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Springpole Gold Project:

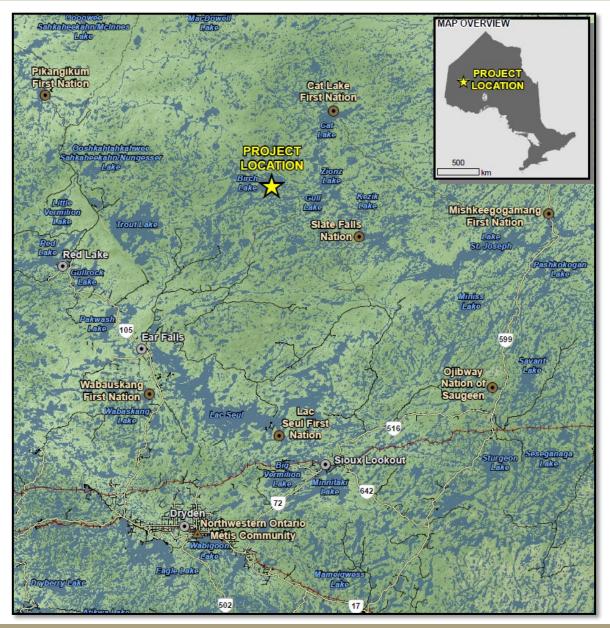
Final Environmental Impact Statement / Environmental Assessment
November 2024

Agenda



- Final EIS/EA Submission & Process
- Final EIS/EA Overview
- Project Site Plan
- Key Optimizations to the Project since the draft EIS/EA
- Next Steps
- Questions

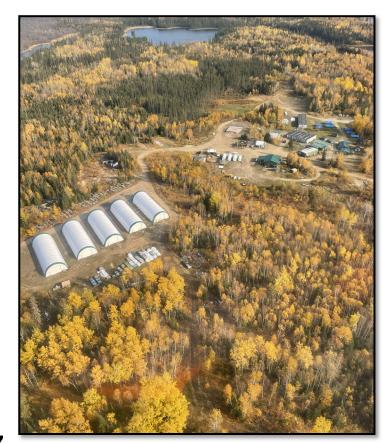




Project Overview



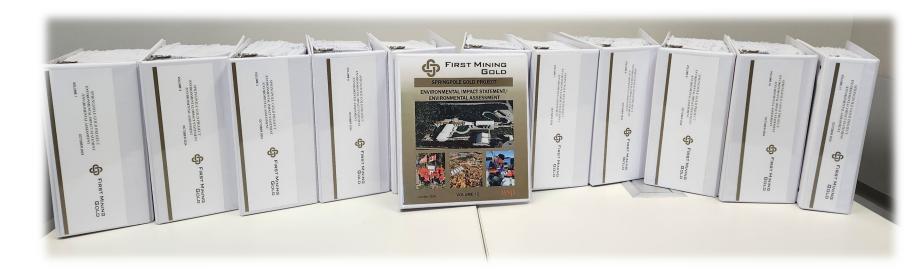
- FMG is proposing to develop the Springpole Project, which is one of the largest undeveloped gold deposits in Canada.
- The Project has an estimated mineral resource of 4.6 million ounces of gold and 24.3 million ounces of silver that will be mined over an approximate 10year mine life.
- The Springpole Gold Project will provide significant benefits to the local, regional and Indigenous economies of northwestern Ontario.



Final EIS/EA Submission & Process



- Final EIS/EA was distributed to government agencies, Indigenous communities and the Project contact list during the week of Nov. 4
- Provincial comment period is Nov. 8 Jan. 17
 - Reminder for provincial reviewers to return acknowledgement of receipt form
- Federal comment period is Dec. 2 Jan. 13
- FMG anticipates holding technical review meetings following receipt of comments





- Similar table of contents to draft EIS/EA
 - Alternatives
 Assessment is now
 Section 4, and
 Project description
 Section 5
 - Effects assessment of Valued Components is in Section 6
 - Each VC section includes an *Influence* of *Consultation* subsection

