

Ontario Ministry of Mines
Category B Environmental Assessment
Project Documentation
Proposed Issuance of an Unpatented Boundary
Claim

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1 Project Description

1.1 Background

Under subsection 176(3) of the *Mining Act* (the “Act”), despite anything in the Act, in special circumstances the Minister may, subject to the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council (LGIC), issue an unpatented mining claim on such terms and conditions as the Minister considers appropriate.

EV Nickel Inc. applied for the issuance of an unpatented mining claim under subsection 176(3) of the Act. The area which would be subject to the requested mining claim is not currently available for mining claim registration by licensees due to the existence of two other boundary claims within the cell.

The requested area, approximately 14.79 hectares, is situated within provincial grid boundary cell number 42A06H380. This cell covers part of the east part of the abandoned Langmuir Mine, located approximately 20km southeast of the City of Timmins, at the southeast end of Night Hawk Lake. The historical mine operated from 1973 to 1978 where two million tons of nickel ore was mined. The mine features a tailing dam, polishing pond, head frame and surrounding perimeter road (dyke). Ministry inspections conducted in 2013, 2018 and 2021 observed the dams were stable and showed no signs of impending failure. The site continues to be monitored for maintenance required to clear debris in sewage works that direct water out of the dams.

The former leases issued for the Langmuir mine terminated in 1992 and the mining rights were reopened for claim registration. The unpatented mining claim that formerly occupied the requested area forfeited in 2019 and the cell has remained unavailable for registration by licensees due to the existence of two other active boundary claims within the cell.

The location of the site is provided below on Figure 1 and Figure 2.

Figure 1 – Mining Claim Location

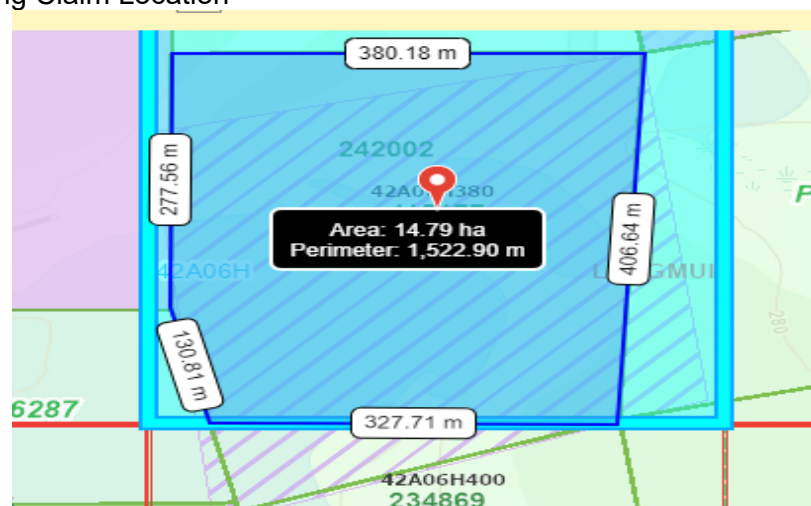
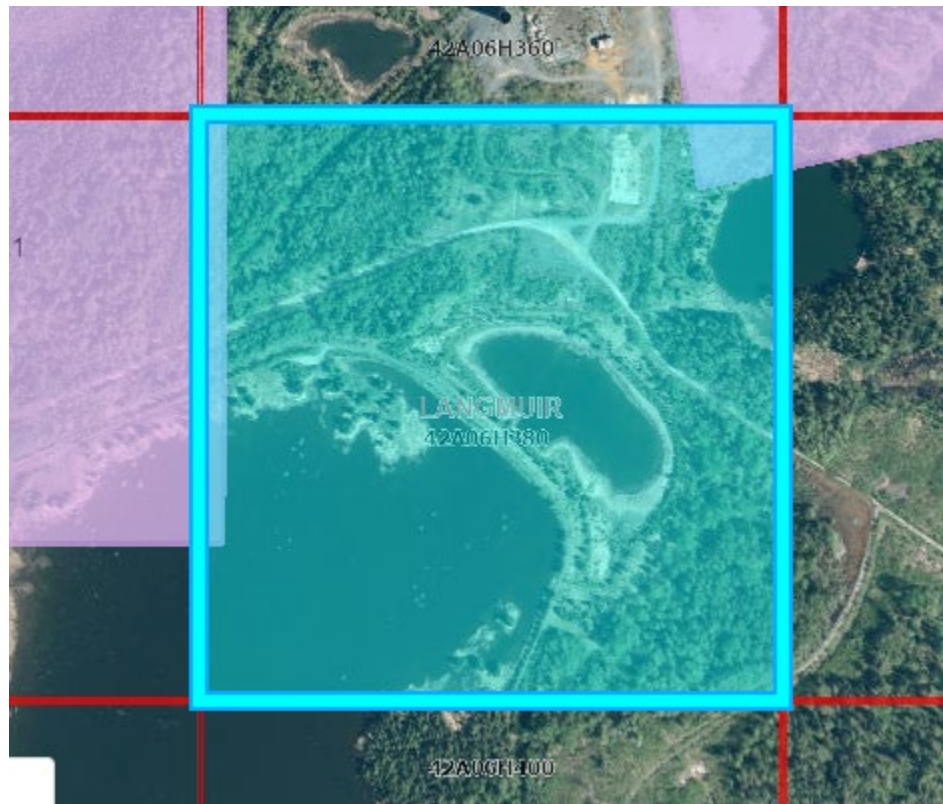


