville Warbler	<i>Vermivora ruficapilla</i>	97	77	0.53	0.21
					American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	85	74	0.51	0.19
					Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	75	66	0.45	0.16
					Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus calendula</i>	72	67	0.46	0.16
					Ovenbird	<i>Seiurus aurocapilla</i>	67	54	0.37	0.15

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					Hermit Thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>	57	48	0.33	0.12																								
					Red-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta canadensis</i>	50	46	0.32	0.11																								
					Magnolia Warbler	<i>Dendroica magnolia</i>	49	42	0.29	0.11																								
					Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	38	37	0.25	0.08																								
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					<p>Table 8 corresponds to Table 3.7 of the Wildlife Baseline Report (2011–2016), which is appended to the revised EIS as Appendix R.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="999 321 1967 1333"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9" data-bbox="999 321 1967 362">Table 8: Boreal Conservation Region 8 species by habitat.</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="999 362 1255 557">Priority Species BCR8</th> <th data-bbox="1255 362 1346 557">Total Abundance</th> <th data-bbox="1346 362 1436 557">% of Points</th> <th data-bbox="1436 362 1526 557">Coniferous</th> <th data-bbox="1526 362 1617 557">Deciduous</th> <th data-bbox="1617 362 1707 557">Successional</th> <th data-bbox="1707 362 1797 557">Wetland</th> <th data-bbox="1797 362 1887 557">Upland</th> <th data-bbox="1887 362 1967 557">Developed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Alder Flycatcher</td><td>30</td><td>20.0</td><td>2</td><td>9</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>Bald Eagle</td><td>1</td><td>0.7</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Bay-breasted Warbler</td><td>6</td><td>4.3</td><td>3</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>Belted Kingfisher</td><td>0</td><td>0.0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Black-and-White Warbler</td><td>12</td><td>8.6</td><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>Blackburnian Warbler</td><td>10</td><td>7.1</td><td>3</td><td>5</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>Black-throated Green Warbler</td><td>1</td><td>0.7</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Blue-headed Vireo</td><td>8</td><td>4.3</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Canada Warbler</td><td>1</td><td>0.7</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Chestnut-sided Warbler</td><td>34</td><td>22.9</td><td>5</td><td>13</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>Evening Grosbeak</td><td>1</td><td>0.7</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Magnolia Warbler</td><td>49</td><td>30.0</td><td>13</td><td>17</td><td>3</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>Mourning Warbler</td><td>33</td><td>23.6</td><td>4</td><td>9</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>Nashville Warbler</td><td>97</td><td>55.0</td><td>29</td><td>19</td><td>8</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>Northern Flicker</td><td>25</td><td>17.9</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>2</td><td>0</td><td>2</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>Olive-Sided Flycatcher</td><td>0</td><td>0.0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Ovenbird</td><td>67</td><td>38.6</td><td>20</td><td>24</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>Philadelphia Warbler</td><td>0</td><td>0.0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Ruby-crowned Kinglet</td><td>72</td><td>47.1</td><td>24</td><td>16</td><td>4</td><td>10</td><td>4</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>Ruffed Grouse</td><td>18</td><td>12.1</td><td>7</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>Swamp Sparrow</td><td>23</td><td>12.1</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td>0</td><td>7</td><td>0</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>Tennessee Warbler</td><td>26</td><td>13.6</td><td>15</td><td>7</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>White-throated Sparrow</td><td>177</td><td>84.3</td><td>56</td><td>38</td><td>19</td><td>9</td><td>5</td><td>50</td></tr> <tr><td>Winter Wren</td><td>32</td><td>21.4</td><td>13</td><td>3</td><td>0</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>Yellow-bellied Flycatcher</td><td>7</td><td>5.0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>5</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Yellow-bellied Sapsucker</td><td>7</td><td>5.0</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>2</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Table 9 corresponds to Appendix R.</p>	Table 8: Boreal Conservation Region 8 species by habitat.									Priority Species BCR8	Total Abundance	% of Points	Coniferous	Deciduous	Successional	Wetland	Upland	Developed	Alder Flycatcher	30	20.0	2	9	4	3	2	10	Bald Eagle	1	0.7	0	0	0	0	0	1	Bay-breasted Warbler	6	4.3	3	0	0	0	0	3	Belted Kingfisher	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Black-and-White Warbler	12	8.6	2	6	1	0	0	3	Blackburnian Warbler	10	7.1	3	5	0	0	0	2	Black-throated Green Warbler	1	0.7	0	1	0	0	0	0	Blue-headed Vireo	8	4.3	3	2	3	0	0	0	Canada Warbler	1	0.7	0	1	0	0	0	0	Chestnut-sided Warbler	34	22.9	5	13	1	1	0	14	Evening Grosbeak	1	0.7	0	0	1	0	0	0	Magnolia Warbler	49	30.0	13	17	3	0	1	15	Mourning Warbler	33	23.6	4	9	0	1	1	18	Nashville Warbler	97	55.0	29	19	8	7	8	26	Northern Flicker	25	17.9	5	6	2	0	2	10	Olive-Sided Flycatcher	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ovenbird	67	38.6	20	24	0	0	1	22	Philadelphia Warbler	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	72	47.1	24	16	4	10	4	14	Ruffed Grouse	18	12.1	7	3	2	0	0	6	Swamp Sparrow	23	12.1	5	3	0	7	0	8	Tennessee Warbler	26	13.6	15	7	0	1	0	3	White-throated Sparrow	177	84.3	56	38	19	9	5	50	Winter Wren	32	21.4	13	3	0	4	3	9	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	7	5.0	0	1	0	5	0	1	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	7	5.0	2	3	0	0	0	2
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Nashville Warbler	0.063	0.041	0.017	0.015	0.017	0.057																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Northern Flicker	0.011	0.013	0.004	0.000	0.004	0.022																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Olive-Sided Flycatcher	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Ovenbird	0.044	0.052	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.048																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Philadelphia Warbler	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	0.052	0.035	0.009	0.022	0.009	0.031																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Ruffed Grouse	0.015	0.007	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.013																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Swamp Sparrow	0.011	0.007	0.000	0.015	0.000	0.017																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Tennessee Warbler	0.033	0.015	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.007																																																																																																																																																																																																																
White-throated Sparrow	0.122	0.083	0.041	0.020	0.011	0.109																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Winter Wren	0.028	0.007	0.000	0.009	0.007	0.020																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.011	0.000	0.002																																																																																																																																																																																																																
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Conifer	779.08	16.09	1.18																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
Deciduous	697.04	7.30	0.79																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
Successional	226.93	3.20	1.03																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
Upland	95.53	.091	0.00																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
Wetland	401.64	14.07	0.33																																																																																																																																																																																																																			

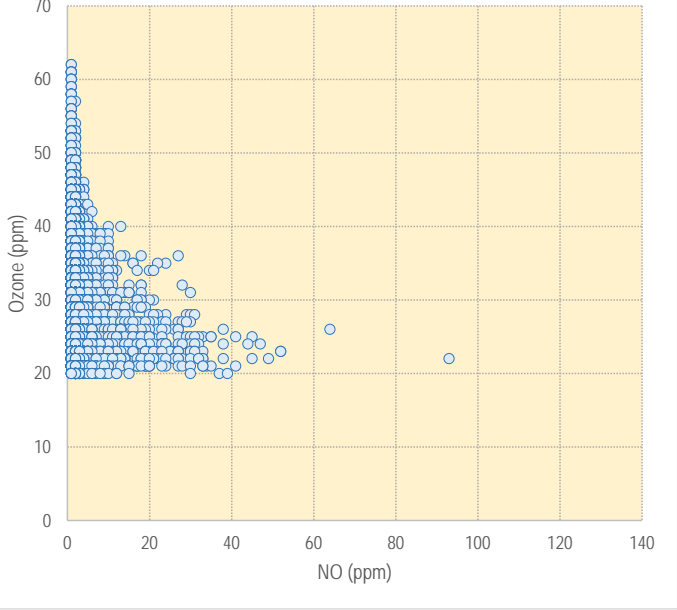
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					<table border="1" data-bbox="1003 256 1969 311"> <tr> <td>Developed</td> <td>251.57</td> <td>3.57</td> <td>0.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Totals</td> <td>2,451.79</td> <td>45.13</td> <td>4.27</td> </tr> </table> <p data-bbox="1003 354 1969 409">D. Table 11 summarizes the amount of habitat to be removed within the Project footprint, presented by Project component and the totals.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1003 435 1969 797"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="8" data-bbox="1003 435 1969 462">Table 11: Habitat lost within the Project footprint.</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="1003 462 1136 537" rowspan="2">Project Component</th> <th colspan="7" data-bbox="1136 462 1969 490">Area (km²)</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="1136 490 1255 537">Coniferous</th> <th data-bbox="1255 490 1375 537">Deciduous</th> <th data-bbox="1375 490 1495 537">Successional</th> <th data-bbox="1495 490 1614 537">Wetland</th> <th data-bbox="1614 490 1734 537">Upland</th> <th data-bbox="1734 490 1854 537">Developed</th> <th data-bbox="1854 490 1969 537">Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Collection</td> <td>0.077</td> <td>0.050</td> <td>0.015</td> <td>0.002</td> <td>0.049</td> <td>0.023</td> <td>0.216</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pit</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.132</td> <td>0.012</td> <td>0.015</td> <td>0.114</td> <td>0.060</td> <td>0.334</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Plant</td> <td>0.004</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.005</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.008</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TSF</td> <td>0.525</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.030</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.064</td> <td>0.619</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lowgrade</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.002</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.054</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.057</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Overburden</td> <td>0.022</td> <td>0.095</td> <td>0.004</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.073</td> <td>0.020</td> <td>0.215</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WRSA</td> <td>0.062</td> <td>0.147</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.159</td> <td>0.004</td> <td>0.372</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aggregate</td> <td>0.261</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.788</td> <td>0.001</td> <td>0.252</td> <td>0.010</td> <td>1.312</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>0.951</td> <td>0.425</td> <td>0.851</td> <td>0.019</td> <td>0.706</td> <td>0.180</td> <td>3.133</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Developed	251.57	3.57	0.95	Totals	2,451.79	45.13	4.27	Table 11: Habitat lost within the Project footprint.								Project Component	Area (km ²)							Coniferous	Deciduous	Successional	Wetland	Upland	Developed	Total	Collection	0.077	0.050	0.015	0.002	0.049	0.023	0.216	Pit	0.000	0.132	0.012	0.015	0.114	0.060	0.334	Plant	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.005	0.000	0.008	TSF	0.525	0.000	0.030	0.000	0.000	0.064	0.619	Lowgrade	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.054	0.000	0.057	Overburden	0.022	0.095	0.004	0.000	0.073	0.020	0.215	WRSA	0.062	0.147	0.000	0.000	0.159	0.004	0.372	Aggregate	0.261	0.000	0.788	0.001	0.252	0.010	1.312	Total	0.951	0.425	0.851	0.019	0.706	0.180	3.133
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163	AE(1)-01	CEA Agency	Appendix J Sections 3.2, 5.2, Table 5	Section 9	<p data-bbox="1003 803 1438 831">Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p data-bbox="1003 841 1969 1112">On-site baseline air quality data has not been collected for the project (Appendix J, Section 5.2). Only modeled project emissions are provided some of the predicted concentrations of metals are approaching the applicable guideline values. Therefore, baseline monitoring should be considered for some metals which are to be emitted by the Project (e.g. lead, manganese and chromium). Incorporating baseline information will provide a more accurate estimation of baseline + project emissions and ensure potential risks to human health are not underestimated. This information is important for inclusion in the human health risk assessment (see HE(1)-01). Collecting on-site background data is also important for assessing the efficacy of proposed mitigation measures and, if necessary, designing follow-up monitoring.</p> <p data-bbox="1003 1122 1969 1177">Real-time air quality monitoring is not addressed in Appendix J. Real-time air quality monitoring is instrumental in verifying predictions and implementing mitigation measures.</p> <p data-bbox="1003 1193 1417 1221">Information Request / Comment:</p> <p data-bbox="1003 1230 1969 1323">A. Conduct baseline air quality measurements for metals that are approaching or exceeding guideline values. Describe and justify the decision not to collect on-site air quality baseline data for some metals.</p> <p data-bbox="1003 1333 1969 1360">B. Develop a real-time air quality monitoring plan to be implemented during all project phases</p> <p data-bbox="1003 1377 1144 1404">Response:</p> <p data-bbox="1003 1414 1969 1437">A. As shown in Section 6.6 of the revised EIS, and Table 5 of the Environmental Air Quality</p>																																																																																																							

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					<p>Assessment (RWDI, 2014e), none of the predictions for airborne metals exceed the relevant criteria. In fact, none of the predicted levels exceed 76% of the relevant criteria. The relative levels of maximum 24-hour predicted airborne metal concentrations relative to the criteria would suggest that even with an operating mine in the area, average airborne metal metals concentrations would be much lower less than the relevant criteria. Because there are no local sources for airborne metals near the Project site, it was decided not to include a background value for airborne metals in the original EIS.</p> <p>To explore the possible background concentrations for airborne metals that could be expected in the area as a result of the metals present in soils, a conservative calculation was done using the metal assay results on waste rock material to represent the average crustal composition in the area for arsenic (As), chromium (Cr), manganese (Mn), and lead (Pb). The calculations are considered conservative as the actual surface soils in the area would contain a large portion of organic material, which would have virtually no metals present. Additionally, the background concentrations for airborne particulate matter was taken from the Thunder Bay Stations, which is expected to have higher background concentrations than we would collect in the relatively undeveloped area of the mine site. Table 1 provides the predicted background concentrations of airborne metals based on the background particulate levels from Thunder Bay, and the metals assay results for the waste rock. The table shows that the inclusion of a conservative background concentration for airborne metals would not materially change the predicted concentrations presented in the EIS.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1003 847 1969 1209"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Table 1: Estimated Background Concentrations of Airborne Metals, Relative to Predicted values</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Compound</th> <th>Average Composition in Waste Rock (ppm)</th> <th>Background Concentration^(a) (µg/m³)</th> <th>Maximum Modelled Concentration^(b) (µg/m³)</th> <th>Maximum Cumulative Concentration^(c) (µg/m³)</th> <th>Evaluation Criteria (µg/m³)^b</th> <th>% of Criteria</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>TSP</td> <td>—</td> <td>33</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td>As</td> <td>32</td> <td>0.001056</td> <td>0.022</td> <td>0.023056</td> <td>0.3</td> <td>8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cr</td> <td>143</td> <td>0.004719</td> <td>0.077</td> <td>0.081719</td> <td>1</td> <td>8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mn</td> <td>562</td> <td>0.018546</td> <td>0.286</td> <td>0.304546</td> <td>0.4</td> <td>76%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pb</td> <td>143</td> <td>0.004719</td> <td>0.166</td> <td>0.170719</td> <td>0.5</td> <td>34%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Notes:</p> <p>(a) Background concentrations are calculated as the product of the background TSP value for Thunder Bay, and the relative metal assay composition for the waste rock.</p> <p>(b) Maximum modelled concentrations were presented in Table 6.4.4 of the EIS and Table 5 of the Environmental Air Quality Assessment (RWDI, 2014e)</p> <p>(c) Maximum cumulative concentrations are the sum of the background and maximum modelled concentrations.</p>	Table 1: Estimated Background Concentrations of Airborne Metals, Relative to Predicted values							Compound	Average Composition in Waste Rock (ppm)	Background Concentration ^(a) (µg/m ³)	Maximum Modelled Concentration ^(b) (µg/m ³)	Maximum Cumulative Concentration ^(c) (µg/m ³)	Evaluation Criteria (µg/m ³) ^b	% of Criteria	TSP	—	33	—	—	—	—	As	32	0.001056	0.022	0.023056	0.3	8%	Cr	143	0.004719	0.077	0.081719	1	8%	Mn	562	0.018546	0.286	0.304546	0.4	76%	Pb	143	0.004719	0.166	0.170719	0.5	34%
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					<p>B. There are currently no accepted reference methods for determining real-time airborne metal concentrations.</p> <p>References</p> <p>RWDI, 2014e. Goliath Gold Project: Environmental Air Quality Assessment, Final Report. Prepared for Treasury Metals Incorporated. Prepared by RWDI Air Inc., Guelph, Ontario. Included as part of Appendix J to the EIS.</p>
164	AE(1)-02	CEA Agency	<p>EIS Sections 6.4.1.5, 12.4, 13.2, Tables 6.4.1, 6.4.2, 6.4.3</p> <p>Appendix J Table 5</p>	<p>Sections 9, 10.1.3, 11.4</p>	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>There appears to be inconsistencies for air quality monitoring in different sections of the EIS and there is no mention of monitoring in Appendix J. In section 6.4.1.5 (EIS) and in Tables 6.4.1, 6.4.2 and 6.4.3 (EIS, pages 6-51 to 6-59, 6-60 to 6-68, and 6-69 to 6-77), no follow-up monitoring is planned for air quality. Since TSP and PM10 are expected to be above provincial thresholds at the property line (Appendix J, Table 5, page 25) and PM2.5 and NOx (NO2) will be close to the provincial thresholds, monitoring of these four compounds should be undertaken during site preparation, construction, operation, decommissioning (closure) and abandonment (post-closure) phases. PM10 and PM2.5 should be included in the list of substances to monitor (exceedances were predicted during operation) as these substances are not included in Table 12.4.1 (EIS, page 12-3).</p> <p>The proponent should develop an ambient air quality follow-up monitoring program in consultation with relevant regulatory agencies that clearly outlines thresholds that trigger the need to consider additional mitigation. The plan should include the details about the monitoring parameters, methods, sampling locations, applicable standards, duration, and frequencies for information to be submitted for review prior to commencing work for the construction phase. The plan should also commit to real time ambient air monitoring during site preparation, construction, operation, decommissioning (closure) and abandonment (post-closure) phases for TSP, PM10, PM2.5, Metals and NOx at a minimum.</p> <p>Section 11.4 of the EIS Guidelines requires the follow-up monitoring program to monitor the effectiveness of mitigation measures in relation to environmental effects with respect to Aboriginal peoples' [health]. Also, the program should encompass measures to address public concerns, where appropriate.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide a comprehensive follow-up monitoring plan for air quality.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. Treasury Metals included air monitoring as part of their commitment to environmental stewardship. The framework of the plan included the following:</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airborne TSP concentrations determined using high volume samplers; • Airborne metals determined by periodic analyses on the collected high volume sampler filters; and • Passive monitoring for NO_x and SO₂. <p>Comprehensive ambient monitoring plans are usually developed as part of the ECA process. Specifically, comprehensive plans are developed in conjunction with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) as part of the best management practices plan. The MOECC could add such a condition to the ECA if they have concerns. Appendix J to the EIS included a draft Best Management Practices Plan (RWDI, 2014g), but the plan has not yet been reviewed by the MOECC. Nor has the MOECC required Treasury Metals to begin the development of a comprehensive air monitoring plan.</p> <p>Section 13.6 of the revised EIS, outlined the framework of an ambient monitoring program for air quality. Although not warranted by the results of the modelling to support the ECA process, Section 13.6 of the revised EIS indicated that air monitoring was planned for both the construction and operations phases of the Project. Treasury Metals would consider extending this into the closure phase if deemed appropriate. However, there are no expected sources of air emissions from the Project in the post-closure phase, therefore monitoring during this phase would not be necessary. Treasury Metals expects to work with the MOECC and other agencies to finalize the air monitoring requirements for the Project as a component of the permitting process.</p> <p>References</p> <p>RWDI, 2014g. Goliath Gold Project: Best Practices Plan for Dust. Final Report. Prepared for Treasury Metals Incorporated. Prepared by RWDI Air Inc., Guelph, Ontario. Included as part of Appendix J to the revised EIS.</p>
165	AE(1)-03	CEA Agency	Appendix J Section 2.1.1, Table 1	Section 9	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 2.1.1 (Appendix J) states that ozone is not addressed as an air quality issue in the report.</p> <p>In the absence of quantitative analysis, the environmental assessment should include a discussion of the NO_x/VOC balance in the area and what the expected direction of ozone formation would be as a result of changes in NO_x levels and other precursors, in order to justify its exclusion from assessment. This issue is important given the high NO₂ concentrations found in certain areas.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide a discussion of NO_x/VOC balance in the area and what the expected direction of O₃ formation would be as a result of changes of NO_x and other precursors in the Air Quality Study section.</p>

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					<p>Response:</p> <p>A. The expected direction of ozone formation in an area can also be referred to as the ozone sensitivity of an area. An area that is VOC-sensitive will experience increased ozone with increased VOC emissions, but little change with increasing NO_x emissions. In contrast, NO_x-sensitive areas will experience increased ozone with increased NO_x emissions but will show little change with increasing VOC emissions. Numerous publications (Silman, 1995; Sillman and He, 2002; and Sillman et al, 2003) are available that describe the possible linkage between ozone sensitivity and key indicators such as NO_y, O₃/(NO_y-NO_x), HCNO/NO_y and H₂O₂/HNO₃. While the relationships are described, the papers also point out that the indicators relied on to identify whether an area is NO_x-sensitive or VOC-sensitive are rarely available through monitoring. Most of the papers reviewed rely solely on modelled information. These limitations mean it is not feasible to provide a definitive indication of the expected direction of ozone formation. However, the following can be stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While an increase in VOC concentrations could serve as a precursor to ozone formation, none of the mine activities are significant sources of VOCs emissions, and thus the VOC concentrations will not materially change as a result of the Project. • The NO_x emissions associated with the Project will be a combination of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and nitric acid (NO), with the majority (95%, Dieselnet, 2016c: website) of the emissions from diesel combustion being in the form of NO. While the percentage of NO₂ in diesel exhaust is increasing (Carslow et al, 2011), the vast majority of emissions remain NO, which in the atmosphere will result in a local scavenging reaction of the ground level ozone (O₃), converting the NO is converted to NO₂. This relationship can be seen in the ambient monitoring data in Thunder Bay (see Figure 1), where the higher NO concentrations correspond to lower values of ozone.

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					<p data-bbox="1024 272 1501 300">Figure 1: Relationship, O₃ to NO (Thunder Bay, 2015)</p>  <p data-bbox="997 971 1969 1274">At first glance, the area where the Project is located could be considered potentially NO_x-sensitive as there appear to be sources of biogenic VOC emissions present. Section 5.9.2 of the revised EIS characterizes the area near the Project as being largely (61%) forested, with a range of forest types (mixed forest 25%, sparse forest 24%, and coniferous forest 14%). However, there are also numerous other sources of NO_x emissions in the area. These include the TransCanada Highway (Highway 17) and the Canadian Pacific railway, both of which run immediately to the south of the Project. There is also the community of Dryden and its associated airport. Ultimately, the most telling factor is the climate in the region, which is not conducive to ground-level ozone formation. Since 1970, the climate station at Dryden airport has recorded an average of five days per year with very hot temperatures (i.e., those with temperatures >30°C).</p> <p data-bbox="997 1282 1969 1399">Ultimately the discussion of whether the area is NO_x-sensitive or VOC-sensitive is largely an academic exercise. The Project will result in no measurable change in the VOC concentrations, and the NO_x emissions from the Project are likely to result in a local decrease in ozone due to scavenging. Finally, the climate in the area is not conducive to ozone formation. Overall, the Project</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>is expected to have little or no lasting effect on ground-level ozone concentrations in the region.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Carslaw, D., S. Beevers, E. Westmoreland, M. Williams et al., 2011. "Trends in NO_x and NO₂ emissions and ambient measurements in the UK", UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, July 2011, http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/reports/cat05/1108251149_110718</p> <p>RWDI Air Inc. (RWDI). 2014g. Goliath Gold Project: Best Practices Plan for Dust. Final Report. Prepared for Treasury Metals Incorporated. Prepared by RWDI Air Inc., Guelph, Ontario. Included as part of Appendix J to the EIS.</p> <p>Sillman, S., and D. He. 2002. Some theoretical results concerning O₃-NO_x-VOC chemistry and NO_x-VOC indicators, J. Geophys. Res., 107(D22), 4659, doi:10.1029/2001JD001123, 2002.</p> <p>Sillman, S., R. Vautard, L. Menut, and D. Kley. 2003. O₃-NO_x-VOC sensitivity and NO_x-VOC indicators in Paris: Results from models and Atmospheric Pollution Over the Paris Area (ESQUIF) measurements, J. Geophys. Res., 108(D17), 8563, doi:10.1029/2002JD001561, 2003.</p> <p>Sillman, S. 1995. The use of NO_y, H₂O₂, and HNO₃ as indicators for ozone-NO_x-hydrocarbon sensitivity in urban areas. J. Geophys. Res., 100(D7), 14.175. July 1995.</p> <p>Websites Cited</p> <p>Dieselnet. 2016c. Technology Guide. What Are Diesel Emissions? Accessed on December 29, 2016. https://www.dieselnet.com/tech/emi_gas.php.</p>
166	AE(1)-04	CEA Agency	Appendix J Section 3.2	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Section 3.2 (Appendix J) states: "Although it would be ideal to estimate future background air quality conditions in the area by examining historical monitoring data from similar areas, there were no suitable monitoring stations located in such an area. Therefore, the most recent available monitoring data from the closest MOE operated monitoring station was used to estimate background air quality conditions."</p> <p>The monitoring station in Thunder Bay is quite distant and is more urban than the study area. Pickle Lake is approximately the same distance away to the north, but this station would be more representative of the study area due to its rural setting.</p> <p>To avoid confusion in public review the proponent should justify their decision to use data from the Thunder Bay monitoring station. The proponent should include example calculations and methodology used to determine air quality thresholds and provide a clear explanation of why using Thunder Bay data is more/less conservative than using Pickle Lake data.</p>

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					<p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide rational for using air quality data from the Thunder Bay monitoring stations and provide sample calculations and methodology for determining air quality thresholds.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> A. It was felt that the Thunder Bay data would provide a more conservative approach for assessing the baseline as they will likely be higher than at a remote site, such as Pickle Lake. It was felt this was particularly important with regard to combustion byproducts since the mine site is relatively close (< 2.5 km) to the TransCanada highway. While the station at Pickle Lake could have provided lower, more representative background values for several compounds, the data was not readily accessible at the time the baseline air quality was prepared.</p>
167	AE(1)-05	CEA Agency	Appendix J Section 4.2	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 4.2 (Appendix J) states that “Although the NAAQOs will eventually be replaced by CAAQS, they are used as criteria for compounds for which CAAQs have not yet been developed.”</p> <p>Please note that CCME is in the process of establishing CAAQS for NO₂ and SO₂ which will replace the NAAQOs and it is expected that the new CAAQs will be lower (more conservative) than the NAAQOs. Therefore, it is suggested to use the province of Ontario ambient air quality criteria.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Use the province of Ontario ambient air quality criteria for NO₂ and SO₂ for thresholds in the analysis.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> Section 4 of the Environmental Air Quality Assessment (RWDI, 2014e: included as part of Appendix J to the revised EIS) describes the assessment criteria considered for air quality. Specifically, Section 4.1 discusses the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS), Section 4.2 discusses the National Ambient Air Quality Objectives (NAAQO) and Section 4.3 discusses the Ontario Ambient Air Quality Criteria (AAQC). A summary of these criteria and the rationale for the criteria used in the assessment were provided in Table 2 (RWDI, 2014e) and Section 4.3, respectively. As stated in Section 4.2, “...the most stringent criteria were selected for each contaminant indicator.” A review of Table 2 (RWDI, 2014e) shows that the following sources were used as the basis of the assessment criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAQC: 24-hr TSP, annual TSP, 24-hr PM₁₀, 30-day dustfall, annual dustfall, 1-hr NO₂, 24-hr NO₂, airborne metals; • CAAQS: 24-hour PM_{2.5}, annual PM_{2.5}; and

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NAAQS: 1-hr SO₂, 24-hr SO₂, annual SO₂, annual NO₂, 1-hr CO, 8-hr CO.
168	AE(1)-06	CEA Agency	Appendix J Table 5, Section 7.4	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Table 5 (Appendix J, page 25) shows exceedances are predicted for TSP and PM₁₀ during the operational phase. PM_{2.5} and NO₂ are also predicted to increase significantly over background concentrations and approaching thresholds. This is a concern as health risks exist below guidelines for these non-threshold substances.</p> <p>It should be noted that the guiding principles of Keeping Clean Areas Clean and Continuous Improvement are operative, thus proposed mitigation measures should not be confined to meet the standards, but should also be targeted towards reducing population exposure to PM and NO₂ associated with the Project (CCME 2007).</p> <p>Therefore, additional mitigation measures should be used to adequately protect human health. For example, the estimation of emission control efficiency for each source of emission could be undertaken in order to optimize the overall emission control efficiency of the project.</p> <p>Reference: http://www.ccme.ca/files/Resources/air/pm_ozone/1389_ci_kcac_e.pdf</p> <p>In addition, section 7.4 (Appendix J) states: "Treasury metals will ensure that best practices are followed during the Operational phase to ensure that air emissions are minimized." All best practices applicable to the activities taking place should be followed during all phases of the Project, not only the operational phase.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Identify and describe additional mitigation measures, including best practices, to reduce PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, and NO₂ concentrations associated with all project activities for all phases of the Project.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. A listing of measures to avoid air quality effects during the site preparation and construction phase, the operations phase and the closure phase area presented in Sections 6.3, 7.4 and 8.3, respectively, of the Environmental Air Quality Assessment (RWDI, 2014e). The measures included a number of typical best practices for mining operations. In addition, further details are set out in the Best Management Practices Plan for Dust (RWDI, 2014g) included as part of Appendix J to the EIS. This plan was prepared as part of the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) process for the</p>

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					<p>Project, and contains specific processes and trigger mechanisms for reducing particulate matter effects, including PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}.</p> <p>Mitigation measures to reduce NO₂ concentrations will focus on reducing the emissions of NO_x from the Project. Because the Project will be tying in to the 115 kV power line running adjacent to the proposed plant location, the primary source of NO_x emissions from the Project are those associated with the mining equipment. The only Project specific mitigation for emissions from diesel vehicles are ensuring that "...internal combustion engines are properly maintained and all emission control systems (e.g., diesel particulate filters) are in good working order." There are standards in Canada regulating the emissions from non-road diesel equipment, with the Canadian non-road diesel emission standards harmonized with the standards in the United States (Government of Canada, 2016). Stricter requirements for emissions from non-road diesel engines will be implemented, as mandated, by the federal government. For the purposes of the EIS, it was conservatively assumed that the equipment to be used at the Project was manufactured in 2010, and would meet the relevant emission standards (RWDI, 2014e: Section 3.3.4).</p> <p>References</p> <p>Government of Canada, 2016. Consolidated Off-Road Compression-Ignition Engine Emission Regulations. Current to December 8, 2016. Last amended on January 16, 2012.</p> <p>RWDI Air Inc. (RWDI). 2014e. Goliath Gold Project: Environmental Air Quality Assessment, Final Report. Prepared for Treasury Metals Incorporated. Prepared by RWDI Air Inc., Guelph, Ontario. Included as part of Appendix J to the EIS.</p> <p>RWDI. 2014g. Goliath Gold Project: Best Practices Plan for Dust. Final Report. Prepared for Treasury Metals Incorporated. Prepared by RWDI Air Inc., Guelph, Ontario. Included as part of Appendix J to the EIS.</p>
169	AE(1)-07	CEA Agency	Appendix J Section 3.4, Tables 3, 4, 8	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 3.4 (Appendix J) states that the Operational phase will pose the longest term potential air quality impact and, as a result the Operations phase alone was selected for the dispersion modelling portion of the assessment.</p> <p>Tables 3, 4 and 8 (Appendix J, pages 23, 25, and 43) show that the emission rates of PM_{2.5} during construction/site preparation and decommissioning/restoration phases are approximately 50% of the operational phase emissions rate. However, annual TSP emissions rates during construction/site preparation and decommissioning/restoration phases are approximately doubled compared to the operational phase.</p> <p>It is stated that the increased emissions are further away from the receptors of interest than during</p>


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					<p>the operations phase; however, since there was no discussion about restricting site access during operations, this assumption may be in question. As such, the most conservative assessment of exposure to air contaminants would be to evaluate exposure at the location of the highest predicted air contaminant concentrations. Modelling and assessment of the air quality effects of Construction and Site Preparation Phase and the Closure, Decommissioning and Restoration Phase is required.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Model and assess potential air quality impacts during construction/site preparation and decommissioning/restoration phases of the project.</p> <p>B. Include dispersion modelling of short term air quality impacts from site preparation and construction activities with a focus on NO_x, TSP, PM10 and PM2.5.</p> <p>C. Describe how site access will be limited to workers only. If site access is not expected to be restricted, evaluate health risks to non-workers, particularly Aboriginal peoples that use proximate lands and resources for traditional purposes, using the highest predicted air contaminant concentrations (which may be on-site concentrations).</p> <p>D. Include other emission sources such as emissions from on-road, aggregate pits and diesel generators in the assessment. Revise Table 4 (Appendix J) accordingly.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. The emissions for the operations phase were presented in Table 4 of Appendix J. A comparison with the site preparation and construction phase emissions (Table 3 of Appendix J) and closure phase (Table 8 of Appendix J) demonstrates that the emissions during operations are considerably higher than the other phases of the Project for combustion compounds (fine particulate [PM_{2.5}] and NO_x, and by extension CO and SO₂). During the site preparation and construction phase, and the closure phase, the emissions of TSP and PM₁₀ will be higher due to the nature of the activities (earth moving and clearing). However, the emissions during this phase will be spread out across the entire site and will be constantly moving. In contrast, the emissions for the operations phase were modelled in a conservative manner, with mining in the open pit occurring at the surface and close to the edge of the property, concurrent with activity on the overburden storage pile, and the low-grade ore (LGO) stock pile (see Figures 6 through 19 of Appendix J).</p> <p>Treasury Metals and their consultants are confident in the decision to focus on the operations phase, as this will clearly produce the highest off-site effects and impacts. This position is supported by the following:</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservative configuration used to evaluate the operations phase emissions will result in higher off-site effects, especially at receptors of interest, than the situation where the emissions are spread out over the entire site and constantly moving. • The emissions of combustion compounds (fine particulate [PM_{2.5}] and NO_x, and by extension CO and SO₂) are considerably higher during the operations phase than the other phases of the Project. • The air quality effects during the operations phase will be the longest lasting. <p>B. See response to part A.</p> <p>C. As stated in the revised EIS, access to the site will be restricted for security and safety reasons during the life of the Project. Access will be restricted to workers, and permitted individuals visiting the operations. The maximum air concentrations that individual members of the public, including Aboriginal peoples, could be exposed to for short periods would be the operations phase predictions at the property line. The maximum concentrations that members of the public, including Aboriginal peoples, could be exposed to for longer periods of time would be the operations phase predictions at the closest sensitive receptor (Table 7 in Appendix J).</p> <p>D. Table 4 of Appendix J to the revised EIS presents the emissions from the Project during the operations phase. The table does include the emissions from generators, which will only be required in the event of power outage to safely manage the site until power is restored. The power for the Project will be supplied by the 115 kV power transmission line that runs through the site, adjacent to the processing plant. The emissions in Table 4 include all of the equipment at the site. In the event that aggregate extraction occurs on-site, the emissions will not change as the same equipment will be temporarily relocated. If the aggregate comes from an off-site location, those emissions would be associated with another operation, and not the Project. The emissions from the relatively small number of on-road vehicles travelling to the site each day were not included in the table as they are too small to affect the local air quality. Table 4 does not require revision.</p>

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170	AE(1)-08	CEA Agency	Appendix J, Tables 4, 5, 7 Section 7	Section 9.1.2, 10.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> The following clarifications and justifications are needed in order to understand the validity of the operational phase air quality assessment: - Clarify if emission sources such as aggregate pits and on site traffic (worker/passenger vehicles) have been considered in Table 4. - Table 5 shows exceedance of TSP and particulate matter. Clarify if the mitigation measures and control efficiency were incorporated into the model and whether these exceedances are before or after mitigation measures. - The mitigation measures described in Section 7.4 (Appendix J) do not provide detail with respect to the frequency of their application or their control efficiencies. Information on these aspects of the proposed mitigation measures is needed to better understand how they factor into the air quality assessment.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Revise Tables 4 and 5 to include other emission sources, such as aggregate pits and onsite traffic, if applicable and incorporate into the impact assessment or provide justification if they are considered insignificant sources. B. Provide a rationale as to why short term exceedances of TSP and PM10 and long term (annual) exceedance of TSP is predicted. C. Provide a summary table of mitigation measures including the control efficiency of each measure that was used for modelling (if used). If the measures and their control efficiencies were not included, modelling should be revised to include these considerations. D. Provide detail with respect to mitigation measures, the frequency of their application and their control efficiencies.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> A. On-site traffic in terms of large truck and other equipment has been included. Personal vehicles are deemed insignificant since they usually are limited to 1 or two trips a day. Weight, tire size and duty factors make their impact minimal when compared to heavy mine trucks that are assumed to be in constant operation. B. Exceedances of particulate criteria are typically predicted at property boundaries under worst-case conditions for mining and aggregate operations. Environmental assessments typically make use of ambient air criteria for determining whether concentrations will be exceeded at the nearby residences. Although ambient criteria are developed to apply at locations where a member of the public could be exposed (i.e., the criteria would apply at, or beyond, the property line), the authors of</p>