1.0	INTRO	DUCTION AND OVERVIEW	7.0	Cumulative Effects Assessment			
2.0	CONSU	JLTATION	8.0	Effects of the Environment on the Project			
3.0	ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING		9.0	Malfunctions and Accidents			
4.0	ALTERI	ALTERNATIVES ASSESSMENT		Summary of Benefits			
5.0	PROJE	CT DESCRIPTION	11.0	Environmental Approval Requirements			
6.0	EFFECTS ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION		12.0	Follow-up and Monitoring			
	6.1	Effects Assessment Approach	13.0	Conclusions			
	6.2	Air Quality	14.0	Authors			
	6.3	Noise and Vibration	15.0	Effects Assessment Summary Tables			
	6.4	Greenhouse Gas Emissions					
	6.5	Groundwater					
	6.6	Birch Lake System					
	6.7	Springpole Lake, North Basin System					
	6.8	Springpole Lake, Southeast Arm System					
	6.9	Local Inland Waterbodies					
	6.10	Fish and Fish Habitat					
	6.11	Vegetation Communities and Wetlands					
	6.12	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat					
	6.13	Boreal Caribou					
	6.14	Wolverine					
	6.15	Bats					
	6.16	Species at Risk Birds					
	6.17	Commercial Land and Resource Use					
	6.18	Outdoor Recreation					
	6.19	Local and Regional Economy					
	6.20	Local and Regional Infrastructure and Services					
	6.21	Traditional Land and Resource Use					
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	6.23	Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Land	dscapes				
	6.24	Human and Ecological Health					
	6.25	Federal Considerations					

Effects on Indigenous People

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- B. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT GUIDELINES, APPROVED TERMS OF REFERENCE, AND ASSOCIATED CONCORDANCE AND COMMITMENTS TABLES
 - B-1 General EIS Guidelines
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 - K-1.3 Kinetic Geochemistry Report
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 - O-1 2022/2023 Aquatics Baseline
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Each VC has technical support documents (baseline, modelling reports etc.) in appendices

- P. TERRESTRIAL RESOURCES TECHNICAL SUPPORT DOCUMENTS
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 - P-2.1 GHD Category 2 and Category 3 Updated Modelling Report (Ferrit 2024)
 - P-2.2 Resource Selection Probability Modelling of Calving Areas Using Recent Satellite Telemetry Data (Minnow 2024)
 - P-2.3 Resource Selection Probability Modelling of Calving Areas using GHD Spring & Summer and MECP Category 1 Areas (Ferrit 2024)
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 - V-3.4 IGTRB Meeting No. 2



- Appendix B includes tables of concordance for the ToR and EIS Guidelines
- Appendix C includes a copy of all comments previously responded to, and a reference to where they have been addressed in the EIS/EA

Table C-5.2: First Mining Gold Response to Mishkeegogamang Ojibway Nation Comments on the Draft Springpole Gold Project Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Assessment

