



Ministry of
Energy, Mines and
Low Carbon Innovation

Departure from Approval Guidance for Major Mine Permit Holders

Version 1.0

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Purpose

This document presents the British Columbia (BC) Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI) standard practices for the identification of “substantial” and “non-substantial” departures from an approved mine plan and outlines procedures that mines can follow to demonstrate compliance with Part 10.1.18 of the Health, Safety, and Reclamation Code for Mines in B.C. (the Code).

The Departure from Approval Guidance for Major Mine Permit Holders (the Guidance) has been prepared to:

- Guide Mine Managers in distinguishing between “substantial” and “non-substantial” Departures from Approval through a self-assessment process;
- Provide guidance to Mine Managers for the self-assessment and documentation of Departures from Approval;
- Provide a tool for Mine Managers to complete site-specific self-assessments to identify “non-substantial” departures subject to existing permit conditions and applicable standards and regulations; and
- Improve the clarity, consistency, and overall quality of Departure from Approval applications for those activities which are self-assessed by the Mine Manager or determined by EMLI to be “substantial” departures under Part 10.1.18 of the Code.

This Guidance does not supplant requirements specified in provincial, federal, or municipal legislation, Code requirements, or project-specific permit conditions. Notwithstanding this guidance, it remains the Mine Manager’s responsibility to ensure compliance with Part 10.1.18 of the Code and any other applicable legislation. Mine Managers are encouraged to seek advice from qualified professionals and to engage with EMLI as necessary. It is EMLI’s expectation that Mine Managers classifying proposed departures will:

- Uphold values such as integrity, honesty, and trustworthiness;
- Safeguard human life and welfare, and the environment;
- Provide an opinion on a subject only when it is founded upon adequate knowledge and expertise; and
- Obtain the input and support of Qualified Professionals as appropriate or required.

Use of the Guidance requires Mines Managers to:

- Comply with all applicable legislation and permit conditions;
- Ensure that the mine is free of potentially hazardous conditions or that corrective actions are in place to alleviate and effectively control potentially hazardous conditions;
- Have appropriate permits and authorizations in place;
- Have and maintain approved mine and reclamation plans on-site; and
- Maintain management plans that are current and that incorporate the recommendations of Qualified Professionals as necessary.

Introduction

Part 10.1.18 of the Code states:

“The owner, agent or manager shall notify the chief inspector [upcoming administrative changes to the Code will designate this authority to the Chief Permitting Officer] in writing of any intention to depart from the mine plan and reclamation program authorized under sections 10.1.1 or 10.1.2 of this code to any substantial degree, and shall not proceed to implement the proposed changes without the written authorization of the chief inspector.”

This Guidance provides context around activities that are considered "substantial" and "non-substantial." A self-assessment tool is provided to assist Mine Managers in determining if site-specific activities can be classified as "non-substantial" and can proceed without any need for written approval from the Chief Permitting Officer or Chief Inspector.

Substantial and Non-Substantial Activities

Substantial activities include those activities that could result in a negative impact on human health and safety and/or environmental values and which were not fully considered and assessed under the approved mine plan.

Non-substantial activities include those activities that were considered and assessed under the approved mine plan or which would not be expected to have a negative impact on human health and safety and/or environmental values.

Departure from Approval Classification

Once the permittee has completed a preliminary determination of the scope of the departure, they should conduct a self-assessment using the attached "Notice of Departure Self-Assessment Process Flowchart" (Appendix A) and the "Notice of Departure Self-Assessment Form" (Appendix B). A "Drilling and Test Pitting Regulatory Guidance Table" (Appendix C) is referenced within Appendix B and provides additional information specific to drilling and test pitting. The self-assessment requires Mine Managers to:

- Prepare a project summary and identify applicable legislation and site-specific permit conditions that are related to the proposed activities (Appendix B, Step 1).
- Evaluate the proposed project against EMLI's criteria for "substantial" departures (Appendix B, Step 2) and submit a Notice of Departure or permit amendment application for projects meeting those criteria.
- Evaluate the proposed project against EMLI's criteria for "non-substantial" departures (Appendix B, Step 3). If the proposed activity is identified within EMLI's criteria for "non-substantial" departures, Mine Managers are able to proceed with the "non-substantial" departure without written notification to or authorization from the Chief Permitting Officer provided that the proposed activity adheres to existing permit conditions, the Code, and all applicable standards, regulations, and legislation.

