

February 10, 2021

COR/202100348

Reg. # 2015

Jamie Powell
Director of Environment and Stakeholder Engagement
Marathon Gold Corporation
P.O. Box 4006
Mount Pearl NL A1N 0A1
jpowell@marathon-gold.com

Dear Mr. Powell:

Re: Valentine Gold Project EIS Review

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) submitted on November 3, 2020, has been reviewed and an opportunity to comment has been provided to the Environmental Assessment Committee (EAC) and the public as required by the *Environmental Protection Act*, SNL 2002, cE-14.2. Upon consideration of the comments received, please be advised that the EIS is deficient and Marathon Gold Corp. must submit an amendment to the EIS.

The EIS amendment will consider and address the attached comments submitted by the EAC and the public, which include, but may not be limited to:

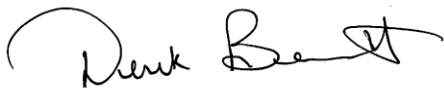
- Caribou baseline information, mitigations and monitoring;
- Other wildlife, including aquatic habitats and avifauna;
- Water resources baseline information;
- Further evaluation of potentially acid generating (PAG) materials, acid rock drainage (ARD) and metal leaching;
- Assessment of potential risks to human health;
- Consideration of future planned projects in cumulative effects assessment;
- Victoria Lake Reservoir and Victoria Dam;
- Green House Gas emissions;
- Tailings, waste rock and stockpiles management;
- Discharges and drainage management;
- Closure and rehabilitation; and,
- Effects of the project on Outfitters.

You are advised to consult with the EAC in your development of the amendment for guidance and clarification on the information to be included therein. A compilation of the EAC review comments is attached. Provision of public comments may follow, pending permission from the submitters.

A table of concordance must be included in the EIS amendment, which indicates the public and the EAC comments submitted and where in the EIS amendment persons can find responses to those comments.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Joanne Sweeney, Director (A) of the Environmental Assessment Division at (709) 729-0673 or Mr. Eric Watton, Chair of the EAC, at (709) 729-0834 or ericwatton@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Derek Bennett".

DEREK BENNETT

Minister

District of Lewisporte - Twillingate

Enclosures

c: Brent Keeping, Project Manager
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada