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Tél. : 705-670-3023  
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Sans frais : 1-888-415-9845, poste 3023**Notice of Opportunity to Provide Input on a Category B Project*****Class Environmental Assessment for Activities of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines under the Mining Act*****Tribag Mine Rehabilitation Project**

The Ministry of Mines (MINES) invites you to comment on the Tribag Mine Rehabilitation Project, located in Nicolet Township, approximately 100 km north of Sault Ste. Marie. The former copper mine operated from 1962 to 1974 and features a mill site, tailings management area, waste rock piles, and extensive underground workings that span three mining zones:

- 1) The West Breccia Zone is situated in the southwest portion of the mine. This zone features three stopes, two raises, an adit and multiple crown pillars. The adit within the West Breccia zone is currently blocked by a steel door, however the door does not eliminate access to the underground workings. All mine openings currently provide uncontrolled access to the underground workings. Bat acoustic studies completed in 2023 have confirmed the use of the undergrounds by bats as a hibernaculum.
- 2) The Breton zone is in the north boundary of the site. This zone features three raises, a shaft, and a crown pillar. The three raises and shaft within the Breton Zone are currently capped, however the caps do not meet the minimum requirements specified in the Mine Rehabilitation Code of Ontario (Ontario Regulation 240/00).
- 3) The East Breccia Zone is located approximately 2.3 km from the main mine workings and features a single exploratory adit. The adit is confirmed to be utilized by bats as a potential hibernaculum.

The purpose of the project is to rehabilitate the mine hazards at the Tribag Mine to eliminate the risk to the public. The mine is known to be frequented by the public and is ranked high by the province as sites requiring rehabilitation due to the risk to public safety. The proposed rehabilitation activities will permanently prevent inadvertent access to all mine openings to surface. Other features remaining at the site, including the tailings management area, mill site, building materials and waste rock piles, will be addressed as part of a separate Class Environmental Assessment.

The proposed rehabilitation strategy for all hazards located within the West Breccia Zone is fencing. Two fence perimeters are proposed: one encompassing the adit, adit

crown pillar, stope to surface and raise and the second encompassing the two remaining stopes to surface, raise and crown pillars. The use of the fencing will minimize inadvertent access to the mine, while protecting bat overwintering habitat. The fencing installation will require some vegetation removal extending approximately three meters on either side of the fence perimeter. The work is expected to occur in the summer/early fall of 2024.

The proposed rehabilitation strategy for the mine openings to surface in the Breton Zone is concrete caps that meets the minimum requirements specified in O.Reg 240/00. The raise caps would be constructed over the existing caps, allowing the existing caps to act as framework. One crown pillar within the Breton Zone has been identified as not long-term stable. The proposed rehabilitation strategy for the crown pillar is fencing. The fencing installation will require some vegetation removal extending approximately three meters on either side of the fence perimeter. The work is expected to occur in the early fall of 2024.

The proposed rehabilitation strategy for the adit located within the East Breccia Zone is the installation of a stainless-steel gate. The gate will eliminate safety concerns related to access by the public, while still allowing bats to easily enter/exit the underground workings. The work will occur in the summer months when bats are not expected to be actively hibernating within the mine.

This proposed Category B project is being carried out in accordance with the *Class Environmental Assessment for Ministry of Northern Development and Mines Activities under the Mining Act* (Class EA). You are invited to provide input and express any concerns about this proposed project. Comments must be received by **March 11, 2024**. For more information, or to submit comments on the project, please contact:

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Please note that personal information provided in a submission (such as name, address, and telephone number) and your views and opinions are being collected by MINES under the authority of the *Environmental Assessment Act* for the purpose of engaging in public consultation and making decisions regarding the project. The personal information may also be shared with the Environmental Approvals Branch of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservations and Parks. The collection, use, and disclosure of this information are all governed by the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Questions about the collection of this information should be directed to the contact listed above.