



Conservation and Water Stewardship

Climate Change and Environmental Protection Division
Environmental Approvals Branch
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File: 1906.30

October 24, 2013

Mr. Will Brits
General Manager
Tantalum Mining Corporation of Canada Ltd.
Bernic Lake, Box 2000
Lac du Bonnet, MB R0E 1A0

Dear Mr. Brits:

Re: Tantalum Mining Corporation of Canada Limited (Tanco) – Temporary Access Road and Vehicle Turnaround Area Construction

Receipt of your September 23, 2013 letter and October 11, 2013 letter and memorandum from Tetra Tech is acknowledged as notice of alteration in accordance with Section 14 of *The Environment Act*. Specifically, you ask approval for the construction and operation of a temporary access road to the narrows of Bernic Lake. Further, a small vehicle turnaround area is required.

Based on a review of the proposed temporary access road construction, it is determined that the environmental impacts will be insignificant. Therefore, approval is granted subject to following all of the mitigation measures proposed in your Notice of Alteration and the following additional conditions:

- 1) The Licencee shall:
 - a) consult with local First Nations community members and trappers who may be affected by the temporary access road construction; and
 - b) provide a report to the Director demonstrating consultation and outcomes.
- 2) The Licencee shall engage a member of Sagkeeng First Nation to be present during road clearing to provide guidance with respect to traditional knowledge.
- 3) The Licencee shall obtain all necessary federal, provincial and/or municipal licences, authorizations, permits and/or approvals for clearing the temporary access road prior to commencement of clearing.

- 4) The Licencee shall not locate any petroleum storage tank within 100 metres of the shoreline of any waterway or water body.
- 5) The Licencee shall construct and maintain silt fences in the drainage routes transporting surface runoff off the property adjacent to the temporary access road until vegetation has been re-established on the cleared areas.
- 6) The Licencee shall collect, transport and store used oil or hydraulic fluids removed from on-site machinery in secure, properly labeled, non-leaking containers and shall regularly send them to a recycling or disposal facility approved to accept hazardous wastes.
- 7) The Licencee shall, following decommissioning of the temporary access road, restore any wetland disturbance resulting from the construction and operation of the temporary access road to maintain a zero net-loss of wetlands at the development.
- 8) The Licencee shall remove the temporary access road and vehicle turnaround area and fully restore the cleared area to the satisfaction of the Director and in a timeframe prescribed by the Director.

The approval for construction and operation of a temporary access road is restricted to the land area designated in the Notice of Alteration. Further, approval for construction of the temporary access road does not, in any way, presume that the work to mitigate the crown pillar will be approved as filed. The environmental assessment of the proposed crown pillar mitigation project remains ongoing and additional information must be provided and assessed prior to any licensing decision. The cost of the temporary access road construction is a risk accepted by TANCO should the larger project not be approved. Should the crown pillar mitigation project not be approved, the temporary access road must be removed and the area fully restored to the satisfaction of the Director.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 204-945-7071.

Yours truly,

“Originally signed by”

Tracey Braun, M.Sc.
Director
Environmental Approvals Branch

- c. Chris Beaumont-Smith, A/Director – Mines Branch, Innovation, Energy and Mines
Lori Stevenson, Director – Lands Branch, Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship
Don Labossiere, Director – Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch,
Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship
Public Registries