

NOVADOR
MINING PROJECT

INITIAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION - SUMMARY

OCTOBER 2023

NOVADOR.CA

SIGNATURES

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Part F Summary

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PART F: SUMMARY

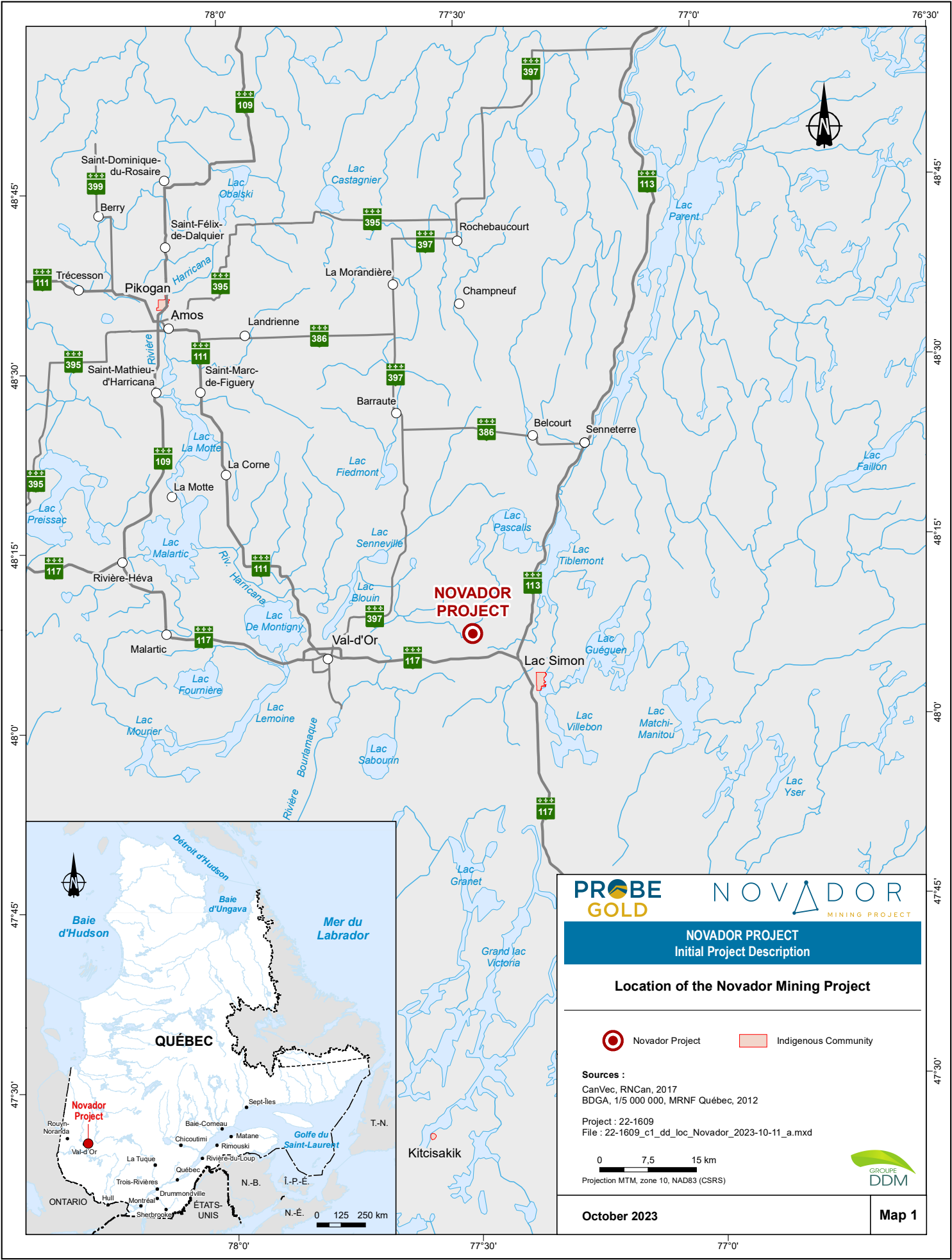
1. Project Name, Sector and Proposed Location

Table 1 provides general information on Probe Gold Inc.'s (Probe Gold) Novador mining project.

Table 1: Project General Information

| INFORMATION | DESCRIPTION |
|--------------------------|--|
| Project Name | Novador mining project |
| Sector | Mining and Minerals – Gold |
| Proposed Location | Approximately 25 km east of the city of Val-d'Or and approximately 8 km northwest of the Anishnabe community of Lac Simon, Québec (see Map 1). |

Map 1 shows the location of the Novador mining project.



PROBE GOLD **NOVADOR** MINING PROJECT
NOVADOR PROJECT
 Initial Project Description

Location of the Novador Mining Project

-  Novador Project
-  Indigenous Community

Sources :
 CanVec, RNCAN, 2017
 BDGA, 1/5 000 000, MRNF Québec, 2012

Project : 22-1609
 File : 22-1609_c1_dd_loc_Novador_2023-10-11_a.mxd

0 7,5 15 km
 Projection MTM, zone 10, NAD83 (CSRS)



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Map 1

2. Proponent Information

Probe Gold Inc. is a leading Canadian gold exploration company focused on the acquisition, exploration, and development of highly prospective gold properties. The Company is committed to discovering and developing mineral projects, including its key asset, the Novador mining project in the region of Abitibi-Témiscamingue in Quebec where the Company has defined resources in the order of several million ounces.

Probe Gold's head office is in Toronto and the operations office and technical team are located in Val-d'Or, close to the Novador mine project site.

Probe Gold activities are carried out by a high calibre team with proven track-record and an extensive working history. The Board of Directors of the Company ensures that the activities and affairs of the Company are managed effectively to ensure the success of the Company.

3. Summary of Engagement Activities

As part of the project's development, Probe Gold organizes engagement activities involving various stakeholders and indigenous groups. These activities serve to present the project's key components and gather concerns and feedback. To date, representatives from Probe Gold have engaged with the following non-indigenous authorities and organizations:

- Val-d'Or Hunting and Fishing Association
- Val-d'Or Chamber of Commerce
- Abitibi-Témiscamingue Regional Environment Council
- Industrial Development Corporation of Val-d'Or
- Municipality of the Parish Senneterre
- Regional County Municipality of La Vallée-de-l'Or
- Abitibi-Jamésie Watershed Organization
- Société de l'eau souterraine de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue
- City of Val-d'Or
- Cottagers of Bonnefond lake

An information and consultation meeting with the municipal councillors of the Parish of Senneterre, those of the city of Senneterre and Belcourt, as well as the Board of Directors of the Economic Development Corporation of the city of Senneterre is scheduled for early fall 2023.

During these engagement activities, the main issues and concerns raised by non-indigenous authorities and organizations are as follows:

- Surface water and groundwater (protection of water courses, responsible management and consumption, water quality)
- Hydrous environments (protection of hydrous environments)
- Eskers (protection of eskers)
- Nuisances (noise, vibrations, and dust)
- Vegetation and wetlands (protection of terrestrial environments and wetlands)
- Wildlife (protection of wildlife species at risk and their habitats)
- Socioeconomic aspects (local hiring and local purchasing, potential devaluation of properties at Bonnefond lake)
- Land users (harmonious cohabitation)
- History of the territory (use of old mining infrastructures)
- Communication (transparency and information sharing)
- Other subjects (carbon footprint, social acceptability, site restoration)

An engagement plan will be developed and presented as part of the impact study to ensure that non-indigenous stakeholders are involved in the development of the project.