- Identify potential risks, impacts and mitigation measures for activities that are not clearly identified as “substantial” or “non-substantial” departures (Appendix B, Step 4). If the self-assessment identifies that no incremental increase in risk to human health and safety or environmental values are anticipated as a result of the proposed activities, the departure may be considered “non-substantial”. Mine Managers cannot proceed with a “substantial” Departure from Approval until written authorization from the Chief Permitting Officer is granted.

In general, EMLI considers the activities identified in Step 3 of Appendix B to be classified as either non-departures (i.e. activities expected in the normal course of mining and contemplated under the existing permit) or “*non-substantial*” departures provided that site-specific factors do not render the activity to be “substantial”. It is explicit that all requirements of the *Mines Act*, other legislation, Code, Permit and approved management plans must be followed.

Notwithstanding the criteria identified in Step 3 of Appendix B, site-specific factors may result in differing levels of risk associated with a proposed departure at one site in comparison with a similar departure at another site. The responsibility rests with the Mine Manager to assess the site-specific risks and impacts associated with a proposed departure. Where there is uncertainty, Mine Managers should err on the side of assuming a proposed departure may be “substantial” and complete the remainder of the self-assessment (Appendix B, Step 4). Mine Managers are encouraged to engage with EMLI where uncertainties remain following completion of the self-assessment form.

Departure from Approval Self-Assessment

For a proposed departure that cannot be clearly identified as “substantial” (Appendix B, Step 2) or “non-substantial” (Appendix B, Step 3), the Mine Manager (in consultation with Qualified Professionals where appropriate) should assess the potential effects and incremental risks associated with the proposed Departure from Approval. The assessment should identify and describe the magnitude of anticipated effects (both positive and negative) on relevant site attributes. This assessment should be:

- documented in writing for mine records;
- supported with technical information provided by Qualified Professionals, where appropriate;
- described in clear language and with enough detail to enable non-technical personnel to understand the cause, type, and nature of the potential effects; and
- provided to any inspector upon request.

If potential negative effects are identified during the self-assessment, Mine Managers should identify and document the mitigation measures that will be incorporated into the proposed Departure from Approval. Mitigations must afford protection to human health and safety and the environment equal to or greater than protections established by the permitted mine plan. Mitigation measures could include, but are not limited to, project scheduling, project design, construction and operational procedures or practices, and management plans. It is important to

note that existing site-wide management plans used to mitigate risks must be directly applicable to the proposed Departure from Approval. Any outstanding effects that are not mitigated using approved designs, models, plans, or procedures will need to be addressed. Newly created plans, models, or designs associated with managing residual risks or effects may require review by EMLI.

The proposed Departure from Approval may proceed as non-substantial where residual risks and/or effects are mitigated to an appropriate degree (see above) by implementing specified actions or activities within approved management plans, site specific models, or safe work plans.

If the Mine Manager or a Qualified Professional identifies residual impacts or risks that cannot be mitigated by existing management plans, site specific models, or safe work plans, the Mine Manager must submit a Notice of Departure application. In these cases, written authorization from the Chief Permitting Officer is required prior to completing work or activities.

Documentation and Reporting

When completing a self-assessment, the Mine Manager must document the rationale for classifying a proposed Departure from Approval as “non-substantial”. Documentation of proposed “non-substantial” departures should include a completed self-assessment form and should clearly outline the following:

- how the proposed “non-substantial” departure adheres to existing and applicable legislation and authorizations;
- the decision process, and the results of analyses used to assess the site-specific classification of a “non-substantial” change, and where appropriate; and
- a description of engagement with regulatory bodies, Indigenous nations, and any relevant stakeholders.

For “non-substantial” departures, Mine Managers must retain associated documentation on-site, report any associated disturbances in Annual Reclamation Reports, and make the self-assessments available to any inspector upon request.

Compliance Verification and Enforcement

EMLI may ask to review self-assessments for “non-substantial” Departures from Approval. Mine Managers are expected to file self-assessments on-site and to make them available to any inspector upon request. EMLI personnel will make their determination in keeping with this Guidance document.