ID	Specific Reference	Initial Comments & Rationale	FMG Response	
		This section must be presented after the assessment of effects and measures should be explicitly linked to predicted effects.		
MON-dEIS-040	6.13.4.1 Direct Habitat Changes	This section describes the magnitude of direct habitat loss for Categories 1, 2, and 3 of woodland caribou habitat. Then, it concludes that the habitat loss "will be fully mitigated once the habitat returns to mature coniferous refuge habitat for caribou." There are several major flaws in that assessment, as described below. The assessment ignores the time lag associated with habitat restoration and fails to relate that to a temporal measure adequate for woodland caribou. Mature coniferous refuge habitat may develop over several decades. Some use of regenerating habitat by woodland caribou after about 30 years has been demonstrated. Considering the timeline of the project since removal of habitat, the operation life of the project, and the generation time of woodland caribou, we can conservatively argue that habitat loss may persist for three to four generations, at minimum. Thus, residual effects of the project on habitat loss will persist, irrespective of their magnitude. A second flaw of the assessment is that there is no attempt to characterize the magnitude of the residual effects. Assuming that the footprint of the project has been optimized and cannot be further revised and given the impossibility of mitigate habitat loss without a time lag, it would be most adequate to assume that the magnitude of the residual effects in this component equals the calculated areas loss for each habitat category.	As noted in Section 6.13.5 of the draft EIS/EA, the magnitude of the direct loss of Caribou habitat is mitigated with several measures. This includes incorporating Caribou habitat features into the overall closure plan, where feasible, and implementing those features during the closure of the Project. In addition, a habitat restoration program for Caribou that targets existing disturbed area, will be created in collaboration with Indigenous communities, the Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). The success and progress of the onsite rehabilitation measures and the habitat restoration program for Caribou will be monitored for effectiveness in restoring habitat function and use for Caribou. Where necessary, adaptive management will inform adjustments to mitigation measures. As a result, the magnitude has been characterized as low (Level I). This will be regulated under an Overall Benefit Permit under the Endangered Species Act, and therefore the level of confidence in this prediction is high. It is recognized that there may a be lag time until the habitat features are fully functional. This has been considered with the duration attribute, in which the residual effect of the direct loss of Caribou habitat has been characterized as high (Level III). With the application of the new telemetry data from 2023 and available disturbance data, the magnitude of effects will be updated in the final EIS/EA.	EIS Section 6.13.1.4
MON-dEIS-041	6.13.4.2 Indirect Habitat Changes	Regarding the effects of the project on the movement behavior, it is argued that mitigation measures will reduce the residual effects. The assessment, however, does not attempt to characterize the magnitude of the residual effects. Given the information presented, it is impossible to evaluate whether the proposed mitigation would suffice to reduce the effects on movement behavior. Similarly, there are no attempts to estimate the magnitude of residual sensory disturbance following the application of mitigation measures.	Section 6.13.4.2 of the draft EIS/EA indicates that with the implementation of mitigation for sensory disturbances, such as noise attenuation measures in Section 6.3 and lighting attenuation measures in Section 6.12, the residual effects will be reduced. Further, as noted in Section 6.13.5, the residual effect on Caribou due to the indirect loss of habitat through a semi-permeable barrier to movement dynamics created by linear corridor development. With the application of mitigation measures to ensure connectivity to these habitats including the reduction of lines of sight for predators across corridors in Category 1 habitat by minimizing the removal of woody vegetation in Category 1 habitat and limiting vegetation removal to hazard trees needed for safety and further offset with the approval under the ESA, the magnitude of the residual effect of semi-permeable barriers to movement is considered to be low (Level I). It should be noted that a satellite telemetry collar program has been initiated in February 2023 to obtain additional information on current Caribou habitat use within the regional study area. Further, undated range level disturbance data it being collected. This information will inform the assessment	EIS Section 6.13.1.4

Project Overview





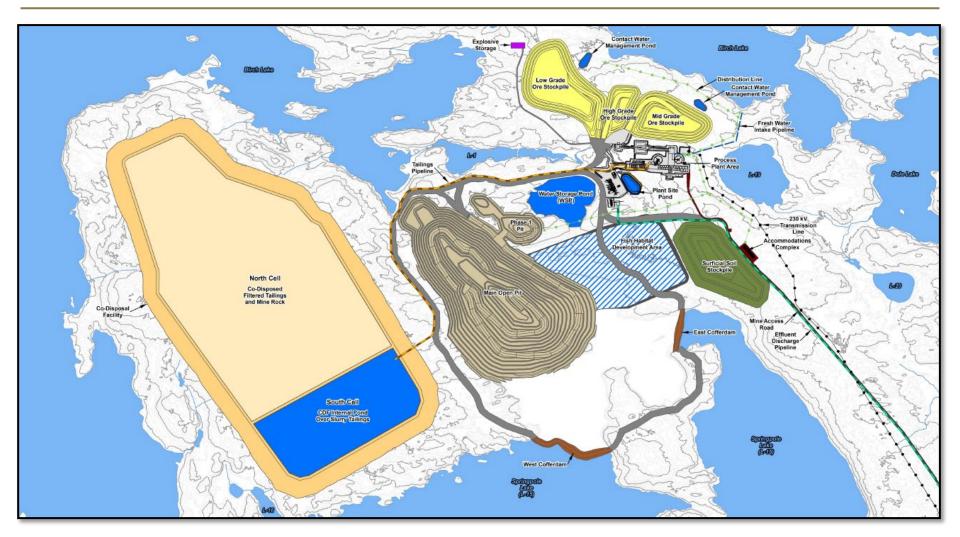
Small mine footprint located at the very north end of Springpole Lake