4. Summary of Engagement Activities with Indigenous Peoples

On June 21, 2022, Probe Gold sent an invitation letter to the indigenous authorities identified by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) to determine their interest as well as their intentions regarding their involvement in the development of the Novador mining project¹:

- Algonquins of Barriere Lake
- Conseil de la nation Anishnabe du Lac Simon
- Conseil de la Première Nation Abitibiwinni
- Conseil des Anicinapek de Kitcisakik
- Cree Nation Government
- Kebaowek First Nation
- Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg
- Long Point First Nation
- Timiskaming First Nation
- Wahgoshig First Nation
- Wolf Lake First Nation

¹ Prior to January 2023, the Novador mining project was known as the Val-d'Or East project.

An invitation letter was also sent to the Algonquin Anishinabeg Nation Tribal Council. To date, Probe Gold representatives have met with the following indigenous authorities:

- Conseil de la nation Anishnabe du Lac Simon
- Conseil de la Première Nation Abitibiwinni

Probe Gold representatives are in regular contact with members of the Lac Simon community on various topics, including employment opportunities or economic spinoffs.

The main issues and concerns raised by indigenous authorities at these meetings are as follows:

- Air quality (dust)
- Surface water and groundwater (effective water management and protection)
- Eskers (protection of eskers)
- Data acquisition (involvement of young people in environmental studies/fieldwork)
- Economic spinoffs (business opportunities, local contracts)
- Communication (existing Lac Simon protocol communication)
- Other subjects (Ecologo certification, mutual agreement contracts)

An engagement plan will be developed and presented as part of the impact study to ensure the active involvement of indigenous authorities and organizations in the development of the project.

5. Studies, Plans or Regional Assessment

According to publicly available information, no regional assessment within the meaning of sections 92 and 93 of the Impact Assessment Act (IAA) has been conducted in the area of the Novador mining project.

6. Strategic Assessment

Following the coming into force of the Impact Assessment Act (IAA) in 2019, a strategic climate change assessment was conducted by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC, 2020²). To our knowledge, this is the only strategic assessment that has been or is being conducted under section 95 of the IAA relating to the Novador mining project.

² Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC). 2020. Strategic Assessment of Climate Change. Revised. October 2020. 26 pages.

7. Purpose, Need and Potential Benefits of the Project

The opening of a new gold mine in the Val-d'Or sector would contribute to the socio-economic sustainability of the region and meet global market demand for this metal. Given that the existing operational mines are nearing the end of their productive lifespans, the Novador mining project would play a vital role in sustaining the socio-economic vibrancy of the region.

Furthermore, on a global level, gold holds a significant role in maintaining the stability of financial markets, shaping economic relationships between nations, and ensuring political stability. Gold is also used in the manufacture of many electronic products as well as in the health field.

The results of the 2021 preliminary economic assessment³ are positive and demonstrate that the Novador mining project would be economically viable. Even at a conservative gold price, well below current and forecast levels, the project would be viable, and the continuation of mining operations would be ensured through the ups and downs of economic cycles.

Employment is another important aspect of the project. In fact, during the operation phase, there would be approximately 110 workers at the processing plant, 250 workers in surface mining operations and 30 administrative/supervisory positions. Underground operations would follow, and the number of workers would reach a peak of around 250 workers.

8. Applicable Physical Activities Regulation Conditions

According to the Physical Activities Regulation, the construction and operation of a gold mine with an ore production capacity greater than 5,000 tonnes per day is identified as a physical activity. The Novador mining project is a physical activity and therefore becomes a designated project under the Impact Assessment Act.

In addition, section 18d of the Physical Activities Regulations relating to ore intake capacity at the processing plant applies because a new metal mill, other than a uranium mill, with an ore input capacity of 5,000 tonnes per day or more is planned under the project.

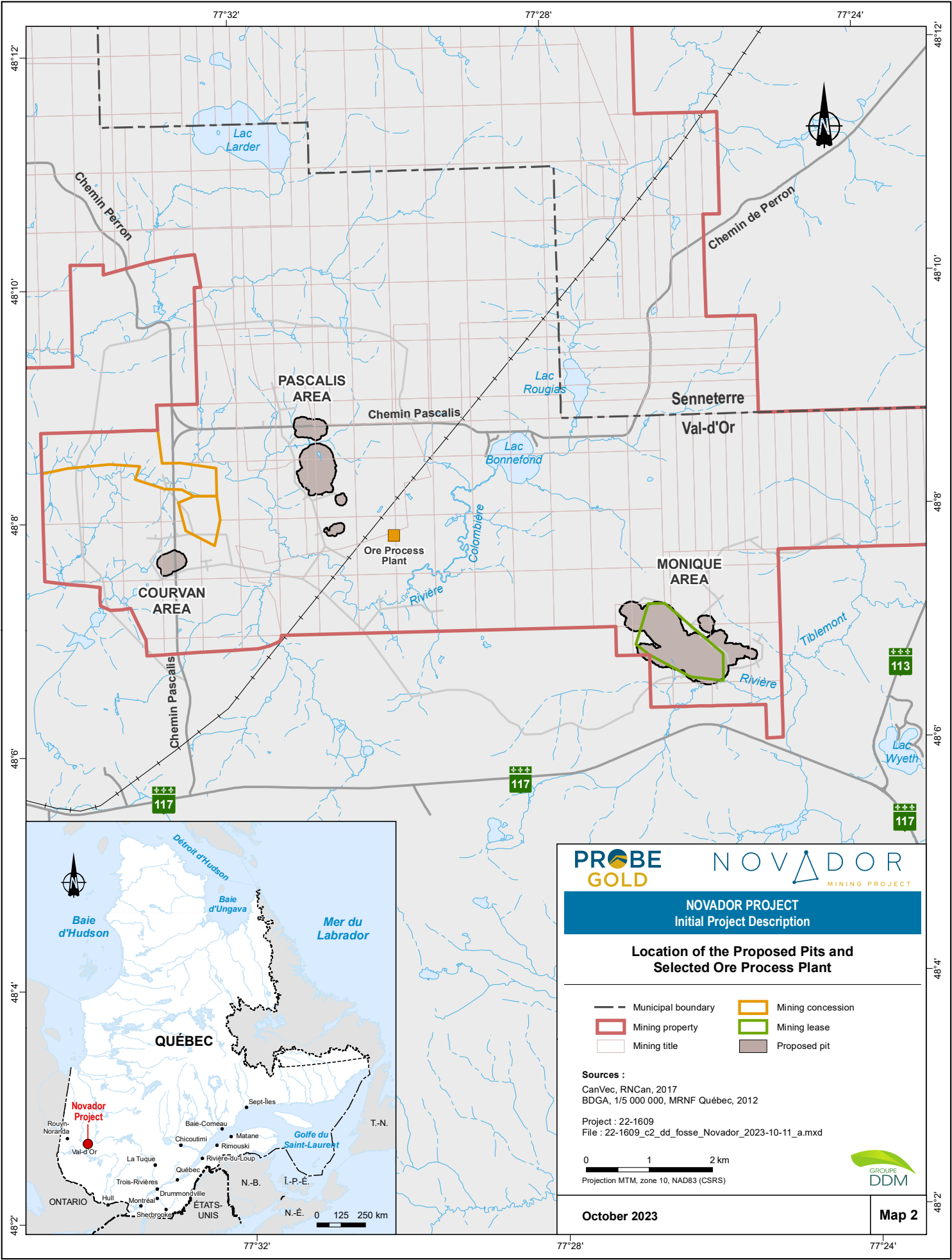
³ Probe Metals. 2021. Val-d'Or East Project. NI 43-101 Technical Report & Preliminary Economic Assessment. Québec, Canada. Effective Date: September 7, 2021. 421 pages.

9. List of Activities, Infrastructures, Permanent or Temporary Structures and Physical Works

The Novador mining project involves mining gold deposits located within the following three areas: Monique, Pascalis et Courvan. These three areas overlap with former mine sites, namely the Monique, Béliveau and Bussière mines.

Gold production will commence through open pits and transition to ramps and underground mining operations as it progresses. The estimated project life is 12.5 years, with an anticipated average daily mining rate of approximately 20,000 tonnes of ore and average production of 207,000 ounces of gold per year.

Map 2 shows the location of the three areas of the Novador mining project, the proposed pits, and the selected ore processing plant.



PROBE GOLD **NOVADOR** MINING PROJECT

NOVADOR PROJECT
Initial Project Description

Location of the Proposed Pits and Selected Ore Process Plant

- Municipal boundary
- Mining property
- Mining title
- Mining concession
- Mining lease
- Proposed pit

Sources :
 CanVec, RNCan, 2017
 BDGA, 1/5 000 000, MRNF Québec, 2012

Project : 22-1609
 File : 22-1609_c2_dd_fosse_Novador_2023-10-11_a.mxd

0 1 2 km
 Projection MTM, zone 10, NAD83 (CSRS)



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Map 2

The main activities and infrastructures planned as part of the project are as follows:

- Development and operation of open pits;
- Development and operation of underground mine working;
- Construction and operation of an ore processing plant;
- Construction and operation of a tailing's management facility;
- Development and operation of waste rock piles and overburden piles;
- Construction and operation of water treatment plant;
- Construction of access roads and towpaths on the site;
- Partial diversion of Pascalis Road;
- Construction of buildings (offices, garage, warehouse, etc.); and
- Construction of an electrical distribution substation.

10. Estimation of the Maximum Production Capacity of the Project and Description of the Production Processes

Probe Gold expects to develop the deposits at an average rate of about 20,000 tonnes of ore per day (or 7.3 million tonnes of ore on average per year) over a period of approximately 12.5 years. The maximum ore input capacity projected at the ore processing plant for the project would be 24,000 tonnes per day.

The ore processing plant would include two distinct phases. The first phase, the initial construction, would include the typical recovery steps for gold mining, while the second phase would increase the crushing capacity of the processing plant and sort out mineralized waste rock and low-grade mineralization.

11. Anticipated Project Schedule

The provisional schedule for the main steps of the Novador mining project is presented in the following table.

Table 2: Provisional Schedule of the Main Steps of the Project

| PERIOD | ACTIVITIES |
|---------|---|
| Q4 2021 | Filing of the preliminary economic assessment |
| Q1 2022 | Launch of advanced technical studies for the development of the project |

| PERIOD | ACTIVITIES |
|-----------|--|
| Q4 2023 | Launch of environmental assessment process |
| Q1 2024 | Filing of an update of the preliminary economic assessment |
| Q4 2024 | Filing of the pre-feasibility study |
| Q4 2025 | Filing of the feasibility study |
| Q4 2025 | Filing of the impact assessment |
| Q3 2027 | Agency decision |
| Q4 2027 | Beginning of the construction phase |
| Q4 2029 | Beginning of the operation phase |
| 2033-2043 | Gradual restoration of the site and closure phase |
| 2041 | End of mining operations |

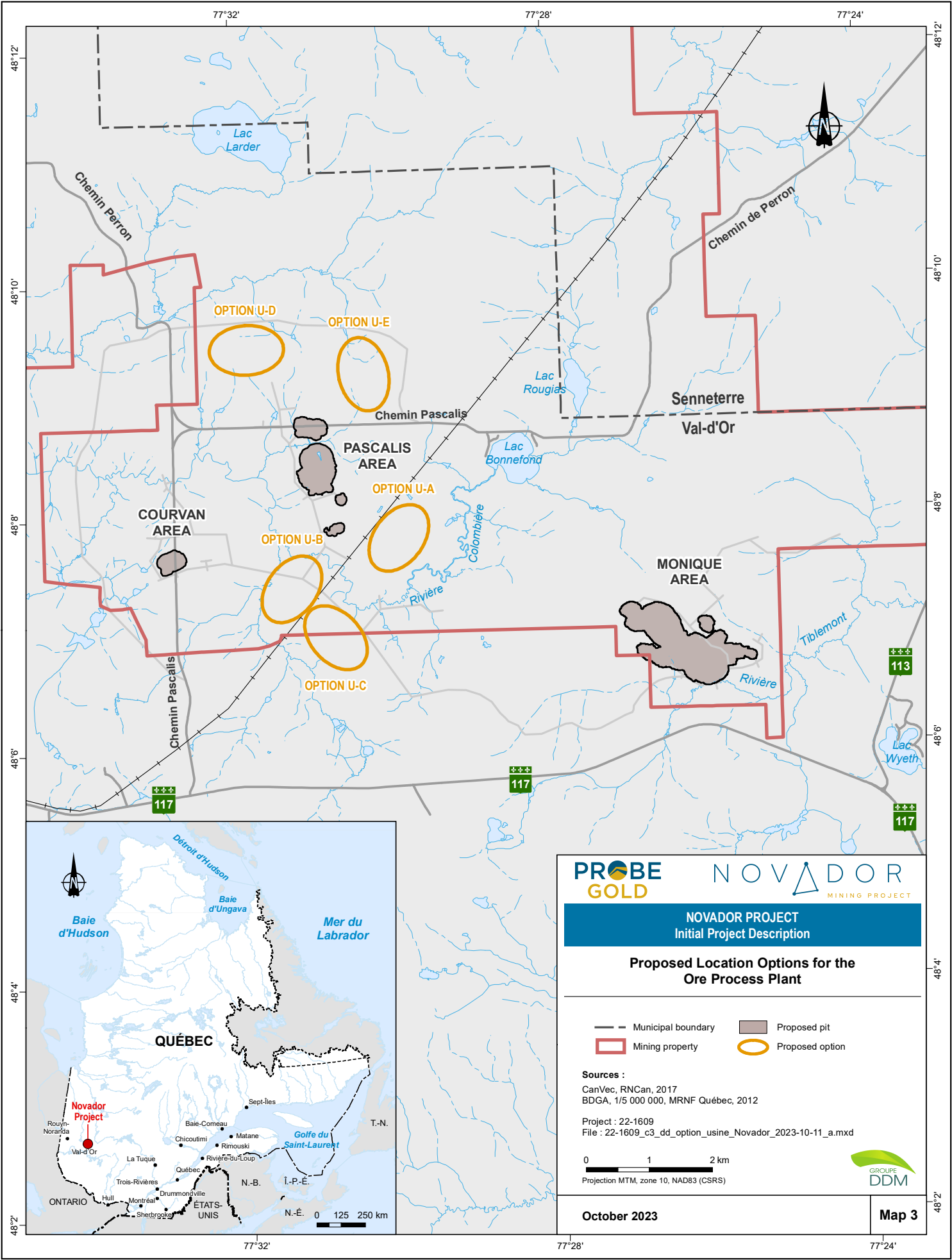
12. Potential Alternatives

Potential Alternatives to the Realization of the Project

As part of the development of the project, various components are subject to alternative study, including the following:

- Location of the ore processing plant
- Waste rock management
- Tailings management (type of tailings, location of the tailings management facility, etc.)
- Water management

Five location options were proposed for the construction of the ore processing plant: U-A to U-E (see Map 3). A preliminary comparative assessment of these options was conducted, and the U-A option proved to be the preferred option for the construction of the ore processing plant according to its environmental, social, technical and economic benefits.