If EMLI determines that a Departure from Approval is “substantial”, the Mine Manager may be required to provide additional information, implement additional mitigations, or seek written authorization for the departure. If mitigations are inadequate or work related to the Departure from Approval is found to be non-compliant with the regulations or permit, compliance actions may be taken in accordance with EMLI’s Compliance and Enforcement Policy.

Notice of Departure Review Process (for ‘substantial’ departures)

Application/Submission

For “substantial” Departures from Approval, the Mine Manager must submit a Notice of Departure to EMLI for written authorization, as required under Part 10.1.18 of the Code. No works can commence until the written authorization is received.

At a minimum, a Notice of Departure application should include relevant information identified within the Self-Assessment Form (Appendix B).

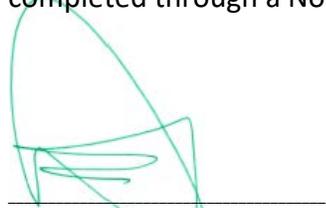
The Notice of Departure application should be submitted to EMLI’s inbox at PermRecl@gov.bc.ca and clearly identified in the subject line as a “Notice of Departure”.

Review of Notice of Departure Applications

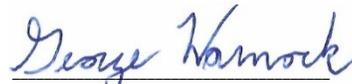
Upon receipt, EMLI staff will assess the information provided within the Notice of Departure application. EMLI may ask clarifying questions about the proposed departure, and it is expected that the proponent and their Qualified Professionals will provide comprehensive responses to technical questions raised by EMLI reviewers and address any outstanding items as soon as practicable.

Recommendation and Decision

EMLI will inform the proponent in writing if the proposed work has been authorized. This will be completed through a Notice of Departure Authorization Letter.