18-km all-weather mine access road from end of the Wenasaga forestry road

Transmission line connecting to the existing Watay line required to power the mine

Project Overview – Draft EIS/EA Site Plan



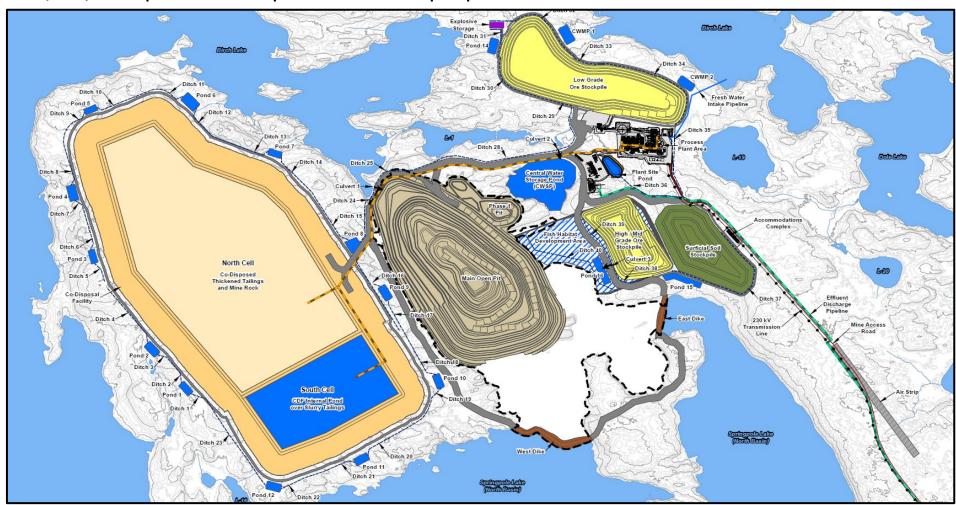


Through careful design work, the mine footprint is very small compared to other similar mines operating in Canada.

Project Overview – Final EIS/EA Site Plan



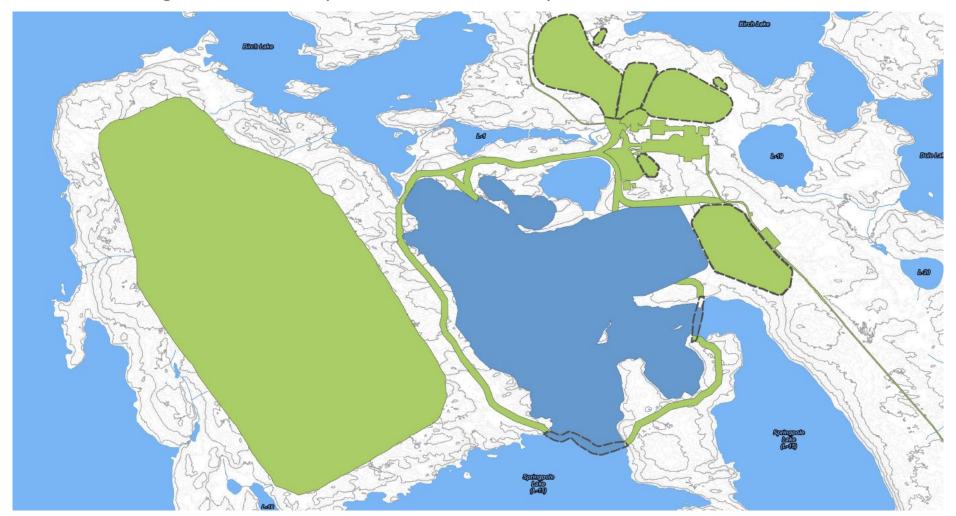
Based on the assessment of alternatives and consultation input received on the draft EIS/EA, an updated site plan has been prepared.