PROBE GOLD **NOVADOR** MINING PROJECT

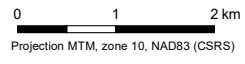
NOVADOR PROJECT
Initial Project Description

Proposed Location Options for the Ore Process Plant

- Municipal boundary
- Mining property
- Proposed pit
- Proposed option

Sources :
 CanVec, RNCan, 2017
 BDGA, 1/5 000 000, MRNF Québec, 2012

Project : 22-1609
 File : 22-1609_c3_dd_option_usine_Novador_2023-10-11_a.mxd

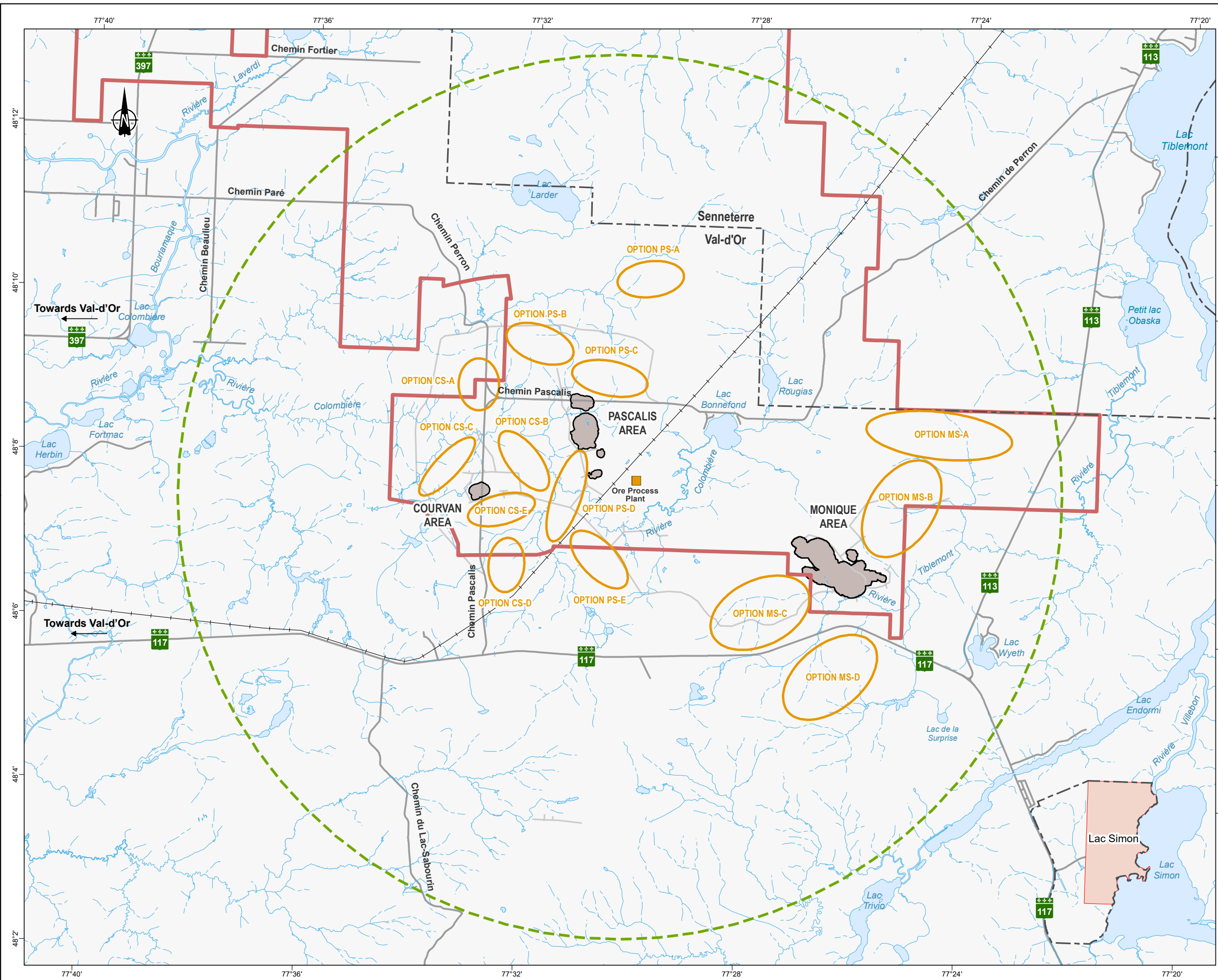


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Map 3

For each area of the Novador project, location options were identified to store the waste rock within a 10 km radius of the future ore processing plant site, in accordance with the Directive 019 on mining industry of Québec (MDDEP, 2012⁴). For the Monique area, three location options are proposed (MS-A to MS-C) while for the Pascalis and Courvan areas, four location options are proposed respectively (PS-A to PS-D and CS-A to CS-D) (see Map 4). These location options were determined based on preliminary baseline and design criteria, including waste rock volumes to be stored and maximum stacking heights.

⁴ Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs (MDDEP). 2012. Directive 019 sur l'industrie minière. Mars 2012. 105 pages.



PROJECT

- Municipal boundary
- Indigenous Community
- Mining property
- 10 km radius
- Proposed pit
- Proposed option

