

Registration # 1959

GUIDELINES

for

Environmental Preview Report

for the

Ming's Bight (Argyle) Gold Mine

Honourable Andrew Parsons

Minister

Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment

August 2018

ENVIRONMENTAL PREVIEW REPORT GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are intended to assist the proponent, Anaconda Mining, with the preparation of the Environmental Preview Report (EPR) for the Ming's Bight (Argyle) Gold Mine. The EPR is a report that presents the results of an investigation based on readily available information that supplements the information already provided by the proponent upon registration of the undertaking. The purpose of the information in the EPR is to assist the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment in making a determination as to whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be required for the proposed undertaking. The EPR is expected to be as concise as possible while presenting the comprehensive information necessary to make an informed decision.

The EPR should include and update the information provided in the original registration and focus on the information gaps identified during the government and public review of the registration. The EPR should address the information gaps in sufficient detail to enable the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment to make an informed decision as to the potential for significant environmental effect from the undertaking.

The contents of the EPR should be organized according to the following format:

1. NAME OF UNDERTAKING:

The undertaking has been assigned the Name "Ming's Bight (Argyle) Gold Mine."

2. PROPONENT:

Name the proponent and the corporate body, if any, and state the mailing and e-mail address.

Name the chief executive officer if a corporate body, and telephone number, fax number and e-mail address.

Name the principal contact person for purposes of environmental assessment and state the official title, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address.

3. THE UNDERTAKING:

State the nature of the project.

State the purpose/rationale/need for the project. If the proposal is in response to an established need, this should be clearly stated. Identify needs that are immediate as well as potential future needs.

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE UNDERTAKING:

Provide complete information concerning the preferred choice of location, design, construction standards, maintenance standards, etc.

4.1 Geographical Location/Physical Components/Existing Environment:

- Provide an accurate description of the proposed site, access road, facilities and equipment, including GPS location coordinates. Attach an original base map (1:25,000 scale) and/or recent air photos which clearly indicates the watershed boundaries (e.g. Town of Ming's Bight Protected Public Water Supply) and includes topography of the area in question.
- Provide information regarding ownership and/or zoning of the land upon which the project is to be located and any restrictions imposed by that ownership or zoning, including municipal ownership/zoning (e.g. Town of Ming's Bight Municipal Boundary and Planning Area), Crown, and private land.
 - The site is located within the "Rural Resource" future land use designation. No development shall be carried out except in accordance with the regulations. The Ming's Bight Development Regulations specifies that discretionary uses may be permitted if the council is satisfied that the development would not be contrary to the general intent and purpose of the Municipal Plan and Development Regulations, and to the public interest. Council must give notice of the application and considered any representations received.

4.2 Construction:

- State the time period in which proposed construction will proceed (if staged, list each stage and its approximate duration) and proposed date of first physical construction-related activity.
- The details, materials, methods, schedule, and location of all planned construction activities must be presented.

4.3 Operation and Maintenance:

All aspects of the operation and maintenance of the proposed development should be presented in detail (e.g. hours of operation in day/night).

5. ALTERNATIVES

Alternative means of carrying out the project to meet the stated purpose and rationale must be provided.

The following steps for addressing alternative means and locations are recommended:

- Identify any alternative means and locations to carry out the Project;
- Identify the environmental effects of each alternative means and location;
- Identify the **preferred** means and location;
- Provide reasons for the rejection of alternative sites.

Include information from previous project-related studies describing alternate locations that were considered, including the expansion of existing sites, reasons for rejection, and reasons supporting the proposed site as the preferred location.

Alternative locations should be clearly outlined on maps of a suitable scale (e.g. 1:50,000, 1:25,000) that include topography and watershed boundaries.

6. **POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS and MITIGATION:**

Provide detailed information regarding the potential effects of the project on the environment and the proposed mitigation to be used to avoid adverse environmental effects.

- Potential environmental effects associated with the construction and operation of a mine include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - impacts to rare plants;
 - Conduct baseline botanical surveys for *Chimaphila umbellata* (Common Wintergreen, Prince's Pine) & *Sparganium fluctuans* (Floating Burred). The two species of conservation concern (currently ranked as S2 and S2S3 respectively) occur either within the proposed footprint or within close proximity to it. Further surveys be undertaken in areas with similar / suitable habitat outside the proposed footprint. (e.g. up to nine sites) for *Chimaphila umbellata*. It is recommended that sites be at least 500 metre from the outside boundary as well as 500 metre apart from each other. Results, including survey tracks, are to be in GIS format.
 - impacts of dust and noise on Town of Ming's Bight;
 - Characterization of dust and noise emission sources and mitigation measures to be employed. A Best Management Plan for a mine in Timmons, Ontario is referenced for developing their own Plan. Proposed management practices and mitigation measures should be further defined in order to demonstrate that impacts can be mitigated. The experiences from the Timmons site should be used to support proposal.
 - impacts on water supply for Town of Ming's Bight;

