



Impact Assessment
Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation
d'impact du Canada

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October 21, 2019

Sent by email

Jagdish Parekh
Chief Operating Officer
Ambershaw Metallics Inc.
Blackwell House
Guildhall Yard
London EC2V 5AE
United Kingdom
jrparekh@legacyhillresources.com

**RE: Request to Respond to Comments Received during the Public
Comment Period on the draft Environmental Impact Statement
Guidelines for Bending Lake Iron Project
(August 21, 2019 – September 20, 2019)**

Dear Jagdish Parekh:

From August 21, 2019, to September 20, 2019, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada held a 30-day public comment period on the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Guidelines for Bending Lake Iron Project, pursuant to the former *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*¹.

During this time, the Agency received written and oral comments from Indigenous groups, members of the public, federal authorities and provincial ministries. These comments were considered in the finalization of the EIS Guidelines, which were issued to you and posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry on October 4, 2019.

These comments are summarized in Attachment 1 of this letter. The Agency requests that you carefully review and provide responses to each comment, using the table provided in Attachment 1.

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¹ With the coming into force of the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA) on August 28, 2019, the federal assessment for the Project will be conducted in accordance with the transition provisions of IAA, whereby, unless otherwise requested by Ambershaw Metallics Inc., the assessment would continue pursuant to the requirements of the former *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*.



Your responses in this table will be shared with the parties that provided the comments. The Agency requests that you provide the Agency with your responses by **November 8, 2019**.

Furthermore, the Agency is sharing with you the emails that the Agency received during the public comment period on the draft EIS Guidelines from Indigenous groups and the public related to the Project. These are included as Attachment 2. As appropriate, the Agency encourages you to respond directly to the parties that provided the comments. Please keep the Agency informed by copying the Agency in your responses.

In reviewing these comments, please ensure mitigation measures are identified in the EIS to address the concerns raised.

The Agency would like to thank you for the letter and attachment that Ambershaw Metallics Inc. sent to the Agency on October 18, 2019. The attachment contained Ambershaw's responses to the comments raised during the public comment period of the Screening Phase of the federal assessment (July 15, 2019 – August 4, 2019). As previously committed, the Agency would like to share with you the Agency's responses to these comments (particularly those raised by Indigenous groups). The Agency's responses have previously been shared with Indigenous groups and are included in Attachment 3.

Important Note: All records produced, collected or received in relation to the Project – unless prohibited under the *Access to Information Act* – are considered public and may be posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet site (under reference number 80181). The Agency will remove information, such as home addresses, telephone numbers, personal email addresses and signatures prior to public disclosure. Should you wish to provide any comments or documents that contain confidential or sensitive information that you believe should be protected from release to the public, please contact the Agency **before** submitting the material. Information marked as confidential will not be accepted without prior contact made with the Agency.

If you have any questions, please contact Sherry Du by phone at 647-631-8121 or by email at IAAC.LacBendingLake.AEIC@canada.ca.

Sincerely,

<original signed by>

Anjala Puvananathan
Director, Ontario Region

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 - Summary table of comments from Public Comment Period on the draft EIS Guidelines
- Attachment 2 – Emails from Indigenous groups and the public
- Attachment 3 – Agency's responses to comments from Public Comment Period of the Screening Phase

c.c.: Georgi Doundarov, Ambershaw Metallics Inc.