PROBE GOLD **NOVADOR MINING PROJECT**

NOVADOR PROJECT
Initial Project Description

Proposed Location Options for Waste Rock Storage

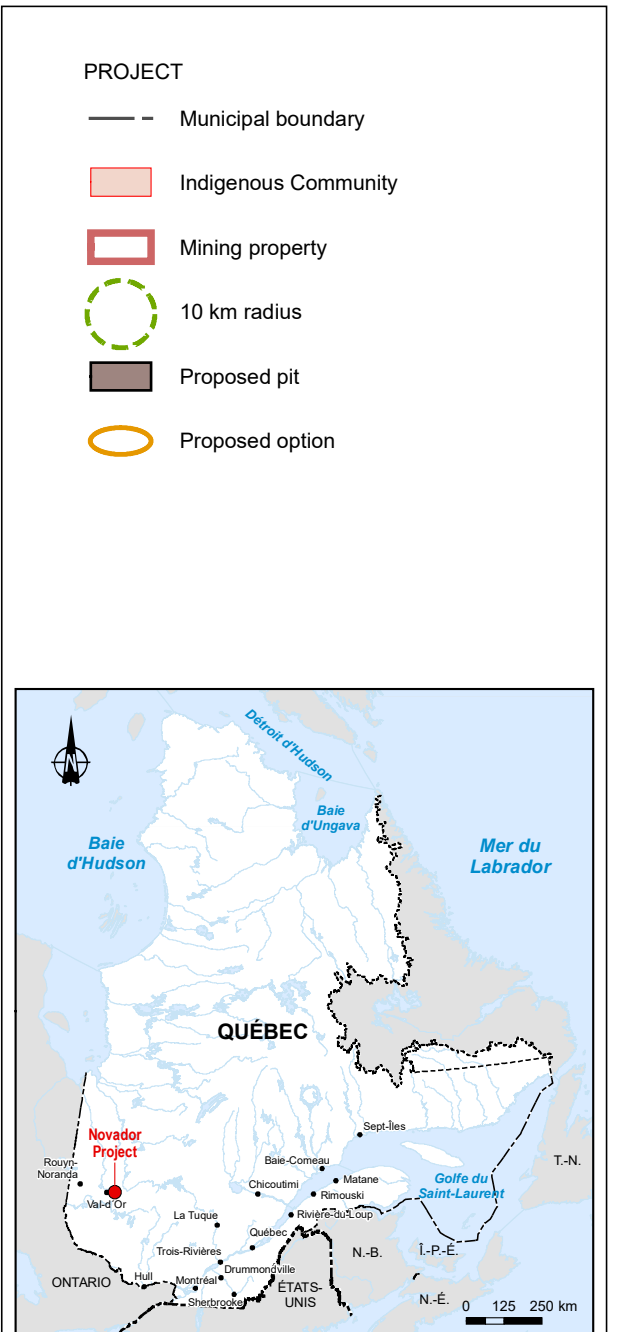
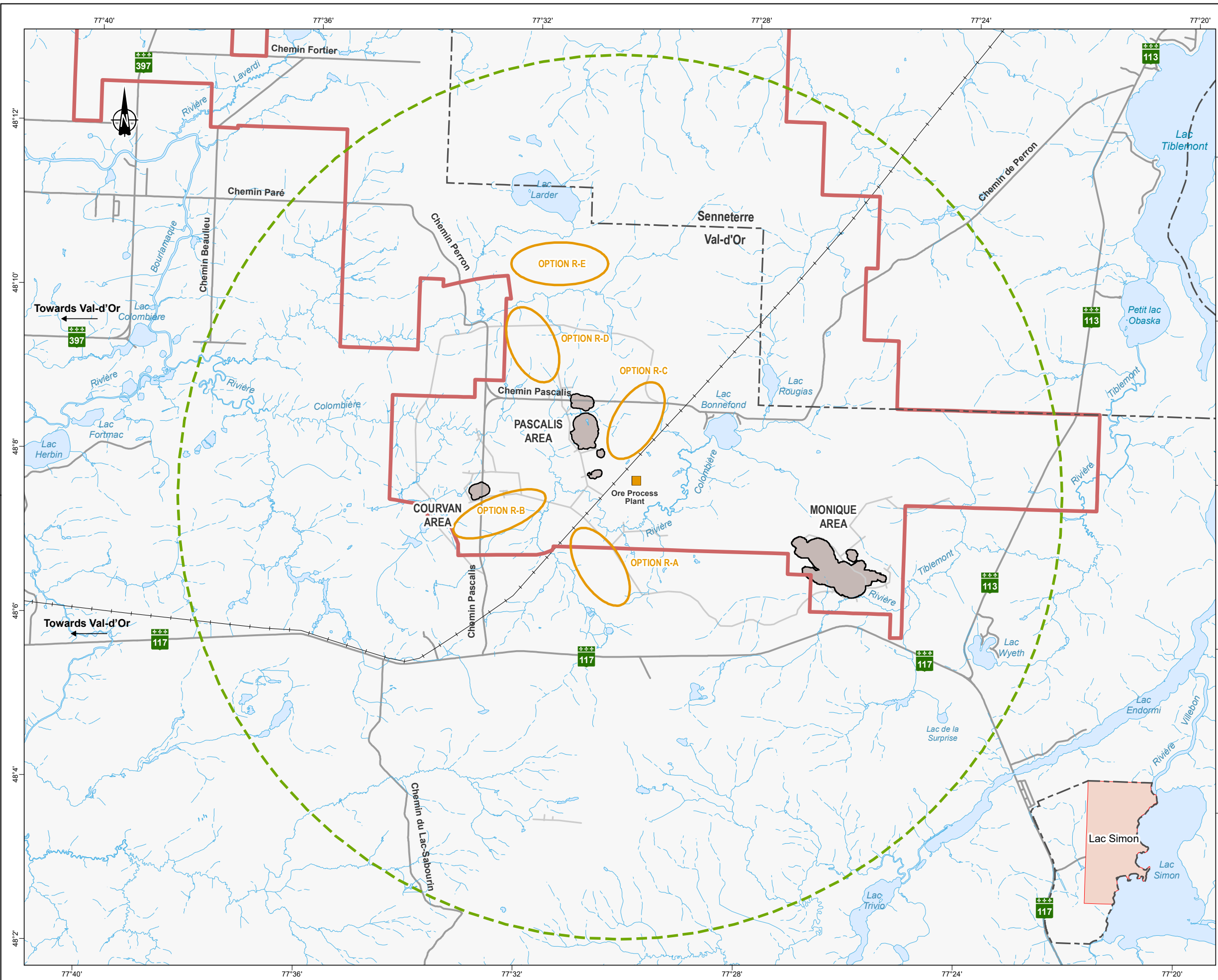
Sources :
CanVec, RNCAN, 2017

Project : 22-1609
File : 22-1609_c4_option_sterile_Novador_2023-10-11_a.mxd

m 0 500 1 000 1 500 2 000 m
Projection MTM, zone 10, NAD83 (CSRS)

October 2023 **Map 4**

In addition, five location options have been identified for tailings disposal (R-A to R-E) within a 10 km radius of the future ore processing plant site, in accordance with the Directive 019 on mining industry of Québec (MDDEP, 2012) (see Map 5). In addition to preliminary basic criteria, location options were determined based on design criteria, including volume of tailings to be stored, maximum stacking height, overall exterior slope, etc.



PROBE GOLD **NOVADOR** MINING PROJECT

NOVADOR PROJECT
Initial Project Description

Proposed Location Options for Tailings Storage

Sources :
CanVec, RNCAN, 2017

Project : 22-1609
File : 22-1609_c5_option_residuo_Novador_2023-10-11_a.mxd

m 0 500 1 000 1 500 2 000 m
Projection MTM, zone 10, NAD83 (CSRS)

October 2023 **Map 5**

- PROJECT**
- Municipal boundary
 - Indigenous Community
 - Mining property
 - 10 km radius
 - Proposed pit
 - Proposed option

The final location of waste rock and tailings storage areas has not yet been determined. The assessment of alternatives for waste rock and tailings disposal that will be carried out as part as the impact assessment will determine the best location from an environmental, social, technical, and economic perspective.

Potential Alternatives to the Project

The only alternative to the project is not to carry out the Novador mining project. There is no other way to extract the ore present in the subsoil than by developing a mine. In this context, there is no potential alternative solution to the project.

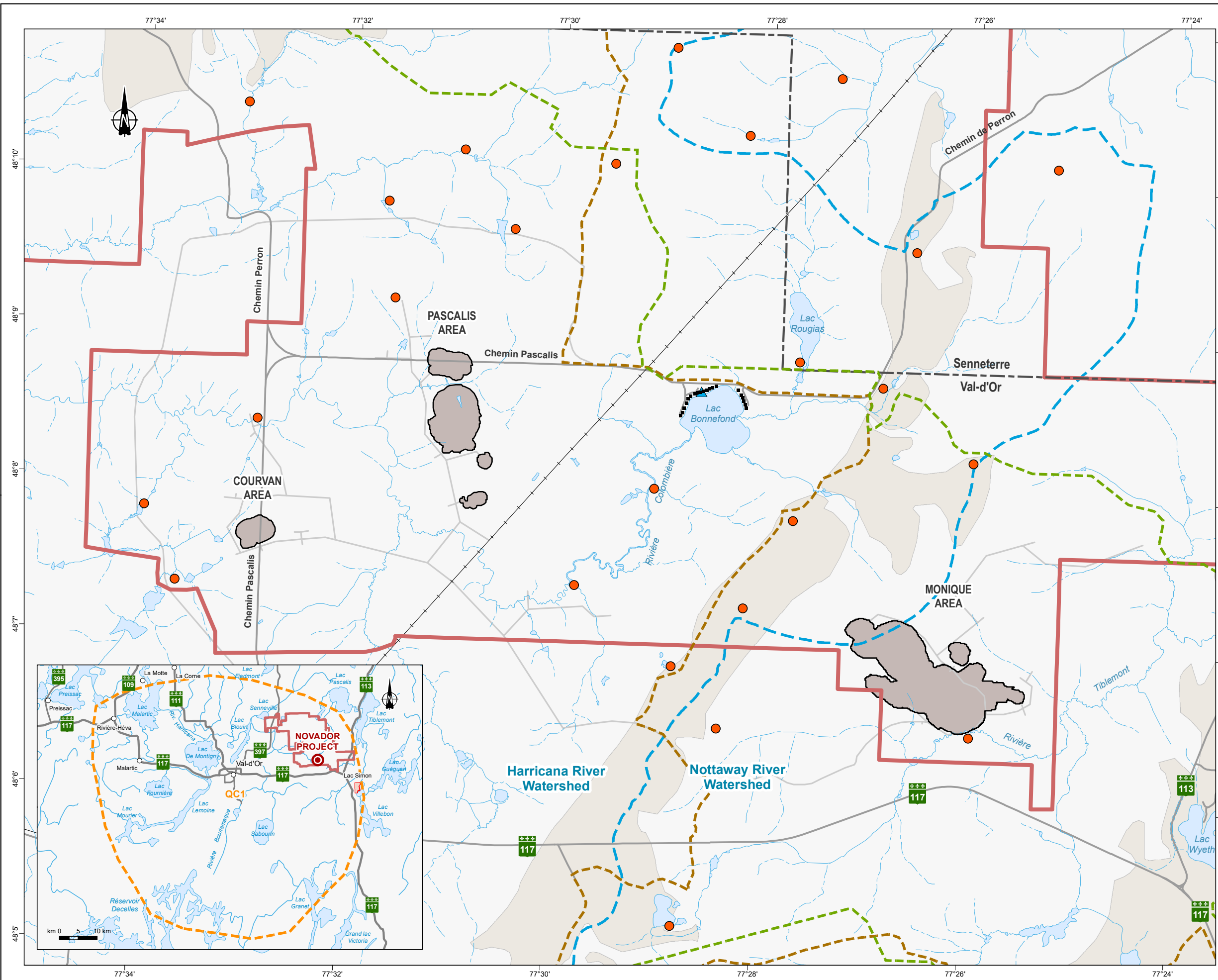
13. Description of the Proposed Location of the Project