Figure 2 – Mining Claim Location



1.2 Project Description

No new environmental impacts associated with the proposed issuance of an unpatented mining claim are anticipated, given the small size of the area, the area being adjacent to the applicant's existing boundary claim, and since activities on the claim are subject to other regulatory authorizations and requirements that govern environmental impacts.

The mining rights are not withdrawn from claim registration and are only unavailable for claim registration because of the existence of other boundary claims in the boundary cell. If an unpatented mining claim is issued, the claimholder's activities would be subject to the requirements for exploration plans, exploration permits, or advanced exploration closure plans set out in sections 78.2, 78.3, and 140 of the Act, respectively, and the assessment work requirements in Part II of the Act would apply for the mining claim to remain valid.

1.3 Class Environmental Assessment

In “special circumstances” an unpatented mining claim can be issued by the Minister of Energy and Mines, subject to the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, pursuant to s. 176(3) of the *Mining Act*. The “special circumstances” related to this proposed issuance of a mining claim is the fact that requested lands in provincial grid boundary cell number 42A06H380 are currently unavailable for mining claim registration due to the existence of other boundary claims in the cell.

The issuance of a mining claim under s. 176(3) of the *Mining Act* is subject to the Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM) Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process, as prescribed in the *Class Environmental Assessment for Activities of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines under the Mining Act* (amended 2018). The purpose of MEM’s Class EA is to provide an effective process for screening, evaluating, and mitigating the potential environmental effects of activities and to provide appropriate consultation opportunities to ensure that all potential environmental effects of a project are considered. The MEM Class EA is an approved process that provides a decision-making structure that ensures the requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act* are met.

The phases of the MINES Class EA process are summarized below in Table 1.

Table 1 - Class Environmental Assessment overview

Class EA Phase	Description
Project Screening	The proposal for the proposed issuance of a mining claim has been screened as a Category B project with low potential for environmental effects. The completed screening criteria table is provided in Appendix A.
Consultation	In accordance with Section 4.1.2 of the Class EA, the ministry posted a Notice of Opportunity to Provide Input as an Instrument notice on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) and on the MEM Class EA website. Government agencies, indigenous communities and other persons that may have an interest in the project were notified about the instrument via email with a letter included. Further details about consultation completed as part of this Class EA is provided in Section 2.
Studies and Information Gathering	The ministry reviewed various information sources to document existing conditions in the proposal area.
Project Documentation	This document has been prepared to satisfy the Category B project documentation requirements, as described in Section 4.2.1.2. of the Class EA.

Project Implementation	A Statement of Completion has been prepared and posted on the Class EA website.
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2 Consultation Requirements

A summary of all stakeholders, agencies and Indigenous communities contacted as part of the Class EA is provided below on Table 2. The stakeholder, agencies and Indigenous communities were notified about the project via email with letter on April 2 and 3, 2025. Each group was provided with specific information and a description of the proposal that included a summary of potential negative environmental effects associated with the proposed mining claim issuance and proposed mitigation measures that would negate or reduce the significance of the environmental effects. Comments or concerns received during the consultation stage and resolutions are summarized in Section 2.4.

Table 2 - List of parties contacted during consultation stage.

Name of Ministry/ Agency/Department/ Organization	Name and Contact Information	Consultation Method	Comments or Concerns Received
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks – Species at Risk Branch	Species at Risk Email: sarontario@ontario.ca	Email	No response received.
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks – Environmental Assessment Branch	eanotification.nregion@ontario.ca	Email	No response received.
Ministry of Natural Resources-Timmins District Office	District Manager mnrf.tim.kl@ontario.ca	Email	Comment/response documented in section 2.4 below.
Ministry of Citizenship, Inclusion and Heritage, Heritage Planning Unit/Archaeology Program Unit	Karla Barboza Karla.Barboza@ontario.ca	Email	No response received.
Mattagami Region Conservation Authority	info@mattagamiregion.ca	Email	No response received.