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					<p>the Canada-Wide Standards acknowledge that achievement of the standards were to be based on "community-oriented locations" (CCME 2000), with an emphasis on areas "where people live, work and play" (CCME 2000). None of the predicted concentrations are above the selected criteria at sensitive receptor locations (Table 7 of RWDI, 2014e).</p> <p>The requirement for compliance with property line criteria is a fundamental component of the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) process in Ontario. It should be noted that there are a number of potential emissions sources at the Project that are exempted from the ECA assessment process. An evaluation of compliance with the property line criteria stipulated as part of the ECA process is also provided in Appendix J to the EIS (RWDI, 2014f). None of the predicted concentrations from those sources considered in the ECA process exceed the relevant limits at the property line (RWDI, 2014f: Emission Summary Table).</p> <p>C. A listing of the measures to mitigate air quality effects is provided Section 6.3 of the Environmental Air Quality Assessment (RWDI, 2014e). The measures listed are typical best practices for mining operations. These are further set out in the Best Practices Plan for Dust (RWDI, 2014g) included as part of Appendix J to the EIS.</p> <p>The control measure explicitly used in the modelling was road watering to control dust. A factor of 75% control of dust was assumed, which can be achieved readily with periodic watering, was assumed in the modelling.</p> <p>D. As noted in part C, measures assumed to avoid effects are considered best practices for mining operations. With respect to controlling dust on the haul roads, the modelling assumed periodic watering, with an assumed control efficiency of 75%. The application of water would be done on an on-going basis, with the frequency of application adjusted on the basis of the on-site moisture conditions. Watering would also be triggered when dust plumes are visible. Additional details on best practices are provided in the Best Practices Plan for Dust (RWDI, 2014g) included as part of Appendix J to the EIS.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME). 2000. Canada-Wide Standards for Particulate Matter (PM) and Ozone. Ottawa, Canada.</p> <p>RWDI, 2014e. Goliath Gold Project: Environmental Air Quality Assessment, Final Report. Prepared for Treasury Metals Incorporated. Prepared by RWDI Air Inc., Guelph, Ontario. Included as part of Appendix J to the EIS.</p> <p>RWDI, 2014f. Goliath Gold Project: Emission Summary and Dispersion Modelling Report. Final Report. Prepared for Treasury Metals Incorporated. Prepared by RWDI Air Inc., Guelph, Ontario. Included as part of Appendix J to the EIS.</p> <p>RWDI, 2014g. Goliath Gold Project: Best Practices Plan for Dust. Final Report. Prepared for Treasury Metals Incorporated. Prepared by RWDI Air Inc., Guelph, Ontario. Included as part of</p>

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					Appendix J to the EIS.
171	AE(1)-09	CEA Agency	Appendix J Section 7.3, Table 7	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 7.3 (Appendix J) states “Federal EA requirements prescribe that impacts be assessed at the nearest receptors, and not specifically at the property boundary. As such, the particulate levels in Table 7 (Appendix J, page 27) below reflect the predicted impacts at the nearest receptors. These are the concentration values that are applicable to the criteria as per Federal EA requirements.” It is unclear which federal guidelines or reference was used for the above mentioned statement on “Federal EA requirements”.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide a reference for the federal EA requirements mentioned on page 27 of Appendix J.</p> <p>Response: Section 4 of the Environmental Air Quality Assessment (RWDI, 2014e: included as part of Appendix J to the revised EIS) describes the assessment criteria considered for air quality. Specifically, Section 4.1 discusses the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS), Section 4.2 discusses the National Ambient Air Quality Objectives (NAAQO) and Section 4.3 discusses the Ontario Ambient Air Quality Criteria (AAQC). A summary of these criteria and the rationale for the criteria used in the assessment were</p> <p>Although Section 7.3 of the Environmental Air Quality Assessment (RWDI, 2014e: included as part of Appendix J to the EIS) indicated predicted maximum 24-hour TSP, annual TSP and 24-hour PM₁₀ concentrations at the property line could exceed the relevant criteria during the operations phase, the predictions were restricted to areas immediately adjacent to the property line. However, none of the predicted concentrations are above the selected criteria at sensitive receptor locations (Table 7 of RWDI, 2014e). Ambient air criteria are developed to apply at locations where a member of the public could be exposed (i.e., the criteria would apply at, or beyond, the property line). The authors of the Canada-Wide Standards acknowledge that achievement of the standards were to be based on “community-oriented locations” (CCME 2000), with an emphasis on areas “where people live, work and play” (CCME 2000).</p> <p>References Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME). 2000. Canada-Wide Standards for Particulate Matter (PM) and Ozone. Ottawa, Canada. RWDI, 2014e. Goliath Gold Project: Environmental Air Quality Assessment, Final Report. Prepared for Treasury Metals Incorporated. Prepared by RWDI Air Inc., Guelph, Ontario. Included as part of Appendix J to the EIS.</p>
172	AE(1)-10	CEA Agency	Appendix J	Section 10.1.3	Summary of Comment / Rationale:

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			Section 3.5.5, Table 7, List of Figures		<p>Locations and descriptions of sensitive receptors are not clearly presented in Appendix J.</p> <p>Sensitive receptors are shown in proximity to only one section of the Project boundary (as outlined in white square below). Section 3.5.5 (Appendix J) states: "Forty-four receptors of interest were identified within the local study area. Where the surface mining rights have been secured by Treasury Metals, land use was assumed to be non-sensitive and no receptors were identified. All other vacant lands in the vicinity of the Project that were found to be inaccessible (except by a rough cut-in through the forest) were not considered as receptors. Forty-two of the receptors were identified as houses. One was identified as the campground at Aaron Provincial Park. One receptor is a trailer located on otherwise vacant land. There are no receptors identified within the local study area to the north east, because Treasury Metals has surface rights to all land in that direction." While lands may be inaccessible by vehicle they are not inaccessible overall. Sensitive receptors should be identified with Aboriginal traditional use of land in mind. Owning the surface rights to a section of land does not preclude the company from identifying potential sensitive receptors on that land. The proponent's selection of sensitive receptors should be revised with these facts in mind.</p>  <p>Maps indicating locations of all sensitive receptors and their precise locations and distinguish between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal receptors with respect to the Project and the COPC concentrations in these locations are required.</p> <p>In addition, Table 7 (Appendix J, page 27) indicates that impacts are assessed at the "most-impacted receptor location". The receptors as a group are described in Section 3.5.5 (Appendix J) but the nearest receptor is not identified in the document. It is crucial to conduct impact assessment for all the sensitive receptors within 20 km of the mine property line (local study area) due to exceedances of TSP and PM10. PM2.5. NOx should also be included.</p> <p>In the List of Figures (Appendix J) Figure 5 is mislabeled as "Modelled Receptors"; Figure 5 is actually a wind rose diagram. A "Modelled Receptors" figure is missing from Appendix J.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Revise the selection process for sensitive receptors. Describe all sensitive receptors and distinguish between Aboriginal (i.e. Aboriginal dwellings, camps, cabins, recreational sites, hunting,</p>

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					<p>fishing, and country foods collecting areas, etc.) and non-Aboriginal receptors Indicate the proximity of these receptors in relation to the Project site. Provide a map that clearly shows all sensitive receptors and distinguish between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal receptors. Also indicate the most impacted receptor's location</p> <p>B. Provide a map showing the locations of sensitive receptors versus the estimated COPC concentrations.</p> <p>C. Conduct an AQ impact assessment for sensitive receptors such as the Village of Wabigoon, City of Dryden, Townships of Hartman and Zealand and Aaron Park given their proximity to the site.</p> <p>D. Provide a revised version of Table 7 which identifies each receptor and that also incorporates PM2.5 and NOx as indicators.</p> <p>E. Provide an isopleth/contour map should to show the maximum predicted concentrations at each receptor.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. Sensitive receptor locations from an air quality perspective were defined based on any inhabited location that would be used for residential or other purposes. This is consistent with the authors of the Canada-Wide Standards acknowledge that achievement of the standards were to be based on "community-oriented locations" (CCME 2000), with an emphasis on areas "where people live, work and play" (CCME 2000). Information is not available for distinguishing whether the identified sensitive receptors are owned by Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal people. For the purpose of the air quality assessment, the definition of sensitive receptors is appropriate when comparing predictions to criteria, as described by the CCME (2000). The location of these sensitive receptors is provided in Figures 6 through 19 of Environmental Air Quality Assessment included in Appendix J to the EIS.</p> <p>Both the maximum predicted concentrations at the property line, and the sensitive receptor locations were used as inputs to the health risk assessment presented in Appendix W to the EIS. The maximum predicted property line concentrations were predicted to occur at the edge of the property, in the immediate vicinity of the overburden storage pile and low-grade ore (LGO) stockpile (see Figures 6 through 19 of Environmental Air Quality Assessment included in Appendix J to the revised EIS). This would represent the location with the highest predicted air concentrations as a result of the Project. Although access to the active areas of the Project will be restricted during mine operations for safety and security reasons, as described in the revised EIS. Treasury Metals recognizes Aboriginal rights to conduct traditional land uses, such as gathering and hunting, on Crown lands not occupied by the Project. Such locations would be further from the sources of air emissions, and thus would experience lower air concentrations than the maximum predicted air concentrations at the property line. The health risk assessment presented in Appendix W to the revised EIS included both the maximum predicted concentrations at the property line, and the maximum predicted concentrations at the sensitive air quality receptor locations as inputs. No</p>

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					<p>unacceptable risks were determined as a result of the Project.</p> <p>B. Figures 6 through 19 of the Environmental Air Quality Assessment included in Appendix J to the EIS show the sensitive receptor locations and the modelled concentrations of the COPC.</p> <p>C. The air quality assessment was completed at receptors across the local study area (LSA), 20 km by 20 km in size (see TMI_172-AE(1)-10_Figure 1). The air quality receptors cover most of the Township of Hartman, portions of the Township of Zealand, Aaron Provincial Park and the Village of Wabigoon. However, the maximum predicted concentrations at the property line of the Project represent the highest concentrations beyond the active mining area. Predicted concentrations and resulting effects at more distant receptor locations mentioned in the questions would be lower than the maximum values predicted at the property line, and used as inputs to the health risk assessment. As described in TMI_174-AE(1)-12, the Project air quality effects at the City of Dryden would not be distinguishable from background given the distance between the City of Dryden and the Project.</p> <p>D. For the purposes of the air quality assessment, the maximum off-site concentrations at the property line were used, with the exception of TSP and PM₁₀. For TSP and PM₁₀, the maximum at the closest sensitive air quality receptor, consistent with the CCME (2000) interpretation, predicted concentrations would be less than these values at all more distant receptor locations, including areas of the surface lease beyond the active project area where Aboriginal peoples would be able to continue to practice traditional uses of the land.</p> <p>E. Figures 6 to 19 of Environmental Air Quality Assessment included in Appendix J to the EIS show isopleths for the concentrations of air quality parameters at all sensitive air quality receptors, consistent with the CCME (2000) interpretation.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME). 2000. Canada-Wide Standards for Particulate Matter (PM) and Ozone. Ottawa, Canada.</p>
173	AE(1)-11	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6, Figure 6.1.3, Tables 6.4.1, 6.4.2, 6.4.3	Sections 10.1.3, 12.1.1	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 6.4.1.5 (EIS) does not align with Table 6.4.2 (EIS, page 6-61). The table shows magnitude and geographic extent at Level II, and frequency at Level III (residual effect occurs frequently or continuously), while the text in Section 6.4.1.5 deems these all to be Level I in determining an overall magnitude Level I. These inconsistencies need to be corrected.</p> <p>No methodology has been provided for determining the reversibility of effects. The determination that the “effect is readily reversible over a relatively short period”, especially for PM_{2.5}/PM₁₀, is debatable given that exposures below the CAAQS may be associated with respiratory and cardiovascular effects.</p>

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					<p>The determination that duration is Level I (residual effect is temporary or not measurable beyond given project phase) is incorrect as the operational phase is 11 years long, which provides ample time for potential adverse health effects to manifest as a result reduced air quality. Health effects that develop over 11 years may very well persist beyond this period.</p> <p>In summary, It is questionable to summarize across all air pollutants in the residual effects characterization when each pollutant has its own properties and potential health effects and should be considered individually. No data has been provided that quantify the frequency of exceedances and exposures leading to potential health effects.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Clarify the discrepancies between EIS Section 6.4.1.5 and Table 6.4.2.</p> <p>B. Describe how reversibility of effects was determined and why all air contaminants were evaluated together given their different health effects.</p> <p>C. Justify using Level I with respect to duration, taking into account the length of the operational phase and given that exposure to some air contaminants may result in adverse effects even after exposure has ceased.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>The EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) provided the framework that was used in preparing the original EIS. Based on the feedback from CEAA and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions, there are a number of issues related to the approach used in the original EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. Section 6, 7 and 8 of the revised EIS endeavors to set out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner.</p> <p>In compiling the revised EIS, particular care was taken to ensure apparent inconsistencies in the EIS were addressed. In addition, clear justification for the manner in which impact descriptors (e.g., reversibility, magnitude) were assigned for individual VCs has been provided. It should be noted that the air quality effects assessment presented in the original EIS focused on the effects of the Project on air quality. The effects of changes in air quality to human health was assessed as part of the Screening Level Risk Assessment (original EIS: Appendix W). In response to IR Round 1 (e.g., TMI_194-HE(1)-01), human health has been included as a separate discipline in the revised EIS.</p>

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174	AE(1)-12	CEA Agency	Appendix J	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 1.4 (Appendix J) states “In practice, air quality impacts from a project of this magnitude are anticipated to be indistinguishable from background levels at distances 10 km and greater from the nearest active project area. The study therefore focuses on areas within a 20 km by 20 km area.” This claim needs to be quantitatively justified or a quality reference produced.</p> <p>The wind rose presented in Figure 5 (Appendix J, page 17) roughly indicates peak wind speeds directed toward the village of Wabigoon, Wabigoon Lake, Thunder Lake, and Dryden. The EIS should discuss the role that the wind rose data played in selecting sensitive receptors and present quantitative data justifying the choices.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Quantitatively prove that the statement presented in section 1.4 (Appendix J) is true and provide sample calculations or a reference.</p> <p>B. Provide quantitative data backing up the decision to exclude the city of Dryden and the village of Wabigoon as sensitive receptors. If the data does not support this decision include these areas as sensitive receptors and revise air quality discussions/studies accordingly.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. The dispersion modelling was run for receptors across the 20 km by 20 km local study area (LSA), as described in Section 1.4 of the Environmental Air Quality Assessment (included as part of Appendix J to the EIS). The maximum predicted concentrations at the limit of the LSA closest to Dryden were less than 15 µg/m³ for the 24-hour TSP, and less than 12 µg/m³ for the 1-hour NO₂. At the limit of the LSA closest to Wabigoon, the maximum predicted concentration of 24-hour TSP was less than 13 µg/m³, while the maximum 1-hour NO₂ was less than 11 µg/m³. The background air concentrations used in the assessment were presented in Table 1 of Environmental Air Quality Assessment (included as part of Appendix J to the EIS). The background value for 24-hour TSP was 33 µg/m³. Coincidentally, the background concentration for 1-hour NO₂ was also 33 µg/m³.</p> <p>B. In addition to the gridded set of air modelling receptors for receptors described in Section 1.4 and shown on Figure 1 of the Environmental Air Quality Assessment (included as part of Appendix J to the EIS), a set of 42 sensitive receptor locations were also considered. These sensitive receptor locations represented the closest residential dwellings to the Project, and corresponded with the sensitive receptors considered in the noise assessment. Because the village of Wabigoon is further from the Project than the sensitive receptors included in the air quality assessment, the predicted concentrations at the village of Wabigoon would be lower than the predicted maximum concentrations at the closest residences (i.e., sensitive receptors) that were used as inputs to the</p>

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					<p>health risk assessment (see Table 3 of Appendix W to the EIS). Additionally, the City of Dryden is even further from the Project, beyond the limits of the LSA. As a result, the predicted maximum concentrations at the City of Dryden would be indistinguishable from background, as described in part A to this response.</p>
175	AE(1)-13	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> In Section 6 (EIS) the proponent appears to take a generalized approach to dispersion modelling of dust vs. gaseous emissions. Dust and gaseous emissions display different dispersion characteristics and should be discussed separately.</p> <p>Furthermore dust from general mining operations and dust from blasting activities should be discussed separately considering trace contaminants present in the dust, the volume of dust produced over a given time period and the height that the dust will reach in the local atmosphere.</p> <p>Mitigation measures are not specifically addressed for dust from blasting.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Justify why dust and gaseous emissions are grouped under the same dispersion model and LSA/RSA. If the conclusion is that they cannot be grouped, discuss and model the dispersion characteristics separately.</p> <p>B. Revise corresponding figures in the EIS to show the LSA/RSA for dust and gaseous emissions.</p> <p>C. Describe dust resulting from blasting activities and contrast with dust from general operations (e.g. road dust, crusher dust etc.).</p> <p>D. Provide mitigation measures related to dust from blasting</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. The approach used for assessing the air quality effects associated with the Project is consistent with the air modelling guidance from the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC). Modelling was done using the AERMOD dispersion model developed by the U.S. EPA (see Section 3.5.1 of Appendix J). This model is recommended for use in predicting concentrations of both gases and particulates. Both gases and particulates adhere to the same fundamental dispersion physics in the atmosphere. There are some minor differences with respect to deposition. While deposition can affect both gases and particulates, particulate deposition is considerably greater as gravity has a strong influence on particle deposition. As described in Section 3.5.2 of Appendix J to the revised EIS, the AERMOD dispersion model is capable of, and was used for, predicting particle deposition in</p>

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					<p>the EIS. The AERMOD dispersion model is also capable of predicting plume particle depletion, which means the model removes the particles deposited from the plume as it travels downwind. As described in Section 3.5.2 of Appendix J to the EIS, particle depletion was conservatively ignored in the modelling for the EIS, and all emitted particles were assumed to remain available to affect downwind concentrations. No deposition was modelled for gaseous compounds.</p> <p>B. The local study area (LSA) for air quality corresponds to the modelling domain used in the AERMOD dispersion model (see Figure 2 of Appendix J to the revised EIS). As described in the response to part A, the same dispersion model is suitable and appropriate for modelling both particulate and gaseous concentrations. Therefore, the LSA would be the same for both gaseous and particulate matter. The regional study area (RSA) for air quality corresponds to the areas used for characterizing the existing air quality and meteorological conditions. It is neither practical, nor is it appropriate to present the dispersion modelling results over the RSA, as it would not be possible to distinguish the effects over such a large area. Similarly, the figures used to present the spatial dispersion modelling results (Figures 6 through 19 of Appendix J to the EIS) were focused on the areas in the immediate vicinity of the Project to better display the spatial patterns of predicted concentrations. Displaying the results on figures sized to include the entire LSA would have made it harder to distinguish the spatial patterns of the predicted concentrations.</p> <p>A more comprehensive discussion regarding the LSA and RSA for air quality has been provided in Section 2.3.5 of the revised EIS. The revised EIS is a stand-alone document prepared by Treasury Metals to accompany the Round 1 responses. The revised EIS was prepared to address issues regarding the organization of information presented in the EIS, and to address issues raised through the responses to Round 1 questions.</p> <p>C. Modern blasting methods used in mining are designed to direct the energy from the blasts into the rock. This reduces the amount of blasting agents required to achieve the desired objectives, and ultimately reduces the amount of dust generated. The dust generated from modern blasting result primarily from the physical impact of the displaced rock. There are no significant differences in the dust characteristics from blasting than from other material handing activities that will be happening in the open pit or underground mine at the Project. The proposed blasting at the Project will likely be restricted to once per day, and only a few days during each week. For the purposes of the air modelling, conservative assumptions with regard to large blast sizes and other parameters were used throughout the assessment.</p> <p>D. The best way to control blast emissions is to use the most efficient blasting techniques which will employ phased, shaped blasts. Production staff will be employing these methods to use explosives efficiently for economic and safety reasons, in addition to controlling emissions. This was identified as a mitigation measure, both in Section 6.3 of Appendix J to the EIS, and Section 6.6.5 of the revised EIS.</p>

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176	AE(1)-14	CEA Agency	Appendix J Section 3.3.2	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Emission estimate calculations for road dust from unpaved roads assumed a silt content of 5.8% based on taconite mining and processing haul road as per Table 13.2.2-1 in AP-42 (U.S. EPA Compilation of Air Pollutant Emission Factors) and a mitigation control efficiency of 75%. The basis of the 75% control efficiency and the reason why a low silt content was assumed is unclear. The rationale and basis for these two values is needed to understand the extent to which they effect the predictions that have been made for air quality and their relevance to conditions at the site.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide a rationale as to why a low silt content of 5.8%, was assumed (dust emission are directly proportional to the silt content) as there are other values provided in the AP-42 table ranging from 3-16% with a mean value of 10% (9.14% is typical for mining sector in Ontario). B. Provide an explanation for the use of 75% control efficiency.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> A. The values in the assessment used reflect taconite mining and processing, as shown on Table 13.2.2-1 of AP-42. This was used a suitable surrogate for mining operations in the region, as the measurements were taken at the Erie Mining Company near Hoyt Lakes, MN, which is roughly 250 km south of the Project, and reflects metal ore mining operations. The other value provided on Table 13.2.2-1 of AP-42 are from the following types of facilities, none of which are comparable to the proposed Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copper smelting • Iron and steel production • Sand and gravel processing • Stone quarrying and processing • Western Surface Coal Mining • Construction sites • Lumber sawmills • Municipal solid waste landfills <p>There was no reference provided for the 9.14% silt collected for the Ontario mining sector, however, it likely includes limestone quarries and gravel pits, which are typically softer material than at the Project, and would be used likely to abrade into silt.</p> <p>B) 75% control efficiency is generally a readily achievable control efficiency with moderate watering during dry periods. It should be noted that the implementation of a dust Best Management Practices</p>

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					Plan will include a provision to water when visible plumes of dust begin to appear.
177	AE(1)-15	CEA Agency	Appendix J, Sections 6.3, 7.4, 8.3 Appendix D	Section 11.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Due to the predicted exceedances and the details missing about the Dust Best Management Plan (DBMP) and the mitigation measures, there is some uncertainty about the potential for significant adverse impacts on air quality that could result from the project. For example, it is important to understand the objectives to be achieved through air quality mitigation measures, the methods to be applied and the conditions that trigger the need for mitigation.</p> <p>The Proponent should be advised that compliance with the following regulations and code of practice will help to ensure that emissions are reduced throughout all phases of the project:</p> <p>Vehicle and fuel regulations addressing air pollutants and GHGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On-road vehicle and engine regulations that establish maximum levels for a number of pollutants including particulate matter and ozone precursors such as NOx and VOCs: - On-Road Vehicle and Engine Emission Regulations: http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2003-2/index.html - Off-road diesel engine emission regulations that also control these air pollutants. These have been recently updated to align with US EPA's Tier 4 regulations: - Off-Road Compression Ignition Engine Emission Regulations: http://laws-lois.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2005-32/index.html - Sulphur in gasoline and in diesel regulations are in place that ensure that the fuel will not impede the effective operation of advanced emissions control technologies installed on vehicles and engines (technologies such as particulate filters): - Sulphur in Gasoline Regulations: http://laws-lois.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-99-236/index.html - Sulphur in Diesel Fuels Regulations: http://laws-lois.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2002-254/index.html - Passenger Automobile and Light Truck Greenhouse Gas Emission Regulations, SOR/2010-201; 74, aligned with the US, setting progressively stricter GHG emissions standards for 2011-2016 model years: http://laws-lois.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2010-201/index.html - Heavy-duty Vehicle and Engine Greenhouse Gas Emission Regulations, SOR/2013-24, apply to 2014 and later model years: http://laws-lois.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2013-24/index.html - Renewable Fuels Regulations, SOR/2010-189: http://laws-lois.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2010-189/index.html <p>Management practices for reducing emissions from mine fleet equipment including compliance with</p>

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					<p>EC's off-road diesel engines regulations and use of tier 4 technologies and engine operation and maintenance guidelines as per EC's Environmental Code of Practice for Metal Mines (2009): http://www.ec.gc.ca/lcpe-cepa/default.asp?lang=En&n=CBE3CD59-1</p> <p>The following guidance document is a valuable source of information on air quality mitigation (for example on the use of water and dust suppressants to mitigate fugitive dust from site preparation, storage piles, unpaved roads, etc.):</p> <p>- "Best Practices for the Reduction of Air Emissions from Construction and Demolition Activities" (ChemInfo, 2005). A copy of this document can be provided by Environment Canada at the proponent's request.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Incorporate the regulations and code of practice into Best Management Plan for dust (DBMP), greenhouse gas (GHG) emission plan, Engine Maintenance Program and other mitigation actions for all phases of the project.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. The current versions of these regulations and codes have been referenced in the updated Dust Best Management Practices Plan and applicable provisions will be incorporated into the plan prior to the commencement of construction. This has been added to the Commitment Registry.</p>
178	AE(1)-16	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 3, 6, 13 Appendix I	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>A description of the proposed artificial lighting setup to be used for nighttime operations is not included in the EIS.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide a description and schematic of the artificial lighting setup to be used for nighttime operations.</p> <p>B. Provide technical specifications for the proposed artificial lighting setup and model light trespass and its effect on sensitive receptors based on this information.</p> <p>C. Use the information attained from the artificial lighting study to clearly define the associated LSA/RSA. Use this information to justify the current selection of sensitive receptors and the reasons for not including the city of Dryden and the village of Wabigoon as part of the LSA for light.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Night-time lighting will be provided to sustain the safe operation of the Project 24-hours a day. On-</p>

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					<p>site night-shift staff numbers will be significantly lower than during the day and the majority of operations and maintenance tasks will be within the process plant buildings. In addition, all site deliveries and process plant bulk chemical and warehouse deliveries will be scheduled for daylight hours. Night-time lighting will therefore be designed to provide the minimum illumination levels necessary to support the night-time operation, knowing that no significant work at the plant site will be performed outside during 'normal operation'.</p> <p>A preliminary night-time lighting layout has been designed to provide the minimum night-time illumination levels for the process plant and mine infrastructure. The lighting layout only outlines the external operations lighting and all internal lighting within enclosed buildings and structures has been excluded. It should be stressed that this lighting layout is preliminary and will evolve as detailed design and modelling progresses.</p> <p>A schematic of the plant night-time lighting layout is provided in TMI_178-AE(1)-16_Figure_1. A brief description of the lighting plan is below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A single 6 m high mounted floodlight (132.2 Watts) will be installed on the Run Of Mine (ROM) pad above the ROM Bin to provide an area illumination level of 40 Lux over the ROM Bin to provide the Haul Truck drivers and Front End Loader (FEL) operators sufficient lighting for ore tipping. A 6 m high area light (56.9 Watts) also provides an illumination level of 5 Lux to the ground surface in front of the ROM Bin. • There will be no external lighting for the enclosed raw ore conveyor galleries as these will be fully enclosed structures, with internal lighting provided. • An area light (56.9 Watts) will be mounted at a height of 15m on each of the three external sides of the Primary Crusher Building to provide a surrounding ground illumination level of 5 Lux. • A single floodlight (132.2 Watts) will be mounted at a height of 22 m off the Ore Feed Bin to provide a minimum stockpile illumination level of 5 Lux for the Bin overflow stockpile area. Two (2) additional floodlights will be mounted at a height of 22 m off the Ore Feed Bin structure which will illuminate the stockpile reclaim hopper below to a level of 40 Lux. • Fourteen (14) area lights (56.9 Watts) will be mounted at a height of 15 m around the perimeter of the Process Plant Building, with an approximate distance of 18.5 m between each light. This lighting set-up will provide a ground perimeter illumination of 5 Lux. • An area light (56.9 Watts) will be mounted at a height of 5 m on each side of the main HV switch room located beside the plant. A light will be installed above each main access door either side of the switch room. One light will then be located on each remaining side. This lighting arrangement will provide a ground perimeter illumination level of 5 Lux. • Two 10 m high mounted floodlights (132.2 Watts) will be installed adjacent to the truck line-up area to provide a sufficient ground illumination of 5 Lux for the waiting mine haul trucks and operations equipment.

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four (4) area lights (56.9 Watts) will be mounted at a height of 10 m on the front of the truck workshop and maintenance building. There will be an approximate distance of 11 m between each light. These mounted workshop lights, together with one (1) 10 m high floodlight (132.2 Watts) located beside the fuel tank area will provide a ground illumination of 5 Lux for the area in front of the workshop. • Four (4) 10 m high mounted floodlights (132.2 Watts) will be located at the fuel tank area to provide an fuel tank ground illumination level of 40 Lux • Five (5) 10 m high floodlights (132.2 Watts) will be mounted from the mine administration building to provide a perimeter ground illumination level of 5 Lux. • Two (2) 10 m high mounted floodlights (132.2 Watts) will be installed directly in front of the guard house to provide a sufficient illumination level of 40 Lux to the area adjacent the guardhouse and to the right of the site access road located off Nursery Tree Road. Two (2) additional 10 m high mounted floodlights (132.2 Watts) will be located at either end of the plant parking lot outside of the perimeter fencing to provide a carpark ground illumination level of 5 Lux. <p>All plant area night-time lighting will be controlled by the process plant control system and will be automatically turned on/off from adjustable timers.</p> <p>B. External process plant and mine infrastructure area lighting will be designed in accordance with the illumination plant design criteria specified in Table 1 below. Higher Lux illumination levels (>80) will be observed within the process plant and mine infrastructure buildings which contains the process and electrical equipment.</p> <p>The technical specifications for the external plant and infrastructure light fixtures are detailed in TMI_178-AE(1)-16_Table_2.</p> <p>All externally mounted luminaires and their associated lamps will be designed to meet the requirements and recommendations of the Canadian Electrical Code (CEC), and the Building Code of Ontario. In particular, tilt and cut-off angles shall be such as to minimise the effect of the lighting system on the nearby residents and sensitive receivers. Light fixtures will be installed at a tilt angle of 45°.</p> <p>In addition, Luminaires will be suitably designed and selected for the intended environment, which includes factors such as high levels of vibration, water, snow and dust. Plant area luminaires will be protected to not less than NEMA 4 and have CSA certification.</p> <p>The plant and mine infrastructure light trespass has been modelled with the resultant preliminary Lux plot and rendered plan view shown in TMI_178-AE(1)-16_Figure_1 and TMI_178-AE(1)-16_Figure_2, respectively. As highlighted in the response to part A, internal building lighting has</p>

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					<p>been excluded from the lighting model as these buildings are fully enclosed.</p> <p>As demonstrated in the Lux plot and plant rendered views, the effects of plant and mine infrastructure lighting on the neighbouring properties are insignificant as trespass emissions do not extend more than 100 to 200 m from the process plant infrastructure.</p> <p>Additional site infrastructure and features such as the waste rock storage area (WRSA) green wall will further limit light emission impacts on the neighbours based near Thunder Lake.</p> <p>C. The results of the lighting assessment presented in TMI_178-AE(1)-16_Figure_1 and TMI_178-AE(1)-16_Figure_2 show the effects of the plant and mine infrastructure lighting are restricted to an area that does not extend more than 100 to 200 m from the process plant infrastructure. There would be no measurable effect on the light trespass at the 42 nearest residential dwellings selected as sensitive receptor locations for the light assessment. As the City of Dryden and the village of Wabigoon are considerably further away from the Project than any of the sensitive light receptor locations, there would be no effects from Project lighting in either community. Additionally, the communities would also represent a local source of light that would dominate any light effects associated with sources outside of the communities.</p> <p>Details regarding the local study area (LSA) and sensitive receptors used in the light assessment are provided in Section 6.1 of the revised EIS.</p>
179	AE(1)-17	CEA Agency	EIS Section 5 Appendix I	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> The EIS Guidelines state: "The EIS will describe night-time illumination levels during different weather conditions and seasons." The baseline study was conducted July 2-3, 2013; no seasonal or weather based variations were discussed.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide baseline illumination levels that account for different weather conditions and seasons.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The baseline assessment was focused on existing conditions at the site. The baseline assessment focused on clear weather conditions since light is not transmitted through the atmosphere as well during inclement weather and light intrusion would not be as perceptible. We are not aware of any seasonal variation in light transmission per se. There are, however, some factors that will cause some alteration of light conditions. Increased aerosols in the atmosphere will cause there to be an increase in "Sky Glow". However, the same aerosols will reduce the distance that the "Sky Glow" can be perceived. High levels of aerosols may be somewhat more frequent in the summer but the same effect is also seen in the winter. Obviously there are more nighttime hours in the winter. There is a</p>

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					<p>somewhat elevated background of “starshine” in the summer because the Milky Way is in the nighttime sky during the summer months. All of these effects are completely overshadowed by the effects from moonlight, which varies night to night throughout the year. The baseline measurements were short in duration and were representative of light conditions in the vicinity of the site. Any variability in the background is more related to night to night variability than in season to season variability.</p>
180	AE(1)-18	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 6, 13 Appendix I	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> No light monitoring program is described in section 13 (EIS) although it is referred to in the section 6 tables. Under the magnitude column in Tables 6.4.1 – 6.4.3 (EIS, pages 6-51 to 6-77) the proponent refers to light trespass being within federal/provincial guidelines. It is not clear to which guidelines the proponent is referring.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide a reference to the federal/provincial guidelines that will be used to define light thresholds for the Project. In the event that federal/provincial guidelines are unclear, define and justify acceptable values for magnitude of light at sensitive receptors.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> There are no Provincial or Federal guidelines for light intrusion. The guidelines used for light intrusion were those published by Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED, 2005). References Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). 2005. Green Building Rating System for New Construction and Major Renovations. Version 2.2: Sustainable Sites, Credit 8. October.</p>
181	AE(1)-19	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6 Appendix I	Section 9.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Proponent has identified two light related VCs: 1. light trespass to nearby properties, 2. wildlife attraction to light sources.</p> <p>The proponent should elaborate on “wildlife attraction” to include specific effects on nocturnal migratory birds, species at risk, and the use of lands and resources for traditional purposes by Aboriginal peoples. Attaining this information will require engagement with local Aboriginal peoples/communities.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Assess and describe the potential effects of light on migratory birds, species at risk, and the use of lands and resources for traditional purposes by Aboriginal peoples.</p>

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					<p><u>Response:</u> As detailed in the response to TMI_178-AE(1)-16, the night-time lighting requirements at the Project will only be sufficient to support the safe operations at the Project. As night-time operations will be limited compared to the operations during the day-time, the night-time lighting requirements will be restricted to the areas in, and near, the processing plant. The lighting configuration minimizes the amount of light that will be visible beyond the site so as to reduce the amount of disruptions to wildlife, including migratory birds. The light emanating from the Project operations was not predicted to extend beyond immediate vicinity of the Project, where access will be restricted for safety and security reasons during the life of the Project. Direct light effects were not predicted to extend into areas where land and resources may be used for traditional purposes by Aboriginal peoples. However, there is an acknowledgement that light from the Project could potentially affect wildlife using the areas near the Project.</p> <p>An expanded evaluation of the effects of the Project on light has been provided in Section 6.5 of the revised EIS. The revised EIS also addresses the potential effects of the Project on wildlife, including the potential effects of light on wildlife and wildlife habitat. Finally, the revised EIS considers the potential effects of the Project on Aboriginal peoples, including direct effects through the loss of access to Crown lands taken up by the Project, as well as the effects of the Project on wildlife and resources that may be used for traditional purposes by Aboriginal peoples in areas surrounding the Project.</p> <p>Treasury Metals has made efforts to engage and elicit input from Aboriginal peoples regarding the Project. Although no Project-specific traditional knowledge and traditional land use studies were prepared for, or shared with, Treasury Metals; limited information was obtained about traditional land use areas through the engagement process. The information that was available regarding traditional uses of the land and resources on the Crown lands surrounding the Project was incorporated into the revised EIS. Treasury Metals will continue to discuss potential Project effects on traditional land use activities with potentially affected Aboriginal peoples throughout the life of the Project. As additional information regarding an Aboriginal community's traditional land use and practices become available, Treasury Metals will review and consider it in the design of mitigation measures, follow-up monitoring and management plans for the Project, as appropriate.</p>
182	AE(1)-20	CEA Agency	EIS Section 3.15.3	Section 9	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 3.15.3 (EIS) is focused mainly on air quality. Currently limiting drop height is the only noise relevant mitigation measure listed. It is unclear why this sole noise mitigation measure is considered sufficient.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Revise Section 3.15.3 and provide justification why the only noise relevant mitigation measure is</p>