The Novador mining project is located in the Abitibi-Témiscamingue administrative region, approximately 25 km east of downtown Val-d'Or and approximately 8 km northwest of the Anishnabe community of Lac Simon, on the ancestral Anishnabe territory. The other two indigenous communities closest to the project site are the community of Pikogan about 70 km northwest and the community of Kitcisakik about 75 km to the southeast.

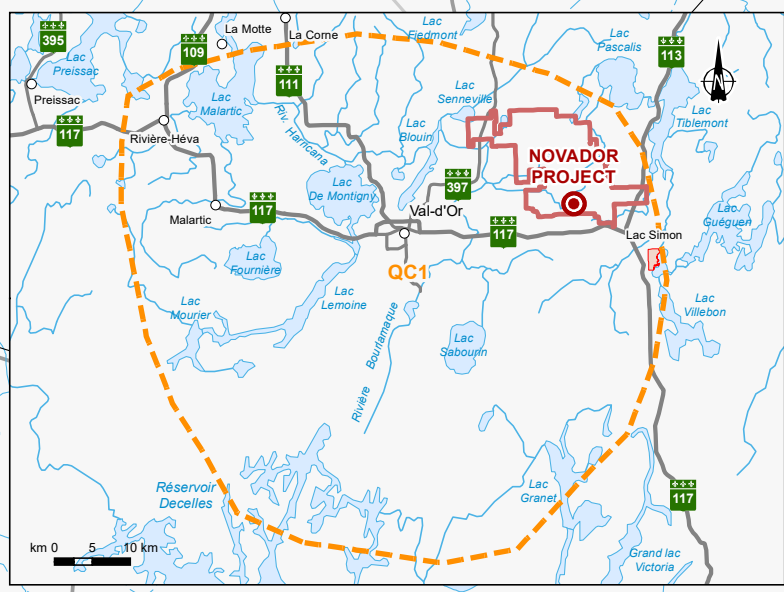
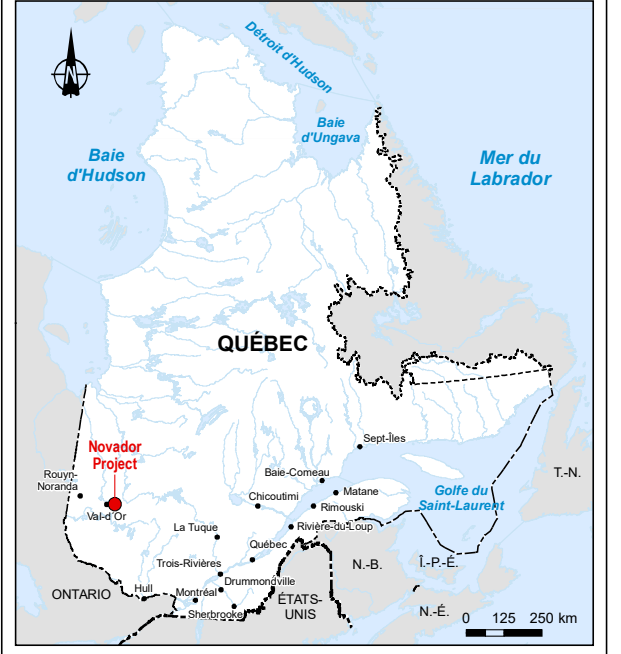
The project is composed of 422 map-designated claims (CDC), two mining concessions (CM) and one mining lease (BM) covering a total area of 16,909.41 hectares.

No federal land is located near the Novador mining project site.

Map 6 shows the location of cottages (resort leases) and hunting camps (temporary shelter leases) located on or near the Novador mining project site.



- PROJECT**
- Municipal boundary
 - Mining property
 - Proposed pit
- BIOPHYSICAL AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENTS**
- Main Watershed Boundary
 - Esker
 - Resort Lease
 - Temporary Shelter Lease
 - Railway
 - Snowmobile Trail
 - ATV Trail
 - Resort Cottage (Lac Bonnefond)
 - Boreal Caribou Ranges (QC1)



PROBE GOLD **NOVADOR MINING PROJECT**

NOVADOR PROJECT
Initial Project Description

Elements of the Biophysical and Social Environments

Sources :
CanVec, RNCAN, 2017

Project : 22-1609
File : 22-1609_c6_milbiohum_Novador_2023-10-11_a.mxd

m 0 500 1000 m
Projection MTM, zone 10, NAD83 (CSRS)

October 2023

Map 6

14. Brief Description of the Physical and Biological Environments

Located in the Abitibi Plain ecological region, the project site is characterized by generally flat topographic relief. In the Pascalis and Courvan areas, the altitude varies from 315 to 355 m above sea level and from 323 to 337 m in the Monique area. Two eskers are present on the site, to the west and east of the Monique area. One of these eskers is currently being operated by a contractor to produce aggregate materials.

The Colombière River receives drainage water from the Pascalis et Courvan areas. In these areas, surface waters flow east to west through a network of wetlands and small streams to Lac de la Colombière. The Tiblemont River receives water from the Monique area. All the ponds present in the Monique area are due to the presence of beaver dams.

The surface water in the Pascalis and Courvan areas is clear, with a neutral pH, low in nutrients and slightly mineralized. Surface water in the Monique area is characterized by a slightly acidic pH, as the water courses in this area are supplied by a peat bog.

In the Pascalis and Courvan areas, groundwater flows mainly to the Colombière River. The pH of groundwater is slightly basic and has a low mineral content. Certain instances of surpassing provincial drinking water criteria were noted for manganese and sulphides. Within the Monique area, the groundwater is more mineralized in comparison to the water in the peat bogs.

The project is in the fir-white birch domain, West sub-domain. The fir forest with balsam fir and white spruce mixed with white birch constitutes the characteristic forest stand of this sub-domain. Wetlands occupy a large part of the project site, the main ones being peat bogs and swamps. There are smaller areas covered by deciduous, mixed, and coniferous forest stands.