City of Timmins	cao@timmins.ca	Email	No response received.
Clean Metals Inc.	samson@transition.inc	Email	Comment/response documented in section 2.4 below.
Silk Energy Limited	info@silk-energy.com jessica@hannacapitalcorp.com	Email	Comment/response documented in section 2.4 below.
Starfire Minerals Inc.	norm@starfireminerals.ca elliottn@shaw.ca	Email	Comment/response documented in section 2.4 below
EV Nickel Inc.	davis@evnickel.com	Email	No response received.
Pure North Resources Inc. (formerly 2812794 Ontario Inc.)	csung@canllp.ca	Email	No response received.
Indigenous Communities			
Apitipi Anicinapek Nation	Chief June Black chief@apitipi.ca mda@apitipi.ca andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca	Email	Comment/response documented in section 2.4 below
Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Chief Bruce Archibald bruce@taykwatagamou.com dwright@taykwatagamou.com ivaniserhoff@mushkegowuk.ca derek@taykwatagamou.com Chirag-lands@taykwatagamou.com	Email	No response received.
Matachewan First Nation	Chief Alex (Sonny) Batisse chief@mfnrez.ca mda@mfnrez.ca mdadvisor@wabun.on.ca LindaKeay@wabun.on.ca jbatise@wabun.on.ca	Email	No response received.
Métis Nation of Ontario- Region 3	Jacques Picotte, Regional Consultation Committee Chair Jaquesp@metisnation.org mohannade@metisnation.org Consultations@metisnation.org	Email	Comment/response documented in section 2.4 below

The MEM Class EA consultation process has been documented in a detailed *Record of Consultation* that may be made available to the public upon request.

2.1 Notice of Opportunity to Provide Input

A Notice of Opportunity to Provide Input was posted as an Instrument Notice on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO 025-0307) on March 31, 2025, and additionally referenced on the MEM Class EA webpage. The notice and letters were supported with information and a description of the proposal that included a summary of potential negative environmental effects associated with the proposed issuance of an unpatented mining claim and proposed mitigation measures that would negate or reduce the significance of the environmental effects. All parties consulted were provided an opportunity to provide input and express concerns related to the project over a 30-day comment period.

2.2 Meetings Held

No meetings had been held for the purpose of the proposal.

2.3 Indigenous Consultation

Indigenous communities contacted as part of this process are summarized above in Table 2.

Indigenous communities were engaged on April 2, 2025, by email with a letter to inform them that the Ministry of Energy and Mines (then MINES) received an application for the issuance of an unpatented mining claim associated with this EA process.

Comments and concerns received from Indigenous communities and resolutions are summarized in Section 2.4.

2.4 Comments/ Concerns/Issues and Resolution

An overview of issues raised from the parties consulted and proposed resolutions is provided below in Table 3.

Table 3 - Comments/Concerns/ Issues and Resolutions

Comments/ Concerns/ Issues	Resolution
Clean Metals Inc. advised that they hold mining lease LEA-109721 and are negotiating with Starfire Minerals Inc. for Boundary Claim 115177. The proposal has potential impact on where we are planning the “Aurora Nickel Project” to the west, east and north of the claim area. Let me review this with my lawyers and will get back to you.	Acknowledged receipt of email and welcomed additional comments by the deadline. None were received.
Silk Energy Limited advised their SRO property is in litigation and their legal counsel may follow up. Asked if Inspiration Mining Corporation/Metal Mines obtained the mining rights when they took the property to lease. They spent over 25 million dollars drilling the Langmuir Property. Can the SRO owner also apply under s.176 if this proposal is not approved?	Their legal counsel did not follow up. The Ministry clarified that the disposition of land relates to mining rights only that are crown land and that subsequent applications are welcomed but cannot be considered until the prior application process is completed. Also clarified that Ministry is simply gathering comments and no final decisions have been made. Provided clarification that there was no prior pending lease application found and that their SRO property described in PIN 65467-0010 was transferred to Inspiration Mining by the City of Timmins under a Municipal Tax Sale in 2006 and excludes the mining rights that had previously forfeited back to the crown in 1996 for non-payment of mining land taxes. (refer to instrument C460173). No further response or comments received.
Starfire Minerals Inc. expressed opposition to the proposal, concerned it would result in the takeover of their boundary mining claim.	The Ministry clarified that the proposal does not include taking over claim 115177 within cell 42A06H380 and does not restrict Starfire’s ability to form joint ventures.
MNR Timmins District Office suggested to notify local trapper, bait fish holders, bear management area holders.	Ministry acknowledged receipt of the email and advised the notice of opportunity to comment is available on the ERO website to share with their stakeholders.
Apitipi Anicinapek Nation inquired whether any buildings were planned for the site.	The Ministry responded that no buildings are proposed at this time and the request pertains solely to an unpatented boundary claim under subsection 176(3) of the <i>Mining Act</i> .
Métis Nation of Ontario – Region 3 (MNO): MNO provided several suggestions including the need to map culturally significant areas, conduct archaeological assessments, and implement environmental protections.	The Ministry acknowledged receipt of MNO’s email and thanked them for sharing their suggestions and recommendations.