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					<p>limiting drop height.</p> <p>B. Describe the proposed mitigation strategies in the context of the Project.</p> <p>Response: Each of the following mitigation measures as listed in Section 3.15.3 is designed to limit noise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blasting conducted in phased manner that optimizes the amount of explosives needed for a given area to be blasted, and that minimizes the area being blasted. - Material will be loaded into haul trucks in a manner that minimizes the drop height from the loader or excavator to the bed of the truck. - Possible rubber bedding material currently being investigated. - Proper maintenance of equipment (working exhaust silencers). - Current design will incorporate waste rock storage area (WRSA) and overburden piles as noise berms to Project. In addition to this reclamation efforts will be progressive on waste rock pile through operation leading to additional noise barriers to potential receptors of noise. <p>In addition to these measures, Treasury Metals is exploring the feasibility of using white noise backup alarms for surface equipment to reduce the tonal noise compared to traditional backup alarms. It should be noted that backup alarms are not included in the noise that is regulated in Ontario due to their importance for health and safety.</p>
183	AE(1)-21	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 3, 5, 6 Appendix H	Section 9	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The LSA and RSA are not clearly defined within the EIS for noise.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Define and justify the LSA and RSA in relation to noise. Base the definition on quantitative analysis and discuss this analysis.</p> <p>B. Where appropriate provide a reference to a figure illustrating the LSA and RSA for noise in the EIS.</p> <p>Response: A. The local study area (LSA) for noise was assessed as a rectangular area that encompasses all 42 noise sensitive receptors and is centered on the Project site. No regional study area (RSA) has been defined as the LSA is sufficiently large to capture the noise effects of the proposed Project. Noise levels beyond the LSA would be low enough to not be of concern.</p> <p>B. A description of the study areas used for noise has been provided in Section 6.1.4.4 of the revised EIS.</p>

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184	AE(1)-22	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 6.4.1.12, 13 Appendix H	Section 9	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> The proponent does not discuss vibration from blasting and its effect on the surrounding area (e.g. Effect of blasting related vibration on fish/fish habitat). Furthermore the proponent has no plans to include vibration monitoring during monitoring activities.</p> <p>The proponent states in Section 6.4.1.12 (EIS): “Habitat avoidance and disruption of fish spawning potential from noise and vibration disturbances resulting from heavy equipment operation. Specific mitigation measures will be detailed in the EMP, which will include measures to reduce potential impacts of noise and vibration, such as utilizing well-maintained equipment operated at optimum loads.”</p> <p>Timing is a main mitigation component to protect fish spawning sites from equipment that causes noise and vibration. Consider listing timing restrictions as a mitigation measure to protect spawning shoals for fish species from noise and vibration impacts.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Assess vibration related to blasting at the project site and describe potential effects and related mitigation strategies. Provide quantitative analysis to support the vibration assessment and mitigation strategies. B. Justify the decision to not implement vibration monitoring during blasting activities. C. Provide a plan to implement timing restrictions as a mitigation measure to protect spawning shoals for fish species from noise and vibration impacts. If this plan is viewed as unnecessary provide justification.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> A. Although not explicitly discussed in Section 6 of the original EIS, vibration related to blasting was fully assessed in the Acoustic Assessment Report (Section 6.2, Table 3D and Appendix B) included as part of Appendix H to the original EIS. Subsequently, blasting has been fully assessed in Section 6.4 of the revised EIS. The mitigation strategies such as controlled blasting using penetrating cone fracture techniques, limiting blasts to a single time per day, and only three to five days per week will help reduce blasting noise, and will also benefit blasting vibration. B. Monitoring of blasting sound/vibration levels is typically required only where levels are predicted to be above the NPC-119 precautionary limits. Since impacts are not anticipated to exceed the precautionary limits, no blast monitoring is required.</p>

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					C. The effects of potential noise and vibration impacts on fisheries, specifically spawning shoals has been evaluated as part of Section 6.4 of the revised EIS.
185	AE(1)-23	CEA Agency	EIS Section 13.3 Appendix H Section 10	Section 11	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 13.3 (EIS) states, “Treasury plans to measure sound levels at (or near) residences positioned around the Project...”, and “Monitoring results will be provided to the appropriate bodies through all phases of the Project”. However, section 10 (Appendix H) states monitoring is not recommended under the Health Canada (HC) guidelines since the predicted levels are well below the point where adverse human health effects can potentially occur. These statements appear to contradict each other and it is unclear whether a noise monitoring program will be implemented or not. No monitoring plans are outlined or discussed in the EIS.</p> <p>In the case of a noise complaint the proponent states that the details of a monitoring program will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Additional details surrounding monitoring and mitigation in these cases must be presented to ensure complainants are treated consistently and fairly, and that proposed monitoring and mitigation are appropriate. In addition to monitoring, it would be beneficial to develop a formalized complaint resolution mechanism and an engagement plan given that the Project includes extended work during the day that produces high levels of noise (i.e. blasting, rock crushing, drilling), and is expected to produce noise outside of normal working hours (i.e. activities would occur 24-hours per day during the operations phase). Monitoring of sound levels during all phases of the Project to verify modeled sound levels and ensure compliance with applicable regulatory guidelines is recommended.</p> <p>In addition, the statement “monitoring is not recommended under the Health Canada (HC) guidelines” is false given that it is based on the DRAFT HC 2011 document that is not supported by HC. HC does not issue sound monitoring guidelines and, as such, it would be appropriate to revise this statement.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Clarify whether a noise monitoring program will be implemented and during which phases of the Project noise monitoring is planned.</p> <p>B. Identify and describe potential mitigation measures that would be considered in order to reduce noise levels in the event that they are unacceptable to nearby sensitive receptors.</p> <p>C. Outline a formalized complaint resolution mechanism and an engagement plan for project noise.</p>

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					<p>D. Revise the statement “monitoring is not recommended under the Health Canada (HC) guidelines”.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. The Health Canada Useful information for Environmental Assessments does not provide clear guidance on whether monitoring is recommended or required. Although not a supported document, Health Canada’s 2016 Guidance for Evaluating Human Health Impacts in Environmental Assessment: Noise (And formerly HC 2011 Draft Guidance for Evaluating Human Health Impacts in Environmental Assessment: Noise) suggests that post-project monitoring would be important when adverse human health effects are considered likely (See section 6.6 in the 2016 HC Document). The results of the noise modelling do not indicate the need for monitoring, since the predicted levels are not near the Health Canada noise assessment criteria. Further, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) does not publish monitoring requirements that are applicable to this facility. As such, continuous monitoring at points of reception is neither required nor recommended.</p> <p>B. Specific mitigation measures will not be developed unless complaints are received. Mitigation measures will be developed as necessary based on field data collected as part of the complaint response process. Mitigation measures may include source-specific abatement in the case where specific sources are of concern, or may include more broad side-wide mitigation efforts such as noise walls or berms, or operational restrictions.</p> <p>C. As part of the environmental compliance approval process, a noise management plan will be developed. The noise management plan (Section 13.4 of the revised EIS) will outline the process established by Treasury Metals for recording and investigating noise. This process will likely include requirements to log complaints, monitor sound levels where warranted, and investigate what activities were taking place on site at the time of the complaint.</p> <p>D. As discussed in Part A, the Health Canada 2016 Guidance, which they no longer support, only suggests monitoring is important when adverse effects are considered likely. The results of the noise modelling show the predicted levels are not near the Health Canada noise assessment criteria. Additionally, noise monitoring is not required by Useful Information for Environmental Assessments, or by MOECC documentation. With the small predicted increases in percent highly annoyed, it is clear that levels of noise expected from the Project are not approaching those where human health effects are considered likely. Therefore, monitoring is considered not to be required.</p>
186	AE(1)-24	CEA Agency	Appendix H Sections 6, 7, and 8	Section 10	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>It does not appear that vehicle traffic to and from the project site (e.g. vehicles transporting supplies off-site) was included in the noise modelling. Given that there will be increased traffic on surrounding</p>

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					<p>roads these changes should be quantitatively evaluated and discussed in the noise modelling section(s).</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Include traffic to and from the project site in the noise modelling.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The noise from vehicle traffic to and from the Project site (off-site traffic) during the operation of the Project was considered to be insignificant. This position is supported by the Goliath Gold Traffic Impact Study (Appendix E of the EIS). Section 10 of Appendix E indicated the vehicle traffic to and from the site will predominately be small vehicle traffic (94-96% of the annual trips are employee traffic & office supply trips), with larger vehicles larger vehicles accounting for 4-6% of the total annual traffic, which is approximately 15-19 trips per 24-hour period. The finished product leaving the mine site is in infrequent (less than once daily) traffic transporting finished product from the site. When the number of vehicles associated with the Project are compared to the existing traffic on Highway 17, it is clear that the relatively small number of vehicles trips would not measurably change the background noise levels from existing traffic.</p>
187	AE(1)-25	CEA Agency	Appendix H Section 3	Section 9	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> The report states that all measurements were consistent with ISO 3744:1994 and ISO 3746:1995 measurement standards. However, both standards have been revised and replaced with ISO:3744:2010. (https://www.iso.org/obp/ui/#iso:std:iso:3744:ed-3:v1:en) and ISO 3746:2010 (https://www.iso.org/obp/ui/#iso:std:iso:3746:ed-3:v1:en).</p> <p>Use of current standards and guidance is recommended to ensure the noise assessment is based on the best possible characterization of baseline and project-related noise and its impact on potential noise-sensitive receptors.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide an explanation of how the study deviates from the current standards and discuss any uncertainties/ limitations resulting from the use of non-current standards. If necessary revise the noise study using the most recent standards and guidance.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The portions of ISO 3744 and 3746 that are applicable to the baseline measurements have not changed materially between the 1994/1995 editions and the 2010 editions. No revisions to the</p>

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					measurements are required.
188	AE(1)-26	CEA Agency	Appendix H Section 4.2.1	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Current guidance on noise (http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/pubs/eval/eval/eval/index-eng.php) refers to potential noise sensitive receptor locations as any areas in which receptors could be considered to have a reasonable expectation of “peace and quiet” (i.e. “quiet rural areas”). Section 4.2.1 (Appendix H) states the noise sensitive receptor locations are identified using the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) definition of noise sensitive receptor. However, it is unclear whether current use of lands and resources by Aboriginal peoples for traditional purposes was considered in identifying the noise sensitive receptor locations.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Engage local Aboriginal groups to identify current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes in areas around the project footprint and incorporate this information in the identification of sensitive receptor locations and the noise assessment.</p> <p>Response: Treasury Metals has engaged with Aboriginal peoples for a number of years and attempted to reach agreement on conducting Project-specific traditional knowledge studies and obtain information about areas where Aboriginal people conduct traditional land use activities in the areas around the Project. The Aboriginal peoples have shared very little land use information; however, the limited information shared so far during the engagement process was incorporated in the revised EIS.</p> <p>The use of the definition by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) of sensitive receptors in assessing direct noise effects of the Project was the appropriate definition to use. As defined by MOECC, the current use of the lands and resources for traditional purposes would not be recognized as a sensitive receptor. The EIS did consider the potential effects of noise from the Project on sensitive receptors as defined by MOECC, wildlife (including SAR), fish, and land use. This information is expanded on in Section 6 of the revised EIS.</p>
189	AE(1)-27	CEA Agency	Appendix H Section 4.2.1.2	Section 10	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 4.2.1.2 states: “There is a non-linear relationship between Percent Highly Annoyed and L_{EQ}. In practice this means that in a quiet area, an increase in sound level will result in a lower change in percent highly annoyed than the same change in sound level in a louder area.”</p> <p>This statement is incorrect. In a quiet area, an increase in sound level would most likely result in a greater change in percent highly annoyed than the same change in sound level in a louder area.</p>

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					<p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide the rationale and reference for the statement in section 4.2.1.2 (Appendix H). If the statement is erroneous, correct the error and revise the EIS and appendices where appropriate to ensure discussion(s) of Percent Highly Annoyed are accurate.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The statement within the EIS regarding the percent highly annoying is valid. Although not a supported document, Health Canada’s 2016 Guidance for Evaluating Human Health Impacts in Environmental Assessment: Noise (And formerly HC 2011 Draft Guidance for Evaluating Human Health Impacts in Environmental Assessment: Noise) outlines in Appendix F Table F.1 sample calculations for percent highly annoyed. Table F.1 clearly demonstrates the relationship outlined in the EIS. Areas with quiet baselines such as lines one and two require a larger project contribution in order achieve a change in percent highly annoyed of 6.5% or greater. Alternatively, louder areas with higher baselines levels require a smaller project contribution in order achieve the same change in percent highly annoyed as shown in the later lines of Table F.1.</p>
190	AE(1)-28	CEA Agency	Appendix H Sections 6.3.2, 7.3.2	Section 10	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Sections 6.3.2 and 7.3.2 (Appendix H) both state that: “Blasting at the site is to take place no more than once per day, during daytime hours only. Since the Health Canada (HC) guidelines average sound levels over a 24-hour period, with additional penalty for the nighttime period, a single blast per day was considered to be infrequent and was not further assessed against these guidelines.”</p> <p>Given that blasting is expected to occur during the construction/site preparation and operations phases for duration of more than one year, ISO 1996-1:2003 guidelines should be followed. According to ISO 1996-1: 2003, “because of the differences in noise annoyance to differing sources of sound, sound character, times of day, etc. adjustments should be added to measured or predicted levels.” ISO 1996-1:2003 (Table A.1) presents typical adjustments based on sound source category and time of day. For highly impulsive noises (such as blasting) an adjustment level of 12 dB is recommended.</p> <p>For current guidance on noise, refer to “Useful Information for Environmental Assessments” publication: http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/pubs/eval/eval/eval/index-eng.php</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Revise Sections 6.3.2 and 7.3.2 to reflect proper guidance on noise. Make the appropriate</p>

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					<p>adjustments to measured and/or predicted levels.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. The EIS classified blasting as an infrequent source with respect to the Health Canada guidelines for all Project phases. Since the guideline averages sound levels over a 24-hour period, even with an additional penalty for the nighttime period, a single blast per day was deemed to be insignificant on a 24-hour basis. However, noise associated with blasting was also assessed in accordance with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) guidelines, which look at the worst case hour. On an hourly basis, blasting noise would not be deemed insignificant. The ISO: 1996 adjustment level is included within the MOECC assessment.</p> <p>A description of the effects of blasting on noise was provided in the Environmental Noise Assessment (included as part of Appendix H to the original EIS), and has also been provided as part of Section 6.4 of the revised EIS.</p>
191	AE(1)-29	CEA Agency	Appendix H	Section 10	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 3.3 (Appendix H) states “Sources that have characteristics considered to be particularly annoying receive additional consideration in accordance with NPC-104 guidelines (MOE, 1978). The adjustment is based on assessment at the point of reception, as described in Publication NPC-103. No sources were identified to exhibit annoying sound emissions.”</p> <p>Publication NPC-104 Sound Level Adjustments describes when sound level adjustments to NPC-300/NPC-232 are required. The adjustments are required for any tonal, cyclical or quasi-steady impulsive sounds. The operations of fans, electrical motors, generators, drills, etc. at the site may generate these types of sounds and therefore warrant a sound level adjustment as described in NPC-104. This has not been considered in the noise assessment.</p> <p>The EIS (Appendix H) claims the noise sources were assessed based on the worst case scenario as required by Section A.4 of NPC-233 (Annex to Publication NPC-232). Section 1 (Appendix H) states: “This assessment focuses on sound levels due to the Project at surrounding worst-case sensitive receptors. Sources at the facility include: ventilation equipment, building exhausts, on site vehicle traffic, and rock crushing equipment.”</p> <p>The worst case scenario presented did not include any sound level adjustments that would have lowered the allowable limits at sensitive receptors. (Note that this may also be considered during the provincial permitting process.)</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Adjust sound characteristics described in Table 1 (Appendix H) accordingly to account for sound</p>

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					<p>level adjustments.</p> <p>B. Revise the noise assessment to include sound level adjustments in the limits at sensitive receptor locations.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Sound level adjustments were not included within the original EIS, as the sources in question at the Project do not typically exhibit the sound characteristics to warrant adjustments (i.e., ventilation equipment, generators, building exhausts, on site vehicle traffic and rock crushing equipment). Note that backup beepers, depending on the variety, are tonal but are exempt from evaluation since they are a safety device. The noise source summary tables for each of the Project phases are provided in the respective sections (6.2: site preparation and construction; 7.2: operations; 8.2: closure) of the Environmental Noise Assessment (included as part of Appendix H to the revised EIS).</p> <p>B. As noted in part A, no revisions are required.</p>
192	AE(1)-30	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6.4.1.3	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Tables 6.4.1 to 6.4.3 (EIS) state: "To mitigate potential noise-related effects, Treasury will utilize new, low-noise-engineered machinery, will time major activities (e.g., blasting) to minimize adverse effects, and will minimize night-time activities where practical. With the application of these appropriate mitigation and monitoring strategies, the potential Noise-related residual effects of the Project should not be significant."</p> <p>The EIS does not recognize or describe any effects of noise on wildlife including ungulates, furbearers, amphibians, reptiles, migratory birds and SAR. As noted on Environment Canada's 'Incidental Take of Migratory Birds in Canada' website (http://www.ec.gc.ca/paom-itmb/Default.asp?lang=En&n=C51C415F-1), migratory birds are typically disturbed by sound levels exceeding 50 dBA. Such disturbance could contribute to adverse effects on migratory birds and SAR.</p> <p>The response to this IR will also assist the Agency in determining the potential impacts of the Project on Aboriginal peoples' current uses of lands and resources for traditional purposes.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide a map at a relatively large scale which shows the area surrounding operations affected by 50 dBA or greater, overlaid on habitat types, and a table summarizing areas within this threshold by habitat type (Ecosite). The footprint information should be provided as a total and by project component (i.e. Waste Rock Storage Area, Ultimate Pit, Overburden Storage Area, Low-grade Stock Pile, Processing Plant and Tailings storage facility).</p> <p>B. Describe the impacts of noise on wildlife including ungulates, furbearers, amphibians, reptiles,</p>

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					<p>migratory birds and SAR within the effects assessment.</p> <p>Response: A and B. The predicted 50 dBA noise contour line for the site preparation and construction phase, operations phase, and closure phase have been provided in TMI_192-AE(1)-30_Figure_1, TMI_192-AE(1)-30_Figure_2, and TMI_192-AE(1)-30_Figure_3, respectively. These figures provide an illustration of the modelled sources of noise overlaid with the 50 dBA noise contour. This 50 dBA contour has been incorporated into the revised assessment of potential Project effects on wildlife and wildlife habitat presented in Section 6.12 of the revised EIS. Footprint information related to the habitat type (Ecosite) information for the individual Project components has been provided as part of the response to TMI_145-WL(1)-02.</p>
193	AE(1)-31	CEA Agency	Appendix H, Sections 4, 7.2.1	Section 16	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Limited details regarding the types of equipment to be used during all three phases were available at the time of the Environmental Noise Assessment. If the selected equipment varies from those modeled, modeling would need to be revisited and revised.</p> <p>It would also be beneficial to conduct actual noise monitoring at representative receptors to verify modeled sound levels during all project phases. Monitoring during all phases of the Project will also be beneficial given that the baseline study involved long-term measurements of background ambient sound levels conducted from December 5 to 7, 2011, and July 3 to 9, 2013, both relatively brief time periods.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Revise noise modeling for all phases if equipment selection differs from those modeled.</p> <p>B. Design and describe a noise monitoring program to verify modeled sound levels during all phases of the Project.</p> <p>Response: A. Treasury Metals will ensure that equipment selected on site will either match or be quieter than the requirements outlined within the Environmental Noise Assessment (included as part of Appendix H to the revised EIS). B. It is expected that a noise-monitoring plan will be developed as part of the provincial permitting process for the Project. Treasury Metals is committed to performing periodic noise monitoring as needed. Noise monitoring will also occur during the development of Pit 1, to measure the effects of blasting.</p>

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194	HE(1)-01	CEA Agency	Section 5, 6.4.2.5, Tables 6.4.6 – 6.4.8	Section 9.1.2, 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 9.1.3 of the EIS Guidelines states: "The Proponent will include all baseline information relevant to human health in one section of the EIS. The Proponent should refer to Health Canada's Useful Information for Environmental Assessments document in order to include the appropriate baseline information relevant to human health. In describing the socio-economic environment, the proponent should provide information on the functioning and health of the socio-economic environment, encompassing a broad range of matters that affect communities and Aboriginal peoples in the study area in a way that recognizes interrelationships, system functions and vulnerabilities."</p> <p>Section 5 of the EIS, does not include a baseline description of Aboriginal consumption rates that are used to identify potential effects. Further, Aboriginal groups have identified that traditional land use has not been adequately described.</p> <p>In section 6 (EIS), human health is considered as a potential effect to the Aboriginal peoples valued component, rather than its own valued component. The characterization of residual effects is limited to a discussion of potential water quality impacts to human health.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Confirm Aboriginal receptors, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. residences, cottages, cabins, camps, campsites; b. recreational and traditional land users; and c. areas used for harvesting, hunting, trapping and fishing. <p>B. Identify exposure pathways, including inhalation, dermal and oral exposure to air, water, soil and country foods, based on Aboriginal land use and traditional land and resource use practices. Investigate all exposure pathways as part of the human health risk assessment.</p> <p>C. Engage Aboriginal groups to obtain site-specific consumption data, including water resources, species, rates, and specific parts that are consumed for fish, wildlife, and plants.</p> <p>D. Define valued components and indicators to assess potential impacts to Aboriginal health, linking in the results from relevant sections of the biophysical, land use, traditional land use, and human health risk assessments, including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Air quality; b. Noise and vibration;

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					<p>c. Drinking water quality from ground and surface water sources; d. Recreational water quality (wading, swimming, boating, fishing, etc.) e. Access and availability to traditional foods and country foods that provide food security, nutrition and have cultural value; and f. Contamination of country foods including wildlife, fish and plants, through air, water, and soil.</p> <p>E. Using the valued components identified in part D of this IR, identify potential effects to Aboriginal human health where exposure pathways exist (including exposure rates for specific contaminants), and clearly define mitigation measures for potential Aboriginal human health effects.</p> <p>F. Apply an impact matrix methodology to determine the significance of residual effects of the Project on Aboriginal human health for each of the project components and physical activities, in all phases, incorporating the results from relevant sections of the biophysical, land use, traditional land use, and human health risk assessments.</p> <p>G. Describe a follow-up program that includes measures related to Aboriginal human health, including monitoring measures to verify environmental assessment predictions and to verify the efficacy of mitigation measures. Identify how and which Aboriginal groups will be engaged during implementation of the follow-up program.</p> <p>Response: Treasury Metals recognizes the importance of understanding the potential effects of the Project on Aboriginal health, as well as human health on the whole. As part of the original EIS, a screening-level risk assessment (SLRA) was completed (Appendix W) that identified potential health effects to Aboriginal residents, non-aboriginal residents, recreational users, and mine workers. As noted in the questions, the results of the SLRA were used in the EIS to describe the potential effects of the Project on Aboriginal health. In addition to the SLRA presented in Appendix W, the EIS included a review of country foods availability and use (Appendix EE).</p> <p>In evaluating the potential effects of the Project on human health (including Aboriginal health), the following exposure pathways were considered as detailed in Section 4.2.4 of Appendix W to the EIS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct soil contact and dust; • Food chain exposure; • Groundwater ingestion; • Surface water ingestion; • Surface water dermal contact; and

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vapour inhalation. <p>As noted in Section 2.8 of Appendix W to the EIS, the SLRA referred to Health Canada’s Useful Information for Environmental Assessments (Health Canada 2010), and made use of the conservative Health Canada recommendations when site-specific data was limited. Treasury Metals employed a conservative approach for the SLRA (Appendix W), which used the ingestion rates and exposure frequencies for all country foods of First Nation residents, as presented in the Health Canada model (Health Canada 2011), which provide upper-bound estimates of intake for country foods for all residents.</p> <p>Treasury Metals has made extensive efforts to engage and elicit input from Aboriginal peoples. These efforts were documented in Appendix DD to the EIS. Treasury Metals will continue to try to engage the Aboriginal peoples meaningfully with respect to the Project and the potential effects on Aboriginal people. As part of the Round 1 IRs, the Agency has requested that Treasury Metals expand and update the Aboriginal Engagement Report (provided originally as Appendix DD to the EIS). The revised Aboriginal Engagement Report describes the efforts made by Treasury Metals, and identifies the specific issues and concerns raised by the Aboriginal peoples engaged as part of the EIS process.</p> <p>Treasury Metals also acknowledges that the Round 1 IRs identify a number of issues related to organizing and approach used in the EIS for presenting the information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. Section 6 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts to Aboriginal health, and human health as a whole, associated with the Project, in a clear and traceable manner.</p> <p>References: Health Canada. 2010. Useful Information for Environmental Assessments. Health Canada. 2011. Spreadsheet Tool for Human Health Detailed Quantitative Risk Assessment.</p>
195	HE(1)-02	CEA Agency	Appendix W Section 4.2.2	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: A number of contaminants of concern (COCs) were identified in waste rock and tailings for the operations phase of the project (i.e., aluminum, arsenic, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, iron, lead, mercury, nickel and zinc). Despite this, only mercury and lead were retained as human health COCs in the HHRA. No justification was provided in the report for excluding the other COCs identified.</p> <p>For those identified COCs with screening criteria available, no Tier 2 screening against applicable human health component values was conducted. In addition, for those identified COCs without</p>

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					<p>screening criteria available (i.e., aluminum and iron), no justification for exclusion was provided, such as whether they would be expected to be present at non-toxic levels. Such discussions should be included in the human health risk assessment (HHRA) to ensure transparency in any of the decisions made in the HHRA. Other metals may pose other health effects not considered in the HHRA.</p> <p>Focusing solely on mercury and lead does not account for the fact that some of the COCs may act via the same target organ and/or via a similar mode of action, and as such the potential for additive risks was not considered in this HHRA. Summing up the effects of substances that affect the same target organ(s) (non-carcinogens) and also for those substances that can result in the same types of cancers(s) (carcinogens) to ensure health risks are not underestimated is preferred.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Describe the evaluation process for screening in COCs in the HHRA and provide a justification for excluding any COCs identified in waste rock and tailings for the Operational phase of the project.</p> <p>B. For the screened in COCs sum up the effects of non-carcinogenic substances that affect the same target organ(s) and also sum up the effects of carcinogenic substances that can result in the same types of cancer(s).</p> <p>C. In cases where COCs are screened out, explain the uncertainties and relevance of the exclusions to the conclusions of the HHRA.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. The selection of COCs is described in Section 4.2.2 of Appendix W employing data summarized in Tables 1-5 of that report. Although not stated explicitly, lead and mercury were carried forward in the SLRA on the basis that they would have the most significant contribution to health risk based on a combination of relative toxicity and abundance in the waste rock and tailings. Mercury was further justified as a COC because of regional concerns associated with local fish consumption advisories.</p> <p>B. As both lead and mercury have neurotoxic effects, the HQs were summed per Health Canada guidance.</p> <p>C. As this is a screening level assessment the intent is to identify key sources of risk and the need for mitigation strategies as required. Where COCs have been screened out, there is little overall contribution to health risk and therefore the conclusions of the report.</p>

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196	HE(1)-03	CEA Agency	Appendix W Section 4.2.4.1	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Direct soil contact via incidental ingestion and dermal contact pathways has been excluded for the operations phase (due to restricted access to the mine site) and the post-closure phase (due to the waste rock and tailings areas being covered). However, the potential for on-site surface soils (not directly on the above-ground waste rock and tailings storage areas) to become contaminated as a result of wet/dry deposition of dust generated during the 12-year operations phase has not been considered. In addition, since access to the mine site during the post-closure phase will be unrestricted, it is important to consider on-site surface soils beyond the covered waste rock and tailings areas.</p> <p>A monitoring program should be in placed to prevent levels in soils from increasing to the point where they may pose unacceptable risks to human health.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Explain whether or not direct soil contact (i.e., incidental ingestion and dermal contact) could be considered a viable exposure pathway.</p> <p>B. If direct soil contact is a viable exposure pathway, then include this exposure route in the HHRA; if it is non-viable, then provide a justification for its exclusion and discuss the uncertainties.</p> <p>C. Provide a monitoring program with established trigger levels (i.e., for taking corrective actions) to minimize dispersion and deposition of the particulate-bound contaminants to on-site and off-site soils.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. Typically direct deposition has a minimal contribution to the concentration of COCs in soil and therefore, direct or indirect exposure pathways. As an example, using predicted deposition rates from Table 6 of Appendix J of the revised EIS and assuming mixing is restricted to the top 2 cm of soil, the contribution of lead to background concentrations in soil after 12 years of operation would amount to less than 0.2 ppm (assuming a dry density of 1.6). As such, direct contact pathways with soil are not considered significant exposure in terms of understanding potential risk to human health.</p> <p>B. As above. Considering the limited contribution of deposition to soil concentrations and exposure via direct soil contact, any uncertainty in understanding this pathway is limited to the dispersion modelling. The risk assessment relies on the maximum predicted point of impingement concentrations from the dispersion modelling.</p> <p>C. Per above, a monitoring program is not considered warranted. Post-closure, any portions of the</p>

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					site that do not meet applicable soil quality criteria will be remediated and/or capped to mitigate the potential for exposure.
197	HE(1)-04	CEA Agency	Appendix W Sections 2.3, 4.2.4.3	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 4.2.4.3 (Appendix W) notes that "...groundwater impacts in the Post-Closure Phase are expected to be negligible as the bedrock in which the Pit Lake will be located has a very low hydraulic conductivity (AMEC 2014a)." However the subsection "Mine Pit Lake" of section 2.3 (Appendix W) indicates that although the hydraulic conductivity is very low, AMEC (2014a) has identified the potential for water from the Pit Lake to infiltrate the groundwater aquifer and travel to potable water wells located to the east (and eventually to reach Thunder Lake). This appears to contradict the statement from section 4.2.4.3 (Appendix W).</p> <p>Section 2.3 further states: "AMEC has reported it is difficult to reliably model groundwater data downgradient during the Closure Phase. Regular monitoring to assess groundwater quality will be scheduled (AMEC, 2014b)."</p> <p>There appears to be discrepancy between statements regarding water infiltration to groundwater from the Pit Lake and potential effects on potable water wells. Clarification is needed to clearly and transparently document all assumptions made in this regard, and additional mitigation may be warranted to protect local drinking water supplies.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Clearly explain whether the term "negligible" pertains to infiltration of contaminants to groundwater or risk to human health via potable water wells, and provide a justification for how it is defined and quantified.</p> <p>B. Describe the monitoring plan to verify predictions regarding potable water wells and the mitigation measures.</p> <p>C. Provide a map that shows all potable water wells in the LSA for groundwater and distinguish between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal potable water wells.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. The appropriate source of information regarding the hydrogeology associated with the Project is Appendix M to the revised EIS. The term "negligible" is not relied on in Appendix M. The use of the term "negligible" in Section 4.2.4.3 of Appendix W refers to the potential for infiltration to</p>

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					<p>groundwater. The term “negligible” was not tied to a specific range of volumes, but was used generally to reflect the “very low hydraulic conductivity” of the rock (10^{-6} m/s for shallow bedrock [0 to 10 metres below surface grade; mbsg], 10^{-7} m/s for intermediate bedrock [10 to 400 mbsg], and 10^{-8} m/s for deep bedrock [>400 mbsg]), in which the open pit/pit lake is situated.</p> <p>The on-site facilities such as the waste rock storage area (WRSA), low-grade ore (LGO) stockpile and the tailings storage facility (TSF) will be designed to limit and minimize potential seepage during operations. Each of these facilities, as well as the site as a whole, will be designed with perimeter ditching to help capture and intercept seepage. During the operations phase, the active dewatering program and the presence of the open pit will effectively intercept seepage that is not captured by the perimeter ditching as groundwater will flow towards the open pit.</p> <p>During the closure phase, the LGO stockpile will be decommissioned and any material that remains placed in the open pit will be covered by water. The WRSA will be closed using a low-permeability cover to limit the influx of water and isolate the waste rock from oxygen. Little or no seepage is expected from these areas following closure. The TSF will also be decommissioned during the closure phase. The water cover used to prevent acid rock drainage (ARD) during operations will be drained, the water treated and used to help fill the open pit. The tailings will be covered with a granular pioneer layer to make the surface trafficable. The tailings will then be isolated from oxygen using a multi-layered low permeable dry cover, or a water cover using non-process water. Little seepage is expected from the TSF following closure with a dry cover. If a water cover is used, limited seepage will continue through the post-closure phase.</p> <p>During the period while the open pit is filling, it will continue to act as a sink for groundwater and will continue to capture seepage that does occur. Once the pit is flooded, it will still influence groundwater patterns, as it will likely continue to be a groundwater influent environment, with the groundwater entering the pit being discharged into Blackwater Creek.</p> <p>Despite the potential for groundwater to migrate offsite during the post-closure phase, the low-permeability bedrock and Project design / mitigation measures described above will reduce the quantity of seepage to groundwater such that measurable adverse effects are not expected on the downgradient water well users (Section 6 of the revised EIS) supporting the assumption that there is no viable pathway for groundwater ingestion effects on water well users (Appendix W).</p> <p>B. Groundwater monitoring wells have been installed by Treasury Metals and are presently being monitored. New groundwater monitoring wells will be installed as part of the groundwater monitoring program, which is presented in Section 13.10 of the revised EIS to verify EIS predictions. Treasury Metals has had discussions with nearby residents who have expressed concerns about their wells. Private wells may also be incorporated in the groundwater monitoring program, given the consent of</p>

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					<p>owners.</p> <p>Treasury Metals have also identified a comprehensive set of groundwater mitigation measures in various responses to the Round 1 IRs. These mitigation measures can be found in Section 6.10.5 of the revised EIS. A comprehensive set of mitigation measures for private wells will also be incorporated into the Contingency Plan that is expected to be required by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, through a potential environmental compliance approval.</p> <p>C. A figure showing all private water wells known to be present by Treasury Metals is included in the revised EIS (Figure 5.6.4-1). The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), which maintains a database of private wells, does not release data regarding the private ownership of wells, including whether the wells are owned by Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal people.</p>
198	HE(1)-05	CEA Agency	Appendix W Executive Summary, Section 4.2.5, Table 9	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 4.2.5 (Appendix W) indicates that the drinking water source for the residents of the City of Dryden (located 20 km east of the property) is Wabigoon Lake. However, the water source for the residents of the Village of Wabigoon, which is located 4 km southeast of the property, is not specified in the report. In addition, subsection "Overall SLRA Recommendations" in the Executive Summary (Appendix W) indicates that humans may drink water from Blackwater Creek and Wabigoon Lake.</p> <p>If humans drink water from Blackwater Creek (e.g. recreational users), there may be less dilution of site-related discharges at the point of drinking water intake compared to Lake Wabigoon (i.e. volume of Blackwater Creek is less than that of Wabigoon Lake). As such, potential human exposures (and risks) to site-related contaminants may be higher in comparison with those from Wabigoon Lake.</p> <p>Further, consider whether recreational fishing may also occur on Blackwater Creek, in which case fish tissue concentration could be higher than in Wabigoon Lake due to less dilution.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Clearly indicate the drinking water source(s) for the residents of Wabigoon and explain if the water source(s) can be potentially affected by aquifers containing site-related contaminated aquifers. If the concentrations of site-related contaminants (and thus potential exposures/risks) could be higher in Blackwater Creek relative to Wabigoon Lake as a result of less dilution of site-related discharges, then reflect this in the human health risk assessment (HHRA). B. Provide information on the use of Blackwater Creek as a source of drinking water and fishing by Aboriginal and recreational users and incorporate it in the HHRA accordingly.</p>

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					<p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. The drinking water for residents of Wabigoon is sourced from private wells (see Figure 5.6.4-1 of the revised EIS). No site-related contaminants are anticipated to affect the aquifers supplying the private wells for residents in Wabigoon. During operations, seepage will be managed with a perimeter runoff and seepage collection system around the site to comply with the requirements of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations. Any seepage not collected by these systems will be captured by the drawdown created by the dewatering of the open pit and underground mine workings. Following the closure and flooding of the mine, limited amounts of seepage are predicted from the tailings storage facility (TSF), waste rock storage area (WRSA) and open pit. As shown on Figures 22 through 25 in Appendix M to the revised EIS, this seepage does not affect the well for the residents of Wabigoon.</p> <p>The only discharge from the Project during operations will be effluent discharges to Blackwater Creek. Treasury Metals has committed (Table 10.0.1 of the EIS) that effluent discharged to Blackwater Creek during operations will meet Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO) at the end-of-pipe. Dilution is not required to meet PWQO in Blackwater Creek, and thus the HHRA presented in the EIS does not need to be changed to reflect this. Once the pit is flooded in the post-closure phase, there will be a natural discharge re-established to Blackwater Creek Tributary 1. Preliminary modelling of post-closure pit water quality presented in the EIS suggests the water in the pit will be comparable to the source water.</p> <p>Since the submission of the EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project, including refining the water balance for the site. This refined water balance will modify some of the water related predictions. To capture these changes, and to reflect changes suggested by the responses to the Round 1 IRs, Treasury Metals has prepared a Water Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix JJ. An updated water quality model for the pit during the post-closure and abandonment phase is provided in Section 6 of the Water Report.</p> <p>B. Treasury Metals is not aware of any humans that rely on Blackwater Creek as a source of drinking water. Through information provided as part of their engagement efforts, Treasury Metals believe that fishing on Blackwater Creek is limited to baitfish harvest in select areas downstream. The closest location for sport fishing identified during the engagement process was within Keplyn's Bay, on Wabigoon Lake.</p> <p>As stated above (Part A), the only discharge from the Project during operations will be the treated effluent. Effluent is anticipated to meet PWQO and is therefore not anticipated to impact surface water quality or contaminant concentrations in fish tissue in the creek.</p>
199	HE(1)-06	CEA Agency	Appendix W Section 4.3.2,	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Exposure frequency and duration terms in Table J (Appendix W, page 30) for the urban recreational</p>

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			Table J		<p>receptor were derived from defaults in the detailed quantitative risk assessment (DQRA) spreadsheet (Meridian 2011). Note that use of the DQRA spreadsheet defaults is no longer supported; where possible, site-specific information should be used instead.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Use site-specific exposure frequency and duration terms for the urban recreational user, taking into account use by Aboriginal peoples. Where site-specific data is not available, provide a clear rationale to articulate why other values were used in the human health risk assessment.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> A. The Detailed Quantitative Risk Assessment (DQRA) spreadsheet was supported at the time the report was authored and was recommended for use on the Project by Health Canada. Regardless, no unacceptable health risks were identified for the residential receptor (Scenario 1), which assumes constant daily exposure for a lifetime. Consequently, the use of site-specific data for the urban recreational receptor will not alter the conclusions of the assessment.</p>
200	HE(1)-07	CEA Agency	Appendix W Section 4.3.2, Table J	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Urban recreational exposure frequency and duration terms in Table J (Appendix W, page 30) are 2 hours/day, 2 days/week and 35 weeks/year spent at the site. If used directly in calculating dust inhalation exposure estimates in the detailed quantitative risk assessment (DQRA) spreadsheet, they would result in significant dilution (i.e. “dose averaging”) of the estimates (i.e., $2/24 \times 2/7 \times 35/52 = 0.016$ dilution). In addition, for the resident receptor, the use of 1.5 hours per day spent outside as an exposure frequency term (in the DQRA model – see inputs used in Appendix C of Appendix W) results in a significant dilution of dust inhalation exposure estimates for that receptor ($1.5/24 = 0.0625$ dilution).</p> <p>As indicated in a footnote for Table 4 in Health Canada (2012) preliminary quantitative risk assessment guidance, dose averaging (also called “amortization” or “dilution”) should be supported by chemical-specific rationale. These rationale should include factors such as: the whole-body elimination half-life of the substance, the potential for sensitive life stages (e.g., developmental effects), the persistence/reversibility of effects and whether effects are expected to be most related to the peak concentration or to the total dose (area under the curve or “AUC”) of the chemical. In terms of developmental toxicants in particular (such as lead), an exposure term (ET) of 1 (i.e., no dose averaging) is most appropriate for calculating exposure (and risk) estimates as a health protective approach.</p> <p>For lead specifically, dilution of exposure estimates using the above exposure frequency and</p>

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					<p>duration terms may not be appropriate. It is widely known that people tend to be significantly more sensitive to adverse environmental influences during various developmental stages (Hood 2006). Thus, the timing and pattern of exposure to lead may be more important than the average concentration in determining the magnitude of such effects. Secondly, as highlighted in the Health Canada (2013) lead State of the Science (SOS) report, lead’s neurological effects may persist after exposures have ceased (i.e., effects may accumulate as the result of multiple exposure events). Lastly, lead has a long elimination half-life in the body. As such, a body burden of lead may build between exposure events and act as a continual source of internal exposure.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide chemical specific rationales for dose averaging of all exposures, taking into consideration any adjustments needed for Aboriginal peoples. In the case of using an exposure term (ET) other than 1 for developmental toxicants, provide justification why the use of the non-unity ET is considered health protective.</p> <p>Response: A. As discussed under the response to TMI_199-HE(1)-06, as no unacceptable health risks were identified for the residential receptor (Scenario 1), which assumes constant daily exposure for a lifetime, the use of “dose averaging” for the urban recreational receptor has little consequence for the conclusions of the SLRA.</p> <p>With respect to the residential receptor and the assumption that 1.5 hours out of a day is spent exposed outdoors, Health Canada’s guidance on chronic and less than chronic exposure (<i>Draft Memorandum: A Primer for Evaluating Human Health Risk at Contaminated Sites for Chronic and Less-Than-Chronic Exposures to Chemicals - July 2016</i>) does not speak to exposure durations of less than 24-hours. “In situations when dose averaging cannot be supported, the exposure scenario can be effectively treated as continuous, with daily exposure rate equal to the highest daily exposure rate among all exposure episodes” which suggests that exposure durations of less than 24-hours, on the scale of hours as an example, have not been considered in a chronic exposure scenario. For the developmental toxin trichloroethene, the U.S. EPA averages exposures of less than 24-hours over the duration of a working week on the rationale that the toxicity studies that support the developmental end-point (drinking water studies by Johnson et al., 2003) had animal doses assessed in terms of mg/kg/day. A 24-hour exposure period was the smallest dose interval evaluated the studies could not distinguish effects that may have manifest over shorter exposure durations. In terms of lead, the TRV is based on epidemiological studies that rely on blood lead as a biomarker of exposure where blood lead is representative of exposure over the previous 30-day period based on its biological half-life in soft tissue (reviewed in Health Canada 2013, <i>Final Human Health State of the Science Report on Lead</i>). Similarly for mercury, the toxicity studies that form the</p>

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					<p>basis of the TRV recommended by Health Canada relies on exposure durations of greater than 24-hours.</p> <p>Finally, it is worth noting that were exposure to outdoor air for the residential receptor be assumed to be continuous for 24-hours, the resultant hazard quotient would still be well less than 0.2.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Health Canada. 2013. Final Human Health State of the Science Report on Lead</p> <p>Health Canada, 2016. Draft Memorandum: A Primer for Evaluating Human Health Risk at Contaminated Sites for Chronic and Less-Than-Chronic Exposures to Chemicals - July 2016</p> <p>Johnson et al., 2003</p>
201	HE(1)-08	CEA Agency	Appendix W Section 4.3.2, Table J	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Only one set of ingestion rates for root vegetables, other vegetables, wild game and fish are provided in Table J (Appendix W, page 30) but no age group is provided. The values appear to reflect ingestion rates for toddlers.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Specify the age group considered for the food ingestion rates provided in Table J. If other contaminants of concern are retained that have carcinogenicity as a critical effect, then use adults or multiple age groups (i.e. life time average daily dose or "LADD") or provide a justification for not using adults or multiple age groups.</p> <p>Response: A. The reviewer is correct, the rates quoted are for the toddler receptor. As no carcinogens have been carried forward as COCs, the use of multiple age groups to represent a composite receptor is not necessary.</p>
202	HE(1)-09	CEA Agency	Appendix W Section 4.3.2, Table J	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: A fish ingestion rate of 95 g/day (presumably for toddlers) is provided in Table J (Appendix W, page 30), based on defaults provided in the detailed quantitative risk assessment spreadsheet. Note that these rates are outdated and no longer supported. Current guidance describes fish consumption values considered from various studies and surveys on fish consumption in Canada: http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/pubs/mercur/merc_fish_poisson-eng.php Where subsistence users and populations are not addressed in the guidance, site-specific values (or other relevant data) should be used along with detailed rationale provided.</p> <p>If non-site-specific fish consumption rates are used, it is important to identify the uncertainties associated with their use (in terms of applicability to the particular site in question) and how it may</p>

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					<p>impact risk assessment conclusions (e.g. level of conservatism).</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Revise the assessment to adhere to current guidance on fish ingestion rates. For subsistence users and populations not addressed in the guidance, use site-specific values (or other relevant data) and provide a detailed discussion why non-site-specific values are used, along with the associated uncertainties.</p> <p>Response: A. The default fish ingestion rate used in the SLRA of 95 g/day for the toddler is more conservative than values recommended by Health Canada (2007) for 1-4 year old children who are part of the subsistence or recreational fishing culture. While Treasury Metals has made efforts to engage and elicit input from Aboriginal peoples regarding the Project, no Project-specific traditional knowledge and traditional land use studies were prepared for, or shared with, Treasury Metals. While there is no site specific information available on fish ingestion rates within the surrounding communities, the use of 95 g/day is considered sufficiently conservative to evaluate health risk associated with this exposure pathway at a screening level.</p> <p>References Health Canada. 2007. Human Health Risk Assessment of Mercury in Fish and Health Benefits of Fish Consumption. Available at: http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/pubs/mercur/merc_fish_poisson-eng.php</p>
203	HE(1)-10	CEA Agency	Appendix W Section 4.4.2, Table M, Appendix C	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: A single toxicity reference value (TRV) for mercury is provided in Table M (Appendix W, page 32). This TRV appears to be for inorganic mercury. As TRVs for mercury depend on the form (i.e. metal species) of mercury present, please specify the specific species that is being assessed in the risk assessment and discuss whether other species of mercury are expected to be found as well at this site.</p> <p>In addition, in the detailed quantitative risk assessment output sheets in Appendix C of Appendix W, both inorganic mercury and methylmercury were considered for country foods scenarios. It is also important to include the TRV used for methylmercury in Table M (Appendix W, page 32).</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Specify the form(s) of mercury for the mercury TRV (i.e. inorganic mercury) and include a methylmercury TRV. B. Provide a rationale to explain which forms of mercury are expected to be present at this site and</p>

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					<p>for which media.</p> <p>Response: A. The TRV for mercury listed in Table M is for the inorganic form. The TRV used for methylmercury in the DQRA spreadsheet was 0.0002 mg/kg-d for women of child bearing age and children of less than 12 years of age. B. Per Appendix J, the form of mercury present in waste rock and tailings is exclusively inorganic. For exposure to mercury in fish, the evaluation was conducted assuming both 100% inorganic form as well as 100% organic form.</p>
204	HE(1)-11	CEA Agency	Appendix W Section 4.4.2, Table M	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: A toxicity reference value (TRV) for lead of 0.0036 mg/kg-bw/day (assuming the units of “µg/kg-bw/day” are erroneous) is provided in Table M (Appendix W, page 32) based on the detailed quantitative risk assessment spreadsheet. Note that this TRV is from outdated guidance. It is recommended that lead TRVs, which are based on more recent science be considered with sufficient rationale provided.</p> <p>The use of a TRV for lead from another regulatory agency should be accompanied with sufficient justification for its selection. Alternate TRVs, including risk-specific doses (RSDs) from EFSA (2013) or WHO/JECFA (2011) may be used in quantitative risk assessments, with appropriate scientific rationale.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Revise the assessment to use a lead TRV which is based on more recent science, such as EFSA (2013) or WHO/JECFA (2011), with rationale provided to support the choice as protective of the developing fetus and women of childbearing age.</p> <p>Response: There are few TRVs available for lead that are supported by regulatory agencies in Canada. CalEPA assumes that a blood lead level of 1 µg/DL equates to an IQ deficit of approximately 1 which is essentially considered <i>de minimus</i>. WHO/JEFCA, who use combination of statistical approaches to generate a relationship between dietary intake and deficits in IQ, suggest an intake of 30 µg/day equates to an IQ decrease of 1 in children. Based on a default body weight for a toddler of 16.4 kg, this equates to an oral TRV of approximately 1.8 µg/kg-d, essentially half that used in the SLRA. Considering the hazard quotients (HQ) determined for lead, the use of a more stringent TRV for this contaminant does not alter the conclusions of the report.</p>
205	HE(1)-12	CEA Agency	Appendix W	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p>

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			Section 4.5.5		<p>Estimated concentrations of lead and mercury in plants were spatially adjusted based on the size of the tailings and waste rock management areas (125 ha) relative to the potential gathering area in the region (6341 ha, based on the blueberry habitat size used as a surrogate to represent other plants). Spatially adjusting such concentrations assumes residents and recreational users are equally likely to gather plants from any one area in the region and no preferential gathering from specific areas would occur (which may or may not be the case for this region).</p> <p>There is an uncertainty in the assumption that receptors would be expected to exhibit an equal likelihood of gathering plants from any one location in the region. Also, the potential for preferential uptake of identified contaminants of concern (COCs) in waste rock and tailings, other than lead and mercury should be considered, and the impact of this in terms of human exposure (and risk) be discussed.</p> <p>In addition, only lead and mercury were considered in the country foods assessment, despite some other metals being identified as COCs in waste rock and tailings. The potential for these other identified COCs to be translocated into plants from soils has not been considered. Some of these metals could be preferentially taken up into plants, resulting in concentration profiles differing between plants.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide justification, using scientific rationale, to explain spatially adjusting the concentrations and the potential for preferential uptake of identified contaminants of concern in waste rock and tailings.</p> <p>B. Explain why metals other than lead and mercury are excluded and discuss the impact of this in terms of human exposure and risk.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. It is acknowledged there is considerable uncertainty regarding those portions of the study area that are capable of supporting the establishment of vegetation used for consumption as well as the extent of lands used for harvesting. However, considering the conservative nature of the plant uptake model, which assumes that the concentration in the tailings is equivalent to the capping material post-closure, the simplifying assumption involving area-weighted exposures for the plant harvesting area is considered inconsequential. The soil cap specified for the waste rock and tailings areas will consist of soil meeting appropriate risk-based criteria for unrestricted access (e.g., Table 1 or 2 of the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) SCS) meaning the concentrations used in the modelling of uptake into the edible portions of plants has been overestimated. In the foreseeable future, Treasury Metals will control the type of vegetation that will be re-established on the rehabilitated tailings storage facility (TSF) and waste rock storage area (WRSA). As part of the certified closure plan, it can be specified that none of the species planted on</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>the TSF or WRSA be plants suitable or desirable for human consumption.</p> <p>B. Regarding those COCs selected for detailed evaluation, please refer to the response to TMI_195-HE(1)-02.</p>
206	HE(1)-13	CEA Agency	Appendix W Section 4.5.5	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> A planned cap of 1 m of clean soil over the waste rock and tailings areas post-closure is indicated to likely decrease the concentrations of lead and mercury (and potentially other metals that were not carried forward in the human health risk assessment as previously discussed) in plants that grow over these areas. While this assumption may be the case for plants with shallow root systems (i.e. berries and mushrooms), it may not be the case for other gatherable plants.</p> <p>The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME)'s definition of "surface soil" is soils located within 1.5 m below ground surface (mbgs) (CCME 2006). This definition is based on the fact that terrestrial plant growth (i.e., root systems) may reach as deep as 1.5 mbgs. Therefore rationale is needed for the chosen depth which may include detailing the types of edible plants that are currently on the site and the depth of those root systems (and any other relevant information).</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Explain why the depth of soil cap chosen, as opposed to 1.5 m, is sufficient to lessen human exposures (and risks) via consumption of plants growing on the waste rock and tailings areas post-closure.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> While it is recognized that the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) (and the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC)) define surface soils as being up to 1.5 mbgs, MOECC recommends the use of a 1.0 m soil cap as a risk management measure to block direct and indirect contact with contaminants present in soil. For the vast majority of plants, especially those used for foraging, the mass of root systems is typically found within the top 30 cm of soil (Suter et al., 2000). It is also important to note that Treasury Metals will retain control of the waste rock and tailings area until such time that it has been deemed closed by the appropriate regulatory agencies, and should the need arise, can revegetate with plant species that are not used for consumption.</p> <p>References Suter G.W., II, Efroymson, R.A., Sample, B.E., Jones, D.S. 2000. Ecological Risk Assessment for Contaminated Sites. Lewis Publishers.</p>
207	HE(1)-14	CEA Agency	EIS Table 12.4.2	Sections 10.1.3,	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
			Appendix W Section 4.5.6	11.4	<p>Table 12.4.2 (original EIS, page 12-9) does not provide information on the frequency, duration, and number of samples to be collected for each of the aquatic biology measures. Also, no information on measuring contaminants aside from mercury is mentioned in the proposed biological monitoring plan.</p> <p>In section 4.5.6 (Appendix W), lead fish tissue concentrations were based on lower-trophic level fish species caught from Blackwater Creek, unlike the higher-trophic level species caught in Wabigoon Lake used to measure mercury tissue residue data. The use of lower-trophic level species for lead may underestimate lead concentrations in fish tissue from Wabigoon Lake.</p> <p>The fish species and chemicals selected for this type of project were incomplete. Additional baseline tissues analyses would help to reduce the uncertainty surrounding baseline levels of contaminants of potential concern in country foods, and particularly in the predicted project case scenario.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide details on the monitoring plan, including objectives and questions to be answered. Explain whether baseline data collection is adequate and if not, describe the plan to collect sufficient data for the monitoring plan.</p> <p>B. Provide a rationale as to why lead concentrations from lower-trophic level fish species would be a reasonable approximation of higher-trophic level species.</p> <p>C. Provide justification, using health science-based rationale, the plan to only measure mercury (i.e. no other contaminants) in fish tissue.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Section 12.4.2 of the original EIS provides an overview of the biological monitoring proposed by Treasury Metals as part of their environmental management plans. Specific details of the environmental management plan, including the associated monitoring components, have yet to be finalized. Treasury Metals will work with regulators and stakeholders in developing, and finalizing, the environmental management plan for the Project and the associated monitoring.</p> <p>Exposure to COCs in fish tissue attributable to discharges from the Project were estimated based on incremental changes in concentrations of COCs in receiving waters during both the operations and post-closure phase (Table S of Appendix W). For the two principal COCs examined in the SLRA, estimated changes in water quality ranged from an increase of 0.0016% to a 0.04% over background. Recognizing the conservative nature of the SLRA, such changes are considered insignificant when evaluating potential exposure and risk attributable to the Project. As such, we do not believe there is a need to collect additional baseline information as it will not further our</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>understanding of the potential for impacts attributable to the Project.</p> <p>B. While lead can be taken up by aquatic organisms, it does not biomagnify in aquatic or terrestrial food chains. In aquatic systems, lead concentrations are typically higher in benthic organisms and algae, and lowest in upper trophic level predators (reviewed in ATSDR 2008, Toxicological Profile for Lead). Consequently, tissue concentrations in lower-trophic level fish species should represent a conservative estimation of levels in higher-trophic species.</p> <p>C. As described in part A to the response, the results of the conservative SLRA showed that the Project would result in insignificant increases in the water quality for lead and mercury relative to background levels. Therefore, from a health science-based perspective, no ongoing health monitoring would be warranted during the life of the Project. However, Treasury Metals is aware of concerns regarding mercury levels in the region, and have proposed a monitoring program aimed at addressing these specific concerns.</p> <p>References ATSDR 2008, Toxicological Profile for Lead.</p>
208	HE(1)-15	CEA Agency	Appendix W Sections 4.7, 7.3	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The conceptual site model assumed that soil direct contact pathways of incidental ingestion and dermal contact were not operable for humans at this site during the post-closure phase as above-ground waste rock and tailings areas would be covered with either an impermeable barrier or with 1 m of soil and vegetation. To ensure that direct soil contact will not occur after closure, it will be beneficial to verify the integrity of the cover.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Describe a plan to monitor the cover for the above-ground waste rock and tailing areas during the post-closure phase to verify the exposure pathways remain inoperable.</p> <p>B. If on-site soils are used as cap soil, revise the assessment to include the potential for contamination of those soils due to wet/dry deposition of suspended dust during the operations phase or provide justification why the revision is not required.</p> <p>Response: A. Since filing the EIS, Treasury Metals has advanced the engineering for the Project. One of the refinements was a change in the plans for closing the tailings storage facility (TSF). The current plans are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At closure, the water on the TSF will be withdrawn treated and used to help fill the open pit. • The tailings will be covered with a granular surface to physically isolate the tailings. • The tailings will then be isolated from oxygen using a low-permeability cover to prevent acid rock

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>drainage (ARD).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The low-permeability cover will be covered with a layer of soil to protect the low-permeability cover, and to provide a surface when shallow rooted, native vegetation will be allowed to grow. <p>Given the multiple layers of cover isolating the tailings in the post-closure phase, this exposure pathway is not viable following closure.</p> <p>At closure, a portion of the waste rock will remain on the surface and will be covered with a low-permeability cover to isolate the waste rock from oxygen and prevent ARD in the long-term. As part of the monitoring to be proposed for the post-closure phase of the Project will be monitoring of the efficacy and integrity of the cover for the waste rock storage area (WRSA).</p> <p>B. The soils to be used for covering the TSF and WRSA will come primarily from the overburden storage area. While this storage pile was located on the site, only the very top layer will have been exposed to the small amounts of metals deposited over the relatively short period when mining occurs within the open pit. This shallow surface layer will be the first layer withdrawn from the overburden storage pile and placed on either the TSF or WRSA. This thin layer will be covered by multiple layers of unexposed materials from within the overburden storage pile.</p>
209	HE(1)-16	CEA Agency	Appendix W Tables 1, 2, 5	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Several chemicals had no measured concentration data available in waste rock (Table 1, Appendix W), tailings (Table 2, Appendix W) or impacted drinking water (Table 5, Appendix W) and were not retained in the human health risk assessment because “No site data provided do not retain.”</p> <p>Further justification for screening out contaminants based on a lack of measured or modelled concentration data is needed, particularly as some of these chemicals had screening criteria available and/or baseline concentration data available (e.g., beryllium, boron, molybdenum, selenium, etc.) but no waste rock, tailings or impacted drinking water concentrations with which to compare them.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide justification to explain why site data were not generated for some chemicals and whether such site data will be generated at a later point. B. Discuss whether a lack of site data for some chemicals should be cited as an uncertainty and indicate whether risks may be underestimated as a result.</p> <p>Response:</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>A. COPCs in mine rock were identified based on their concentration in relation to crustal abundance. These were listed in Table 3.1 of Appendix K (Geochemistry Evaluation) of the EIS and form the basis for identification of COCs in Tables 2 and 3 of the SLRA. However, as these tables are based on a standard template they list a broader range of elements, many of which do not have analytical data.</p> <p>B. As indicated, COPCs were identified in the Geochemistry Evaluation based on their relative abundance when compared to crustal levels. On this basis the lack of data carried into the SLRA is not considered an uncertainty and does not unduly bias the results of the assessment.</p>
210	HE(1)-17	CEA Agency	Appendix W Table 2	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> The maximum concentration of antimony in tailings, 11 mg/kg, exceeds the MOE (2011) Table 2 residential site condition standard of 7.5 mg/kg. Despite this, antimony was not retained as a contaminant of concern for tailings with the following rationale provided: “Does not exceed guideline, do not retain”.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Verify the antimony concentrations in the report and explain whether it should be retained as a contaminant of concern in tailings to ensure potential health risk is not underestimated.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> While the exclusion of antimony as a COC was an oversight in the SLRA (Appendix W to the revised EIS). However, based on the concentration identified in tailings and the basis of the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change’s (MOECC) Table 2 SCS, antimony would not pose a risk to human health. The conclusions of the SLRA and the EIS would not have been altered by the inclusion of antimony as a COC.</p>
211	HE(1)-18	CEA Agency	Appendix W Table 3	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Analyte dust concentrations for a variety of metals are provided in Table 3 (Appendix W), but not for mercury (one of the two contaminants of concern retained in the human health risk assessment). As no mercury dust concentration is provided in this table or in Table H (Appendix W, page 29), it is unclear what mercury concentration in suspended particulate matter was used to derive the inhalation hazard quotient for mercury.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide the mercury exposure point concentration in suspended particulate matter that was used in the human health risk assessment for generating the inhalation exposure and risk estimates.</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p><u>Response:</u> The exposure point concentration used to evaluate the health risk of inhalation of mercury of 0.62 µg/g was based on the concentration measured in tailings composite. This is shown on the input sheet of the DQRA spreadsheet.</p>
212	HE(1)-19	CEA Agency	Appendix W Table 3	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Several analytes in Table 3 (Appendix W) have more than one MOE point of impingement (POI) limit (MOE 2012a) available for different averaging periods. Despite this, only maximum POI concentrations calculated for a single averaging period (usually 24-hr) were compared to the MOE POI limits. Note that MOE (2012a) indicates: "If there are multiple standards (i.e., standards with different averaging times) in Schedule 3 or multiple guidelines, when Section 20 applies, for a particular contaminant, all of them must be used for assessment purposes [emphasis added]. This is because each represents a different type of effect linked to a particular averaging period (i.e., averaging time)." Other types of effects from exposure to these substances in air may have not been considered.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Revise the assessment and use MOE POI limits for all averaging periods in screening maximum POI concentrations (as per MOE 2012a) or provide a justification that demonstrates other types of effects from exposure to these substances in air are covered without the revision.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The different averaging times used by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) are not based on risk related to differing durations of exposure but rather are based on relationships established through dispersion modelling between short-term average concentrations at the point of impingement and those that can be expected over longer periods. In this respect, the assessment used appropriate averaging periods for those analytes where toxicity is manifest over longer-term exposure and those where the effects are more acute (e.g. SO₂, CO and NO₂).</p>
213	HE(1)-20	CEA Agency	Appendix W Table 3	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> As noted in MOE (2012a), point of impingement (POI) limits are intended to assess air quality from a single facility, and not to assess general air quality from all sources. MOE (2012a) notes that ambient air quality criteria (AAQCs) are used for environmental assessments, general air quality assessments and some special studies. As such, in addition to screening against MOE POI limits, consider also summing the maximum incremental POI concentrations with the background air concentrations (for those analytes with background concentration data available) for comparison against the MOE's AAQCs and/or Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards.</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Revise the assessment to screen the total air concentrations (i.e. maximum incremental POI concentrations + background), where possible, against health-based air quality standards and guidelines.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> Inclusion of background concentrations does not result in any other parameters exceeding their respective Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) POI limits and therefore does not alter the conclusions of the HHRA.</p>
214	HE(1)-21	CEA Agency	Appendix W Table 5	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Several contaminants of concern (COCs) were excluded “due to a lack of risk-based standards for comparison”. Absence of a screening criterion is not a sufficient justification for excluding a contaminant of concern. Further discussion may include whether the COCs are expected to be present at non-toxic levels or relevant to human health.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide health-based justification for excluding COCs without risk-based standards for comparison.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The comment is in reference to Table 5 where analytes such as hardness, pH, carbonate and sulphur were identified as not having risk-based standards. In all cases, the standards/guidelines available are based on aesthetics owing to the benign nature of the material at the concentrations typically encountered.</p>
215	HE(1)-22	CEA Agency	Appendix W Table 5	Section 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Contaminants of concern appear to have been screened using incremental concentrations (i.e. contributions to concentrations in Blackwater Creek following application of a dilution factor). Human health risk depends on the total concentration of a substance following release, not an incremental concentration.</p> <p>In the case of cobalt, copper, and lead, the total concentrations in Blackwater Creek during the post-closure phase (i.e. 1.79, 5.30 and 3.89 µg/L, respectively) exceed the Blackwater Creek baseline concentrations (i.e. 1.76, 5.18 and 3.76 µg/L, respectively) and the provincial water quality objectives (PWQOs) and/or interim PWQOs (i.e. 0.9, 5 and 1 µg/L, respectively).</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>A. Revise the assessment to use total concentrations of substances in Blackwater Creek (incremental + baseline) for screening against Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines (CDWQGs), PWQOs and MOE (2011) Table 2 site condition standards (SCSs) for the operations and post-closure phases for comparison to the CDWQGs, PWQOs and MOE (2011) residential Table 2 SCSs.</p> <p>B. Revise the assessment to retain copper and lead for drinking water purposes (post-closure phase) or provide a rationale for their exclusion.</p> <p>Response: While it is understood that health risk is dependent on total exposure, the SLRA examined health risk directly attributable to the Project. It is evident that for cobalt, copper and lead, baseline concentrations already exceed their respective Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO). Estimated changes in water quality for these parameters post-closure amount to 2-3%. Recognizing the conservative nature of the SLRA, such changes are considered insignificant when evaluating potential exposure and risk attributable to the Project.</p>
216	HE(1)-23	CEA Agency	Appendix W Table 6	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Baseline lead fish tissue data were measured based on 42 fillet samples. While sports fishermen typically consume only the skinless, boneless fillet, Aboriginal members may consume not only the fillet but also other parts of the fish (i.e. other tissues and organ meats). These other parts may or may not contain higher concentrations of some substances than in the muscle tissue.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Establish baseline concentrations for whole fish consumption or for other parts of the fish consumed by Aboriginal peoples. If the baseline data is not available, indicate as an uncertainty/limitation that only fillet baseline data were available and explain how lead concentration in fillets may differ from whole fish.</p> <p>Response: While lead can be taken up by aquatic organisms, it does not biomagnify in aquatic or terrestrial food chains. In aquatic systems lead concentrations are typically higher in benthic organisms and algae, and lowest in upper trophic level predators. In terms of tissue distribution, while concentrations of lead tend to be higher in gill tissue and liver considering the marginal increase in lead concentration over background, the simplifying assumption that lead concentration in fish are represented by the fillet makes does not alter the conclusions of the HHRA.</p>
217	HE(1)-24	CEA Agency	Appendix W	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
			Table 9		<p>Incremental concentrations of mercury and lead in fish were calculated in Table 9 (Appendix W), based on percent contribution of these two substances to Wabigoon Lake baseline water concentrations and the assumption of a direct linear relationship between water and fish tissue concentrations. These incremental concentrations were noted to be used in the "HQ spreadsheet". Risk estimates should be calculated based on total concentrations, not on incremental concentrations, as risks are proportional to total exposures.</p> <p>The important determinant is whether incremental contributions were sufficient to increase total levels beyond an accepted risk level.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Revise the assessment, using total concentrations of mercury and lead (i.e. sum of baseline and incremental contributions) in fish to calculate hazard quotients, so potential health risks are not underestimated.</p> <p>Response: While it is understood that health risk is dependent on total exposure, the SLRA examined health risk directly attributable to the Project. For the two principal COCs examined in the SLRA (i.e., mercury and lead) estimated changes in water quality (and by extension fish tissue) ranged from an increase of 0.0016% to a 0.04% over background which is considered an insignificant increase in potential exposure and risk attributable to the Project. In the case of mercury, fish consumption advisories for the area have been issued by the province of Ontario to mitigate against exposure via this pathway. Considering the minimal change in exposure directly attributable to the Project and the fact that exposure to mercury through fish consumption is already mitigated via fish consumption advisories, evaluating "total" exposure is not warranted.</p>
218	HE(1)-25	CEA Agency	Appendix W Appendix C	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The detailed quantitative risk assessment spreadsheet outputs are provided in Appendix C of Appendix W but no examples of worked calculations are included in the report. As per Health Canada's preliminary quantitative risk assessment guidance (Health Canada 2012b), sample calculations should be included in human health risk assessment reports. Omission of sample calculations does not allow the exposure and risk estimates to be validated.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide worked examples for exposure (and risk) estimates for a non-carcinogen and another for a carcinogen (if applicable) in the human health risk assessment report.</p> <p>Response:</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>Typically, at a screening level, we do not provide worked examples of exposure in our reports. Below is a completed example of exposure of a toddler to lead from consumption of vegetation harvested from the area (Scenario 3 – non-carcinogen):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Concentration of lead in plant tissue:</p> $C_{\text{plant}} = C_{\text{soil}} \times \text{TF} \times \text{DTW}$ <p>Where: C_{plant} = Concentration in plant tissue (mg/kg) C_{soil} = Concentration in soil (mg/kg) – 870 mg/mg TF = Transfer factor - vegetative tissue 0.0049; root/berry 0.0015 DTW = Dry-to-wet weight conversion – vegetative 0.126; root/berry 0.222</p> $C_{\text{root/berry}} = 870 \times 0.0015 \times 0.222 = 0.289$ $C_{\text{veg}} = 870 \times 0.0049 \times 0.126 = 0.537$ <p>Exposure adjusted plant tissue concentration</p> $C_{\text{plant(adjst)}} = C_{\text{plant}} \times \text{area of tailings \& waste rock} / \text{total area available for harvesting}$ <p>area of tailings & waste rock = 125 ha total area available for harvesting = 6341 ha</p> $C_{\text{root/berry(adjst)}} = 0.289 \times 125 / 6341 = 0.0057 \text{ mg/kg wet weight}$ $C_{\text{veg(adjst)}} = 0.537 \times 125 / 6341 = 0.016 \text{ mg/kg wet weight}$ <p>Human Exposure from Consumption of Plant Tissue (Toddler)</p> $\text{Intake} = C_{\text{plant(adjst)}} \times \text{FIR} / \text{BW} / 1000\text{g/kg}$ <p>Where: BW = Body Weight = 16.5 kg FIR = Food Ingestion Rate – root veg = 105 g/d FIR = Food Ingestion – other veg = 67 g/d</p> $\text{Intake} = ((0.0057 \text{ mg/kg} \times 105 \text{ g/d}) + (0.016 \text{ mg/kg} \times 67 \text{ g/d})) / 16.5 \text{ kg} / 1000 \text{ g/kg}$

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>Intake = 7.95E-05 mg/kg-d</p> <p>4. Hazard Quotient – consumption of vegetation</p> <p>HQ = intake/TRV</p> <p>HQ = 7.95E-05/0.0036</p> <p>HQ = 0.022 (oral - for consumption of plants; total oral HQ is the sum of all relevant exposure pathways).</p>
219	HE(1)-26	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6, Table 6.4.4 Appendix J Table 1	Section 9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: NO₂ background concentrations are listed as 3.3 ug/m³ for all timescales (1-hr, 24-hr, annual) in Table 6.4.4 (EIS, page 6-78 to 6-79). However, Table 1 (Appendix J, page 8) lists NO₂ background concentrations at 33 ug/m³ for both 1-hr and 24-hr (90th percentile) timescales.</p> <p>It is somewhat unusual for the same concentration to be reported for all timescales.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Verify the background concentrations for NO₂ (1hr, 24hr, annual). Provide an explanation for the same concentrations. If there is an error, revise the affected table(s) accordingly.</p> <p>Response: The correct background concentration for NO₂ is 33 µg/m³. The correct value is shown in both Table 1 and Table 5 of the Environmental Air Quality Assessment (included as part of Appendix J to the EIS). As described in Section 3.2 of the Environmental Air Quality Assessment, background concentrations for a compound were determined as the 90th percentile of the available readings. Table 1 of the Environmental Air Quality Assessment indicates that the 90th percentile of both the 1-hour and 24-hour NO₂ readings are 33 µg/m³. For TSP, only 24-hour readings were available. The 90th percentile of the 24-hour TSP readings was also, coincidentally, 33 µg/m³.</p>
220	HE(1)-27	CEA Agency	Appendix W Table R	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Lead concentrations in vegetation and roots/berries of 39.15 and 9.83 mg/kg dry weight are provided in Table R (Appendix W, page 37). Verify whether these values should in fact be 4.263 and 1.305 mg/kg dry weight, based on a lead soil concentration of 0.62 mg/kg and based on soil-to-plant lead transfer factors of 0.0049 and 0.015 mg lead in dry tissue per mg/kg soil, respectively.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Verify the dry weight concentrations of lead in vegetation and roots/berries in Table R and revise</p>

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response																												
					<p>the assessment and table accordingly.</p> <p>Response: Updated values are provided in a revised Table R included as Table 1 in the response. The correct values for dietary intake are included in Table U. As such the HQs do not change as a result of this correction.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="6">Table 1: Exposure concentrations for plant intake by humans</th> </tr> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Analyte</th> <th rowspan="2">Concentration in Soil (mg/kg)</th> <th colspan="2">Concentration in Plant (mg/kg dry weight)</th> <th colspan="2">Human Dietary Intake (mg/kg wet weight of plant)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Vegetative</th> <th>Root/Berry</th> <th>Vegetative</th> <th>Root/Berry</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lead</td> <td>870</td> <td>4.26</td> <td>1.31</td> <td>0.016</td> <td>0.0057</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mercury</td> <td>0.62</td> <td>0.06</td> <td>0.02</td> <td>0.000154</td> <td>0.0000814</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Table 1: Exposure concentrations for plant intake by humans						Analyte	Concentration in Soil (mg/kg)	Concentration in Plant (mg/kg dry weight)		Human Dietary Intake (mg/kg wet weight of plant)		Vegetative	Root/Berry	Vegetative	Root/Berry	Lead	870	4.26	1.31	0.016	0.0057	Mercury	0.62	0.06	0.02	0.000154	0.0000814
Table 1: Exposure concentrations for plant intake by humans																																	
Analyte	Concentration in Soil (mg/kg)	Concentration in Plant (mg/kg dry weight)		Human Dietary Intake (mg/kg wet weight of plant)																													
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Lead	870	4.26	1.31	0.016	0.0057																												
Mercury	0.62	0.06	0.02	0.000154	0.0000814																												
221	HE(1)-28	CEA Agency	Appendix W Table 3	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: A MOE point of impingement (POI) limit of 36 200 µg/m³ is provided for carbon monoxide (CO) in Table 3 (Appendix W). However, MOE (2012a) only provides a 1/2-hour POI limit of 6000 µg/m³ for CO, not 36 200 µg/m³.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Verify whether the MOE point of impingement limit for carbon monoxide should be 6000 µg/m³ and not 36 200 µg/m³, and revise the assessment and Table 3 accordingly.</p> <p>Response: The value of 36,200 µg/m³ is the 1-hour AAQC, which is the appropriate criteria to use when considering the background contribution from combustion sources.</p>																												
222	HE(1)-29	CEA Agency	Appendix W Appendix C	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The "Spreadsheet Tool for Human Health Detailed Quantitative Risk Assessment (DQRA)" (Meridian 2011) was used for calculating exposure and risk estimates for the screening level human health risk assessment (HHRA). Note that this spreadsheet is a contractor report and not considered official guidance since the spreadsheet contains errors and omissions.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Revise the assessment to ensure all input parameters and calculations performed with the detailed quantitative risk assessment (DQRA) spreadsheet are in accordance with current guidance on preliminary quantitative risk assessment and DQRA for chemicals (Health Canada 2010c; 2012b).</p> <p>Response:</p>																												