During the aquatic species program in 2022, thirteen species of fish were captured in the Courvan and Pascalis areas and nine in the Monique area. The brook stickleback, the Allegheny pearl dace and the lake chub are the most common species observed in the majority of the watercourses.

The species of reptiles and amphibians listed during inventories carried out in the past in the Monique area are the spring peeper, the green frog, and the mink frog. The other species potentially present on the project site are the Blue-spotted Salamander, the Northern Two-lined Salamander, the American Toad, the American bullfrog, the wood frog, the northern leopard frog, the painted turtle, the snapping turtle, the wood turtle and the common gartersnake.

Five large wildlife species potentially occur within the project site, namely woodland caribou, white-tailed deer, moose, gray wolf, and black bear. It should be noted that the woodland caribou have federal and provincial conservation status. Small animal species potentially present on the project site are weasel, beaver, coyote, red squirrel, otter, Canada lynx, bobcat, American marten, skunk, fisher, muskrat, raccoon, red fox, and mink.

The species of micromammals likely to frequent the project site are the short-tailed shrew, the artic shrew, the cinereus shrew, the smoky shrew, the American water shrew, the Eurasian pygmy shrew, the star-nosed mole, the woodland jumping mouse, the meadow jumping mouse, the deer mouse, the Gapper's red-backed vole, the rock vole, the common vole, the southern bog lemming, and the heather vole.

The bat species potentially present on the project site are the little brown bat, the northern myotis, the big brown bat, the red bat, the silver-haired bat, and the hoary bat.

During the 2022 field surveys, the most observed songbirds were the White-throated sparrow, the Nashville warbler, the ruby-crowned kinglet, the hermit thrush, the red-eyed Vireo, and the Swainson's thrush. Seven species of songbirds with conservation status were observed, namely the common nighthawk, the evening grosbeak, the bank swallow, the barn swallow, the olive-sided flycatcher, the rusty blackbird, and the Canada warbler. Among waterfowl, the most abundant species were the red-breasted merganser, the lesser scaup or the greater scaup, the ring-necked duck and the common goldeneye.

15. Brief Description of the Health, Social and Economic Context

Among the demographic challenges identified as part of the portrait of the health of the population of the regional county municipality (RCM) of La Vallée-de-l'Or, we note a modest population increase, population retention, an aging demographic, and a rise in life expectancy.

Some highlights from the 2015 First Nations Regional Health Survey (RHS) are:

- An aging of the population within the communities.
- Half of the adults are in paid employment.
- Half of the children aged 6 to 11 have attended an Aboriginal Head Start program.
- About one in four children lives in overcrowded housing.
- More than a third of people aged 12 and over smoke.
- Most of the population does not consume fruits, vegetables, cereal products, meat or its substitutes and milk or its substitutes on a daily basis.
- The prevalence of most chronic health problems has remained stable since the 2002 RHS, except for obesity, which affects a growing proportion of the population.
- About three out of five children, one out of two teenagers and four out of five adults are overweight or obese.

The following table presents socio-demographic data for 2021 for the city of Val-d'Or, the community of Lac Simon, the community of Pikogan and the community of Kitcisakik.

Table 3: Socio-Demographic Data for 2021 for Val-d'Or, Lac Simon, Pikogan and Kitcisakik

| Socio-Demographic Data | City of Val-d'Or | Community of Lac Simon | Community of Pikogan | Community of Kitcisakik |
|--|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Population | 32,752 | 1,285 | 540 | 257 |
| Population density per km ² | 9.3 | 409.2 | 537.4 | 170.2 |
| Age group 0-14 (total) | 5,625 | 460 | 130 | 100 |
| <i>Age groupe 0-14 (men)</i> | 2,895 | 230 | 55 | 40 |
| <i>Age group 0-14 (women)</i> | 2,730 | 235 | 75 | 60 |
| Age group 15-64 (total) | 20,635 | 785 | 355 | 150 |
| <i>Age group 15-64 (men)</i> | 10,615 | 390 | 160 | 80 |
| <i>Age group 15-64 (women)</i> | 10,025 | 395 | 190 | 75 |
| Age group 65 and over (total) | 6,490 | 40 | 50 | 5 |
| <i>Age group 65 and over (men)</i> | 3,110 | 15 | 25 | 5 |
| <i>Age group 65 and over (women)</i> | 3,385 | 25 | 25 | 0 |
| Average age (total) | 42.2 | 27.2 | 33.7 | 28.2 |
| <i>Average age (men)</i> | 41.7 | 26.3 | 33.6 | 31.6 |
| <i>Average age (women)</i> | 43.1 | 28.1 | 33.8 | 25.2 |

| Socio-Demographic Data | City of Val-d'Or | Community of Lac Simon | Community of Pikogan | Community of Kitcisakik |
|---|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Number of persons in private households (total) | 32,145 | 1,275 | 530 | 255 |
| <i>Number of persons in private households (men)</i> | <i>16,375</i> | <i>630</i> | <i>240</i> | <i>115</i> |
| <i>Number of persons in private households (women)</i> | <i>15,770</i> | <i>645</i> | <i>290</i> | <i>140</i> |
| Average household size | 2.1 | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.2 |
| Number of private households | 15,035 | 340 | 160 | 80 |
| Average size of census family | 2.8 | 3.6 | 3.2 | 3.4 |
| Average number of children in census families with children | 1.8 | 2.3 | 2.0 | 2.3 |
| No certificate, diploma or degree* | 25.2% | 62.0% | 38.8% | 77.4% |
| High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate* | 21.6% | 13.5% | 10.0% | 6.5% |
| Non-apprenticeship trades certificate or diploma* | 16.4% | 13.5% | 20.0% | 16.1% |
| Apprenticeship certificate* | 5.2% | 1.8% | 6.3% | 0.0% |

| Socio-Demographic Data | City of Val-d'Or | Community of Lac Simon | Community of Pikogan | Community of Kitcisakik |
|--|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| college, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma* | 14.6% | 6.1% | 11.3% | 0.0% |
| University certificate or diploma below bachelor level* | 2.5% | 1.8% | 7.5 % | 6.5% |
| Bachelor's degree or higher* | 14.5% | 1.2% | 6.3% | 0.0% |

*: Population aged 15 and over

Note: The data presented comes from Statistics Canada and some totals do not match with the summed values. No data manipulation has been done to reflect the results of the 2021 population census.

A significant part of the economy of the RMC La-Vallée-de-l'Or is based on the exploitation of natural resources, manufacturing activities and the service sector. It should be noted that in the mining sector alone, the RMC of La Vallée-de-l'Or accounts for 46% of establishments and 51% of regional mining jobs.

The following table presents economic data for 2020-2021 for the city of Val-d'Or, the community of Lac Simon, the community of Pikogan and the community of Kitcisakik.

