

17.0 FLEXIBILITY TO ACCOMMODATE NEW CIRCUMSTANCES

This Environmental Assessment (EA) Report has been prepared in accordance with the Federal Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines and the Provincially approved Terms of Reference (ToR) (see Appendices B and C, respectively). It has also been prepared in accordance with the Provincial Code of Practice: Preparing and Reviewing Environmental Assessments in Ontario (Ministry of the Environment, 2014).

It is recognized that the Côté Gold Project is at the Feasibility Engineering design stage and consultation is ongoing. Situations may therefore arise that could cause IAMGOLD to modify or abandon commitments contained in the EA Report or subsequent documents prepared prior to EA release, as a result of a need to accommodate new circumstances.

As part of the final EA, IAMGOLD may develop strategies, as appropriate, to allow further flexibility, such as minor design changes and ensure that the Project continues to have no significant impacts on the environment. Such strategies would include a course of action to be followed if changed situations were to arise that could prevent IAMGOLD from implementing or operating a component of the Côté Gold Project, for example.

Any potential negative environmental effects associated with such a situation and its management would be evaluated and described to appropriate regulatory authorities before implementing changes.

IAMGOLD maintains a Project mailing list and updates individuals about the Project including any changes through the distribution of newspaper and directly mailed notices, fact sheets, and newsletters. IAMGOLD also maintains a Project webpage where Project information can be obtained. Stakeholder meetings, workshops and public open houses also provide opportunities to share and gather feedback on changes to the Project with the public, stakeholders and Aboriginal groups.