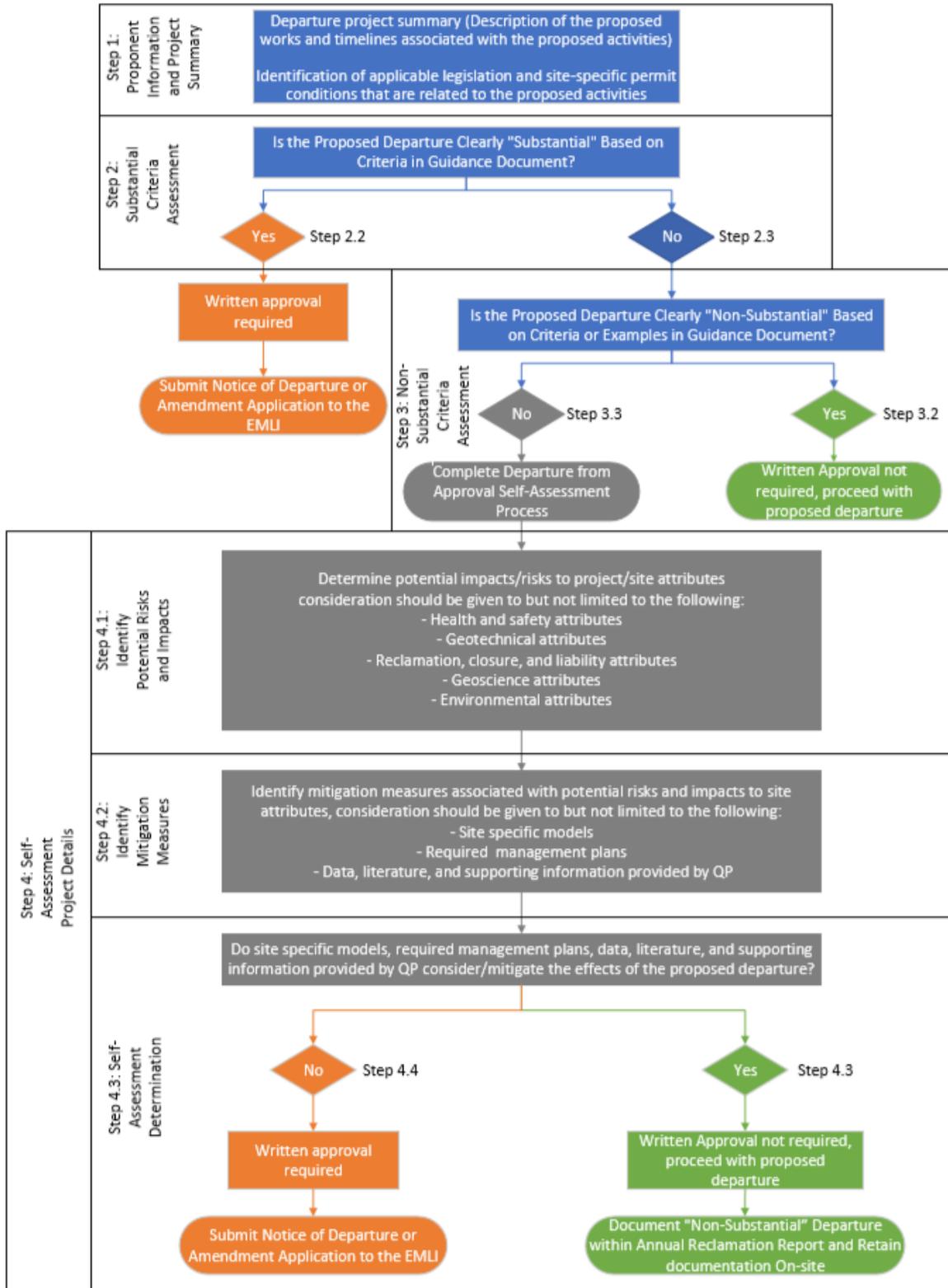


Hermanus Henning
Chief Inspector of Mines



George Warnock
Chief Permitting Officer

Appendix A – Notice of Departure Self-Assessment Process Flowchart



Appendix B – Notice of Departure Self-Assessment Form

| Step 1: Proponent Information and Project Summary | | |
|---|-----|----|
| Owner/Company Name: Mine Name: Mine Manager: <i>Mines Act</i> Permit Number: Departure Project Name: | | |
| Departure Project Summary (Description of the proposed works and timelines associated with the proposed activities): | | |
| Identification of applicable legislation and site-specific permit conditions that are related to the proposed activities: | | |
| Step 2: Substantial Criteria Assessment | | |
| 2.1 Use Binary questions to evaluate whether or not the proposed Project is “substantial” | Yes | No |
| 2.1-1: Is the proposed activity outside of the permitted mine area (PMA)? <i>[The PMA is the area in which permitted works have been authorized under the Mines Act permit.]</i> | | |
| 2.1-2: Does the proposed activity include disturbance of an area where EMLI does not hold a reclamation bond? | | |
| 2.1-3: Does the proposed activity impact the rights and title of Indigenous nations beyond what has already been consulted or is the proposed activity limited by any existing agreements with Indigenous nations? | | |
| 2.1-4: Are there regulatory or technical requirements (e.g., regulations, standards of practice, or permit conditions) that limit the proposed activities? | | |
| 2.1-5: Will the proposed activity result in a deterioration of water quality leaving the site such that water quality objectives will not be met without additional water quality mitigation? | | |
| 2.1-6: Does the proposed activity include the creation of a new long-term storage facility (2 years (+) for ore, waste rock, CCR, tailings, etc.) or a new pit, borrow or quarry? | | |
| 2.1-7: Does the proposed activity reduce the effectiveness of an approved water quality mitigation (water treatment facility, water cover, soil cover system, etc.) or require the establishment of additional water treatment? | | |
| 2.1-8: Does the proposed activity include a change to objectives of the Reclamation prescriptions outlined in the permitted Reclamation and Closure Plan? | | |
| 2.1-9: Is the proposed activity identified as an activity that requires a Notice of Departure, Notice of Work, or a permit amendment in the Drilling and Test Pitting Regulatory Guidance Table (Appendix A)? | | |