Table 4: Economic Data for Val-d'Or, Lac Simon, Pikogan and Kitcisakik

| Economic Data | City of Val-d'Or | Community of Lac Simon | Community of Pikogan | Community of Kitcisakik |
|--|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Median total income in 2020 (total) | \$44,400 | \$29,000 | \$34,800 | \$24,200 |
| <i>Median total income in 2020 (men)</i> | <i>\$56,400</i> | <i>\$23,600</i> | <i>\$34,000</i> | <i>\$18,800</i> |

| Economic Data | City of Val-d'Or | Community of Lac Simon | Community of Pikogan | Community of Kitcisakik |
|---|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Median total income in 2020 (women)</i> | \$36,800 | \$32,000 | \$36,800 | \$38,400 |
| Number of employment insurance benefits recipients in 2020 (total) | 3,195 | 150 | 70 | 30 |
| <i>Number of employment insurance benefits recipients in 2020 (men)</i> | 1,595 | 70 | 45 | 10 |
| <i>Number of employment insurance benefits recipients in 2020 (women)</i> | 1,600 | 80 | 30 | 20 |
| Median total income of household in 2020 | \$75,500 | \$57,200 | \$86,000 | \$48,400 |
| Average total income of household in 2020 | \$98,900 | \$66,000 | \$98,000 | \$62,000 |
| Participation rate in 2021 (total) | 66.2% | 35.6% | 56.3% | 64.5% |
| <i>Participation rate in 2021 (men)</i> | 69.3% | 40.0% | 59.5% | 68.8% |
| <i>Participation rate in 2021 (women)</i> | 62.8% | 31.3% | 50.0% | 60.0% |
| Employment rate in 2021 (total) | 63.2% | 30.7% | 46.3% | 54.8% |

| Economic Data | City of Val-d'Or | Community of Lac Simon | Community of Pikogan | Community of Kitcisakik |
|--|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Employment rate in 2021 (men)</i> | 66.0% | 35.0% | 45.9% | 56.3% |
| <i>Employment rate in 2021 (women)</i> | 60.2% | 27.7% | 43.2% | 53.3% |
| Unemployment in 2021 (total) | 4.5% | 12.1% | 15.6% | 15.0% |
| <i>Unemployment in 2021 (men)</i> | 4.8% | 15.6% | 18.2% | 18.2% |
| <i>Unemployment in 2021 (women)</i> | 4.1% | 11.5% | 13.6% | 0.0% |
| Labour force aged 15 years and over in 2021 (total) | 17,545 | 290 | 225 | 100 |
| <i>Labour force aged 15 years and over in 2021 (men)</i> | 9,350 | 160 | 110 | 55 |
| <i>Labour force aged 15 years and over in 2021 (women)</i> | 8,200 | 130 | 115 | 45 |
| Number of employees in 2021 (total) | 15,900 | 275 | 210 | 100 |
| <i>Number of employees in 2021 (men)</i> | 8,435 | 150 | 100 | 55 |
| <i>Number of employees in 2021 (women)</i> | 7,465 | 120 | 105 | 45 |

| Economic Data | City of Val-d'Or | Community of Lac Simon | Community of Pikogan | Community of Kitcisakik |
|--|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Number of self-employed in 2021 (total) | 1,420 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Number of self-employed in 2021 (men)</i> | <i>805</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> |
| <i>Number of self-employed in 2021 (women)</i> | <i>620</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> |

Note: The data presented comes from Statistics Canada and some totals do not match with the summed values. No data manipulation has been done to reflect the results of the 2021 population census.

16. Financial Support

As part of the Novador mining project, no financial support will be provided by a federal authority.

17. Federal Lands

As part of the Novador mining project, no federal lands will be used.

18. Jurisdiction with Respect to an Assessment of Environmental Effects

On a preliminary basis, the following federal authorities have authority and responsibilities with respect to the assessment of the environmental effects of the Novador mining project:

- Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
- Natural Resources Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Environment and Climate Change Canada

On a preliminary basis, the following provincial authorities have responsibilities with respect to the assessment of the environmental effects of the Novador mining project:

- Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs of Québec

- Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts of Québec

Other jurisdictions also have authority and responsibilities for assessing the environmental effects of the project, including municipal authorities and public safety authorities.

19. Changes to the Environmental Components

The completion of the Novador mining project could lead to changes in the components of the environment that fall under the federal government, in particular fish and their habitat as well as migratory birds. Mitigation measures will be developed and presented as part of the impact study to reduce the impacts of the project on these environmental components.

The definition of aquatic species within the meaning of subsection 2(1) of the Species at Risk Act does not correspond to aquatic species at risk, but to marine plants as defined in section 47 of the Fisheries Act (benthic and detached algae, marine flowering plants, brown algae, red algae, green algae and phytoplankton). The project is therefore not located in an environment where marine plants are present.

The following table presents the main potential changes to the components of the environment. This information will be presented in more detail as part of the impact study.

Table 5: Potential Changes to Environmental Components

| ENVIRONMENTAL COMPONENTS | POTENTIAL CHANGES |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Fish and their habitat | Habitat destruction Reduced reproductive success Decline in fish populations |
| Migratory birds | Habitat destruction Reduced reproductive success Decline in migratory bird populations |

20. Changes to the Environment that may Occur on Federal Lands, in a Province other than the Province in which the Project is Proposed or Outside Canada

No changes to the environment on federal lands, in any province or outside Canada are anticipated as a result of the Novador mining project.

21. Description of Impacts on Indigenous Peoples

Impacts on Indigenous peoples could be caused by project activities, particularly on natural and cultural heritage as well as on the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes. Potential changes in the health, social or economic conditions of Indigenous peoples could also occur with the realization of the project. Mitigation measures will be developed and presented as part of the impact study to reduce the impacts of the project on these components.

The following table outlines the main potential impacts on Indigenous peoples. This information will be presented in more detail as part of the impact study.

Table 6: Potential Changes on Indigenous Peoples

| COMPONENTS | POTENTIAL CHANGES |
|--|--|
| Natural and cultural heritage | <p>Modification of the current landscape (disruption of existing natural elements or addition of anthropogenic elements)</p> <p>Disturbance or damage to elements of cultural heritage (for example, unearthing of archaeological remains)</p> |
| Current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes | <p>Loss of territory for the practice of traditional activities</p> <p>Change in practice habits of traditional activities</p> |

22. Changes to Health, Social or Economic Conditions of Indigenous Peoples in Canada

The following table presents the potential changes that the project could cause to the health, social and economic conditions of Indigenous peoples. This information will be presented in more detail as part of the impact study.

Table 7: Potential Changes on Health, Social and Economic Conditions of Indigenous Peoples

| CONDITIONS | POTENTIAL CHANGES |
|----------------------------|---|
| Health conditions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential effects on physical health Potential effects on psychological health |
| Social conditions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential change in the practice of traditional activities on the territory Change in current quality of life Risk of potential tension between natives and non-natives |
| Economic conditions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local and regional economic benefits Business opportunity for local and regional companies Creation or maintenance of jobs |

23. Estimation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions

It is difficult to estimate the GHG emissions generated during the construction phase of the Novador mining project since it is still under development. Based on currently available project data, direct and indirect emissions generated during the construction phase are estimated at between 35,000 and 45,000 tCO_{2Eq}.

During the operation phase, direct emissions associated with fuel consumption (diesel) could be in the order of approximately 50,000 tCO_{2Eq} annually while indirect emissions associated with electricity consumption would be estimated at approximately 1.5 tCO_{2Eq} annually.

Concrete and effective means will be put forward by Probe Gold during the next steps of the project development to reduce the GHG emissions.

24. List of Types of Wastes and Emissions

The project will generate different types of wastes and emissions. The components of the environment potentially affected are air, surface water and groundwater, and soil.

In general, air quality could be affected by dust emitted during construction and operation activities. The main atmospheric contaminants emitted will be CO₂, CO, NO_x, SO₂ and metals. Atmospheric quality standards and criteria will be respected to ensure that there will be no effect on the health of local populations.

Surface water quality could be affected by site preparation and construction work, notably by increasing suspended matter in runoff water. In addition, surface water quality could also be affected in an event of accidental spills of petroleum and chemical products. During the operation phase, surface water quality could be impacted by the discharge of the final effluents. The discharge standards related to the Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations will be respected. Groundwater quality could be affected by exfiltration from waste rock piles and the tailings management facility. It should be noted that geochemical characterizations have not demonstrated acid mine drainage or metal leaching problems to date.

Finally, soil quality could be affected by dust that will eventually fall to the ground or during accidental spills of petroleum and chemical products. Contaminated soils will be managed in accordance with current regulations.



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