



Impact Assessment
Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation
d'impact du Canada

President

Président

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Ottawa ON K1A 0H3

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August 17, 2022

Sara Wallace
Head of Permitting
Atlantic Mining Nova Scotia Inc.
<Email address removed>

Sara Wallace:

On June 28, 2022, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) received your request for an extension to the three-year legislated time limit to provide the required information or studies for the environmental assessment under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) of the Fifteen Mile Stream Gold Project (the Project).

As per subsection 181(2.1) of the *Impact Assessment Act* (the IAA), at the proponent's request, the Agency may extend the time limit by any period that is necessary for the proponent to provide the Agency with the required information or studies.

Following a review of available information, including the information submitted in your request, the Agency has determined that it **will extend the time limit**. The Agency is of the view that:

- the Environmental Assessment is well advanced and the Proponent is currently working on the first round of information requirement (IR) responses;
- the extension will maintain coordination with the province and ensure the processes remain aligned, avoid duplication in consultation, and help manage technical issues with overlapping jurisdiction; and
- Atlantic Mining NS Inc. is currently completing studies and updating information to accommodate project changes (adding three new open pits to the mine, for a total of four).

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The deadline to submit the required information or studies described in the Final Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines is now August 28, 2025. Note that no further extension may be granted by the Agency.

The required information and studies to be provided include a response to the Round 1 IRs, the revised EIS (including a complete description of the project as currently proposed) and any additional required information or studies that may be identified as a result of:

- the Agency's conformity review of the response to the IRs;
- the technical review of the response to the IRs by the Agency and federal authorities; and
- associated consultation and engagement by the Agency with Indigenous communities.

If the information or studies are not provided within the extension of the time limit that has been granted, the environmental assessment for the Project under CEEA 2012 will be terminated in accordance with subsection 181(3) of the IAA. If the environmental assessment is terminated, note that, in accordance with subsection 7(1) of the IAA, proponents of a designated project are prohibited from carrying out any act related to the project that may cause one of the effects listed therein. If the proponent wishes to continue with the Project after the termination of the assessment, it must submit an Initial Project Description to the Agency in accordance with section 10 of the IAA.

Please note, your request, this determination, and a notice informing the public of the new time limit will be posted to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Mike Atkinson, Regional Director, Atlantic Region, by telephone at <Personal information removed> or by email at mike.atkinson@iaac-aeic.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Terence Hubbard (he/him, il)