- Description of the Town of Ming’s Bight Protected Public Water Supply Area (e.g. area/size of ponds and watershed). Description of any proposed changes or modifications to the Town of Ming’ Bight water supply and feasibility study (e.g. maintenance and upkeep expenses).
 - Confirmation that the project will remain outside the new delineated Protected Public Water Supply Area boundary.
 - Description of the effects of blasting on the Town of Ming’s Bight Protected Public Water Supply (e.g. blast zone/radius) and Town of Ming’s Bight residences groundwater wells.
 - Water quality monitoring plan.
 - Site water management plan to ensure drainage is kept a minimum of 150 metres downstream of the Ming’s Bight Protected Public Water Supply Area.
 - Confirmation of the design of the settlement ponds with a determination if any embankments/dams will be utilized.
 - impacts of waste piles on Highway Route 418;
 - Runoff control should be further investigated to ensure it can be adequately collected and discharged without impacting the access to the Town of Ming’s Bight Route 418. Provide a more detailed cross-section identifying Route 418, berms, slopes and benches to understand and monitor the limits of stockpiling in proximity to Route 418.
 - Runoff from the stockpiles will have to be adequately detained and discharged to prevent issues from occurring on Route 418 during high intensity storm events. Provide a detailed site grading plan from a precipitation runoff perspective.
 - impacts on viewscapes which may interfere with tourism and recreational activities.
 - Describe view of mine and waste piles from Highway Route 418 and Town of Ming’s Bight.
- Description of the methods that will be used to avoid or minimize the impacts of the project on wetlands.
 - *Sparganium fluctuans* is an aquatic/semi-aquatic species found along the riparian zone. Mitigation measures to protect this species include a minimum 30 metre undisturbed buffer along wetland.

Identify how the project will avoid interference with the rights of other legitimate land owners/users during construction and operations.

7. DECOMMISSIONING and REHABILITATION:

Describe the decommissioning and rehabilitation plans for the project.

8. PROJECT- RELATED DOCUMENTS:

Provide a bibliography of all project-related documents already generated by or for the proponent (e.g., feasibility study, engineering reports, etc).

- The registration document contains a Women's Employment Plan (WEP) in Appendix D.
 - Targets for women in the trades occupations identified on p. 11 of the WEP be increased to 20%.
 - Commitment of the company, its contractors and subcontractors, to consider application of plan initiatives to other under-represented groups to increase opportunities for their participation in the mining sector, where possible.
 - Commitment from the company that as opportunities arise or as advancements are realized, targets and qualitative measures, for all designated groups, will be reviewed as part of a culture of continuous improvement.
 - As part of the monitoring commitment submit their bi-annual report on quantitative and qualitative measures to the Women's Policy Office and Minister of Natural Resources.
 - An updated WEP is required to be approved by the Deputy Minister Responsible for the Women's Policy Office prior to the startup of any work on the Argyle project.

9. PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING:

An Open House Public Information Session shall be held at a place adjacent to or in the geographical area of the undertaking (e.g. Town of Ming's Bight), or as the minister may determine, in order to:

- a) provide information concerning the undertaking to the people whose environment may be affected by the undertaking;
- b) record and respond to the concerns of the local community regarding the environmental effects of the undertaking;
- c) present the information gathered to fulfill the requirements of Section 5 of these guidelines.

You are required to notify the Minister and the public of the scheduled meeting **not fewer than 7 days** before that meeting. Public concerns shall be addressed in a separate section of the EPR.

Protocol for these public sessions will comply with Section 10 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations, 2003. Public notification specifications are outlined in Appendix A.

10. APPROVAL OF THE UNDERTAKING:

List the main permits, licences, approvals, and other forms of authorization required for the undertaking, together with the names of the authorities responsible for issuing them (e.g. federal government department, provincial government department, municipal council, etc.).

- Identify steps/requirements for obtaining all municipal permits from the Town of Ming's Bight.

The proposed undertaking would be located in the Town of Ming's Bight's planning area, specifically in an area zoned Rural. A mine is classified as "mineral working" which is a discretionary use within the Rural zone. Development, building, and building permits will be required from the Town in accordance with the Town's development regulations (Regulation 7 & 8), especially the regulations pertaining to discretionary uses, mineral working, and conditions for the Rural zone.

- For Mining Act approval, Natural Resources will require the following information:
 - The proponent must comply with the Mining Act; particular reference is made to Section 4 is included in **Attachment 3** which requires the proponent to submit a development plan, a rehabilitation and closure plan and provide financial assurance.
 - Prior to Mining Act approval, Natural Resources will require the results of the acid rock drainage (ARD) study for the Project including sample locations on a site map, rock type and depth for each sample, the acid-base accounting results, and interpretation by a qualified ARD professional (QP) in accordance with the MEND (2009) guidelines. A metal leaching study will also be required. The QP's recommendations regarding mine design, operations and closure shall be incorporated into the development plan and the rehabilitation and closure plan.
 - The development plan will require the proponent to demonstrate prudent resource management for the extraction of the gold resource.

The required 10 copies of the EPR, and an electronic version for posting to the Environmental Assessment website, should be sent together with a covering letter to:

Minister
Municipal Affairs and Environment
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's NL A1B 4J6

APPENDIX A

Public Notices

Under the provisions of the Environmental Assessment Regulations 2003, Section 10, and where the approved Guidelines require a public information session(s), the following specified public notification requirements must be met by the proponent prior to each meeting:

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Information Session on the Proposed

Name of undertaking
Location of undertaking

shall be held at
Date and Time
Location

This session shall be conducted by the Proponent,
Proponent name and contact phone number,
as part of the environmental assessment for this Project.

The purpose of this session is to describe all aspects of the proposed Project, to describe the activities associated with it, and to provide an opportunity for all interested persons to request information or state their concerns.

ALL ARE WELCOME

MINIMUM INFORMATION CONTENT OF PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT

- Minimum newspaper ad size: 2 column widths. Minimum posted ad size: 7" x 5"
- Minimum newspaper ad coverage: Weekend preceding meeting and 3 consecutive days prior to meeting date; to be run in newspaper locally distributed within meeting area or newspaper with closest local distribution area.
- Minimum posted ad coverage: Local Town or City Hall or Office, and local Post Office, within town or city where meeting is held, to be posted continually for 1 full week prior to meeting date.