TMI#	Agency Reference #	Parties Asking Questions	Reference to EIS	Reference to EIS Guideline	Comment / Information Request / Response
					<p>At the onset of the EIS, TetraTech approached Health Canada for their recommendation on applicable guidance and spreadsheet models for evaluating risk to human health at a screening level. At that time, Health Canada provided the then current "Spreadsheet Tool for Human Health Detailed Quantitative Risk Assessment" dated December 12, 2011, which has been used in this assessment.</p>
223	HE(1)-30	CEA Agency	Appendix W Table 7	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Predicted tissue concentrations of mercury and lead were summed across four wild game species (i.e., moose, deer, hare and grouse) to provide a total concentration. Summing concentrations of a substance across multiple species does not seem warranted given that concentrations of different metals are not bioavailable identically across species.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide a technical justification and basis for summing concentrations across multiple species to generate a total concentration. B. Explain whether using the highest tissue concentration among the four species to represent all wild game consumed may be a more appropriate approach.</p> <p>Response: The exposure assessment for ingestion of wild game is based on a common BCF based the transfer of mercury and lead from food to bovine tissue. The fact that each species considered uses on the same BCFs means that the only difference in exposure relates to the animal's exposure to individual COCs and the consumption of that species. Summing tissue concentrations across species provides a conservative maximum value for use in estimating human exposure.</p>
224	HE(1)-31	CEA Agency	Appendix W Section 4.5.7	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: A total hazard quotient (HQ) of 2.69E-02 is provided for the post-closure phase of the project for the country foods assessment. This seems to be inconsistent with the sum of the lead and mercury post-closure country foods HQs as 4.9E-02 (4.19E-02 + 7.25E-03 = 0.049).</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Explain the apparent inconsistency between the total hazard quotient (HQ) for the country foods assessment for the post-closure phase and the sum of the lead and mercury HQs.</p> <p>Response: The correct HQ for post-closure is 0.049 as noted by the reviewer. Although the correction does not alter the conclusions of the assessment an updated version of Table U of Appendix W is included as Table 1 to this response. .</p>

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225	HE(1)-32	CEA Agency	Appendix W Appendix C	Section 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The detailed quantitative risk assessment spreadsheet output for Scenario 3 (Country Foods, Resident receptor, Operational phase) provides an inhalation hazard quotient (HQ) for lead of "5.77E-06". However, the inhalation HQ for lead for this same receptor in the spreadsheet output for Scenario 1 is "1.45E-03". As both these inhalation HQs represent the same receptor group (Resident) and project phase (Operations Phase), the reason for this discrepancy is unclear whether it is a typographical or computational error.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide the rationale why the inhalation HQ for lead of "5.77E-06" for Scenario 3 (operations phase) is used instead of "1.45E-03" as per Scenario 1. Indicate whether there is an error and update the assessment accordingly.</p> <p>Response: The difference in values largely relates to the fact that Scenario 3 does not consider inhalation of particulate bound metal as discussed in Section 4.5.3 of Appendix W (the difference in lead concentrations for the two different scenarios also plays a role but to a much less significant extent).</p>																																																												
226	HE(1)-33	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 5.11.2, 5.11.3, 6.4.2.1, 6.4.2.2, 6.4.2.3, Table 6.4.1 Appendix T	Sections 9.1.3, 9.2, 10.1.2, 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Local and regional study areas for the socio-economic environment are not clearly defined or rationalized in section 5 (EIS). The local study area for the socio-economic baseline provided in Appendix T does not take into account all of the Aboriginal groups identified in the EIS Guidelines; Whitefish Bay First Nation, Wabauskang First Nation, Métis Nation of Ontario, Aboriginal People of Wabigoon, and Grassy Narrows First Nation are not included in the baseline assessment.</p> <p>There is no discussion of either on or off-reserve baseline or effects to Aboriginal socio-economic conditions within section 5 or 6 (EIS). Data presented in community profiles (Appendix T) is from</p>																																																												

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					<p>secondary sources only and therefore is limited to largely regional scale information. Section 5.11.2(EIS) does not describe the baseline information for the communities or groups that are in closest proximity to the project site and are most likely to be impacted (e.g., Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, Village of Wabigoon and City of Dryden).</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Define local and regional study area for the valued socio-economic components of the assessment, including maps depicting the location of study areas in relation to the project site.</p> <p>B. Include all Aboriginal groups identified in the EIS Guidelines in the study area, including both on and off-reserve populations.</p> <p>C. Where possible, collect data from primary sources (i.e. key informant interviews) to fully characterize existing Aboriginal socio-economic conditions that may be affected by the Project, including the Aboriginal population that resides off-reserve. Seek to collect data related to the Aboriginal populations that reside off-reserve in communities in close proximity to the Project (i.e. Village of Wabigoon, City of Dryden).</p> <p>D. Reassess the potential effects to Aboriginal socio-economic conditions, including a description of baseline socio-economic conditions for Aboriginal peoples (First Nations and Métis) living in the Village of Wabigoon and the City of Dryden, and update the EIS accordingly.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. The description of the various study area boundaries used for the human environment were included in the appendices to the revised EIS. For example, the study areas for the socio-economics components were described in Appendix T to the revised EIS. Treasury Metals recognizes that the Agency and other technical reviewers identified a number of issues through the IR Round 1 questions with the approach used in the EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. Section 6 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project, including a discussion and justification for component specific study areas, in a clear and traceable manner. The revised EIS describes the study areas for the various disciplines in Section 6.1.4 Selection of Study Areas.</p> <p>B, C, D. Treasury Metals acknowledges the absence of community-specific socio-economic baseline data for Nootkamegwanning (Whitefish Bay) First Nation, Wabuskang First Nation, Grassy Narrows (Asubpeeschoseewagong) First Nation and Métis Nation of Ontario. Based on the proximity of these communities to the proposed Project, it is believed that the effects predictions contained within the</p>

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					<p>EIS and subsequent revised EIS capture a broad range of potential Project-related effects which may be experienced by these specific communities.</p> <p>In keeping with global best practices for monitoring and management of potential Project-related socio-economic effects, Treasury Metals is committed to undertaking an update of the socio-economic baseline presented in the EIS to establish a pre-construction baseline of the affected communities prior to commencing construction of the Project. Any updating of the socio-economic baseline should be delayed until the results of the 2016 Census are released by Statistics Canada, which are scheduled to be released between February and November 2017. The update will include primary research (i.e., in-community interviews) for the purposes of validating secondary information and developing a comprehensive profile of the socio-economic conditions within the community at that point in time. An update to the baseline prior to undertaking Project construction would allow for the inclusion of 2016 statistical information, providing a more current view of the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities within the socio-economic study area. Further, the updated socio-economic baseline information will serve as the basis for future monitoring and management of socio-economic effects throughout the life of the Project.</p>
227	HE(1)-34	CEA Agency	<p>EIS Sections 5.11.2, 5.11.3, 6.4.2.1, 6.4.2.2, 6.4.2.3, table 6.4.1</p> <p>Appendix T</p>	<p>Sections 9.1.3, 9.2, 10.1.2, 10.1.3</p>	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 6 (EIS) does not quantify potential population increases. Increases in population may result in increased hunting and fishing pressure, resulting in potential environmental effects that reduce the availability of resources for Aboriginal land and resource use. Therefore, sufficient information regarding local workforce availability, as well as workforce requirements for each phase of the Project is needed to adequately characterize potential effects to the environment from increased population.</p> <p>Section 3 (EIS) does not provide any details with regards to transportation components of the Project. The 'Land and Resource Use' paragraphs of section 6.4.2.1 (EIS) states: "The residual effect [to traffic] is predicted to be not significant based on the improved access and reduced travelling time to and from the site." It is unclear how the Project will improve access or reduce travel time. Without a clear description of the potential effects to traffic (i.e. route, number, type, frequency of additional vehicles), the significance of the adverse environmental effects related to traffic (e.g., air quality, noise, wildlife mortality, land and resource use) cannot be determined.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Quantify potential environmental effects from population and traffic increases from the project including references to primary or secondary data sources which support conclusions. B. Assess potential impacts to current use of lands and resources from potential environmental effects related to increases in population and traffic (e.g., air quality, noise, water quality and</p>

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					<p>quantity, vegetation, fish and fish habitat, wildlife).</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. As noted in the original EIS (Section 6.4.2.2) there exists the possibility of some in-migration to the regional study area in terms of job seekers and their families. The workforce requirements during construction are estimated to be 450 over a two-year period, with a steady-state operations workforce of approximately 250 individuals. The population in the socio-economic study area has experienced a pattern of out-migration of its young people, a pattern which has continued in the City of Dryden (Appendix T, p. 56). The creation of new employment opportunities through the Project may result in retention of some of the region's young people who may have otherwise chosen to leave their home communities in search of employment elsewhere. Further, Treasury has committed to develop and implement employment practices that give preference to local and regional labour where possible (EIS, p. 6-45). To support engaging the local and regional workforce in Project-related employment to the extent practicable, Treasury has committed to the development of training programs for unemployed and underemployed persons (EIS, p. 6-41).</p> <p>Overall, the increase in regional population as a result of the Project is expected to be small in comparison to the existing population, which will be mitigated further by the commitments to give preference to local and regional labour where possible. This slight increase will go some way to offset the general decline in the regional population resulting from out-migration of young people searching for opportunities elsewhere. On balance, there is not expected to be a measurable increase on the hunting and fishing pressure in the region given the relatively small workforce for the Project, coupled with the decline in regional population.</p> <p>Although Section 3 of the original EIS provides limited information of the potential traffic effects of the Project, Treasury Metals did commission a comprehensive Traffic Impact Study (included as Appendix E to the EIS). This study contained baseline traffic information as well as an assessment of the Project's potential effects on traffic. The Study determined that the peak hours for traffic to/from the Project site will not overlap with existing baseline peak hours for Highway 17 traffic flows; and with the additional anticipated Project-related traffic the existing level of service (LOS) will be maintained on Highway 17 and Anderson Road. Appendix E also includes a model analysis for total traffic conditions for anticipated levels of Project-related traffic during construction and operations phases considering the volume to capacity ratio for both Highway 17 and Anderson Road.</p> <p>The detailed Traffic Impact Study (Appendix E to the EIS) demonstrates that the Project will not measurably affect travel times along Highway 17. Treasury Metals has committed to develop and implement a Transportation and Access Management Plan which will address potential Project traffic-related effects. Treasury will also establish and enforce traffic safety protocols, regulatory and cautionary signage, road maintenance and emergency response plans on all Project roads to</p>

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					<p>prevent collisions and accidents. The detailed Traffic Impact Study (Appendix E to the EIS) also demonstrated that the daily traffic volumes associated with the Project are relatively small when compared to the existing volumes along Highway 17. These volumes are not expected to change the air quality or noise levels along the highway to an extent that would be noticeable or affect current or traditional uses of the land.</p> <p>B. The potential changes in traffic and population associated with the Project are not expected to have an appreciable effect on the environment, or the availability of resources for current and traditional uses of the lands by Aboriginal peoples and other stakeholders in the region.</p>
228	HE(1)-35	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 6.4.2.3, 14	Sections 9.1.3, 10.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 6.4.2.3 (EIS) focuses only on positive economic effects to the public. Additional valued components are needed to assess the effects of changes to the environment from the Project on Aboriginal socio-economic conditions. For example, direct changes to the environment from the Project (e.g., air quality, noise, water quality and quantity) may cause potential adverse socio-economic effects to Aboriginal property values, tourism establishments (e.g. outposts, camps, motels, guiding operations), recreation activities (e.g. Lola Provincial Park, Butler Park, and Aaron Provincial Park) and other resource-based commercial operations (e.g. wild rice harvesting, chanterelle harvesting, baifishing, trapping, hunting forestry). Valued components should be revisited in consultation with potentially affected groups. For example, based on input provided by Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, consider wild rice as a valued component due to economic value. Aboriginal groups have also identified baifishing within the project site. This activity has not been included or addressed in Section 6 (EIS).</p> <p>Section 14 (EIS) concludes that the Project will provide an economic net benefit to the local, Aboriginal, regional, and provincial economies; however, this conclusion is not supported by technical supporting documentation or references (e.g. no economic model completed). In addition, the preliminary economic assessment (Appendix BB) results have not been integrated into the EIS (section 6). Section 6 is limited to an assessment of economic development at the provincial level.</p> <p>During Agency consultation activities, concerns were raised from Aboriginal groups and members of the public about effects to Aboriginal social conditions (i.e., quality of life and community character) from direct environmental changes of the Project (i.e. air quality, noise, dust, light and visual changes to the landscape). While potential effects to local ambience are identified in section 6 (EIS), they are not completely discussed or adequately characterized using measurable indicators.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p>

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					<p>A. Define valued components to assess potential adverse socio- economic effects to Aboriginal peoples from environmental changes of the Project. Aboriginal socio-economic conditions include to property values quality of life and community character, tourism, recreation, and resource-based commercial operations.</p> <p>B. Collect data from primary sources (i.e. key informant interviews) to fully characterize existing Aboriginal socio-economic conditions that may be affected by the Project, including, but not limited to, Aboriginal businesses and commercial operations, Aboriginal recreation activities. Aboriginal businesses and commercial operations may include tourism, recreation and resource-based commercial operations (e.g. commercial baitfish operators, sustainable forestry license holders, bear management area operators, and the local trapper’s council).</p> <p>C. Identify mitigation measures for potential effects to Aboriginal socio-economic conditions.</p> <p>D. Utilize data to quantify, where possible, potential effects to local and regional economic conditions. Reference primary or secondary data sources which support conclusions. Provide economic modeling which substantiates conclusions identified in the EIS.</p> <p>Response: Treasury Metals acknowledges that there are a number of questions from the Agency and other reviewers related to the approach used in the EIS for organizing and presenting information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, and to address issues raised through the responses to Round 1 questions, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. The revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner. The revised EIS includes an expanded discussion on valued components (VCs) and their selection, mitigation measures to address predicted effects, and an expanded description of potential Project-related effects.</p> <p>B. In developing the Socio-economic Baseline Report (Appendix T), Treasury Metals’ consultant (gck Consulting) engaged in discussions with a variety of organizations in an effort to verify data during the research and report development. The participating organizations included, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dryden Development Corporation • Dryden Police • Ontario Provincial Police • Dryden District of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) • Keewatin-Patricia District School Board • Northwest Catholic District School Board

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Township of Ignace • Municipality of Sioux Lookout • Eagle Lake First Nation • Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM) • Lac Seul First Nation • Municipality of Machin. <p>Treasury Metals recognizes the importance of establishing comprehensive community baseline information to support future monitoring and management, including optimization, of potential Project-related effects.</p> <p>In keeping with global best practices for monitoring and management of potential Project-related socio-economic effects, Treasury Metals is committed to undertaking an update of the socio-economic baseline presented in the EIS to establish a pre-construction baseline of the affected communities prior to commencing construction of the Project. Any updating of the socio-economic baseline should be delayed until the results of the 2016 Census are released by Statistics Canada, which are scheduled to be released between February and November 2017. The update will include primary research (i.e., in-community interviews) for the purposes of validating secondary information and developing a comprehensive profile of the socio-economic conditions within the community at that point in time. An update to the baseline prior to undertaking Project construction would allow for the inclusion of 2016 statistical information, providing a more current view of the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities within the socio-economic study area. Further, the updated socio-economic baseline information will serve as the basis for future monitoring and management of socio-economic effects throughout the life of the Project.</p>
229	HE(1)-36	CEA Agency	EIS section 5.4.3.5	Sections 9.1.2, 10.1.3, 11.2, 11.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 5.4.3.5 (EIS) indicates that the waste rock storage area (WRSA) will have a maximum vertical stack height of 20 m. The section states that "...current design criteria suggestthat the vertical stack height will be limited to reduce the potential visual impact for neighboring residents." It is unclear what the height limit will be in order to reduce potential visual impact.</p> <p>Aboriginal peoples and members of the public mentioned impacts of the view of their use and enjoyment of Thunder Lake require analysis. The proponent should describe more precisely with text and figures how the WRSA will appear to Aboriginal peoples and the public from various vantage points, including from Thunder Lake.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Clarify what the height limit will be in order to reduce potential visual impact.</p>

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					<p>B. Provide a comparative analysis including a description of how the waste rock storage area will appear from various vantage points throughout the various phases of the Project using both text and figures drawn to scale. Vantage points from Thunder Lake should be included in the analysis.</p> <p>C. Identify and demonstrate how mitigation measures will reduce potential impacts to Aboriginal peoples, including current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, physical and cultural heritage, and socio-economic conditions.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. While there is no specific height that can be stated to reduce potential visual impact, Treasury Metals has endeavored to reduce the overall height of the waste rock piles as much as possible.</p> <p>B. The attached figures (TMI_229-HE(1)-36_Figure_1 and TMI_229-HE(1)-36_Figure_2) show views of the proposed waste rock storage area (WRSA) from vantage points on Thunder Lake. The WRSA will not be visible from the eastern portion of the lake but will be visible from the western side of the lake.</p> <p>C. As part of the mitigation strategy, Treasury Metals has proposed to use an overall slope of 3:1 (horizontal to vertical) for the WRSA to maintain a more natural looking slope. Further to this, Treasury Metals has also proposed a program of constructions and progressive reclamation in which the WRSA construction and revegetation is initiated on the western edge as soon as possible. This affords a benefit to the mitigation of effects on the surrounding areas in that it provides covering and revegetating the WRSA western slope to create a natural looking feature when viewed from Thunder Lake. Treasury Metals has made efforts to engage and elicit input from Aboriginal peoples regarding the Project. No Project-specific traditional knowledge and traditional land use studies were prepared for, or shared with, Treasury Metals. The limited information obtained about traditional land use areas through the engagement process has been incorporated.</p>
230	HE(1)-37	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6.4.2	Sections 9.1.3, 10.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Definitions for characterization of magnitude provided in Section 6.1.3 (EIS) have not been applied appropriately across valued socio-economic components. For example, section 6.4.2.2 (EIS) states: "The residual effects have been categorized as Level I for magnitude (might or might not be detectable, but is within the normal range of variability)". This is not consistent with the definition of Level 1 effects provided in section 6.1.3 (EIS): "no measurable residual effect". Based on the definitions in section 6.1.3 (EIS), magnitude should be characterized as Level II "residual effect is measurable but within range of natural variation". If magnitude is characterized as Level II, the decision tree must be reapplied to determine the significance of adverse effects.</p>

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					<p>Further, no scientific or technical basis is provided to support characterization of residual effects. The method to determine geographic extent of effects is not clear as study areas are not clearly defined in the EIS. Each level used to characterize residual effects for the valued socio-economic components needs to be clearly defined. For example, Magnitude – Level II was defined as “Residual effect is measurable but within range of natural variation”.</p> <p>In section 6.4.2.1 (EIS), residual effects to local ambience and traffic are characterized as level 1 - might or might not be detectable, but is within the normal range of variability. It is unclear how this score was applied, as effects due to air quality, noise, vibration, traffic and decreased aesthetics associated with the Project would not occur normally (i.e. without the Project).</p> <p>Also unclear is how effects are reversible in the long term as visual changes to the site will be permanent.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Explain how natural variation was defined for socio-economic valued components.</p> <p>B. Revise determination of significance analysis based on definitions provided in section 6.1.3 of the EIS.</p> <p>C. Substantiate the characterization of residual effects by applying traceable technically valid methodology, including references to primary or secondary data sources which support conclusions.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>Treasury Metals acknowledges that there are a number of questions from the Agency and other reviewers related to the approach used in the original EIS for organizing and presenting information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, and to address issues raised through the responses to Round 1 questions, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. Section 6 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner.</p>
231	HE(1)-38	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 5.11.5.1, 5.11.5.2, Tables 5.11.8, 5.11.9 Appendix DD	Sections 2.3, 9.1.3, 9.2, 10.2, 11.2, 11.4	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>According to Aboriginal groups and government reviewers, Treaty 3 was misinterpreted in section 2.1 (Appendix DD).</p> <p>Section 9.2 of the EIS Guidelines states that the proponent is required to engage with Aboriginal groups whose potential or established Aboriginal or Treaty rights and related interests may be</p>

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					<p>affected by the Project. Additionally, section 2.3 of the EIS Guidelines states that Aboriginal persons involved must be provided with access to relevant information that allows them to understand the proposed project and to determine its impacts on their rights and interests. The proponent is not required to determine rights through the environmental assessment but rather, as identified in section 10.2 of the EIS Guidelines, to identify and assess potential adverse impacts of the Project on Aboriginal and Treaty rights and related interests. The proponent should refrain from interpreting Treaty rights in the EIS.</p> <p>Currently potential impacts to treaty rights are discussed in Appendix DD. While some information has been integrated into the baseline and effects assessment (sections 5 and 6 of the EIS), the proponent has not sufficiently integrated and addressed potential impacts to Aboriginal peoples in the EIS. The summary of engagement activities should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - activities conducted with each group; - an overview of key comments and concerns by each group and responses provided to issues identified; - where and how Aboriginal traditional knowledge or other Aboriginal views were incorporated into the consideration of environmental effects and potential adverse impacts on potential or established Aboriginal and Treaty rights and related interests; and - future planned engagement activities. <p>The assessment of adverse impacts should consider both access to lands and resources used for the exercise of rights and the availability of resources important for the exercise of rights. The assessment should also consider impacts to cultural sites and heritage resources important for the exercise of rights.</p> <p>The baseline description of Aboriginal peoples, including Aboriginal land and resource use in the project area, provided in section 5 (EIS) does not fully and adequately address the requirements outlined in the EIS Guidelines. The EIS Guidelines state that the EIS should “Summarize available information on the potential or established Aboriginal and Treaty rights and related interests of the named Aboriginal groups that have the potential to be adversely impacted by the project...In describing current uses of land and resources by Aboriginal groups for traditional purposes, the proponent will include activities related, but not limited, to hunting, fishing, trapping, cultural and other traditional uses of the land (e.g. collection of medicinal plants, use of sacred sites). Potential effects on current uses include access to areas that are of importance or concern to Aboriginal groups.”</p> <p>Information on and assessment of potential impacts to Aboriginal or Treaty rights also serves to</p>

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					<p>inform the assessment of effects on Aboriginal peoples, pursuant to section 5(1)c of CEEA 2012.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Revise text to remove interpretation of Treaty rights.</p> <p>B. Integrate existing information pertaining to potential impacts to Aboriginal peoples, including land and resource use, into the description of baseline conditions and effects assessment sections in the EIS.</p> <p>C. Collect baseline information related to potential impacts to Aboriginal peoples by the Project from primary (potentially affected Aboriginal groups) and secondary sources (i.e., community and organization websites, existing government reports, case law, etc.), including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - maps and background information of each potentially affected groups' traditional territory; - geographic extent of practices , including maps showing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Areas uses for hunting, fishing, trapping and harvesting practices (e.g. hunting camps, cabins, harvesting, fishing and trapping areas) o Waterways or land travel routes traditionally used for traditional practices - nature of practices, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Hunting, fishing, trapping, and harvesting practices o Wildlife species of importance for hunting, fishing, and trapping practices (including, but not limited to, waterfowl, ruffed grouse, moose, etc.) o Plant species of importance including for berry and plant harvesting (including, but not limited to, wild rice, blueberries and chanterelle mushrooms) o Cultural and other traditional uses of the land (e.g. collection of medicinal plants, use of sacred sites, annual gathering, meeting and teaching grounds) - frequency of practices, including data sets (e.g., fish catch numbers, harvest data by species); and - timing of practices exercised within recent memory. <p>D. Provide documentation of baseline information identified by each group specifically.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. In response to request from CEEA, Treasury Metals has developed an Aboriginal Engagement Report, which provides a detailed record of contacts with Aboriginal peoples, identifies concerns and questions raised by each Aboriginal person, a detailed list of concerns and how they were addressed in the EIS. The Aboriginal Engagement Report updates and replaces Appendix DD of the original EIS.</p>

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					<p>B. In the absence of community-specific traditional knowledge / traditional land use (TK/TLU) at the time of writing the EIS, the assessment of potential impacts on resources and activities related to the current use of land and resource for traditional purposes and identified mitigation measures that will reduce or eliminate those impacts was based upon the professional judgement / knowledge of / presence of species which may be of interest to Aboriginal communities for the purpose of traditional land use. Section 6 of the revised EIS summarizes those potentially impacted resources and activities and the associated mitigation measures.</p> <p>Section 6 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project, including a discussion and justification for component specific study areas, in a clear and traceable manner. The information required to respond to this information request is set out in the revised EIS.</p> <p>C, D. Treasury Metals has engaged in discussions with affected Aboriginal communities for the purposes of negotiating an agreement for the communities to undertake TK/TLU studies in support of identifying potential Project-related effects on traditional land uses and incorporation of traditional knowledge into Project designs, as appropriate. To date, no agreements are in place for undertaking TK/TLU studies. Treasury Metals will continue to discuss potential Projects on traditional land use activities with potentially affected Aboriginal communities throughout the life of the Project. Should additional information regarding an Aboriginal community's traditional practices become available, Treasury Metals will review and consider the information in the development of mitigation measures, follow-up monitoring, and management plans, as appropriate.</p>
232	HE(1)-39	CEA Agency	EIS Section 5.11.5.2, Tables 5.11.8, 5.11.9	Section 9.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 5.11.2 (EIS) states: "The mine site area is fully enclosed within Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) 8; WMU 5 and WMU 9A are within the LSA. Trapping locations within the LSA include Trap lines DR026, DR027, and DR021. Current numbers for active hunters within the region are detailed in Table 5.11.8 and Table 5.11.9." The tables detailing hunting activity in WMU 8 do not align with the section's intent. Section 5.11.5 (EIS) is titled Aboriginal Peoples and the information in the tables comes from recreational hunters who are not necessarily Aboriginal. Similarly, for trapping references, the trapline numbers align with commercial trappers but Aboriginal subsistence trapping does not need to occur on a registered trapline.</p> <p>To meet the section's intent, more pertinent information on Aboriginal hunting and trapping within the project area is required.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Ensure that baseline data are accurately presented and clearly identify data limitations and gaps. See IR above for specific data requirements for Aboriginal land and resource use.</p>

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					<p>Response: Traditional and non-Traditional land use information are integrated into various areas of the original EIS and its appendices. Treasury Metals has consolidated the information on Traditional Land Use and non-Traditional Land Use into Appendix DD (the Aboriginal Engagement Report).</p> <p>Efforts to obtain relevant information the affected Aboriginal peoples are documented in the Aboriginal Engagement Report. Treasury Metals will continue to discuss potential Projects on traditional land use activities, including subsistence trapping, with potentially affected Aboriginal communities throughout the life of the Project. Should additional information regarding an Aboriginal community's traditional practices become available, Treasury Metals will review and consider any potential effects, and develop and implement necessary mitigation measures in Project plans and operations as appropriate.</p>
233	HE(1)-40	CEA Agency	EIS Figures 5.11.1 and 5.11.2	Section 9.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: References for land-use information (e.g. known fishing, minnow trapping, Chanterelle mushroom harvesting, and blueberry harvesting area) presented in Figures 5.11.1 and 5.11.2 (EIS) are not clear. Aboriginal groups have also identified that the information is incomplete.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide references for all data that are depicted in Figures 5.11.1 and 5.11.2, and clearly identify data limitations.</p> <p>Response: Data for 5.11.1 and 5.11.2 was sourced from the Ontario Base Map Index, and the Land Information Ontario (LIO) Warehouse. The data was then selected for the regional and local site, and Forest Resource Inventory data was interpreted for habitat characteristics that are associated with the select properties of the map. In addition, Section 5.11.2 includes information on known locations based on use by local, and regional residents.</p> <p>Treasury Metals has made efforts to engage and elicit input from Aboriginal peoples regarding the Project and their traditional uses of the land in the area. To date, no Project-specific land use information has been shared with Treasury Metals, beyond the limited data gathered throughout the engagement process. Treasury Metals also recognizes that engagement does not stop with the filing of the EIS and will continue throughout the life of the Project. Treasury Metals will continue to try to engage the Aboriginal peoples meaningfully with respect to the Project.</p>
234	HE(1)-41	CEA Agency	Appendix DD	Section 9.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Fishing practices within the project area have been identified by Aboriginal groups to the Agency. Inconsistencies are present throughout Appendix DD in regard to fishing practices. For example</p>

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					<p>section DD.5.1.2.4 states: "As there is no existing opportunity to fish on the Goliath Gold Project site, the development of the project will not result in any on site impacts to fishing." Then section DD.5.1.2.7 states: "Treasury has received some individual requests from persons wishing to trap minnows in the ponds adjacent to the Treasury offices. These ponds were created by the damming of a creek flowing past the former OMNRF Tree Nursery for the purpose of providing irrigation water to the tree nursery. In all cases, access to these ponds to trap minnows has been provided during business hours."</p> <p>The proponent must ensure that Aboriginal land and resource use activities identified by Aboriginal groups are accurately captured in the EIS and appropriate mitigation measures are identified where impacts are expected on Aboriginal land and resource use activities.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Identify and describe Aboriginal land and resource use activities identified by Aboriginal groups that could be affected by the Project.</p> <p>B. Identify mitigation measures where impacts are expected on Aboriginal land and resource use activities.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. Treasury Metals has made efforts to engage and elicit input from Aboriginal peoples regarding the Project. Treasury Metals also recognizes that engagement does not stop with the filing of the EIS and will continue throughout the life of the Project. Treasury Metals will continue to try to engage the Aboriginal peoples meaningfully with respect to the Project. The engagement activities prior to filing the original EIS were summarized in Section 8, and more fully documented in Appendix DD to the EIS. As part of the Round 1 IRs, the Agency has requested that Treasury Metals expand and update the information presented in Appendix DD to the revised EIS. This information is provided in the Aboriginal Engagement Report (Appendix DD to the revised EIS). The Aboriginal Engagement report provides a listing of the disaggregate comments from Aboriginal peoples, and how those were addressed in the Project design and EIS. Further to this in order to effectively address these concerns, and to address issues raised through the responses to Round 1 questions, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. Section 6 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner.</p> <p>With that being said, Treasury Metals has, in the past, allowed the general public onto its private property for the purpose of minnow trapping in the tree nursery ponds. As proposed, these ponds and private property will have limited access during the operations phase of the Project to ensure the safety of employees, the general public and Aboriginal peoples as well as for security reasons.</p>

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					<p>B. Where possible and safe to so Treasury Metals will allow access to its private property for minnow trapping and other traditional land use purposes. Treasury will also continue to work closely with all groups to avoid impacts on Aboriginal land and resource use activities and provide reasonable mitigation measures if needed.</p>
235	HE(1)-42	CEA Agency	EIS Section 5.11.5.2, Tables 5.11.8, 5.11.9	Sections 9.2, 10.2, 11.2, 11.4	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> The discussion of impacts to Aboriginal traditional land and resource use provided in the EIS is limited to the project area. Study areas (either spatial or temporal) have not been clearly described. Study areas should be defined that include impacts from both on and off-site, direct and indirect, environmental effects and align with relevant bio-physical study areas so that potential impacts to land use activities from environmental effects are adequately characterized. For example, the study area for the assessment of potential impacts to hunting moose should align with the range of moose that may be affected by the Project.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Define temporal and spatial study areas for Aboriginal land use. Ensure that study areas align with relevant bio-physical study areas, and include potential direct and indirect impacts to access, availability and resource use.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> Treasury Metals recognizes that the Agency and other technical reviewers identified a number of issues through the IR Round 1 questions with the approach used in the EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. Section 6 of the revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project, including a discussion and justification for component specific study areas, in a clear and traceable manner. Section 6.1.4.21 of the revised EIS describes the study areas for Aboriginal peoples. Temporal boundaries are described in Section 6.21 of the revised EIS.</p>
236	HE(1)-43	CEA Agency	EIS section 6.4.2.5, Table 6.4.6-8	Sections 9.2, 10.2, 11.2, 11.4	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> The valued components identified in section 6.3.2.5 (EIS) do not address all potential effects to current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes documented in Appendix DD. Valued components for land use are limited to land and resource use, transportation, and Aboriginal peoples. While in section 6.3.2.5 (EIS) it is identified that valued components with respect to Aboriginal peoples include health, country foods, and hunting/trapping/fishing, the effects assessment presented in Tables 6.4.6 to 6.4.8 (EIS, pages 6-81 to 6-94) does not treat these items as separate valued components but rather potential effects. Potential effects to each of these table items (gathering and quality of country foods, hunting/trapping/fishing for traditional purposes) should</p>

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					<p>be fully described and, where possible, quantified based on the results of the effects assessment of bio-physical environmental changes. For each pathway, more detailed information is required to fully understand baseline activities and to quantify potential effects.</p> <p>Adequate measures are not identified to mitigate potential effects of the Project on current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes or potential or established Aboriginal or treaty rights. For example, no mitigation measures are identified for impacts to hunting and trapping.</p> <p>Significance conclusions provided in the EIS for potential effects to gathering country foods, hunting, trapping and fishing should be substantiated by technical information, traditional knowledge, and input from potentially affected Aboriginal groups.</p> <p>In addition to changes to land use resulting from environmental effects of the Project, the EIS should, in consultation with potentially affected Aboriginal groups, document Aboriginal groups' views on the perception of environmental effects and how in turn this may affect current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Identify and assess separate valued components to assess all potential impacts to activities relating to the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes and incorporate the valued components into the effects assessment.</p> <p>B. Identify appropriate mitigation and accommodation measures for effects to current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes. For each mitigation and accommodation measure, provide the following details, if applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - which Aboriginal group each measure applies to (e.g. if a protocol is developed to notify a community whenever a burial site is found during construction, which community is notified); - whether the mitigation/accommodation was proposed by and/or shared with the Aboriginal group(s), for their consideration and feedback; - the geographic extent (e.g. area of compensatory habitat); and - duration (construction, operation, decommissioning, and abandonment). <p>C. Apply an impact matrix methodology to determine the significance of residual impacts of the Project on current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes for each of the project components and physical activities, in all phases.</p>

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					<p>D. Substantiate characterization of residual effects and associated impacts by applying traceable technically valid methodology, including references to primary or secondary data sources which support conclusions.</p> <p>Response: The EIS contained an assessment of potential impacts on resources and activities related to the current use of land and resource for traditional purposes and identified mitigation measures that will reduce or eliminate those impacts. Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. Section 6 of the revised EIS summarizes those potentially impacted resources and activities and the associated mitigation measures.</p>
237	HE(1)-44	CEA Agency	EIS sections 6.2.2.1, 6.2.4.5, Tables 6.4.6, 6.4.7	Section 10.1.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 6 (EIS) does not address all the potential land use effects that may occur from gating Nursery Road. Assuming the road will be closed to the public, including Aboriginal peoples, starting at the proposed new section of the Tree Nursery Road (as stated in the Project Description) the following land use effects for Aboriginal peoples would occur: 1) Restricted access to portions of Crown Land; 2) Restricted access to patent land not owned by the proponent; 4) Restricted access to recreational trails on Crown Land that are located behind the gate or directly affected by the open pit; and 5) Restricted access to lands previously accessible by trappers, bear management area operators, commercial baitfish operators, and sustainable forest license holders.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Describe the effects of restricting access to Tree Nursery Road on potentially affected Aboriginal groups and their associated land uses. B. Identify appropriate mitigation measures for potential effects to access to land and resource uses from gating Tree Nursery Road. C. Determine the significance of potential effects to uses of land and resources due to this change in access, taking into account that the geographic extent of effects will likely exceed the footprint of the mine.</p> <p>Response: Treasury Metals has made efforts to engage and elicit input from Aboriginal peoples regarding the Project. No Project-specific traditional knowledge and traditional land use studies were prepared for, or shared with, Treasury Metals; limited information was obtained about traditional land use areas.</p>

