



Suite 970  
717 7th Ave SW  
Calgary, AB T2P 0Z3

December 23, 2024

via email:

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Attention: Fraser Ross, Project Manager, Pacific and Yukon Region

Email: [Fraser.Ross@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:Fraser.Ross@iaac-aeic.gc.ca)

Re: Request to Suspend the Federal Time Limit for the Rocky Creek Metallurgical Coal Project

Dear Mr. Ross,

CTI Plus Resources Ltd. (CTI Plus) is proposing the Rocky Creek Metallurgical Coal Project (the Project), an open pit mine located in the Peace River Regional District (PRRD) of northeastern British Columbia (BC), approximately 47 km southwest of the District of Chetwynd. The Project is located within territories of Treaty 8 Nations and near Chartered Communities of the Métis Nation British Columbia and Kelly Lake Métis Settlement Society.

CTI Plus has been working as the Proponent with regulators, including the BC Environmental Assessment Office (BC EAO) and the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC), and with the impacted Indigenous communities of northeastern BC, through the federal Planning Phase to describe the Project and understand Indigenous interests and issues. CTI Plus has respectfully taken feedback on the Initial Project Description from the public, Indigenous Nations, regulators, and local governments into account to mitigate and make feasible changes.

CTI Plus, as the Proponent of the Project, requests that the IAAC immediately suspend the time limit for the Planning Phase under the *Impact Assessment Act* (the Federal Act) to give CTI Plus sufficient time to prepare the response to the federal matters identified in the Joint Summary of Issues and Engagement (Joint Summary). To ensure that the federal and provincial processes remain aligned, CTI Plus requests that the time limit for the federal process resumes when IAAC accepts the response to the federal matters identified in the Joint Summary. It is anticipated that this would occur in alignment with BC EAO issuing and EA Readiness Decision under the BC *Environmental Assessment Act* that determines the Project is ready to proceed to an assessment. CTI Plus understands that IAAC will then make a decision on whether an impact assessment is required soon after the federal time limit restarts.

CTI Plus anticipates that a federal 'Substitution Decision' by the federal Minister will be made should IAAC determine that. This request follows from discussions during weekly meetings in October and November 2024 with IAAC and the BC EAO.

Representatives of IAAC and the BC EAO confirmed their intention to coordinate the timelines required to review the Project. With the Planning Phase of the Federal Act underway and having just completed the provincial Early Engagement phase under the Provincial Act, CTI Plus is in the process of developing a DPD





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that will meet the requirements of the provincial assessment process, summarize engagement work to date, and acknowledge the ways in which Indigenous interests and information will be addressed in the assessment process.

Please confirm receipt of this request for immediate suspension of the federal time limit and advise when the time limit suspension is in effect.

Respectfully submitted,

<Original signed by>

Judy Matkaluk, P. Geo (AB, BC)

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