Project Overview – Site Restoration Plan



Focus on revegetation and aquatic habitat development



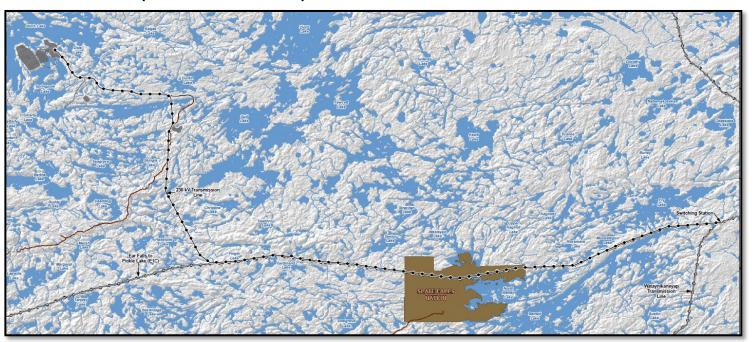


- Co-disposal Facility (CDF) Tailings Disposal Methods: Thickened tailings have been proposed rather than the original filtered tailings in order to deposit the them hydraulically, resulting in several environmental benefits.
 - The CDF is described in Section 5.10 of the EIS/EA with technical design information included in Appendix V.
- Water Management Treatment: Detail on the proposed water management system and treatment methods, including ponds and the effluent treatment plant (ETP) has been advanced.
 - Section 5.12 of the EIS/EA provides additional detail.
- **Solid waste management:** Confirmed municipal landfill has capacity to accept non-hazardous solid waste.
 - This has been added to Section 5.14
- Dike Engineering Advanced: Detail on the design of the dikes (previously referred to as coffered dams) and associated pre-development activities has been advanced.
 - This is described in Section 5.7.1 of the EIS/EA and an updated Technical Design Brief of the dikes is provided as Appendix V-2.



Transmission Line Route: The transmission line has been optimized based on feedback from Indigenous communities and government agencies to follow the existing E1C transmission line corridor for 58 km. This will provide opportunities for strengthen the existing regional electrical grid, while minimizing effects to Boreal Caribou and traditional land uses.

- Section 4.25 provides the assessment of alternatives
- Section 5.3.1 provides additional detail on the Influence of Consultation
- Section 5.18 provides description of transmission line





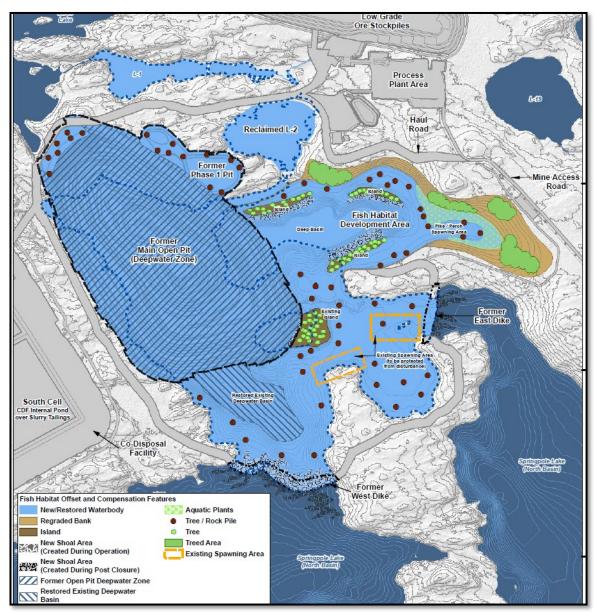


Revised Fish Habitat Offsetting and Compensation Plan (FHOCP; Appendix F): The revised FHOCP has been updated based on feedback received from government, Indigenous communities and the public. Some of the measures outlined in the revised include FHOCP:

- Overbuild and integrate spawning shoals along the lake-facing embankments of the dikes to create Lake Trout and Lake Whitefish spawning opportunities.
- Coordinate with the government to implement the reclamation of fish habitat at the abandoned South Bay Mine.
- Study Lake Sturgeon in the Birch River and Cat River system and consider measures to reinstate or augment the population.
- Place coarse wood structure along Springpole Lake shorelines currently lacking structural diversity.
- Construct a new embayment with enhanced fish habitat development area to the east of the dewatered area to be functional at closure. Overall increase in size of Springpole Lake by 3.5% compared to baseline.
- Enhance the open pit basin area for selected key species by modifying cover, structure and substrates to improve habitat suitability where appropriate. Contour the open pit and optimize fish habitat structures, substrates and depth for selected key species.