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					<p>Treasury Metals made efforts to incorporate information provided and to address comments and issues raised by Aboriginal peoples during the engagement process. A summary of the issues raised during the engagement process was provided in Section 8 and Appendix DD to the original EIS. As part of the Round 1 IRs, the Agency has requested that Treasury Metals expand and update the information presented in Appendix DD to the original EIS. This information is provided as document called the Aboriginal Engagement Report, which has been appended to the revised EIS as Appendix DD. The Aboriginal Engagement Report provides a listing of the disaggregate comments from Aboriginal peoples, and how those were addressed in the EIS.</p> <p>Treasury Metals will continue to discuss potential Project effects on traditional land use activities with potentially affected Aboriginal peoples throughout the life of the Project. As additional information regarding an Aboriginal community's traditional land use and practices become available, Treasury Metals will review and consider it in the design of mitigation measures, follow-up monitoring and management plans for the Project, as appropriate. Information related to Aboriginal traditional knowledge or current land and resource use by MNO in the area of the Project is limited; MNO did not share any Project-specific information or knowledge with Treasury Metals before the EIS was filed.</p>
238	HE(1)-45	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 5.9.2, 5.9.3, 5.9.4, 5.9.5, 5.9.8, 5.10.3.1, 5.10.3.25, 11.5.1, 5.11.5.2, Tables 5.11.8, 5.11.9	Sections 7.2.1, 9.2, 10.2, 11.2, 11.4	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>In addition to collecting adequate information from Aboriginal groups to understand land use in the area, the baseline and effects assessment should analyze potential environmental effects from bio-physical changes (e.g. air, noise, light, and water quality) to the environment from the Project to wildlife, plants, and fish that have a land and resource use value and are of importance to Aboriginal peoples. Species of importance and/or that may be potentially affected by the Project identified during Agency consultation events include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wild rice • bear • moose and deer • fox • furbearers (e.g. beaver, muskrat, rabbit) • small mammals (i.e. chipmunks, mice, and squirrels) • chanterelle mushrooms • medicinal plants (e.g. low bush cranberries, snowbush berry, Labrador tea, low bush hemlock/ ground hemlock). • birds (partridge, waterfowl, ruffed grouse) • blueberries • fish

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • turtles and frogs <p>Habitat of importance and/or that may be affected by the Project identified during Agency consultation events include areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lola Lake Nature Reserve • Aaron Provincial Park • Butler Provincial Park • Wabigoon lake • Thunder Lake • Thunder Creek • Blackwater Creek • Rice, Sandy, Mud and Turtle Lakes • Ghost Lake • Mavis Lake • portions of the project area (e.g., fox dens within the tailings storage facility, moose habitat along Blackwater Creek, and bear dens near the entrance of the site) <hr/> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Describe baseline conditions and the environmental effects to wildlife and vegetation that may impact Aboriginal land and resource use, including the following at a minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Furbearers and their habitat; • Amphibians and reptiles and their habitat; • Ungulates and their habitat; • Migratory and non-migratory birds and their habitat; • Wild rice; • Fish and their habitat; and • Aquatic and terrestrial vegetation. <p>B. Incorporate or link the results from the assessment of potential environmental effects into the determination of significance of impacts on current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes.</p> <hr/> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. The biophysical baseline conditions about species of importance to Aboriginal people as identified in this Information Request are described in the revised EIS. The potential environmental effects on the identified resources are described in Section 6 of the revised EIS.</p>

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					<p>B. The revised EIS presents the linkage between Project-related effects on components of the environment and effect on the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes by Aboriginal peoples in Section 3.19. Additionally, Section 3.20.4 describes the effects of changes to the environment on Aboriginal people.</p>
239	HE(1)-46	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 6, 13, Tables 6.4.6 – 6.4.8	Section 11.4	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 11.4 of the EIS Guidelines states: “The Follow-up Program will also be designed to monitor the implementation of mitigation measures resulting from Aboriginal consultation, including: - Verifying predictions of environmental effects with respect to Aboriginal peoples, as well as residual impacts that could not be addressed within the context of the EA; - Determining the effectiveness of mitigation measures as they relate to environmental effects with respect to Aboriginal peoples in order to modify or implement new measures where required; - Supporting the implementation of adaptive management measures to address previously unanticipated adverse environmental effects with respect to Aboriginal peoples or unanticipated adverse impacts to Aboriginal rights; - Verifying measures identified to prevent and mitigate potential adverse effects of the project on potential or established Aboriginal and Treaty rights; and, - Providing information that can be used to improve and/or support future EAs and Aboriginal consultation processes.” With the exception of Aboriginal human health, no follow-up programs are identified for any of the human environmental valued components in Tables 6.4.6 - 8 (EIS).</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Describe the proposed follow-up program in sufficient detail to reliably verify predicted effects (or absence of them), and to confirm both the assumptions and the effectiveness of mitigation related to potential effects to Aboriginal peoples, including potential adverse impacts of the Project on asserted or established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. B. Identify and describe how and which Aboriginal groups will be engaged during implementation of the follow-up program.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> A. Treasury Metals recognizes that the Agency and other technical reviewers identified a number of issues through the IR Round 1 questions with the approach used in the EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. The revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project, including a discussion of follow-up monitoring, in a clear and traceable manner. Section 6 of the revised EIS provides a</p>

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					<p>summary of identified mitigation, follow-up monitoring and management plans. Section 13.20 outlines the follow-up monitoring of the effects on Aboriginal Peoples.</p> <p>B. Treasury Metals is committed to ongoing engagement with Aboriginal peoples throughout the life of the Project and will work with communities to develop monitoring and management plans designed to address potential Project-related effects identified through the environmental assessment process and/or at later stages of the Project, including implementation of any follow-up programs. Treasury Metals intends to continue to look for ways to continue engaging these groups identified through the environmental assessment process.</p>
240	HE(1)-47	CEA Agency	<p>EIS Sections 5.11.4, 6.3.2.4, 6.4.2.4, Table 6.4.6, and 14</p> <p>Appendix DD</p>	<p>Sections 9.1.3, 10.1.3</p>	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 6.3.2.4 (EIS) does not adequately describe the assessment of potential effects for heritage valued components (i.e. archaeological sites, and historic heritage sites). The Agency's Technical Guidance (http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=en&n=536A4CFE-1) defines heritage as: "A land or resource (e.g., an artifact, object or place) that is considered as heritage or any structure, site or thing is distinguished from other lands and resources by the value placed on it." Aboriginal groups, members of the public, as well as other government departments, have identified items of physical and cultural heritage value, including cultural, archaeological, and heritage sites that have not been included in section 6 (EIS), such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sacred aspects of the environment located in the project site, including turtles, frogs, rocks and boulders; • sacred sites south of Wabigoon; • sacred site called the Serpent, located at Mavis and Ghost Lake; • ceremonial sites in proximity to the project site; • sites of historical and archaeological importance within the project boundaries, including grave sites; • landscape views of cultural importance; • view of Thunder Lake; • traditional and historical travel routes, including portage routes, connecting historic and present communities to meeting sites and wild rice sites; and • wild rice areas in Wabigoon Lake (have spiritual and cultural value for elders to pass on practices). <p>During Agency consultation Aboriginal groups suggested that spiritual values and wild rice should be assessed as separate valued components. Appendix DD includes a brief discussion of potential effects to traditional travel routes, and responses to comments about potential effects to landscape views of cultural importance, and sacred sites. The discussion is an inadequate assessment of potential effects. Conclusions are drawn on potential effects without references or demonstration of</p>

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					<p>meaningful engagement efforts to verify the conclusions and mitigation measures presented and identify, through collaboration with Aboriginal groups, accommodation measures, as appropriate.</p> <p>The primary goal of mitigation and accommodation measures is to avoid, eliminate, or minimize the adverse impacts on Aboriginal peoples with respect 5(1)c of CEEA 2012 and potential or established Aboriginal or Treaty rights. If mitigation and accommodation measures are developed in response to an assessed impact, provide specific responses to the following, if applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • which Aboriginal group each measure applies to (e.g. if a protocol is developed to notify a community if a burial site is found during construction, which community is it for?) • whether the mitigation and accommodation measure was proposed by and/or shared with the Aboriginal group(s), for their consideration and feedback • what is the geographic extent of each mitigation measure • what is the duration of each mitigation measure (e.g., construction, operation, decommissioning, and abandonment). <p>Built heritage and cultural heritage landscapes are not clearly screened in section 5 (EIS), notably section 5.11.4.2. While some cultural heritage resources have been formally identified, others may be identified through screening and evaluation. Aboriginal communities may have knowledge that can contribute to the identification of known or potential cultural heritage resources, such as sites of spiritual, cultural, ceremonial, or teaching significance, and physical and cultural landscapes of importance for spiritual or ceremonial purposes. See further comments regarding the provincial requirements for a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) in the Ontario Ministry of Tourism Culture and Sport (MTCS) letter dated May 21, 2015.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Engage Aboriginal groups to identify and understand the value of known or potential physical and cultural heritage resources in the local study area that may be affected by the project. Include identification of which specific Aboriginal groups identified each site, structure or thing of heritage value.</p> <p>B. Review valued components based on additional information collected from Aboriginal groups, determine if additional valued components (e.g. spiritual sites or wild rice) are needed to assess potential effects to physical and cultural heritage, and explain the decision to add or exclude new valued components.</p> <p>C. Define local and regional study areas for the heritage assessment, including maps that depict the location of study areas in relation to the project site.</p> <p>D. Identify appropriate mitigation and accommodation measures for effects to physical and cultural heritage. For each mitigation and accommodation measure, provide the following details, if</p>

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					<p>applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the name(s) of the Aboriginal group(s) to which each measure applies (e.g. if a protocol is developed to notify a community when a burial site is found during construction, the community to be notified) • explanation whether the mitigation and accommodation measure was proposed by and/or shared with the Aboriginal group(s), for their consideration and feedback • the geographic extent of each mitigation and accommodation measure • the duration of each mitigation and accommodation measure (e.g. construction, operation, decommissioning, and abandonment). <p>E. Define and apply an impact matrix methodology to determine the significance of the adverse effects of the project on physical and cultural heritage for each of the project components and physical activities, in all phases. Complete a visual rendering of the view of project site from points of cultural heritage importance to support assessment of potential effects and adequacy of proposed mitigation measures.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. Treasury Metals continues to be committed to working with Aboriginal peoples in the Project area collect traditional knowledge and land use (TK/TLU) information. That TK/TLU information could include information about physical and cultural heritage resources in the local study area. Treasury Metals also seeks to engage with the Project area Aboriginal peoples to discuss measures to minimize impacts on physical and cultural heritage resources. Should additional information be received from Aboriginal peoples regarding potential physical or cultural heritage resources within the local study area, Treasury Metals will review and consider any potential effects, and develop and implement necessary mitigation measures, as appropriate.</p> <p>B. Based on feedback about the EIS in the IR Round 1, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. The discussion about the selection of valued components concerning Aboriginal people is in Section 6.1.3.20 of that report.</p> <p>C. The heritage resources study area is described in Section 6.1.4.20 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>D. Treasury Metals committed in the EIS to developing an Archaeological and Heritage Resource Management Plan with the objective to identify and appropriately protect heritage resources. This plan will be prepared before Project construction begins and Treasury Metals will engage Project area Aboriginal peoples as appropriate in the development of the plan. An outline of this plan has been provided in Section 12.11 of the revised EIS. Mitigation measures for heritage resources is also discussed in Section 6.20.5 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>E. Section 8.20 in the revised EIS present the significance assessment for archaeological and</p>

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					<p>historic heritage sites. Significance determination of effects on heritage resources is discussed in Section 8.20.2 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>Should engagement with Project area Aboriginal peoples identify sites of cultural heritage importance that are in sight of the Project, Treasury Metals will work with the Aboriginal peoples to understand the visual impact from a specific site(s); this could include visual renderings to illustrate the anticipated viewscape of the Project (see also TMI_229-HE(1)-36).</p>
241	HE(1)-48	CEA Agency	Appendix DD EIS Section 6.2.2.4	Sections 9.1.3, 10.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: There are inconsistencies in the description of potential effects to archeological sites between Appendix DD and the effects assessment presented in Section 6 (EIS). For example, section 7.1 (Appendix DD) identifies "archaeological sites" discussed by Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation on August 2, 2011. Section 6.2.2.4 (EIS) states no sites were identified by Aboriginal groups.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Revise the effects assessment to include all potential effects to archaeological sites identified by Aboriginal groups, and identify appropriate mitigation measures and a follow-up monitoring program.</p> <p>Response: The comment identifies a perceived inconsistency between a statement made in Section 6.2.2.4 and a record in Section 7.1 (Appendix DD). In Section 6.2.2.4, the statement made is:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Neither an archaeological assessment nor consultation efforts with Aboriginal Communities have identified any historic settlements or historic transportation routes, topological, surface water, or soil characteristics that would indicate any archaeological potential on or in proximity to the property.</i></p> <p>The record in Section 7.1 (Appendix DD) is a record of a meeting between Treasury Metals and WLON that included discussion of cultural significance and archaeological sites. The meeting of 2 August, 2011, is described as an information sharing meeting, and is summarized as follows:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Meeting held at Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation discussion included MOU, first nation values, cultural significance and archaeological sites. TMI to provide job postings to WLON, Chief willing to meet with CEO and Chairman for informal discussions. WLON advises TMI of other MOU's and offers name of negotiator.</i></p> <p>From available records, no archaeological sites were identified by any First Nations, including WLON during engagement. We note that this meeting took place prior to the archaeological assessment commissioned by TMI to address archaeological resource concerns within the development area of</p>

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					<p>the Goliath property. The archaeological assessment report was prepared December 10, 2012 based on fieldwork conducted May 10, 2012 and September 12, 2012. The outcome of the archaeological assessment was that no archaeological sites are registered within one kilometer of the development area. Archaeological assessments of the development area did not identify any archaeological resources, and evaluated the area as holding low archaeological potential on the basis of a range of cultural and physical factors.</p> <p>The information request asks that all potential effects to archaeological sites identified by Aboriginal peoples be noted and that appropriate mitigation measures and follow-up monitoring are identified in the effects assessment.</p> <p>As indicated above, no archaeological sites within the development area were identified to Treasury Metals during the Aboriginal engagement process. Still, and to address this information request, Treasury Metals will provide a more complete overview of the potential effects of the proposed development on archaeological sites generally, and identify appropriate mitigation measures and follow-up monitoring in the revised EIS.</p> <p>The Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Resources Management Plan will also address Treasury Metals' legal obligations under the <i>Ontario Heritage Act</i>, <i>Coroners Act</i> and the <i>Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act</i> to provide for ongoing protection to archaeological or cultural heritage resources. The obligations concerning accidental discovery of human remains or archaeological resources continue to apply throughout the duration of Treasury Metals' activities at the property.</p>
242	HE(1)-49	CEA Agency	EIS Section 6.4.2.4, Tables 6.4.6 – 6.4.8	Sections 9.1.3, 10.1.3, 11.4	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 6.4.2.4 (EIS) identifies an Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Resource Management Plan as a mitigation measure and indicates that follow-up monitoring is not needed. During Agency consultation activities, Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation expressed concern about how archaeological resources will be managed. It is unclear why no follow-up monitoring is proposed.</p> <p>Section 11.4 of the EIS Guidelines states: "A Follow-up Program is designed to verify the accuracy of the effects assessment and to determine the effectiveness of the measures implemented to mitigate the adverse effects of the project... The Follow-up Program will also be designed to monitor the implementation of mitigation measures resulting from Aboriginal consultation..."</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Clarify whether the Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Resource Management Plan will include follow-up monitoring and provide a rationale that takes into account the requirements of the EIS Guidelines.</p>

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					<p>B. Describe how and which Aboriginal groups may be engaged during the implementation of the Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Resource Management Plan, including how they may be involved upon discovery of archaeological resources on the site, and during any follow-up monitoring that is developed.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>The comment notes that the mitigation proposed for the Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Resource Management Plan does not include follow-up monitoring. The comment further notes that this does not address WLONs expressed concern about archaeological resource management. Reference is made to Section 11.4 of the EIS Guidelines, which indicate that a follow-up monitoring program is a necessary to verify the accuracy of the effects assessment, and determine the effectiveness of measures implemented to mitigate effects.</p> <p>The summary of proposed mitigation in Section 6.4.2.4 (EIS) does not include a commitment to follow-up monitoring for archaeological sites, as no sites were identified by the archaeological assessment completed. In addition, it was the recommendation of the assessment that the development area did not “<i>exhibit archaeological potential therefore it is recommended that the location does not require further archaeological assessment</i>”. Low archaeological potential does not constitute a valued component of the environment. Since the purpose of follow-up monitoring is to measure development impacts to identified valued components, a monitoring program in this instance would represent a test of the validity of the MTCS criteria for evaluating archaeological potential, and therefore be beyond the scope of the EA.</p> <p>The information request seeks clarification on the Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Resource Management Plan, specifically the monitoring and follow-up provisions, and how these address the requirements of the EIS Guidelines. The request also asks for a description of proposed Aboriginal engagement during follow-up monitoring.</p> <p>The Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Resource Management Plan will specify that archaeological assessment will be required for all new ground altering activities outside of the development area assessed to date. This assessment will be required to include consideration of all available data. The plan will also identify the process for addressing archaeological or cultural heritage resources uncovered during the course of construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the Project. As a result of the archaeological assessments completed, the development area was evaluated as holding low archaeological potential for the identification of archaeological resources. Consequently, the plan does not outline a process for protecting archaeological sites identified, but will identify a process for the protection of any unexpected resources identified during the life of the Project.</p> <p>Section 5.0 of the archaeological assessment reports include required text on ongoing obligations under the <i>Ontario Heritage Act</i> and the <i>Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act</i>. We note that</p>

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					<p>these obligations, and others under the <i>Coroners Act</i> continue to apply throughout the duration of Treasury Metals' activities at the property. The obligations include protocols when archaeological resources or human remains are discovered. The revised EIS will provide an overview of the potential effects to archaeological and cultural heritage resources from the proposed development, and identify appropriate mitigation measures and follow-up monitoring. The revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project in a clear and traceable manner.</p> <p>The Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Resource Management Plan will include direction for active involvement of local Aboriginal communities when archaeological or cultural heritage resources are discovered. We note that engagement of local communities is mandatory when human remains of a possible Aboriginal origin are discovered.</p> <p>The information request also asks that the EIS describe how and which Aboriginal peoples may be engaged during the implementation of the Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Resource Management Plan, including how they may be involved upon discovery of archaeological resources on the site, and during any follow-up monitoring that is developed. The Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Resources Management Plan will set out the process for notification and engagement of Aboriginal community members in archaeological assessment in areas of archaeological potential, and the management of accidental discoveries.</p>
243	AM(1)-01	CEA Agency	EIS Section 4.1	Section 7.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 4.1 (EIS) states that the identification of the magnitude of an accident and/or malfunction (e.g., quantity, mechanism, rate, form, and characteristics of the contaminants) is included in section 6 of the EIS.</p> <p>The magnitude of accidents and malfunctions should assume that no response measures are put in place to minimize or reduce effects. By referring to section 6 (EIS) for the magnitude, it implies that the magnitude of the accident and/or malfunction is the same magnitude of a residual effect with the application of mitigation measures. The magnitude of an accident or malfunction needs to take into account failure of design features and needs to be assessed without applying mitigation measures.</p> <p>Section 7.1.2 of the EIS Guidelines states that "the proponent will identify the probability of potential accidents and malfunctions related to the project, including...potential consequences (including the environmental effects), the plausible worse case scenarios and the effects of these scenarios."</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Describe the potential environmental effects from spills and releases, and cyanide-related accidents and malfunctions on fish and fish habitat, migratory birds, current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, Aboriginal health and socio-economic conditions, Aboriginal physical and cultural heritage, and any structure, site, or thing of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance to Aboriginal groups.</p> <p>B. Provide the magnitude, including the quantity, mechanism, rate form and characteristics of the</p>

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					<p>contaminants and other materials likely to be released from spills and releases, and cyanide-related accidents and malfunctions.</p> <p>C. Describe contingency and emergency response procedures for the potential effects noted above if spills and releases, and cyanide-related accidents and malfunctions occur.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p><i>Spills and Releases</i></p> <p>A. and B. Operating procedures at site will limit the potential volume released from a spill. The most likely spill to occur during operations of the Project will be the spill of petroleum products from equipment in need of maintenance. The volumes associated with such a release would be minimal and would be restricted to active work areas. Even if a spill or release were not immediately contained and remediated, in accordance with the spill response plan, the spill would not be released from the site into the environment. All runoff from the site, regardless of the area, will be collected and directed to the water management system. This water will be used in the process plant and ultimately treated before being discharged to Blackwater Creek.</p> <p>C. As described in Section 4.3.3 of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has committed to implementing secondary controls at the processing plant and chemical storage areas to prevent spills from entering the environment. Spill prevention procedures will be enforced to reduce the potential for spills. A detailed spill response plan will be developed as part of the final design and permitting process that will outline responsibilities and procedures that will be enacted in the unlikely event of a spill on-site. Incidental spills that occur during transport within the site, or associated with mobile equipment, will be contained and isolated to prevent the spread of the materials released, and then cleaned up at source. Contaminated soils removed during clean-up will be transported to a licensed off-site facility for safe disposal. All spills at the Project will be reported in accordance with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) protocols.</p> <p>All deliveries of fuel and chemicals to the site would be done by regulated transport companies, who would be required to comply with relevant federal regulations such as the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act. All carriers would be required under the Act to have in place detailed emergency response and contingency plans in the unlikely event of an accident during transport to the site.</p> <p><i>Cyanide-Related Accidents</i></p> <p>A. As described in Section 3.6 of the original EIS, gold will be extracted from the ore in the processing plant using a standard carbon-in-leach (CIL) process. In this process, a cyanide solution will be used. Once the gold has been extracted from the crushed ore using the cyanide solution, the process waters containing cyanide will be reused to the extent possible, and then treated using the INCO/SO₂ process (which is widely used in the mining industry) to destroy the majority of the remaining cyanide. The resulting waste from processing, known as tailings, is a mixture of liquid and</p>

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					<p>finely crushed rock from which gold has been extracted. The tailings will be pumped to the tailings storage facility (TSF) where the finely crushed rock in the tailings will settle over time. After treatment using the INCO/SO₂ cyanide destruction process, tailings directed to the TSF will meet the 1 mg/L total cyanide effluent discharge limit set out in the federal Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER). The water covering the TSF will be recycled and used in the processing plant, and excess water that cannot be recycled will be treated in the effluent treatment plant and ultimately discharged to Blackwater Creek. Treasury Metals has committed (Table 9.0.1 of the EIS) that the final effluent discharged to Blackwater Creek during operations will meet the Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO) established in Ontario to be protective to sensitive aquatic receptors. The PWQO are more stringent than the standards in Ontario for drinking water.</p> <p>B. and C. All aspects of the Project associated with the handling, use and treatment of cyanide are designed to operate and comply with the International Cyanide Code. Cyanide that will be used in the process will be delivered by truck in the preferred form of dry (solid) sodium cyanide pellets or briquettes, to avoid the possibility of liquid spills during transport. Three to five days' worth of cyanide pellets will be stored in the processing plant, with additional storage (two to four days' worth) provided at the existing warehouse at the former Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) tree nursery. All deliveries of cyanide to the site would be done by regulated transport companies, who would be required to comply with relevant federal regulations such as the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act. All carriers would be required under the Act to have detailed emergency response and contingency plans in place in the unlikely event of an accident during transport.</p> <p>Within the Project site, Treasury Metals has committed to develop detailed emergency response and contingency measures in the event of an accident or spill involving cyanide. These plans and safeguards would be consistent with the International Cyanide Code, and would, at the most fundamental level, be focused on procedures and safeguards to avoiding accidents.</p>
244	AM(1)-02	CEA Agency	EIS Table 4.2.3	Section 7.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Table 4.2.3 (EIS, page 4-5) notes a duration for the rating of the environment.</p> <p>The definitions of the criteria for each environment rating are not clear.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide explanations for the durations used in each of the five environment rating criteria.</p> <p>B. Define the terms "moderate environmental impact, medium term environmental impact and severe long term environmental impact"; "major regulatory violations versus severe breach of regulations with operation suspended".</p>

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					<p>Response:</p> <p>A. The findings of the Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (FMEA) area presented in Appendix HH to the EIS and summarized in Section 4 of the EIS. Within Section 4, a description of the ratings used in scoring the three categories of accidents and malfunctions evaluated (i.e., Safety and Health, Environment, Stakeholder Relations & Reputation) are presented in Table 4.2.3. In this table, timescales are assigned to the various levels of severity. However, these timescales should not be confused with the "duration" used in assigning significance of the residual adverse effects of the Project (see Section 6 of the EIS). The timescales used for determining the levels of severity of environmental consequences associated with accidents and malfunctions were identified as part of the FMEA analysis, and loosely relate to the Project timelines as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Severity Rating 1 (limited environmental impact)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 to 2 years ○ This corresponds with the length of the approximate site preparation and construction phase, or the closure phase of the Project • <u>Severity Rating 2 (minor on-site environmental impacts)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 to 6 years ○ This corresponds with the length of time the open pit mine is anticipated to be in operations • <u>Severity Rating 3 (moderate environmental impacts)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 6 to 10 years ○ This corresponds with the expected operating life of the Project • <u>Severity Rating 4 (severe medium-term environmental impacts)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ greater than 10 years ○ This corresponds with effects and impacts that would be more than the expected operating life of the Project • <u>Severity Rating 4 (severe long-term environmental impacts)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Closure severely impacted ○ This suggests a scenario where the planned closure of the Project would be compromised <p>B. Table 4.2.3 of the EIS provides a description of the ratings used in scoring the accidents and malfunctions evaluated as part of the EIS. In the table, there are three categories described (i.e., Safety and Health, Environment, Stakeholder Relations & Reputation) and 5 levels of severity. The five escalating levels of severity for environmental effects were named and described in Table 4.2.3. The names and descriptions are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Limited environmental impact:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Restricted to the Project site (implied) ○ No regulatory reporting required ○ Delays between 1 to 2 years

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Minor on-site environmental impacts:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Restricted to the Project site (implied) ○ Incident is reportable to regulators ○ Delays between 3 to 6 years • <u>Moderate environmental impacts:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Extends beyond the site boundary ○ Regulatory violations with fines ○ Delays between 6 to 10 years • <u>Severe medium-term environmental impacts:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Extends beyond the site boundary (implied) ○ Major regulatory violations (significant fines) ○ Delays greater than 10 years • <u>Severe long-term environmental impacts:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Extends beyond the site boundary (implied) ○ Severe regulatory violations (fines and/or charges) ○ Closure severely impacted
245	AM(1)-03	CEA Agency	Appendix HH EIS Section 4.3.2	Section 7.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Appendix HH does not consider slope failures of the open pit, waste rock and low-grade ore stockpiles.</p> <p>In addition, section 4.3.2 (EIS) does not include an assessment of the failures of the seepage collection system, the tailings or effluent pipelines.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Describe the potential environmental effects from potential slope failures of the open pit, waste rock and low-grade ore stockpiles and failures of the seepage collection system, the tailings or effluent pipeline on fish and fish habitat, migratory birds, current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, Aboriginal health and socio-economic conditions, Aboriginal physical and cultural heritage, and any structure, site, or thing of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance to Aboriginal groups.</p> <p>B. Describe contingency and emergency response procedures for the potential effects noted above if accidents and/or malfunctions occur.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The potential for slope failures for the rock wall of the open pit was not considered to cause any</p>

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					<p>environmental effect as any potential failure will be wholly contained within the open pit.</p> <p>Slope failures of the waste rock and/or low-grade ore (LGO) stockpiles are a very unlikely event due to the very low proposed design slope and height of these facilities. In the highly unlikely event that one of the slopes does fail it would be within a localized area and wholly contained within the water and seepage collection systems of the operating mine. Prior to construction, geotechnical assessments would be completed to allow detailed engineering of these features to ensure physical stability, as required by O. Regulation 240/00 (as amended) and the Occupational Health and Safety Act.</p> <p>In regards to the tailings pipeline, a pressure transmitter and flow meter would be installed on the tailings discharge pipeline downstream of the tailings pumps to provide the control room operator (control room manned 24 hours per day) with simultaneous pipeline pressure and flow. A critical tailings pipeline failure (i.e., burst pipe, etc.), will be detected from activation of a tailing pump discharge low pressure and high flow alarm. These high priority alarms will be generated on the control system SCADA interface and alarm log to instantaneously notify the control room operator of a potential burst pipe condition and causing immediate shutdown of the tailings line.</p> <p>The tailings pipeline failure scenario will be further documented during detailed design and HAZOP studies, which will be used to identify any additional design and operating controls for this critical item.</p> <p>As part of plant operational and maintenance checks, the operators will walk this line on a shift basis (i.e., once a shift) to ensure integrity of the pipe and to detect any local/minor leakage. As part of planned routine maintenance for the plant, sections of the tailings pipeline will be turned periodically to ensure an even wear profile within the pipe. As further backup for ensuring timely response to a possible tailings pipeline failure, Treasury Metals has elected to situate the tailings storage facility (TSF) and pipeline such that it is directly adjacent to the road leading to the administrative offices. This allows for easy and direct visual checks on the tailings pipeline on a regular basis.</p> <p>The reclaim water pipeline will have the same above described monitoring and operational controls.</p> <p>The tailings pipeline and the reclaim water pipeline will be situated entirely within the operations area, where runoff and seepage are collected effectively containing potential spillage.</p>
246	AM(1)-04	CEA Agency	Appendix GG section 3.3.4 EIS, Sections 4.3.2.3, 6.4.1.12	Section 7.1.2, 10.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Appendix GG describes what would happen to water quality in the unlikely event of a TSF breach. All of the information is based on a comparison of contaminant concentrations in water to Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO). The conclusion of the study is that material that enters Wabigoon Lake from a hypothetical dam breach is diluted within several days to concentrations that meet</p>

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					<p>PWQO.</p> <p>There is no discussion of what the contaminant levels may be within the sediment and food web of Wabigoon Lake in the event of a hypothetical breach. Although the contaminant concentration in water will be diluted, the contaminant does not disappear. Depending on the particular pathway of each contaminant, the contaminant may settle in sediment or bioaccumulate in aquatic life. A discussion of these pathways and projected concentrations within sediment and fish should be provided to fully understand the potential environmental effects from this worst case scenario.</p> <p>Appendix GG also does not take into account the possibility of a dam failure washing out the culverts along Tree Nursery Road, Highway 17 and the Canadian Pacific rail line. There are only three 1m wide culverts grouped together at the Canadian Pacific rail line. These three culverts are highly unlikely to accommodate the wave of water that would result from a dam failure.</p> <p>Section 6.4.1.12 (EIS) states that “In the highly improbable event of a catastrophic failure of the TSF, the resulting flood wave would increase the potential for fish mortality within Blackwater Creek as a result of its high kinetic energy until the flood wave velocity is attenuated as it reaches bends and beaver ponds along the creek. This highly unlikely scenario would be of a relative short duration (several hours to few days) until the flow would return to seasonal normal (Section 4.3.2).”</p> <p>The main concern about fish mortality due to accidental release of deleterious substances lists the volume and velocity of water as main consequences of a TSF dam breach. There is no mention of the substances that would be released in this scenario, their effect on fish health and mortality and their persistence in the downstream local environment.</p> <p>Section 4.3.2.5 (EIS) states that “if the tailings solids dispersed on land and water bodies are not removed in a timely manner following a TSF dam breach, there could be a long term risk of migration. Runoff could mobilize tailings particles into Blackwater Creek and negatively affect its water quality (i.e., turbidity and chemical composition). It is less likely that remobilized particles would affect the quality of Wabigoon Lake since they would likely settle in low moving water such as beaver ponds along Blackwater Creek. However, high water levels and velocities, such as spring freshet, could remobilize the settled particles and affect the water quality of Wabigoon Lake. In addition, acid generating conditions may begin where tailings solids are exposed constantly or intermittently to air.”</p> <p>This section precludes that in the event of a dam failure most of the tailings solids and particles would settle in Blackwater Creek behind beaver dams and settle to the bottom. However, there is a risk high water levels and velocities such as spring freshet would remobilize the settled particles and affect the water quality of Wabigoon Lake and acid generating condition may also begin. However, this document fails to identify how long this is likely to occur and what the specific effects would be to the users of the lake and fish and fish habitat. This missing information is important to understanding the effects of a hypothetical dam breach on fish and fish habitat over the long term.</p>

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					<p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide an analysis of what the contaminant levels would be within the sediment and within the aquatic food web following a tailings storage facility failure, with a focus on contaminants that persist in the environment, bioaccumulate in fish or are toxic to fish, migratory birds or Aboriginal people.</p> <p>B. Describe the effects and their duration if particulate materials remobilize with every heavy rainfall or spring freshet.</p> <p>C. Describe detailed contingency and emergency response procedures, for a tailings storage facility failure to address effects to fish and fish habitat, migratory birds, and effects to Aboriginal peoples including, but not be limited to, country foods, current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, and health and socio-economic conditions.</p> <hr/> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. As described in Section 4.3.2 of the EIS, and Appendix GG to the EIS, there would be no sediments deposited in the lake in the highly unlikely event of a failure of the tailings storage facility (TSF). In contrast, the solids (i.e., tailings) released would remain on the land, or within Blackwater Creek, without reaching Wabigoon Lake. These solids would be contained as set out in the spill management plan, and remediated as soon as practicable. The tailings would be removed, and not left in the environment where they could be remobilized during spring freshets or heavy rainfall events.</p> <p>B. Solids released due to the highly unlikely event of a failure to the tailings storage facility would be contained and remediated, as described in part A.</p> <p>C. Appendix GG describes the potential environmental consequences resulting from of a highly unlikely TSF failure. None of the tailings present within the TSF were predicted to reach Wabigoon Lake during the modelled failure event. Once there are no immediate safety concerns, the spill response procedures would be implemented in discussion with Regulatory Authorities to contain and remediate the tailings that were deposited on the ground, and in the upper reached of Blackwater Creek, downstream of the TSF.</p> <p>The liquid present within the TSF (supernatant water, pore water and rainfall) is predicted to flow down Blackwater Creek and reach Wabigoon Lake in the highly unlikely event of a TSF failure. However, the quality of the water released into Blackwater Creek during the unlikely event of a TSF failure will meet the water quality authorized limits in the federal Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER), with the exception of lead. The authorized limits in the MMER are the concentrations of various substances the federal government allows mining facilities to discharge to the environment. Therefore, the quality of the water released during the unlikely event of a TSF failure would generally meet the levels considered acceptable as discharges by federal regulations. These limits are reflective of continuous discharges from mining facilities, whereas a TSF failure would represent a one-time release. Additionally, these concentrations would also be rapidly diluted once the waters</p>

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					<p>reach Wabigoon Lake.</p> <p>The assessment of effects in the highly unlikely event of a TSF failure presented in Appendix GG did identify the potential for the physical impacts within Blackwater Creek as a result of the flood wave. This rush of water would likely cause impacts to the small bodied fish using the Blackwater Creek, and could result in erosion of the channel near to the TSF. However, the low gradient nature of the channel and the presence of beaver dams and bends within the watercourse would dissipate the energy before reaching Wabigoon Lake.</p> <p>Based on the above, Treasury Metals acknowledges that there would be effects in Blackwater Creek in the highly unlikely event of a TSF failure due to the physical effects of the floodwater released and the deposition of tailings downstream of the TSF, which would be remediated in accordance with spill response procedures. However, there is no basis to conclude that there would be ecological effects in Wabigoon Lake that would affect migratory birds, and effects to Aboriginal peoples including, but not be limited to, country foods, current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, and health and socio-economic conditions. Please also see responses to: TMI_652-AC(1)-325, TMI_653-AC(1)-326, TMI_678-AC(1)-350 and TMI_682-AC(1)-354.</p>
247	AM(1)-05	CEA Agency	<p>EIS Section 3.7.1</p> <p>Appendix D Section 5.5</p> <p>Appendix GG</p>	Section 7.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Section 3.7.1 (EIS) states: “The freeboard will be based on peak water levels occurring within the spillway during the occurrence of the inflow design flood (IDF). The IDF will be based on the hazard potential classification (HPC) as identified by the Canadian Dam Association (CDA) guidelines and also the OMNRF Best Management Practices.”</p> <p>A Hazard Potential Classification (HPC), even if preliminary, is required to report the Dam Break Analysis, Inflow Design Flood, Spillway Capacity, and Maximum Design Earthquake within the EIS. To establish the HPC two scenarios must be analyzed: one under normal operation (sunny day break), and one under flood conditions. The HPC is established as the worst of the two cases. Refer to Classification and Inflow Design Flood Criteria Technical Bulletin August 2011 (Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act – Administrative Guideline, Technical Bulletins, and Best Management Practices 2011- Classification and Inflow Design Flood Criteria Technical Bulletin, August 2011).</p> <p>Section 7.1.2 of the EIS Guidelines states that the EIS will describe the safeguards that have been established to protect against tailings storage facility dam failure.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide the Hazard Potential Classification (HPC) (even if preliminary).</p> <p>B. Provide a revised Dam Break Analysis, Inflow Design Flood, Spillway Capacity, and Maximum Design Earthquake, taking into account the HPC.</p> <p>C. Using the revised Inflow Design Flood, revise Breach scenario 2 involving the overtopping failure caused by the local 100-year storm event inflow.</p>

