June 28, 2013

RE Participation of Ministry of Natural Resources in the Public Review and Comment Period on Additional Information for the proposed Marathon Platinum Group Metals and Copper Mine Project

Dear Mr. Willcocks:

The Marathon Joint Review Panel (the Panel) has announced\(^1\) the start of the public review and comment period on Stillwater Canada Inc.’s (SCI) responses to the Information Requests (IRs) issued by the Panel on November 26 and December 19, 2012. Responses to these Information Requests were received from SCI between February 28 and June 27, 2013 and are available on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry Internet Site, reference # 10-05-54755.

The Panel requires the participation of Ministry of Natural Resources in this phase of the review process to ensure that sufficient information is available before proceeding to the public hearing. Accordingly, the Panel requests that all appropriate representatives / experts from Ministry of Natural Resources review the IR responses, and that comments be provided to the Panel on whether the additional information provided in the IR responses, coupled with the information in the EIS, is sufficiently complete to proceed to the public hearing. Your comments are requested as early as practicable, but no later than July 31, 2013.

In particular, in relation to the responses that are relevant to the expertise and mandate of Ministry of the Environment, the Panel is interested in receiving your organization’s views on:

- whether the responses sufficiently address the IRs that were issued by the Panel; and
- the technical merit of the information provided in response to the IRs.

If Ministry of Natural Resources is of the view that there is sufficient information to proceed to a public hearing, please advise the Panel. Otherwise, Ministry of Natural Resources is requested to identify any additional IRs using the format outlined in Appendix A. In identifying additional IRs, the Panel requests that you provide a rationale for why the information is required and your view on when the information

\(^1\) CEAR Doc #486
should be provided (i.e. prior to the Panel making a decision on whether to proceed to the public hearing or prior to the start of the public hearing).

The Panel will determine if the EIS, as supplemented by the additional information, is sufficient to proceed to public hearing based on its own review of the additional information and taking into consideration any comments that are received.

If the Panel determines the EIS, as supplemented by the additional information, is insufficient to proceed to public hearing, it will ask SCI to provide further information in the necessary areas. If the Panel determines it has sufficient information to proceed to public hearing, it will provide a minimum of 45 days’ notice before the commencement of the hearing.

Any questions regarding the public review and comment period on this additional information, or any other aspect of the review may be directed to Cindy Parker or Marie LeGrow, Panel Co-Managers via email at MarathonMine.Review@ceaa-acee.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Louis LaPierre
Panel Chair
APPENDIX A: FORMAT FOR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION REQUESTS

Information requests should be provided in tabular format, using the headings outlined below. Please number each information request consecutively for ease of reference.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue #</th>
<th>Reference to EIS Guidelines or Panel Terms of Reference</th>
<th>Reference to EIS and Original IR</th>
<th>Rationale</th>
<th>Information Request</th>
<th>Timeline for Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number each issue consecutively</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- provide the specific section(s) and page number(s) from the EIS Guidelines or the Panel’s Terms of Reference of the information requirement
- provide the specific volume(s), section(s) and page number(s) from the EIS of the information being referenced and
- provide a reference to the original IR from the Panel (if applicable)

provide an explanation of the issue of concern or deficiency and include a rationale for why the stated deficiency is important for environmental assessment purposes

clearly and concisely state the information being requested from Stillwater Canada Inc.

- provide your view on when the information is required:
  - is the information required for the Panel to decide if there is sufficient information to proceed to the public hearing?
  OR
  - is the information required prior to the start of the public hearing?