On-site Fish Habitat
Offset and
Compensation
Features

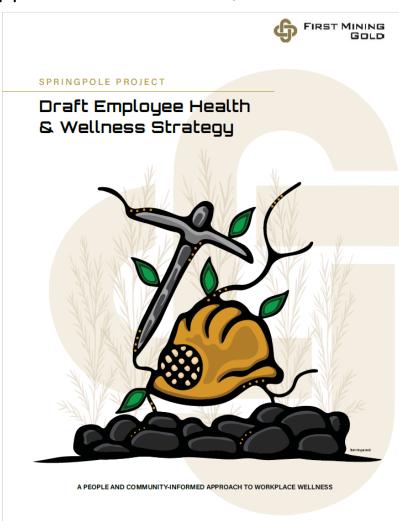




- Receipt of Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Land Use (TK/TLU)
 Studies:
 - Since issuing the draft EIS/EA, FMG has received Projectspecific TK/TLU Studies from Cat Lake First Nation, Lac Seul First Nation, Slate Falls Nation, Mishkeegogamang Ojibway First Nation, and a supplemental study from the Northwestern Ontario Métis Community.
 - FMG has also received Socio-economic Baseline studies from Cat Lake First Nation, Lac Seul First Nation and Slate Falls Nation.
 - The information shared has been considered and incorporated into the EIS/EA where appropriate.



- Draft Employee Health & Wellness Strategy (Appendix Q-3 of EIS/EA)
- Development of this Strategy is a key component in following up on the feedback FMG has heard during engagement.
- Northern-focused health & wellness supports are crucial to improving employment participation, creating a mental health-conscious workplace, and enabling the Project, local people, and communities to thrive.
- The strategy includes tailored health and wellness approaches, services and programs, in coordination with health service providers and communities, that address the holistic needs of northern and Indigenous people and communities participating in the mining industry.
- This Strategy provides an understanding of FMG's preliminary approach to addressing the shared concerns and priorities regarding future workforce health and wellness at the Project.





Wolverine Baseline Study:

- A dedicated winter camera trap and run pole program was established in 2023 and 2024.
- The intent of the program was to inform demographics (including sex, age, structure), occupancy / population density, habitat use and dispersal and areas of concentration / activity centres.
- Twenty-five stations outfitted with white light cameras, infrared cameras, run-poles, and purpose-built hair snags were established in accordance with guidance from regulators.
- This is described in Section 6.14 and shown in Figure 6.14-3. Further details are included in the Terrestrial Baseline Report (Appendix P-1).





Caribou Baseline Study & Modelling

- A Boreal Caribou satellite telemetry study was initiated in February 2023 which included the deployment of 50 satellite collars in order to provide better understanding of habitat use. Program currently planned to continue until March 2027.
- Extensive modelling carried out in support of the EIS/EA with details on the methods provided in Section 6.13.5.2 and further described in:
 - Appendix P-1: Updated Baseline Report
 - Appendix P-2.1: 2.1 General Habitat Description Category 2 and Category 3 Modelling Report
 - Appendix P-2.2: Resource Selection Probability Modelling of Calving Areas using Recent Satellite Telemetry Data
 - Appendix P-2.3: Resource Selection Probability Modelling of Calving Areas Using GHD Spring & Summer and MECP Category 1 Areas
 - Appendix P-2.4: Report on Caribou Sustainability Metrics for the Springpole Project Current and Future Condition Scenarios with Assessments at LSA and RSA Scales



- Net Zero Strategy: details FMG's commitment and plan for a net-zero project with the purpose of embedding a climatepositive approach to all aspects of the Project.
 - Strategy supports the target of reducing net GHG emissions to zero over the life of the Project.
 - It includes the use of technologies and practices to reduce fossil fuel use, and carbon offsets and credits to balance residual GHG emissions from the Project.
- An Independent Geotechnical and Tailings Review Board (IGTRB) has been established for the Project Co-Disposal Facility (CDF) for mine rock and tailings.
 - The IGTRB will provide independent review and oversight on the design, construction, operation, performance, and closure planning for the CDF, which is a key engineered featured of the Project.

Next Steps



- Public and Indigenous community meetings being planned for early in the new year.
- Final EIS/EA intro/overview meetings offered to Indigenous communities throughout November.

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Questions?



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