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					<p>Response:</p> <p>A. A preliminary HPC has been determined for the tailings storage facility (TSF). The HPC is based on the work that has been completed to date as well as available background information. The HPC will be confirmed and revised, as required, as the design of the facility is advanced.</p> <p>Determination of the HPC was completed in accordance with Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Technical Bulletin "Classification and Inflow Design Flood Criteria", August 2011 (MNR BMP). The HPC is determined from potential incremental losses for Life Safety, Property Losses, Environmental Losses and Cultural-Built Heritage Losses. The following provides a summary of the HPC assessment.</p> <p><u>Life Safety:</u></p> <p>Flood routing and inundation mapping was previously completed and included in the EIS as Appendix GG – Tailings storage facility Failure Modelling. The results of the flood routing provided were used to assess the potential houses or dwellings that fall within the potential flood plain. The results indicate 1 (one) house or dwelling lies within the flooded area with an additional house or dwelling as potentially being within the flood plain. The MNR BMP utilizes the following criteria to establish potential loss of life:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x 2 rule – product of velocity and depth exceeds 0.37 m²/s • Velocity > 1.7 m/s • Flood depth > 0.8 m <p>Velocity data is not yet available and therefore flood depth has been used to identify hazards to life safety for houses that are within the inundation zone. The results of the flood mapping indicate that the water levels in the area of the house(s) can have a maximum depth of 1.3 m that exceeds the minimum depth identified above. The 2011 Statistics Canada data indicates an average of 2.6 persons per house for Ontario that corresponds to a minimum of 2.6 persons and a maximum 5.2 persons potentially at risk within the flooded area. A classification of "High" has therefore been assigned to Life Safety that corresponds to potential loss of life of 1-10 persons.</p> <p><u>Property Losses:</u></p> <p>Property losses were assessed by inspecting the downstream infrastructure that could be affected by a dam failure. The infrastructure present in the downstream area consists of a hydro line, Tree Nursery, Normans and Anderson Regional Roads, CP railway line and Highway 17. The incremental losses in the event of a dam breach may consist of washouts to the roads that will include Highway 17 and the CP railway line. The loss of Highway 17, including the potential detour roads, would restrict emergency vehicle access from Dryden to the Mine Site as well as the Community of Wabigoon in addition to severely reducing Highway 17 vehicle movement. Similarly, loss of the rail line would restrict freight movement across Canada until the crossing could be re-established. The damage is expected to exceed \$3 million and may exceed \$30 million. Due to the potential loss of</p>

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					<p>major infrastructure consisting of Hwy 17 and the rail line the failure was the basis for assigning a HPC of “Very High” for Property Losses.</p> <p><u>Environmental Losses:</u></p> <p>The majority of the tailings solids are anticipated to remain on the mine site and near the TSF resulting from the high viscosity of the material. Appendix GG of the EIS identified that the tailings would occupy an approximate area of 0.39 km² if released from the facility. The occurrence of the dam breach would most likely happen during operations and mine staff would be on-site to provide short-term containment of tailings solids as well as initiate rehabilitation activities. The impact to fish or wildlife habitat would therefore be short-term with restoration likely and low likelihood of negatively affecting the natural environment.</p> <p>Supernatant and tailings pore water would also be released and, if the water managed to also breach the mine site perimeter ditch and berm containment system, would flow into Wabigoon Lake. The water would enter Wabigoon Lake at Kelpyn Bay, located near the east end of the lake and would disburse westerly towards the City of Dryden and the Dryden Water Intake. Potential species of fish that are present within the lake include Lake Whitefish, Muskellunge, Northern Pike, Sauger, Smallmouth Bass, Walleye, Yellow Perch and Black Crappie. There are no known critical fish or species classified under the Ontario Endangered Species Act.</p> <p>Although the water released from the TSF would meet the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER), water quality would be affected by the inflow of water from the TSF in the event of a dam breach as identified by the water quality modelling provided in Appendix GG of the EIS. The concentrations are anticipated to be highest at the point of entry into Wabigoon Lake with high concentrations (>50%) occurring Kelpyn Bay. Table 8 in Appendix GG identifies that water quality parameters do not exceed the Ontario drinking water standards, or the more stringent Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO) at either the Dryden Water Intake, or the outlet of the lake at Dryden. However, levels for several water quality parameters are predicted to exceed the PWQO, with the worst conditions shown in the modelling occur along the northeast shoreline from Kelpyn Bay heading going northwest along the shoreline for about 5 km. There are 40 homes and 1 resort along the shore who most likely get their potable water from the lake and who will not be equipped to filter and treat the water. Provisions to provide drinking water until conditions return to normal may be required in the event of a dam breach.</p> <p>The Village of Wabigoon or the more distant Wabigoon Lake Ojibway nation reservation are not predicted to be affected by a plume from as it is predicted to travel westward after entering Wabigoon Lake from Blackwater Creek. The results of the water quality modelling provided in Appendix GG of the EIS indicated that the degraded water quality conditions would improve naturally with the dilution in the water body indicating that there is a reasonable likelihood of being able to apply natural or assisted recovery activities to promote species recovery to viable population levels. A potential HPC of “High” to “Very High” can be applied to the Environmental Losses based on the</p>

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					<p>above assessment. The HPC has therefore been assigned as “Very High”.</p> <p><u>Cultural – Built Heritage – Losses:</u></p> <p>Appendix U of the EIS provided the Archaeological and Heritage Assessment for the Goliath Site. The results of the assessment did not indicate the presence of Cultural Heritage Sites. A HPC of “Low” has therefore been assigned.</p> <p><u>Summary</u></p> <p>The following provides a summary of the preliminary HPC for the TSF at the Goliath Site:</p> <p>Loss of Life High Property Losses Very High Environmental Losses Very High Cultural – Built Heritage Losses Low</p> <p>The preliminary HPC for the TSF has therefore been assigned as “Very High.”</p> <p>B. A revised Dam Break Analysis is not required in determining the HPC. The dam break is used to develop the HPC for the dam based on incremental losses. The maximum volume of water that can be released from the dam is based on the storage capacity and is independent of the storm. The preliminary HPC that has been developed for the TSF, above, has been assigned as “Very High” that is already the highest HPC that can be assigned.</p> <p>The Inflow Design Flood (IDF) for the TSF based on a “Very High” HPC for Property and Environmental Losses is identified as 1/3 between the 1,000 Year Flood and PMF to PMF. The IDF for the TSF has therefore been conservatively assigned as the PMF. The PMF for the TSF has been selected as the PMP occurring in the spring. Applying the PMP in the spring season will result in the addition of snowmelt to the IDF. The PMP for the site has been preliminarily identified as 435 mm in 24-hrs. A snowmelt element has been added to the stormwater modelling for the site to include runoff from snowmelt during the occurrence of the PMP to model PMF conditions. Adding the snowmelt component essentially converts snowpack, present within the containment area of the TSF, to runoff. The PMP was assumed to occur in April, to model the IDF, and used the meteorological parameters for April, from station data for the Dryden area to assess potential snowmelt. The resultant snowmelt component of the PMF, for the TSF impoundment area, was identified as a base flow of 0.9 m³/s that has been assigned to the stormwater model for spillway assessment.</p> <p>Spillway capacity and the ability to effectively pass the IDF is based on peak flow depth and the spillway width. A trapezoid spillway is planned for the TSF and the final spillway invert identified for the EIS is El. 418.5 m with a final dam crest at El. 420.0 m. These levels will be confirmed as the Project is advanced through engineering design. A spillway width of 5.0 m with side slopes of 3H:1V</p>

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					<p>will result in a peak depth of flow through the spillway during the occurrence of the IDF of 0.4 m. The assessment was completed assuming that all contingency storage within the facility had been depleted and the pond level in the TSF is at the spillway invert at the start of the storm event.</p> <p>The Design Earthquake Criteria requirements are outlined in Table 1 of the MNR Technical Bulletin for Seismic Hazard, Assessment and Considerations. The TSF has a HPC of "Very High" with Property and Environmental Losses being the controlling category identifies the annual exceedance probability for earthquake design ground motion as the 2,500 to 10,000 year event. The 2,500 year event was identified in Appendix D, Table 2.1 as the peak horizontal ground acceleration (PGA) of 0.036g. Seismic data for the area was updated in 2015 (NBCC) and the updated 2,500 year event is 0.044g. A preliminary assessment has been completed to infer the 5,000 and 10,000 year events that will be confirmed using a site specific seismic study as the Project is advanced through detailed engineering. The results of the preliminary assessment indicate that the 5,000 and 10,000 peak ground accelerations are 0.075g and 0.128g, respectively. At present, the return period that has been assigned to the TSF is the 5,000 year event with a corresponding peak ground acceleration of 0.075g.</p> <p>C. As identified above as part of the response to Part B, completion of an additional Dam Break Study is not required to assess the HPC of the TSF. The volume of water that would be released from the TSF from an overtopping type failure is independent of the storm event and consists of the volume of water within the TSF impoundment. Although the IDF identified for the TSF is larger than the 1:100 yr. event previously used for the assessment, the preliminary HPC for the TSF has been assigned as "Very High" that is the highest classification for a dam as outlined by the MNR BMP. The HPC would therefore not be increased as a result of an additional Dam Break Assessment.</p>
248	AM(1)-06	CEA Agency	EIS Section 3.7.5	Section 5.6 and 7.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Tailings spills can occur from pipeline breaks. Environmental damage increases with the length of time that a spill goes undetected. Pipeline routing should be designed to avoid environmentally sensitive areas, such as waterbodies and wetlands. Fortifying the pipeline in these areas to reduce the risk of a pipeline break is also an option.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Describe what will be used for a tailings spill detection system (e.g. monitor for pressure drops within the tailings pipeline). B. Identify what, if any, pipeline routing and design features have been incorporated to reduce the risk and severity of impacts associated with pipeline breaks in any environmentally sensitive areas (e.g. waterbodies).</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p>

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					<p>A. Pressure gauges at strategic points in the tailings discharge line and in the reclaim water line will be monitored in the process plant control room to identify potential pipeline breaks. Pipelines will be inspected on a shift basis by operations personnel and also environmental personnel.</p> <p>B. The pipelines will be routed as indicated on Figure 3.0-1A in the revised EIS. The routing is within the perimeter runoff and seepage collection ditch system that will contain contact water from the operations area to comply with Metal Mining Effluent Regulations and provincial legislation. Given this positioning, any spillage would be completely contained within the operations area.</p> <p>Pipelines will be durable, thick walled HDPE that is protected from accidental vehicular traffic.</p>
249	AM(1)-07	CEA Agency	<p>EIS, sections 3.0, 5.0</p> <p>Appendix D Section 6.5</p> <p>Appendix HH</p>	<p>Sections 7.1.2, 7.1.3</p>	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>According to Figures 5.5.3.to 5.5.5 (EIS) and section 3.3.1 (EIS), the overburden thickness varies from about 0-2 m to 10-15 m North and South of the proposed open pit area, respectively. As the overburden consists mainly of soft glaciolacustrine clays (Appendix D, section 6.5), landslides could be triggered by excavation operations during the opening of the pit. There are at least three documented cases of large landslides (earthflows) that were triggered by mining or excavation operations in similar deposits. These landslides involved either glaciolacustrine clays in western Quebec (Eden, 1964; NRCan, 2011), or sensitive Champlain Sea clays (MTQ, 2014). All resulted in casualties.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>Eden, WJ (1964). Earthflows at the Beattie Mine Quebec, Canada. Canadian Geotechnical Journal, 1(2): 104-114.</p> <p>NRCan (2011). List of major landslide disasters in Canada – Belmoral Mine earthflow.</p> <p>-MTQ (2014). Glissement de terrain du 29 janvier 2013 à la carrière Maskimo de l'Épiphanie. Rapport présenté à la Commission de la santé et de la sécurité du travail (CSST), Transports Québec, 211 p.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Document the physical and mechanical properties of the glaciolacustrine clays (e.g. liquidity index to assess the capacity of these soils to flow once mobilized by a failure; piezocone tests to obtain a more detailed stratigraphy and more representative strength parameters).</p> <p>B. Provide information of the possibility that down-hill progressive landslides (e.g. Bernander, 2008) could be induced by the weight of the two storage areas (Waste Rock Storage Area and the Overburden Storage Area, e.g. Fig. 3.01 (EIS)).</p> <p>C. Provide results of slope stability analyses and mitigation measures if required in (Appendix HH).</p> <p>Reference:</p> <p>-Bernander, S. (2008). Down-hill progressive landslides in soft clays. Research Report, Lulea</p>

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					<p>University of Technology, Lulea, Sweden, 120 p.</p> <p>Response: Treasury Metals continues to advance the engineering design of the Project such that it can be constructed in a safe and efficient manner. Part of this advancement is further geotechnical studies that will help to supplement a final Feasibility study. Subsequently to the Feasibility study, Treasury Metals will complete an Engineered design for all components of the Project including the waste rock storage area (WRSA) and Overburden storage area. Each of the aforementioned components will take into account the most current engineering practices and will require the approval of a professionally designated engineer prior to construction.</p> <p>Further, as Treasury Metals progresses its operations the slope stability and monitoring programs will be in place to ensure prevention and proper mitigation of any failure event.</p> <p>With the aforementioned measures the possibility of a slope failure is a highly unlikely event and as such is not required as part of the Failure Modes and Effects Analysis.</p>
250	AM(1)-08	CEA Agency	EIS Section 5.4.1 EIS Appendix D Figure 1.1	9.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: No contour information appears on Figure 1.1 (Appendix D), which is referenced in EIS Section 5.4.1 as evidence that the project area is one of relatively low relief and support for the assertion that landslides, slope erosion, and potential for instability is limited in the project area.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Provide a revised Figure 1.1 (Appendix D) with contour information.</p> <p>Response: Since the submission of the original EIS, Treasury Metals has been advancing their engineering for the Project. A summary of the refinements to the Project since the completion of the EIS are presented in Section 3.16 of the revised EIS. The requested topography is provided in Figure 3.0-1A of the revised EIS.</p>
251	CE(1)-01	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 7.0, 7.2.1, 7.3.6	Section 12.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: The methodology for the cumulative effects assessment must be clearly described in order for reviewers of the EIS to examine how the analysis was conducted and what rationale supports the conclusions reached. Section 7.0 (EIS) describes the definition of cumulative effects, scope, and the results of the assessment; however, it does not describe the methodology used in conducting the cumulative effects assessment.</p> <p>The spatial and temporal boundaries of cumulative environmental effects must be justified clearly.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment: A. Clearly describe the methodology used to predict cumulative environmental effects, including a</p>

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					<p>description of how an effects rating criteria was applied and the method by which criteria were combined and weighted.</p> <p>B. Provide justification for choosing the three spatial scales (LSA, RSA and 40km radius centered on the Project pit).</p> <p>C. Provide a map that clearly defines the spatial boundaries that encompass the potential environmental effects on the selected valued components of the Project in combination with other physical activities that have been or will be carried out, including the additional projects listed in CE(1)-02.</p> <p>D. Provide justification for choosing the temporal boundary of 10 years.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>The EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) provided the framework that was used in preparing the EIS. Based on the feedback from CEAA and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions, there are a number of issues related to the approach used in the EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project, including cumulative effects. In order to effectively address all of these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS, to set out the assessment of the Project effects and cumulative effects in a clear and traceable manner. The revised EIS is organized in a manner that corresponds with the requirements described in the EIS Guidelines. The cumulative effects assessment presented as part of the revised EIS builds on the cumulative effects assessment presented in the EIS (revised EIS: Section 7), includes additional information to address specific issues identified in the Round 1 IR, and follows the recommended process set out in the operation policy statement for evaluating cumulative effects (CEAA, 2014).</p>
252	CE(1)-02	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 7.0, 7.2.3, 7.2.3.1	Section 12.1.2	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Section 7.2.3.1 (EIS) states that “due to the lack of existing or planned mining projects within the cumulative effects study areas, mining and exploration projects are not expected to contribute to cumulative effects in the foreseeable future”. However, Treasury Metals Inc. announced, on February 12, 2015, the addition of a second diamond drill to accelerate Phase II of the exploration program at its Goliath Gold Project. Table 1.5.1 (EIS, page 1-20) also shows anticipated provincial permits required for a 1-5 MW power generation facility constructed by a power supplier to support the Project. Despite these activities occurring or proposed at the project site, they were not included in the cumulative effects analysis.</p> <p>Information on the environmental effects of these activities will assist in the understanding of cumulative environmental effects on fish and fish habitat, migratory birds, Aboriginal health and current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes.</p> <p>In addition, the following past, existing and reasonably foreseeable future projects within the cumulative effect study areas needs to be included in the cumulative effects assessment:</p>

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					<p>A. Highway 17 B. Canadian Pacific Rail C. Forestry operations by Dryden Forest Management Company D. Domtar Corp.'s Dryden Pulp Mill E. Proposed 1-5 MW power generation facility F. Proposed Energy East Pipeline G. Proposed Josephine Cone Mine Project H. Aggregate pits or quarries</p> <p>The mining claim #: 3017940 overlays Aggregate Permit #: 46764, permitted to D&D Contracting as a commercial operation. Aggregate extraction occurs in the Local Study Area and should be taken into consideration in the cumulative effects assessment.</p> <p>The proponent's characterization of cumulative effects for air and surface water quality are unclear. Statements in the EIS contain a number of assumptions that do not appear to be based on actual numerical data. For example, section 3.2 (Appendix J) and section 5.2.1.1 (EIS) contradict each other in terms of the potential for existing projects to contribute to baseline air quality at the project site and within the LSA.</p> <p>The EIS does not assess the potential effects to recreational and commercial, trapping, hunting and/or fishing. Due to the potential for certain project activities requiring other federal approvals to have indirect effects on human health and socio-economic conditions not tied to Aboriginal peoples, these effects need to be assessed.</p> <p>Furthermore, section 7.0 (EIS) does not address the potential cumulative effects of the Project in combination with other activities, such as recreational and commercial, trapping, hunting and/or fishing. This analysis is necessary to examine whether the proposed project, in combination with other activities could result in the overexploitation of resources during the life of the proposed project.</p> <p>Sections 7.2.3.3 and 7.2.3.4 (EIS) note that none of the major projects of the Northern Highways Program slated for 2015-2017 construction and completion or the Hydro One transmission system projects fall within the cumulative effects study areas. The locations of these major projects and transmission system projects would assist in substantiating this claim.</p> <p>Section 7.2.3.4 (EIS) states that Wataynikaneyap Power is proposing a 300-km long 230-kV transmission line from south of Dinorwic to Pickle Lake, Ontario. The proposed project falls within the defined spatial boundaries of the cumulative effects study area. The potential effects of the proposed alternative routes of the 230kV transmission line need to be considered to assist in the understanding of cumulative effects assessment.</p> <p>The Operational Policy Statement (http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=1DA9E048-</p>

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					<p>1) states that potential cumulative environmental effects should be considered in the analysis even when there is little supporting data or there is predictive uncertainty.</p> <p>Section 7.2.3.5 (EIS) states that the development of local infrastructure and minor road upgrades are expected in communities within the cumulative effects study area (i.e., Dryden and Wabigoon). The locations, descriptions and the potential effects of the physical activities noted above are required to assist in the understanding of cumulative effects assessment.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide a revised cumulative effect assessment that includes an analysis of the potential environmental effects of the Project in combination with the following projects: Treasury Metals Inc. exploration program, Highway 17, Canadian Pacific rail line, forestry operations by Dryden Forest Management Company, Domtar Corp.'s Dryden Pulp Mill, proposed 1-5 MW power generation facility, Energy East pipeline, Josephine Cone Mine Project, aggregate pits or quarries, the 230kV transmission line proposed by Wataynikaneyap Power and the development of local infrastructure and minor road upgrades in Dryden and Wabigoon. Provide clear rationale for the exclusion of projects from the cumulative effect assessment, if applicable. Provide detailed descriptions of the projects listed above.</p> <p>B. Revise the cumulative effects assessment to include an analysis of the potential environmental effects of the Project in combination with other ongoing activities such as, but not limited to, hunting, trapping and fishing.</p> <p>C. Provide a map that shows the Project and all the locations of the past, existing, certain and reasonably foreseeable physical activities identified in section 7.2.3 (EIS) and those listed above in comments A and B.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>Based on the feedback from CEAA and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions related to the approach used in the EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project, including cumulative effects, Treasury Metals has prepared an accompanying stand-alone document, referred to as the revised EIS. The revised EIS is organized in a manner that corresponds with the requirements described in the EIS Guidelines, and specifically addresses issues identified in the IR Round 1 relating to the evaluation of cumulative effects. The revised EIS follows the process recommended in the operation policy statement for cumulative effects (CEAA, 2014).</p>
253	CE(1)-03	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 3.4, 7.2.3	Section 8.1	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>The proponent indicated that the underground mining resource is not well defined, and there may be a larger resource body that will not be confirmed until mine operations have been underway. Given that the waste rock and tailings are potentially acid generating (PAG) and the limited space presently available to the proponent for its management, increases in the volumes of these materials beyond</p>

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					<p>the capacity of the mine waste management plans that have been proposed could lead to adverse water quality impacts.</p> <p>According to the Agency's draft cumulative effects technical guidance (http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/Content/B/8/2/B82352FF-95F5-45F4-B7E2-B4ED27D809CB/Cumulative_Environmental_Effects-Technical_Guidance-Dec2014-eng.pdf), "a future physical activity would be considered reasonably foreseeable and should be included in the cumulative effects assessment if... the completion of the project would facilitate or enable the future development and the economic feasibility of the project is contingent upon the future development." It would appear that the additional mining of the larger resource body and exploration activities fall under these criteria and would need to be included in the cumulative effects assessment.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Identify the measures that could be put in place to ensure mining of the additional larger resource body will not lead to cumulative impacts to water quality given that these materials are PAG.</p> <p>B. Provide a revised cumulative effect assessment that includes an analysis of the potential environmental effects of the Project in combination with the addition mining activities for the larger resource body and related exploration activities.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>The current resource defines mineralized rock in the "Measured", "Indicated" and "Inferred" categories as defined as part of the National Instrument (NI) 43-101 process. This is a regulatory framework of the Ontario Securities Commission that must be strictly adhered to. There is no reasonable or justifiable method to estimate future gold resources for this Project.</p> <p>As set out in the Technical Guidance for Assessing Cumulative Environmental Effects under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012 (CEAA, 2014), a cumulative effects assessment of a project "...must include future physical activities that are certain and should generally include physical activities that are reasonably foreseeable." At this time, future resources would neither be certain, nor would they be reasonably foreseeable under NI 43-101.</p> <p>In the event that a future resource is identified of the site, it would not be able to be developed without having to go through its own appropriate environmental assessment process. Such a process would require that the proponent demonstrate that no significant adverse effects would occur, including cumulative effects with the current project.</p>
254	CE(1)-04	CEA Agency	EIS Sections	Section 12.1.2	Summary of Comment / Rationale:

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			7.0, 7.3		<p>Data collection and/or generation are important components of a cumulative environmental effects assessment. The conclusions of the cumulative effects assessment in section 7.3 (EIS) are not based on quantitative analysis, which makes it difficult for reviewers of the EIS to replicate.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide quantitative data and analysis to substantiate the conclusions of the assessment of cumulative effects in combination with other past, present and reasonably foreseeable projects and activities in the study areas. If no quantitative data is available provide a rationale clearly explaining the reasons why the data is not readily available and, provide a qualitative assessment to substantiate the conclusions.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> Based on the feedback from CEAA and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions related to the approach used in the EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project, including cumulative effects, Treasury Metals has prepared an accompanying stand-alone document, referred to as the revised EIS. The revised EIS is organized in a manner that corresponds with the requirements described in the EIS Guidelines, and specifically addresses issues identified in the IR Round 1 relating to the evaluation of cumulative effects. The revised EIS follows the process recommended in the operation policy statement for evaluating cumulative effects (CEAA, 2014).</p>
255	CE(1)-05	CEA Agency	Appendix GG section 3.3.4 EIS, Sections 4.3.2.3, 6.4.1.12	Section 12.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> The response to information request AM(1)-04 is relevant to determining cumulative effects of a potential dam breach on subsistence, commercial, and recreational fisheries that already have fish consumption advisories with respect to mercury.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Revise the cumulative effects assessment to include consideration of how the tailings storage facility failure could affect the existing fish consumption advisory. B. Describe contingency and emergency response procedures for the potential effects noted above in the improbable event of a catastrophic failure of the tailings storage facility.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> The potential effects, both immediately and in the longer-term, associated with a failure of the tailings storage facility (TSF) are detailed in the response to AM(1)-04 (TMI_246). A failure of the TSF represents a potential effect of the Project, and therefore, not a cumulative effect. However, the cumulative effects assessment needs to consider how the predicted effects of the Project, including the effects resulting from a TSF failure, could combine with the effects of other past, present and</p>

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					<p>future projects.</p> <p>Based on the feedback from the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency) and other technical reviewers provided in IR Round 1 questions related to the approach used in the EIS for organizing and presenting the relevant information regarding the potential effects of the Project, including cumulative effects, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. The revised EIS is organized in a manner that corresponds with the requirements described in the EIS Guidelines, and specifically addresses issues identified in the IR Round 1 relating to the evaluation of cumulative effects. The revised EIS follows the process recommended in the operation policy statement for evaluating cumulative effects (CEAA, 2014).</p>
256	CE(1)-06	CEA Agency	Appendix GG	Section 7.1.2	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>The cumulative effects assessment also needs to assess the potential effects from accidents and malfunctions of the project in combination with other physical activities that have been or will be carried out; including, but not limited to, the following projects: Treasury Metals Inc. exploration program, Highway 17, Canadian Pacific rail line, forestry operations by Dryden Forest Management Company, Domtar Corp.'s Dryden Pulp Mill, proposed 1-5 MW power generation facility, Energy East pipeline, Josephine Cone Mine Project, aggregate pits or quarries, the 230kV transmission line proposed by Wataynikaneyap Power and the development of local infrastructure and minor road upgrades in Dryden and Wabigoon.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide a map that clearly defines the spatial boundaries that encompass the potential effects from accidents and malfunctions of the project in combination with other physical activities that have been or will be carried out, including the additional projects listed in CE(1)-02.</p> <p>B. Provide a revised cumulative effect assessment that includes an analysis of the potential environmental effects from accidents and malfunctions of the project in combination with other physical activities or projects that have been or will be carried out, including the additional projects listed in CE(1)-02.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>As described in the Operational Policy Statement and technical guidance provided by the Agency regarding cumulative effects assessments, the environmental effects of accidents and malfunctions must be considered in the assessment of cumulative effects if they are likely to result from the Project. Additionally, the issue scoping stage of the cumulative effects assessment allows the practitioner to focus on those Project activities that were predicted to result in residual adverse effects.</p> <p>As part of the EIS, Treasury Metals conducted a failure modes and effects analysis, to determine what accidents were likely to occur and what the consequences could be from these accidents. The</p>

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					<p>results are presented in Section 4 of the EIS and Appendix HH to the EIS. The analysis identified 137 plausible failure modes that could affect the environment. However, only 13 were identified as likely, expected or almost certain to occur during the Project.</p> <p>Those accidents and malfunctions that are likely to occur, and for which residual effects are predicted, have been included in an updated cumulative effects assessment presented as part of the revised EIS.</p>
257	CE(1)-07	CEA Agency	EIS Table 7.3.2	Sections 9.1.3, 10.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>The potential cumulative effects listed under Aboriginal People in Table 7.3.2 (EIS, page 7-20) are not clearly described. For example, in the “Potential Effect” column “fishing” is listed without any detail to describe what the impact to fishing is (e.g. reduced fish numbers, less access to fishing locations, contaminated fish).</p> <p>Additional detail is needed to describe how the potential effects of fishing, hunting and trapping, gathering of country foods, and water quality and health effects will impact Aboriginal peoples.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide detail in Table 7.3.2 to describe the potential cumulative effects of water quality and health effects, gathering of country foods, hunting and trapping, and fishing.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>As detailed in the EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013), the Aboriginal component of the EIS was to have looked at the combined effects of the Project on Aboriginal people, including the effects of water quality, health effects, gathering of country foods, hunting and trapping, and fishing. To help focus the assessment, the EIS identified following three VCs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • health effects; • gathering of country foods and traditional plant materials; and • hunting, trapping <p>In contrast to the requirements for assessing the combined effects of the Project on Aboriginal people, the EIS Guidelines (CEAA, 2013) also requires Treasury Metals to complete a cumulative effects assessment. The purpose of the cumulative effects assessment is to “...take into account any cumulative environmental effects that are likely to result from the designated project in combination with the environmental effects of other physical activities that have been or will be carried out” (CEAA, 2015). The cumulative effects assessment is only required for those “...VCs for which residual environmental effects are predicted” (CEAA, 2015). Therefore, the information on the “combined effects” of the Project on Aboriginal people should reference Section 6 of the EIS. It is</p>

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					<p>only those VCs for which residual adverse effects were predicted that would also be addressed in the cumulative effects assessment presented in Section 7 of the EIS.</p> <p>Treasury Metals acknowledge that the Round 1 IRs identified a number of issues related to organizing and approach used in the EIS for presenting the information regarding the potential effects of the Project. In order to effectively address these issues, Treasury Metals has prepared a revised EIS. The revised EIS sets out the assessment of effects and impacts associated with the Project, in a clear and traceable manner.</p> <p>The revised EIS provides a means of presenting the information originally submitted in the EIS (including the Appendices) in a manner more closely aligned with the expectations of CEAA (as detailed in the information requests). The revised EIS has included a separate human health component, with an Aboriginal Health VC. The evaluation of Aboriginal health relies on the screening level risk assessment (Appendix W to the EIS), as modified and updated by the responses to Round 1 IRs. The risk assessment considers the effects on Aboriginal health from a range of exposure pathways, including inhalation (air quality) and ingestion (water quality, soils, country foods) in a level of detail appropriate to respond to this and other IRs. The predicted health effects, including Aboriginal health are described in Section 3.17 of the revised EIS. Mitigation measures required to address effects on human health is considered and described in Section 6.19.5. The residual effects on human health that remain after mitigation are provided in Section 6.19.6. The cumulative effects to human health from the Project in combination with other past, present and reasonably foreseeable projects in the region is detailed in Section 7 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>Additionally, the Aboriginal peoples discipline considers Aboriginal peoples from a more holistic perspective, compared to the health focus in the human health discipline. Effects, mitigation, residual effects, and cumulative effects for Aboriginal peoples are discussed through Sections 6.21 and 7 of the revised EIS.</p>
258	EE(1)-01	CEA Agency	EIS Section 4.4.1	Section 7.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 4.4.1 (EIS) discusses the environmental impact of extreme floods on the tailings storage facility but does not assess the potential impact from extreme floods on the seepage collection system including the ditches around the infrastructure, the collection and polishing ponds, the Blackwater Creek Tributary 2 realignment and the Tree Nursery Road culvert on the project site.</p> <p>Section 7.1.3 of the EIS Guidelines states: “The EIS will take into account how local conditions and natural hazards, such as severe and/or extreme weather conditions and external events (e.g., flooding, ice jams, landslides, avalanches, erosion, subsidence, fire, outflow conditions and seismic events) could adversely affect the project and how this in turn could result in impacts to the environment.” and “The EIS will provide details of a number of planning, design and construction strategies intended to minimize the potential environmental effects of the environment on the</p>

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					<p>project”.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Assess the effects of extreme flood events (5-year vs. 100-year vs. 1000-year flood) on the seepage collection system including the ditches around the infrastructure, the collection and polishing ponds, the Blackwater Creek Tributary 2 realignment and the Tree Nursery Road culvert on the project site and how this in turn could result in impacts to the environment.</p> <p>B. Provide details on a number of planning, design and construction strategies intended to minimize the potential effects from extreme flood events on the seepage collection system including the ditches around the infrastructure, the collection and polishing ponds, the Blackwater Creek Tributary 2 realignment and the Tree Nursery Road culvert on the project site.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. Treasury Metals is committed to implementation of environmental protection measures as part of the mining operations at the Project. As part of that commitment, mitigation measures were identified to contain and mitigate potential environmental effects. The mitigation includes use of seepage collection ditches as part of the tailings storage facility (TSF). Treasury Metals, as part of on-going engineering refinements has included a mine dewatering pond, surface water runoff collection ponds and also a perimeter site containment ditch/berm system to provide additional contingency containment of mine contact water to prevent unintended releases to Blackwater Creek. Design of the seepage collection ditch, holding ponds and perimeter site containment system will be advanced to the detailed level of design that will include site investigation data that is planned for completion in the near future. All ditches and ponds will be designed to accommodate the Environmental Design Storm (EDS) for the site and will be submitted for Provincial Approval with Plans and Specifications. All containment or holding ponds, including the TSF, will be designed with contingency containment that will include allowance for the EDS. A comprehensive water balance analysis will be completed as part of detailed design that will be used to assess average, 1:20 year wet and dry precipitation conditions. The assessment will be used to ensure that all facilities can be operated within the prescribed pond limits.</p> <p>B. The following Planning, Design and Construction Strategies will be applied to the Project to minimize the potential effects from extreme flood events on the seepage collection system,</p> <p><u>Planning:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include a site perimeter ditch/berm to provide additional containment and prevent the release of mine contact water to the environment in the unlikely event that the seepage collection ditches are breached. Ditches will be designed to accommodate the Environmental Design Storm (EDS) for the site. • Use excavated material from the ditch construction to construct a containment berm, on the

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					<p>downstream site of the seepage collection ditch, to provide additional containment during high flows resulting from significant storm events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Runoff can be routed to the open pit for containment if the capacity of the seepage collection ditches is exceeded. • Complete detailed site investigations to collect site data for use in the design of the ditches and also for construction planning. • Site surveys along ditch alignments to provide accurate field data for use in the design. • Collect field information on the culvert at Tree Nursery Road. • Preparation of a site Operations, Maintenance and Surveillance Manual after completion of detailed engineering for use during operations. <p><u>Design:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All ditches will be designed to accommodate peak flows resulting from the EDS. The EDS will use station data for the area to accurately identify significant storm rainfall events. • Include freeboard allowances for all ditches. • Include contingency storage to accommodate the volume of water generated from the EDS in all holding ponds. The EDS allowance will be included in addition to allowances for the operating pond • Complete detailed water balance analysis for all containment facilities. • Include riprap erosion protection to prevent scour and damage to ditches. • Include non-woven geotextile under riprap to aid in prevention of scour. • Check capacity of culvert on Tree Nursery Road and design upgrade/improvement, as required. <p><u>Construction:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare design drawings with technical specifications for use during construction. • Provide full time construction monitoring during construction to ensure that work is being completed in accordance with the design intent and technical specifications. • Implement a construction Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) program for testing to ensure that construction materials meet the technical specifications.
259	EE(1)-02	CEA Agency	EIS Section 4.4.2	Section 7.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 4.4.2 (EIS) states that “the transmission line remains the most vulnerable Project component to fire.” However, there is no mention of natural fires could affect the explosives storage facility and process plant.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide an assessment of the risk and effects of natural fires on the explosives storage facility</p>

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					<p>and process plant and how this in turn could result in impacts to the environment.</p> <p>B. Provide details on a number of planning, design and construction strategies intended to minimize the potential environmental effects from natural fires on the explosives storage facility and process plant.</p> <p>C. Describe the fire suppression system and where and how the water used for putting out fires will be collected.</p> <hr/> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. The risk of damage from natural fires to key infrastructure such as the explosives storage facility, fuel storage facility and process plant is assessed to be low/unlikely if the key mitigation measure of maintaining adequate special separation (fire break) between the facility and natural fire hazard is implemented.</p> <p>Items such as oils, transformers, fuels or reagents will be stored on-site in adequately designed tanks within diked/bunded areas sized to capture 110% of the largest spill plus one hour of fire suppression water from either fixed fire suppression systems or fire hose streams. Coarse gravels will be used to surround these structures and maintain the clear fire break.</p> <p>B. Planning, design and construction mitigation strategies to minimize the potential impacts of environmental effects from natural fires on the explosives facility, bulk fuel storage and process plant areas include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Clearing sufficient vegetation surrounding these facilities during construction to create an effective fire break, eliminating any potential impact from natural fire and possible flash over. b. Maintaining these fire breaks during plant operation. c. Ensuring the process plant and mine infrastructure fire suppression system is designed and operated in accordance with the National Fire Code of Canada (NFC), the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) codes and relevant FM global design guidelines. d. Fuel storage spills will be contained with ignition sources unlikely. Protection within fuel storage areas will be in line with the requirement of NFPA 30. e. The explosives storage facility construction and storage will be in compliance with the requirements of NFPA 495 Explosives Materials Code. f. The bulk fuel and explosive storage facilities will be classified as Hazardous areas with potential ignition sources being designed out of these areas, i.e. only intrinsically safe equipment/instrumentation will be installed, etc. g. Onsite fire suppression equipment will be provided to support trained responders in