| | | |
|--|-----|----|
| 2.1-10: Have Qualified Professionals appropriate for the activity recommended the use of less conservative design criteria than those used for the permitted design? | | |
| 2.1-11: Has the Engineer of Record (for any facility that requires one) advised against any aspects of the proposed activity? | | |
| 2.1-12: Does the proposed work increase the risk to human health and safety or environmental values? | | |
| 2.2 If the proponent has answered YES to any of the above questions, the proposed activity should be considered “substantial” and written approval from EMLI is required to proceed. Submit a Notice of Departure or Permit Amendment Application to EMLI. Further engagement with EMLI may be undertaken where uncertainties exist. | | |
| 2.3 If the proponent has answered NO to all of the above questions, the departure may potentially be considered “non-substantial”. Sections 3 and 4 of the form should be reviewed and completed to assess and document whether the departure is clearly non-substantial, or to investigate areas of uncertainty. Further engagement with EMLI may be required to confirm whether a departure is non-substantial where uncertainties remain after completion of the form. | | |
| Step 3: Non-Substantial Criteria Assessment | | |
| 3.1 Use Binary questions to evaluate whether or not the proposed Project is “Non-substantial” | Yes | No |
| 3.1-1: Is the proposed activity drilling or test pitting that is consistent with work identified as “non-substantial” in Appendix C? | | |
| 3.1-2: Is the proposed activity the installation of dewatering or monitoring infrastructure for pit walls and dumps carried out in accordance with the recommendations of a Professional Engineer? | | |
| 3.1-3: Is the proposed activity a change to pit slope design such that all of the following conditions are met?: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes are designed by a Professional Engineer; • there is no increase to overall or inter-ramp angles; and, • the change does not result in a pushback at the pit rim. | | |
| 3.1-4: Is the proposed activity deepening of an open pit by one bench or less and will the change be made under the direction of a Professional Engineer? | | |
| 3.1-5: Is the proposed activity a change to waste dump design such that all of the following conditions are met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes are designed by a Professional Engineer; • changes will not involve an increase in the maximum approved storage volume; • changes will not involve the deposition of material having a different ML/ARD potential than the material already approved; • there will be no increase to the overall interim or reclaimed slope angles; and, • the change will not result in an expansion of the dump footprint into an area not previously disturbed? | | |
| 3.1-6: Is the proposed activity related to maintenance of existing permitted haul and access roads? | | |

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| <p>3.1-7: Is the proposed activity the construction of a new haul road or access road to support permitted development within a previously disturbed area that will satisfy existing permit conditions and Code requirements and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where Construction Environmental Managements Plans (CEMPs) are required under the Mines Act Permit, these will be prepared prior to start of construction, and • where required by the Mines Act Permit, the proponent has posted the liability bond for the associated permitted development? | | |
| <p>3.1-8: Is the proposed activity related to the construction or modification of road ditching, road drainage, runout lanes and road berms?</p> | | |
| <p>3.1-9: Is the proposed activity a change from IFC drawings to field-fit construction changes such that all the following conditions are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes are designed by a Professional Engineer; • the permitted design criteria will be maintained; and, • the changes will be captured in an As-Built Report sealed by the design engineer? | | |
| <p>3.1-10: Does the proposed activity involve the disturbance of previously reclaimed sites with the intent to enhance and expedite the ecological recovery of ecosystems in alignment with the approved Reclamation and Closure Plan, and where EMLI holds Reclamation Security associated with the disturbance?</p> | | |
| <p>3.1-11: Is the proposed activity to maintain and repair aging infrastructure, or replace components to meet permitted design objectives?</p> | | |
| <p>3.1-12: Is the proposed activity maintenance of infrastructure including replacement of aging infrastructure?</p> | | |
| <p>3.1-13: Is the proposed activity Installation of environmental or geotechnical instrumentation for implementation of monitoring programs as recommended by Qualified Professionals? (Whether on Surface or Underground)</p> | | |
| <p>3.1-14: Is the proposed activity a change in timing of planned underground development or production and will the planned work remain within permitted production rates?</p> | | |
| <p>3.1-15: Is the proposed activity a change in location, orientation, or number of underground workings (e.g. drifts, ramps, ancillary infrastructure, stopes) in accordance with the written recommendations of a Professional Engineer and will it remain within the permit boundary?</p> | | |
| <p>3.1-16: Is the proposed activity a change to underground backfill design criteria, and will all the following conditions be satisfied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the change has been signed off by a Professional Engineer • the established management plans remain valid • the backfill will not be exposed • no mining of crown pillars • workers will not be located directly below or beside the backfill? | | |
| <p>3.1-17: Is the proposed activity a change to the ground support type, or pattern that will increase ground support/capacity, and has the change been signed off by a Professional Engineer?</p> | | |