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					<p>extinguishing and/or ensuring exposure protection from natural fires. Site hydrants will ensure that cooling water can be applied if threatened by external fire source.</p> <p>h. Ensuring operations and construction personnel are adequately trained in responding to site natural fires.</p> <p>The fire water main will be an underground buried HDPE pipe installed at a depth lower than the frost depth. For piping and risers exposed to extreme cold conditions, adequate freeze protection measures such as heat tracing, insulation or stainless steel wrapping will be used.</p> <p>C. The plant fire suppression system equipment will include:</p> <p>a. Fire hydrants installed in accordance with the requirements of NFPA 24 and 14</p> <p>b. Fire hose reels</p> <p>c. Automatic fire sprinkler systems used in enclosed conveyor galleries and for hydraulic power packs (as required)</p> <p>d. Portable fire extinguisher</p> <p>e. To ensure that there is the very early warning of a fire event and to ensure an emergency response intervention keeps a fire to its incipient stages (thus keeping fire water use as low as possible), a system of Fire Detection and alarm will be provided as follows:</p> <p>f. Local fire detections systems including smoke detectors, heat detectors and manual pull stations</p> <p>g. Fire alarm and emergency warning system to a manned control centre which will ensure response to the alarm of fire</p> <p>h. VESDA smoke detection systems for substations</p> <p>i. The following collection strategies will be implemented to collect water used to put out fires:</p> <p>j. Fire water used within the process plant will be collected and contained within concrete bunds within the plant area. Fire water can then be treated locally prior to disposal.</p> <p>k. Fire water used from hydrants and external sources outside of the plant will be directed to the site collection/sediment ponds used for storing site groundwater run-off. Water will be managed according to the site-wide water management plan and will ultimately report to the minewater pond, where it can be sampled and treated (if contaminated from a fire event) before it is either pumped back into the process plant or discharged into Blackwater Creek (NOTE: Water discharged into Blackwater Creek will meet Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO)).</p> <p>l. For plant hazardous areas, i.e. oil filled transformers and the fuel storage area, etc., infrastructure will be located within a diked/bunded area which will be sized to capture 110% of the largest spill plus one hour of fire suppression water from either fixed fire suppression systems or fire hose streams. The contained water/fuel bund can then be treated, collected and</p>

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					disposed according to the specific area spills management plan.
260	EE(1)-03	CEA Agency	EIS Section 4.4.3	Section 7.1.3	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale: Section 4.4.3 (EIS) states: "The TSF dam will be designed to withstand the maximum earthquake in accordance with the latest version (2007) of the Canadian Dam Association Dam Safety Guidelines, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Best Management Practices (2011) and the Provincial Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act." However, there is no mention of how earthquakes could affect the ore, overburden and waste rock stockpiles and the open pit.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Provide an assessment of the risk and effect of earthquakes on the ore, overburden and waste rock stockpiles and the open pit, using local seismic stability data, and how this in turn could result in impacts to the environment.</p> <p>B. Provide details on a number of planning, design and construction strategies intended to minimize the potential environmental effects from earthquakes on the ore, overburden and waste rock stockpiles and the open pit.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>A. The risk of earthquakes on the ore, overburden and waste rock stockpiles is low as the site is located within an area of Low Relative Hazard based on the Seismic Hazard Map from the Geological Survey of Canada (EIS Appendix D, Figure 2.3). Seismic data for the site is available from the National Building Code (NBCC) Seismic Hazard Calculation that provides return period ground acceleration values. Since completion of the EIS, seismic data for the site was updated in 2015. This latest site data will be used to design stable slopes for the waste rock, overburden and ore stockpiles.</p> <p>The effects of earthquakes on overburden, ore and waste rock stockpiles result from the potential for liquefaction resulting in a loss of strength and displacement of the foundation soils resulting in a loss of support for loads that may be present such as a material stockpile. Loss of support and soil movement can the result in a situation where a stockpile will move resulting in decreased stability of the stockpile slopes. The effects on the environment may result in mobilization of stockpile material (ore and overburden) into the perimeter runoff and seepage collection ditch system or alternatively damage to the runoff and seepage collection system adjacent to the stockpiles. These effects are anticipated to have a very low potential for occurrence as well as low environmental impact as the site will have a perimeter containment system, consisting of a ditch/berm, which would provide secondary containment if material from the stockpiles was mobilized and was not captured or contained by the individual stockpile collection system. Site investigation data collected from the stockpile foundations will be used to design stable slopes for all stockpiles. The stability design will</p>

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					<p>be completed for static and pseudo-static conditions, similar to the design for the tailings storage facility (TSF) embankments. Design under seismic conditions will utilize the available data from the NBCC as an input parameter to design stable slopes for the stockpiles. Assessment for potential liquefaction will be based on the results of the site investigation and assessment of the foundation soils to identify if the soils have liquefaction potential. Designing stable slopes under seismic loadings will minimize the potential environmental effects from the occurrence of an earthquake.</p> <p>B. The following provides the planning, design and construction strategies for minimizing the potential environmental effects of an earthquake on the ore, overburden and waste rock stockpiles</p> <p>Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include a site perimeter ditch/berm to provide additional containment and prevent the release of fine material from stockpiles that may become mobilized in the event of loss of containment caused by an earthquake. • Complete detailed site investigations to collect geotechnical site data for use in the design. • Collect most recent seismic data from NRCAN for the site for use in design • Review stability when seismic data for the site is updated in future <p>Design:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design all stockpiles to have stable slopes under seismic conditions utilizing the most recent site data available. • Assess the liquefaction potential of foundation soils. Where soils are found to not be suitable include as part of the design effort identification of option to remove and replace soils that are potentially liquefiable. <p>Construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare design drawings with technical specifications for use during construction. • Provide full time monitoring during construction to ensure that work is being completed in accordance with the design intent and technical specifications. • Implement a construction Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) program for testing to ensure that construction materials meet the technical specifications.
261	EE(1)-04	CEA Agency	EIS Sections 3.7, 4.4.4	Section 7.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 4.4.4 (EIS) states: "Project components and infrastructure are being designed as per best engineering practices to ensure safe operation. Personnel will be trained to take emergency measures as part of the emergency and spill response plan in the unlikely event a tornado or other wind event occurs at the Project site." It is not clear which project components and infrastructure were considered.</p>

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					<p>In addition, section 3.7 (EIS) states that a water cover over the tailings beach is proposed to be maintained to minimize potential acid generation of the tailings solids during operations. Wave run-up and wave overtopping the dam embankments may result from high wind or tornado events.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Identify the project components and infrastructure that may be affected by tornadoes or high-wind events. Assess the effect of tornadoes and high-wind events on these project components and infrastructure and how this in turn could result in impacts to the environment.</p> <p>B. Assess the effect of tornadoes and high-wind events on the water cover in the tailings storage facility during operations and the environmental effects from potential wave run-up and overtopping.</p> <p>C. Provide details on a number of planning, design and construction strategies intended to minimize the potential environmental effects from tornadoes and high-wind events on project components and infrastructure, including the water cover in the tailings storage facility during operations.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>A. Critical plant and mine infrastructure which may be affected by high wind or tornado events are the explosives, reagent and bulk fuel storage facilities. However, these facilities will be designed in accordance with the Ontario Building Code. Therefore, they would not be susceptible to high winds and tornadoes that could otherwise result in damage to the building and possible rupture and spills of the materials they are designed to safely store.</p> <p>Critical components of the tailings storage facility (TSF) that may be affected by high winds or tornado events consists of the upstream embankment and low-permeable zone as well as the embankment crest.</p> <p>Wave action resulting from wind can result in erosion of low-permeable fill materials (i.e., clay) or loss of protection zones covering low-permeable engineered liners (i.e. HDPE). This can potentially lead to reduced containment capacity and increased seepage potential for low permeable fill materials and also exposure to potential sun degradation to low permeable engineered liners. This can impact the environment by potentially having increased seepage potential from the facility of supernatant water.</p> <p>Wave action can also result in overtopping of the embankments and damage to the embankment crest. The damage to the embankment crest can result in erosion damage that can lead to a loss of containment or instability of embankment. This can impact the environment by having loss of containment of tailings solids or supernatant water. The TSF design basis will address the protection of erodible materials during extreme wave run-up events.</p>

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					<p>B. The effects of tornadoes and high-wind events on the water cover during operations will consist of generating waves within the facility. Other effects can potentially consist of increased evaporation rate from the pond. The potential effects on the TSF structure from wave run-up and overtopping were identified with Part A, above.</p> <p>The perimeter runoff and seepage collection ditch that encompasses the entire TSF will contain any water that overtops the dam crest due to wave run-up. The ditch will be a low-permeability structure to provide effective containment in accordance with the requirements of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations and will prevent an effect to the environment. The perimeter runoff and seepage collection ditch is described in Section 3.8 of the revised EIS.</p> <p>Water that overtops the spillway due to wave run-up will report to the open pit via the low-permeable swale that is described in Figure 3.0-1A of the revised EIS. This TSF water will be consolidated with mine water and pumped to the minewater pond where it will be contained, thereby preventing an effect to the environment as a result of this overtopping. During the operational phase of the Project while the pit is actively dewatered there will be a net flow of groundwater into the pit and there is no potential for the TSF water to migrate out of the pit.</p> <p>There is a risk reduction associated with overtopping from wave run-up that is based on operations of the TSF. Containment for tailings solids, operational and stormwater management is established with the perimeter embankment and the established crest elevation. The elevation of the crest is raised at strategic times over the life of the facility to accommodate the required storage capacity. The tailings surface elevation increases with the tailings deposition and the tailings rate of rise is established based on the design throughput of the plant. The risk of overtopping from wave run-up is significantly reduced during initial periods of tailings deposition for each embankment stage as significant elevation difference is present between the embankment crest level and the tailings beach level. The engineering design for wave run-up to establish the required crest height is based on the highest tailings beach surface for each stage.</p> <p>C. For all process plant and mine infrastructure component design, the design wind loads will be determined in accordance with the Ontario Building Code (based on the Canadian National Building Code) Section 4.1.7. The design wind load is calculated by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The reference velocity pressure (q) is based on a probability of being exceeded in any one year of 1-in-50, and the reference velocity pressure design factor used for the Project will be specified in the building code for the Dryden site location. b. The ultimate load combination for a limit state design applies a 1.4 factor to the calculated wind load. c. An Importance Factor (Iw) is applied and is 1.0 for Normal Importance Category structures, or 1.15 for High Importance Category structures (i.e., storage facilities containing toxic, explosive or other hazardous substances).

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					<p>The site wind velocity pressure data is determined from wind load data recordings at nearby weather stations and is reported in the building code.</p> <p>Plant and mine infrastructure structures will be designed, checked and signed-off by licenced professional engineers (P.Eng.) who are certified and in good standing with Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO).</p> <p>Items such as oils, transformers, fuels or reagents will be stored on-site within diked/bunded areas sized to capture 110% of the largest spill plus one hour of fire suppression water from either fixed fire suppression systems or fire hose streams.</p> <p>The TSF detailed design will include suitable freeboard for containment of operational, stormwater and freeboard. Design for freeboard is completed in accordance with the Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act for Provincial approval by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF). Freeboard is determined for each embankment stage to ensure that overtopping from wave run-up is prevented. Determination of required freeboard utilizes computations of wind-generate wave height, set-up and run-up that incorporate a selection of reasonable combined occurrences of reservoir level, wind velocity, wind direction and wind duration based on site specific studies.</p> <p>Planning, design and construction strategies to minimise potential environmental effects from tornadoes and high wind effects on the TSF are summarized below:</p> <p>Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include protective covers over low-permeable zones for protection and to prevent erosion. • Utilize non-woven geotextile in embankment construction to provide additional protection against erosion of protection layers to low-permeable zones. • Use riprap erosion protection layer on upstream slope of embankment to add additional protection from wave action for the embankment fill that includes the low-permeable zone. • Apply freeboard to contain wave run-up for each TSF embankment stage to prevent overtopping and protect the crest and dam. <p>Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protective cover zones for low-permeable zones to properly filter graded and assigned sufficient thickness for protection. • Non-woven geotextile design to be completed for wave action condition and also properly filter graded to prevent loss of cover material to maintain protection of low-permeable zone. • Rip rap gradation designed to withstand the design wave for the site to prevent embankment erosion • Freeboard design to be completed in accordance with the LRIA and the MNRF Best

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					<p>Management Practices to prevent wave run-up from overtopping the dam. Minimum freeboard design to be assigned under worst case conditions consisting of maximum tailings beach level. Freeboard allowance to be assigned for each TSF embankment stage.</p> <p>Construction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of Construction Drawings and Technical Specifications sealed by a Professional Engineer in Ontario and submitted for MNRF approval under the LRIA. • Construction monitoring to be completed by a qualified engineer to ensure that the construction product meets the requirements of the Construction Drawings and Technical Specifications to ensure the dam embankment and protection achieves the design intent. • Implementation of a Quality Assurance and Quality Control Program (QA/QC) to ensure that the embankment zones and engineered products used for construction meet the requirements of the Construction Drawing and Technical Specifications.
262	EE(1)-05	CEA Agency	EIS Section 4	Section 7.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 4 (EIS) does not describe the effects of drought on the Project. It is not clear whether drought conditions could impact the tree nursery ponds which in turn may impact the amount of water required for mine processing. Drought conditions may also have an impact on ability to release treated effluent into Blackwater Creek.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Assess the effect of drought conditions on water availability for mine processing and the ability to discharge treated effluent into Blackwater Creek and how this in turn could result in impacts to the environment. Explain the actions to be executed. If alternative water sources will be considered, describe the proposed alternatives.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> No drawdown of the Tree Nursery Ponds is proposed.</p> <p>Sources of process water include the two (2) tributaries of Thunder Lake (maximum of 5% of flow) that supply the Tree Nursery Ponds, Blackwater Creek (maximum of 5% of flow), the runoff collection ponds surrounding the mine site, the minewater pond and the tailings storage facility (TSF). This is described in Section 3.8 of the revised EIS. As described in Section 3.8, the strategy to source adequate process water during a design dry year and an average hydrologic year are presented. During the design dry year, the following contingencies may have to be implemented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water in the runoff collection ponds may have to be filtered to remove TSS using the pre-treatment system for the reverse osmosis ("RO") treatment system.

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mine water may have to be treated using the RO system prior to use in the mill process. • TSF water may have to be treated using the RO system prior to use in the mill process. <p>The above noted measures to recycle water from the mine site for use as process water will minimize effluent discharge.</p> <p>As described in Section 3.8 of the revised EIS, effluent during operations will meet Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO). Therefore, water in the receiving stream (Blackwater Creek) is not required to assimilate (dilute) effluent so that creek water complies with PWQO. The lack of water in the receiver during a drought condition would not constrain effluent discharge, in the event effluent discharge is required during a drought condition.</p>
263	EE(1)-06	CEA Agency	EIS Section 4.4.5	Section 7.1.3	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u> Section 4.4.5 (EIS) states that “various climate change assessments have been developed for northern Ontario. These statements predict an increase in temperature, stable to increasing precipitation, more episodic precipitation and an increased risk of natural fires.” Also “due to the short nature of the Project and historical and reference documentation it would therefore appear that the runoff and water regimes of the area are likely to remain close to the current levels”.</p> <p>Section 7.1.3 of the EIS Guidelines state that “longer-term effects of climate change will also be discussed up to the projected post-closure phase of the project. This discussion will include a description of climate data used”.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u> A. Provide quantitative information from the climate change assessments developed for northern Ontario, including historical and reference documentation and climate predictions for the area, specifically for temperature and precipitation, in order to substantiate the provided predictions. Using this information, describe in more detail the potential longer-term effects of climate change on the project.</p> <p><u>Response:</u> As noted in the information request, Section 7.1.3 of the EIS Guidelines state that the EIS should discuss the “longer-term effects of climate change”, and this should consider effects “up to the projected post-closure phase of the project”.</p> <p>The EIS indicates that the life of the Project will be relatively short, lasting approximately 17 years from site preparation through the post-closure phase (EIS, Section 1.4). For this reason, the EIS was correct in stating that the effects of climate change are expected to be relatively minimal during the life of the Project, up to and including the post-closure phase.</p>

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					<p>In addition to the requirements set out in the EIS Guidelines, guidance for incorporating climate impacts in environmental assessments can also be found in the current federal guidance document (FPTCCCEA 2003). This guidance describes how the evaluation of climate impacts should do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify the sensitivities of the Project to variations and changes in climate parameters; and • review available information on how regional climate change may affect these parameters. <p>Identify Sensitivities of the Project to Climate Change</p> <p>Given that the mining activities are planned to have ceased after 13 years, and the closure phase is expected to last two years, the only possible sensitivities of the Project to changing climate in the longer term will be those related to the functioning of the post-closure landscape. The key elements of the post-closure landscape for the Project (EIS, 3.14; 11) include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • open pit mine; • underground mine; • stockpiles; • tailings storage facility (TSF); and • site drainage and water structures. <p>The following sections briefly describe each of the elements of the post-closure landscape, and their potential for susceptibility to longer term changes in climate.</p> <p><u>Open Pit Mine</u></p> <p>As described in the EIS (EIS, Section 11.2), by closure the open pit mine will be comprised of three interconnected pits. The west pit and part of the central pit will be backfilled with waste rock from the development of the central and east pits. Following mining, the open pits will be prepared for closure and allowed to flood. A passive spillway will be constructed to allow the pit lake to eventually discharge into an existing ephemeral tributary of Blackwater Creek. The elevation of the spillway will be set to ensure the lake level is maintained within the overburden above the backfilled waste and bedrock. This will ensure that the waste rock and pit walls remain underwater during the post-closure phase. As both the pit walls and waste rock are currently classified as potentially acid generating (PAG), placing them under a water cover is a standard practice to prevent acid rock drainage/metal leaching (ARD/ML). The open pit mine closure is intended to leave a functioning aquatic ecosystem while providing secure storage of waste rock underwater.</p> <p>The water flooding the pit is expected to come from three sources: surface water runoff and precipitation, secondary treatment discharge, and groundwater. Flooding is projected to take between 5 and 9 years, depending on climatic conditions.</p> <p>Changes in climate in the longer term have the potential to affect the open pit mine after operations cease in the following manners:</p>

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes in precipitation rates could affect the rate at which the open pit mine is flooded; and • changes in the long-term annual water budgets (i.e., precipitation less evapotranspiration) could affect the long-term water levels in the open pits. <p><u>Underground Mine</u></p> <p>As described in the EIS (EIS, Section 11.3), once mining operations cease infrastructure and equipment will be removed from the underground mine, and any spills or waste will be cleaned up and removed. The upper ramp and portal will be sealed using clean, quarried rock backfill, and the area around the portal will then be backfilled, covered with soil, and vegetated. The ventilation raises will be sealed to prevent inadvertent access to the underground mine workings by humans and wildlife. The underground workings will then be allowed to flood, with groundwater levels eventually returning to pre-development levels in 20 to 30 years (EIS, Section 11.4.3).</p> <p>Changes in climate in the longer term have the potential to affect the underground mine following closure in the following manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • long-term changes in precipitation and annual water budgets (i.e., precipitation less evapotranspiration) could affect the rate at which the underground mine floods. <p><u>Stockpiles</u></p> <p>The three main stockpiles are the waste rock storage area (WSRA), the overburden stockpile and the low-grade ore (LGO) stockpile. The waste rock has been classified as PAG, therefore, the closure and reclamation WSRA will include full encapsulation (EIS, Section 11.3.2) with a water-shedding cap that is tied into the up-gradient clay layer, as well as placement of soil and vegetation over the cap and disturbed areas. The waste rock storage area (WRSA) will be graded to allow runoff to shed from the surface to runoff collection ditches that will be realigned to direct runoff into the open pits. At closure the material in the overburden stockpile will be used as cover material for the TSF closure as well as other reclamation activities requiring fill (EIS, Section 11.3.3). Any material remaining in the overburden stockpile will be graded and vegetated. Finally, the LGO stockpile is expected to be depleted by the end of the underground mining operations. Any residual ore or PAG material on the LGO stockpile pad will be removed and placed in the TSF at closure, and the LGO stockpile pad will then be scarified and re-vegetated.</p> <p>It is not expected that any longer-term changes in climate will have a potential effect on the stockpile areas following closure.</p> <p><u>Tailings storage facility (TSF)</u></p> <p>At closure the water will be withdrawn from the TSF, treated and used to help fill the open pit. The tailings would then be covered with a granular layer to physically isolate the tailings. Finally, the TSF will be covered with either a low-permeability cover or a water cover of non-process water to isolate the tailings from oxygen. It is not expected that longer-term changes in climate will potentially affect</p>

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					<p>on the TSF following closure.</p> <p><u>Groundwater</u></p> <p>During the life of mining activities, dewatering is required in order to safely mine in the open pits and underground mine. At closure, the groundwater drawdown will be at the maximum extent. Once all mining has ceased the underground works will be allowed to flood, with the groundwater elevations eventually returning to pre-development levels (EIS, Section 11.4.3). It is anticipated the drawdown effects will be fully reversed in 20 to 30 years.</p> <p>Changes in climate in the longer term have the potential to affect groundwater following closure in the following manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • long-term changes in precipitation and annual water budgets (i.e., precipitation less evapotranspiration) could affect the rate of infiltration and the rate at which the underground mine floods, affecting the time to fully reverse drawdown effects. <p><u>Site Drainage and Water Structures</u></p> <p>As described in the EIS (EIS, Section 3.8.9 and Section 11.4.3), stream channel alterations will be confined to Blackwater Creek tributaries. The 400 m, like-for-like diversion channel will remain post-closure, but the upstream portion of the tributary at the site of the TSF will no longer exist. Runoff from the reclaimed surfaces of the TSF will report to the remaining section of the tributary. The pre-development headwater wetland of beaver ponds at the open pit site will become a pit lake. In general, the Project site post-closure is expected to increase the average annual flow. Anticipated flow increases are within the capacity of the existing creek channels.</p> <p>Changes in climate in the longer term have the potential to affect the site drainage and water structures following closure in the following manners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes in precipitation rates and intensities could increase peak flows beyond the capacities of the existing creek channels in Blackwater Creek (but this would also occur in the region irrespective of the Project). <p>Projections of Regional Changes in Climate</p> <p>Although there are a multitude of sources available that describe the projections for future changes in climate in northwestern Ontario, Treasury Metals has tried to focus on those documents compiled by, or for the Ontario government. The two most heavily relied references were the climate change research reports CCRR-05 (Columbo et al, 2007) and CCRA-44 (McDermid et al, 2015).</p> <p>The earlier policymaker summary report (Columbo et al, 2007) made use of data from the Canadian Coupled Global Climate Model (CGCM2) forecasts for emission scenarios presented in the Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) from the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC, 2007). Specifically, Columbo et al (2007) presented the climate projections associated with the A2 emission scenarios, which is one of the four socio-economic scenarios relied on in AR4 (IPCC, 2007). Although the IPCC has not stated which of these scenarios are most likely to occur, the A2 scenario</p>

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					<p>most closely reflects the current global socio-economic situation. In relation to the A2 scenario, scenarios A1, B1 and B2 result in lower long-term GHG emissions over the next century. Climate projections are presented as changes from the 1971–2000 baseline period, and are provided for the 2011–2040, 2041–2070, and 2071–2100 time horizons. These projections were used to compile the projected changes in summer and winter temperature and precipitation for the region near the Project.</p> <p>Generally, the picture presented for future climate in the area is one of increasing temperatures in both the winter and summer periods for all of the forecast horizons. For precipitation, the summer rates are projected to increase for the 2011–2040 horizon, changing to a decrease for the 2041–2070 and 2071–2100 horizons. During the winter, future precipitation is projected to decrease for the 2011–2040 and 2041–2070 time horizons, but increasing the 2071–2100 time horizon. The results Columbo et al., 2007) presented in Table 1 suggest that the future climate for the region will continue to warm, with precipitation decreasing slightly except in the later stages of the century.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1001 667 1969 919"> <caption>Table 1: Projections for Changes in Climate (relative to 1971 to 2000)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Period</th> <th colspan="2">Temperatures</th> <th colspan="2">Precipitation</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Summer</th> <th>Winter</th> <th>Summer</th> <th>Winter</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2011 to 2040</td> <td>+1 to +2°C</td> <td>+1 to +2°C</td> <td>0% to +10%</td> <td>-10% to 0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2041 to 2070</td> <td>+2 to +3°C</td> <td>+3 to +4°C</td> <td>-10% to 0%</td> <td>-10% to +10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2071 to 2100</td> <td>+4 to +5°C</td> <td>+5 to +6°C</td> <td>-10% to 0%</td> <td>0% to +20%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>In the updated summary for policymakers (McDermid et al, 2015), use was made of data from the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) from the IPCC (2013), which replaces the socio-economic emission scenarios relied on in AR4 (IPCC, 2007) with new emission scenarios, but uses four new emission scenarios that better represent climate processes used in the modelling. The updated summary considered the RCP 2.6, RCP 4.5, and RCP 8.5 emission scenarios, and shows the 2011–2040, 2041–2070, and 2071–2100 time horizons. The updated summary also relies on statistically downscaled data from Earth Systems Models rather than data from a single GCM. The data relied on by McDermid et al are described more fully by McKenney et al (2006; 2011; 2013). The results are presented numerically for the three major watersheds in Ontario (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson Bay, and Nelson River), the most relevant one for this project being the Nelson River watershed.</p> <p>The updated picture for future climate in the region (McDermid et al, 2015) is one of warming annual, summer and winter temperatures for all of the emission scenarios and forecast horizons. The annual and winter precipitation projections show increasing precipitation for all of the emission scenarios and forecast horizons. In contrast, the projections for summer precipitation show decreases for all of the emission scenarios and forecast horizons.</p>	Period	Temperatures		Precipitation		Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	2011 to 2040	+1 to +2°C	+1 to +2°C	0% to +10%	-10% to 0%	2041 to 2070	+2 to +3°C	+3 to +4°C	-10% to 0%	-10% to +10%	2071 to 2100	+4 to +5°C	+5 to +6°C	-10% to 0%	0% to +20%
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					<p>Table 2: Projections for Mean Changes in Climate (relative to 1971 to 2000)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1003 302 1969 760"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Period</th> <th rowspan="2">Scenario</th> <th colspan="3">Temperatures (°C)</th> <th colspan="3">Precipitation (mm)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Annual</th> <th>Summer</th> <th>Winter</th> <th>Annual</th> <th>Summer</th> <th>Winter</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="3">2011 to 2040</td> <td>RPC 2.6</td> <td>+2.3</td> <td>+2.2</td> <td>+2.3</td> <td>+18.1</td> <td>-18.6</td> <td>+21.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RPC 4.5</td> <td>+2.2</td> <td>+2.1</td> <td>+2.1</td> <td>+28.7</td> <td>-19.1</td> <td>+19.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RPC 8.5</td> <td>+2.4</td> <td>+2.3</td> <td>+2.7</td> <td>+32.8</td> <td>-20.8</td> <td>+18.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">2041 to 2070</td> <td>RPC 2.6</td> <td>+3.0</td> <td>+2.7</td> <td>+3.2</td> <td>+51.8</td> <td>-7.4</td> <td>+24.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RPC 4.5</td> <td>+4.0</td> <td>+3.4</td> <td>+4.7</td> <td>+37.5</td> <td>-19.8</td> <td>+21.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RPC 8.5</td> <td>+4.8</td> <td>+4.6</td> <td>+5.6</td> <td>+54.3</td> <td>-27.7</td> <td>+30.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">2071 to 2100</td> <td>RPC 2.6</td> <td>+3.1</td> <td>+2.9</td> <td>+3.6</td> <td>+57.5</td> <td>-2.9</td> <td>+21.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RPC 4.5</td> <td>+5.0</td> <td>+4.4</td> <td>+5.6</td> <td>+40.6</td> <td>-24.1</td> <td>+30.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RPC 8.5</td> <td>+8.3</td> <td>+7.8</td> <td>+9.3</td> <td>+64.0</td> <td>-43.6</td> <td>+39.7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: Data derived from McDermid et al, 2015.</p> <p>Implications for Regional Changes Climate Projections for the Project</p> <p>The primary susceptibilities of the Project to climate change were identified to be the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes in precipitation rates could affect the rate at which the open pit mine is filled; • changes in the long-term annual water budgets (i.e., precipitation less evapotranspiration) could affect the water levels in the open pits. • long-term changes in precipitation and annual water budgets (i.e., precipitation less evapotranspiration) could affect the rate at which the underground mine floods; • long-term changes in precipitation and annual water budgets (i.e., precipitation less evapotranspiration) could affect the rate of infiltration and the time to fully reverse drawdown effects from dewatering; and • changes in precipitation rates and intensities could increase peak flows beyond the capacities of the existing creek channels in Blackwater Creek. <p>The filling of the open pit mine is predicted to take a period of nine years after the mining operations cease, which would fall within the 2011–2040 forecast horizon. Moderate increases in temperatures and increasing annual and winter precipitation for this period would suggest that climate change would not significantly alter the rate at which the open pit mine is filled. In addition, the filling of the open pit will not rely on precipitation and surface runoff only (EIS, Table 11.2.1), but will also rely on secondary treatment discharge and groundwater from wells outside of the mine zone of influence.</p> <p>The longer-term site water budget will be affected by projections of increasing temperatures and</p>	Period	Scenario	Temperatures (°C)			Precipitation (mm)			Annual	Summer	Winter	Annual	Summer	Winter	2011 to 2040	RPC 2.6	+2.3	+2.2	+2.3	+18.1	-18.6	+21.7	RPC 4.5	+2.2	+2.1	+2.1	+28.7	-19.1	+19.4	RPC 8.5	+2.4	+2.3	+2.7	+32.8	-20.8	+18.8	2041 to 2070	RPC 2.6	+3.0	+2.7	+3.2	+51.8	-7.4	+24.0	RPC 4.5	+4.0	+3.4	+4.7	+37.5	-19.8	+21.6	RPC 8.5	+4.8	+4.6	+5.6	+54.3	-27.7	+30.6	2071 to 2100	RPC 2.6	+3.1	+2.9	+3.6	+57.5	-2.9	+21.9	RPC 4.5	+5.0	+4.4	+5.6	+40.6	-24.1	+30.6	RPC 8.5	+8.3	+7.8	+9.3	+64.0	-43.6	+39.7
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					<p>annual precipitation rates over the remainder of century. This suggests that water levels will remain sufficient in the open pit mine to maintain a water cover for both the pit walls and waste rock, which are currently classified as PAG. The post-closure water level is anticipated to be above the overburden / bedrock interphase.</p> <p>With respect to the underground mine, once the dewatering of the mine stops, it is expected to take between 20 to 30 years for the groundwater levels to recover to pre-development levels. However, the underground workings are expected to fill more quickly as they will be influenced by the filling of the open pit. This would extend into the 2041–2070, or even the 2071–2100 forecast horizons. The longer-term water budgets that could influence the rates of infiltration into the underground workings will be affected by projections of increasing temperatures and annual precipitation rates over the remainder of century.</p> <p>Finally, the precipitation rates for the region are projected to steadily increase through the remainder of the century. Although the model projections do not indicate whether intensities will increase, increasing precipitation is likely to increase the downstream peak flows in Blackwater Creek. To mitigate this, surface water collection ponds, diversion ditches, and seepage ponds can be converted into retention ponds (EIS, 11.4.3). This will reduce the potential effects of peak flows by slowing down the release to natural watercourses.</p> <p>In conclusion, the possible Project susceptibilities to climate change were identified, and evaluated considering the projections for future changes in climate for the region. Generally, the relatively short life of the Project (17 years from site preparation through post-closure) means that climate change will be a minor concern for all aspects except those related to the post-closure landscape. Specifically, changes in the longer-term water balances could affect the effectiveness of the closed site. Projections of future climate for the region suggest steady increases in precipitation and temperature over the remainder of the century. As a result, it is expected the closed site will continue to function as proposed in the EIS. There could, however, be changes in the time required to flood the underground workings of the mine, and fully reverse the effects of dewatering on groundwater, with these possibly occurring slightly faster or slower than predicted in the EIS. In either case, there would not be a change to the conclusions reached in the EIS.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>Colombo, S.J., D.W. McKenney, K.M. Lawrence and P.A. Gray, 2007. Climate Change Projections for Ontario: Practical Information for Policymakers and Planners. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. CCRR-05.</p> <p>FTPTCCCEA (The Federal-Provincial-Territorial Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Assessment), 2003. Incorporating Climate Change Considerations in Environmental Assessment: General Guidance for Practitioners. November.</p> <p>IEESC, 2012. Producing High-Resolution (25km × 25km) Probabilistic Climate Change Projections over Ontario Using UK PRECIS. Submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Environment.</p>

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					<p>IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), 2007. Summary for Policymakers. In: Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA.</p> <p>IPCC, 2013: Summary for Policymakers. In: Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA</p> <p>McDermid, J., S. Fera and A. Hogg, 2015. Climate Change Projections for Ontario: An Updated Synthesis for Policymakers and Planners. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. CCRR-44.</p> <p>McKenney, D.W., P. Papadopol, M.F. Hutchison, 2006. The development of 1901–2000 historical monthly climate models for Canada and the United States. Agric. For. Meteor. 138: 69–81.</p> <p>McKenney, D.W., M.F. Hutchison, P. Papadopol, K. Lawrence, J. Pedlar, K. Campbell, E. Milewska, R.F. Hopkinson, D. Price and T. Owen. 2011. Customized spatial climate models for North America. Bull. Amer. Meteor. Soc. 92: 1611–1622.</p> <p>McKenney, D.W., J.H. Pedlar, M.F. Hutchison, P. Papadopol, K. Lawrence, K. Campbell, E. Milewska, R.F. Hopkinson, and D.T. Price. 2013. Spatial climate models for Canada’s forestry community. For. Chron. 89: 659–663.</p>
264	EE(1)-07	CEA Agency	<p>EIS Section 5.9.4</p> <p>EIS Summary Section 4.2.2</p> <p>Appendix G Section 8.5.4.2.1.5</p>	Sections 7.1.3, 16	<p><u>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</u></p> <p>Section 5.9.4 (EIS) indicates that beaver dams and lodges are frequent on Blackwater Creek and Hughes Creek and their tributaries.</p> <p>The Project may be impacted by the potential for Blackwater Creek to be dammed by beavers and the year round increase of flow during operations. As Aboriginal groups expressed that beavers are an important species that is traditionally hunted and commercially trapped, the effects on Aboriginal peoples of managing and monitoring beavers and the removal of beaver dams for project operations need to be assessed as part of the environmental assessment. Measures to mitigate these effects need to consider views and participation of Aboriginal peoples and need to be developed in a culturally sensitive manner. The proponent should work with local trappers to achieve this.</p> <p><u>Information Request / Comment:</u></p> <p>A. Provide details on how beavers and beaver dams will be monitored and managed, taking into consideration the importance of beavers from an Aboriginal perspective and including any plans to engage Aboriginal peoples in the design and implementation of beaver monitoring and management.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>Treasury Metals will engage and consult both the local trapping council and the Ontario Ministry of</p>

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					<p>Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to prepare and plan for beavers and wildlife encounters. Please refer to IR # RG(1)-16. The Wildlife Management Plan will serve as the basis of this engagement, and will evolve to reflect regulatory and Aboriginal perspectives in wildlife management for the Project.</p>
265	PB(1)-1	CEA Agency	Section 10	Section 15	<p>Summary of Comment / Rationale:</p> <p>Table 10.1.1 (EIS, pages 10-1 to 10-4) lists changes to the project and their benefits. It is unclear what effects to Aboriginal peoples, the public, and the environment are potentially reduced by the changes. Also, Section 10.2 (EIS) only describes predicted economic benefits; there is no discussion on environmental or social benefits of the Project.</p> <p>Section 15 of the EIS Guidelines requires the proponent to summarize how the environment, Aboriginal peoples and the public benefit from the changes to the Project and describe the predicted environmental, economic and social benefits of the Project.</p> <p>Information Request / Comment:</p> <p>A. Describe the effects to Aboriginal peoples, the public, and the environment that are potentially reduced, which are linked to the changes in the Project since initially proposed.</p> <p>B. Provide details on predicted environmental and social benefits of the Project.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>Section 10.1 of the EIS - Changes to Project Since Initially Proposed - describes the changes that have been made to the Project since it was initially proposed, describes the changes and describes the benefits of each change on the environment, Aboriginal peoples, and the public.</p> <p>Section 10.2 of the EIS – Benefits to Canadians – identifies the economic and social benefits of the Project. Additionally, information about the economic and social benefits of the Project can be found within the Economic Factors and Social Factors sections of the revised EIS.</p>