| | | |
|---|-----|---|
| 3.1-18: Is the proposed activity the rehabilitation of aged or corroded support and will that work be completed in a manner that is consistent with the Ground Control Management Plan and the design of a Professional Engineer? | | |
| 3.1-19: Is the proposed activity installation and maintenance of ancillary underground water management structures and which does not include bulkheads? | | |
| 3.1-20: Is the proposed activity a change in ventilation quantities in response to environmental conditions and/or health and safety concerns, and that are in support of a Qualified Professional's recommendations? | | |
| 3.1-21: Is the proposed activity replacing components of fixed substations or powerlines, in-pit movable substations and powerline movements or power moves in underground operations and will the increase in capacity be below 500 KVA? | | |
| 3.2 If the proponent has answered YES to one or more of the above questions, and the description in the table fully encompasses the proposed activity, the proposed activity should be considered "non-substantial" and written authorization is not required. The proponent may proceed with the activity in accordance with the requirements of the Code and applicable legislation, authorizations, guidelines and industry standards. The completed self-assessment form should be signed off by the Mine Manager and filed on-site to document the chosen course of action. Completion of the rest of the form is not required. | | |
| 3.3 If the proponent has answered NO to all of the above questions, the proposed activity is not clearly "substantial" or "non-substantial". The Mine Manager should proceed to Step 4 to complete a detailed self-assessment to determine site specific impacts or risks to site attributes associated with the proposed activities. Documentation within Step 4 should clearly outline the rationale for classifying a departure as "non-substantial". | | |
| Step 4: Project Details | | |
| 4.1 Identify Potential Risks and Impacts | | |
| 4.1-1: Are there expected impacts or incremental risks to Health and Safety? | Yes | No If Yes, identify mitigation measures associated with potential risks and impacts. If No, state rationale: |
| 4.1-2: Are there expected impacts or incremental risks to Geotechnical attributes? | Yes | No If Yes, identify mitigation measures associated with potential risks and impacts. If No, state rationale: |
| 4.1-3: Are there expected impacts or incremental risks to Reclamation, closure, or liability attributes? | Yes | No If Yes, identify mitigation measures associated with potential risks and impacts. If No, state rationale: |

| | | | |
|--|-----|----|--|
| 4.1-4: Are there expected impacts or incremental risks to Geoscience attributes? | Yes | No | If Yes, identify mitigation measures associated with potential risks and impacts. If No, state rationale: |
| 4.1-5: Are there expected impacts or incremental risks to Environmental attributes (e.g., wildlife, vegetation, air, water, etc.)? | Yes | No | If Yes, identify mitigation measures associated with potential risks and impacts. If No, state rationale: |
| 4.2 Identify Mitigation Measures Associated with Potential Risks and Impacts to Site Attributes | | | |
| 4.2-1: Are incremental risks and/or effects to site attributes mitigated by specified measures within existing management plans? | Yes | No | Attach supporting documentation. Mitigations must afford protection to human health and safety and the environment equal to or greater than the protection established by the permitted mine plan. |
| 4.2-2: Are incremental risks and/or effects mitigated by implementing specified measures within existing legislation, permits and regulations? | Yes | No | Attach supporting documentation. Mitigations must afford protection to human health and safety and the environment equal to or greater than the protection established by the permitted mine plan. |
| 4.2-3: Will activities be conducted under the written direction/recommendation of a Professional Engineer or Qualified Professional (as necessary)? [Note: This must be the Engineer of Record for any changes affecting a facility that requires one.] | Yes | No | Attach supporting documentation. Mitigations must afford protection to human health and safety and the environment equal to or greater than the protection established by the permitted mine plan. |

4.3 If the proponent has answered **YES** to questions 4.2-1 through 4.2-3, the proposed activity should be considered 'non-substantial'. Written approval from EMLI is not required, and the proponent may proceed with the activity in accordance with the requirements of the Code and applicable legislation and authorizations. If residual risks and/or effects associated with proposed activities are mitigated, the Mine Manager and/or Qualified Professional must clearly document how the mitigation measures limit impacts or risks to site attributes. The completed self-assessment form must be signed off by the Mine Manager, filed on-site for future reference, and provided to any inspector upon request.

4.4 If the proponent has answered **NO** to any of questions 4.2-1 through 4.2-3 or if the proponent has further questions, engagement with EMLI should be undertaken to confirm whether a submission to EMLI is required in the form of a Notice of Departure or a permit amendment request.

Mine Manager Signoff:

Date:

Notes:

1. The Mine Manager is accountable for the completion of this form. It is the Ministry's expectation that any work completed by a Qualified Professional to support the self-assessment will be appropriately signed, sealed and filed with the self-assessment form.
2. Please contact the Ministry (via PermRecl@gov.bc.ca) if you have any questions about the use of the Notice of Departure Self-Assessment Form.

Appendix C – Drilling and Test Pitting Regulatory Guidance Table

| Row ID# | Activity | Types/Purpose | Pre-Disturbance Survey | Non-Substantial | Notice of Departure | Notice of Work/MYAB | Permit Amendment | Annual Reporting |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|--|
| Inside C or M-Permit Boundary | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Drilling or test pitting in a permitted area that has been previously disturbed: Special Considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For drilling in an area that has been reclaimed refer to Row 2 or Row 3 as appropriate. - Does not negate the need for approvals that may be required for changes to water management or water quality monitoring plans. - EoR must supervise invasive work such as test pitting, CPT, drilling and backfilling, on or below a dam or TSF (including on tailings beach). - Design details and configuration of extraction, monitoring and injection wells may be required in a separate application to request approval to operate these types of wells. | | N | ✓ | | | | Not Required |
| 2 | Drilling or test pitting in an area that has not been previously disturbed but is permitted for disturbance: Special Considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where Construction Environmental Managements Plans (CEMPs) are required under the Mines Act Permits, these must be fulfilled prior to start of drilling. ^B - Use this row for drilling in an area that has been reclaimed and where the province holds the reclamation security bond for the footprint, as the land is considered not disturbed, but is considered permitted for disturbance. - Does not negate the need for approvals that may be required for changes to water management or water quality monitoring plans. - Design details and configuration of extraction, monitoring and injection wells may be required in a separate application to request approval to operate these types of wells. | Exploration Drilling ^A Geophysical Surveys ^A Groundwater monitoring Geotechnical drilling Test pitting Dewatering | Y | ✓ | | | | Annual Reclamation Report |
| 3 | Drilling or test pitting in an area that has not been permitted for disturbance: ^C Special Considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use this row for drilling in an area that has been reclaimed and where the reclaimed area has been released back to the province, as the land is considered not not permitted for disturbance. - Where work is completed without notification (per Note C below), separate approvals may be required for changes to water management dewatering, pit pumping plan, or water quality monitoring plans. - Where work is completed without notification (per Note C below), design details and configuration of extraction, monitoring and injection wells may be required in a separate application to request approval to operate these types of wells. | | Y | | ✓ | | ✓ | Annual Reclamation Report |
| Outside C or M-Permit Boundary | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Groundwater drilling to support regional programs. ^D | Groundwater monitoring | Y | ✓ | | | | Regional Groundwater Report |
| 5 | Exploration work to support mine development or new construction and investigative drilling that is not associated with mineral exploration work. ^E | Exploration Drilling Geophysical Surveys Groundwater monitoring Geotechnical drilling Test pitting | Y | | | ✓ | ✓ | Annual Summary for Exploration Activities and/or Annual Reclamation Report |

| NOTES | |
|--------------|---|
| A | A Notice of Deemed Authorization is not required for exploration drilling or IP surveys within the C or M-Permit boundary where this work was contemplated by the existing permit, or where the work is considered to be non-substantial with respect to HSRC 10.1.18. |
| B | Permit conditions relating to CEMPs (or any other relevant conditions) must be fulfilled prior to starting work, but a subsequent approval for the drilling activity is not required. |
| C | Please contact EMLI to discuss drilling contemplated in this category. A NoD or permit amendment application (depending on the nature and extent of disturbance) will be required for work where disturbance is assessed to be substantial. If drilling or test pitting can be conducted without the construction of new access roads, and where the contemplated disturbance does not impact sensitive habitat, EMLI may determine the work to be non-substantial. |
| D | Regional programs are those programs required to support a regional understanding of groundwater and not to support specific development activities of a mine. Approvals may be required from other agencies. |
| E | A NoW should first be considered for any drilling outside of the Permit boundary; however, a Permit Amendment may be considered where drilling is proximate to the permit boundary, where it is related to longer term activities, or where additional mining related work will be completed in the area in the near term (5 years). |
| F | This document is intended to serve as general guidance only and site-specific considerations may necessitate that mine operators take a different approach to the ones offered above. Nothing in this document supersedes or nullifies any legislation, regulation, HSRC requirement, permit condition or third-party contract. |