3 Analysis of Environmental Effects and Mitigation Measures

The Ministry of Energy and Mines completed a Class EA screening to assess the potential environmental effects. Given the small size of the area, the area being adjacent to the applicant's existing boundary claim, and since activities on the claim would be subject to other regulatory authorizations and requirements that govern environmental impacts, the proposed issuance of a mining claim was deemed to have low to moderate impacts. We have noted below some of the environmental considerations. Available online information sources were reviewed to provide background data.

3.1 Physical Environment

The proposed claim area is in Langmuir township within provincial grid cell number 42A06H380. This cell covers part of the east part of the abandoned Langmuir Mine, located approximately 20km southeast of the City of Timmins, at the southeast end of Night Hawk Lake. The historical mine operated from 1973 to 1978 where two million tons of nickel ore was mined. The abandoned mine features a tailing dam, polishing pond, head frame and surrounding perimeter road (dyke). Ministry inspections conducted in 2013, 2018 and 2021 observed the dams were stable and showed no signs of impending failure. The site continues to be monitored for maintenance required to clear debris in sewage works that direct water out of the dams.

According to the Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) Map there are no Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), Significant Wetlands, Conservations Reserves or other environmentally significant areas within or nearby the proposed claim area. There are no activities at the site that currently contribute to the release of greenhouse gases.

3.1.1 Summary of Environmental Effects

Noise from potential blasting and surface operations may negatively affect nearby sensitive receptors. There is the potential for vibrations from blasting on the mining claim to affect nearby sensitive receptors. The area is in the Boreal climate region. The weather is relatively average there with very cold and dry winters and warm and wet summers. Its climate is influenced by the Continental air masses as well as the air mass from the gulf.

3.1.2 Mitigation Measures

The proposed claim area is not located within or near a populated area. No disruption of the existing landscape is required to access the area. Existing trails or bush road are used to access the area. There has been no history of blast-induced vibration impacts on the surface caused by the historical operations of the Langmuir mine.

3.2 Biological Environment

The proposed claim area covers part of the historic Langmuir Mine tailings dam. There has been historic beaver activity/habitat in the tailings dam. Night Hawk Lake (south end) is approximately 600m away from the claim area. Pike and Walleye inhabit the lake and the nearest residential well is >12km away. Night Hawk Lake is in the James Bay drainage basin and is the source of the Frederick House River, which flows via the Abitibi River and Moose River to James Bay.

The historical mine operated from 1973 to 1978 where two million tons of nickel ore was mined. Ministry inspections deemed the tailings dam stable and based on results from water samples taken, nickel remains in the tailings and there is attenuation for all other potential contaminants. Samples taken upstream of St. Peters Bay in Night Hawk Lake indicate the waters are un-impacted by the historical mine site. As a result, MEM does not anticipate any new disturbances that will contribute to biological concerns if a mining claim is issued.

The NHIC map also does not identify any previous occurrences of species at risk within the claim area.

3.2.1 *Summary of Environmental Effects*

There is the potential for the contamination of groundwater and surface water bodies from claim exploration activities, including soils and sediment. Although considered low risk, there is potential for fish and other aquatic species or habitat to be impacted by the exploration activities.

3.2.2 *Mitigation Measures*

Considering the location of the historical mine tailings which includes a large reclaimed area in relation to Night Hawk Lake, the Ministry conducted site inspections in 2013, 2018 and 2021 to determine the stability of the dams. An area of subsidence located adjacent to the proposed claim area was rehabilitated to standards. All water samples taken (upstream/downstream) were also deemed to be within standards. The nearest residential well is >12km away and not anticipated to be impacted by exploration activities. Exploration activities are subject to permitting and all regulatory environmental laws. No surface material waste is present on site or nearby.

3.3 Built/ Structural Environment-

The proposed claim area is accessible from Connaugh Hill on Stringers Forest access road then east on Langmuir Road for 9km. Seasonal and permanent residences on Night Hawk Lake use the forestry road to access a public boat launch. Historical mine features such as the tailings dam and recycling dam are present in the area. The proposed claim

area is situated in the east section of the tailings dam and recycle tailings dam and west of the area of subsidence and vent raise as documented in an MNM inspection report (AMIS-00052).

3.3.1 Summary of Environmental Effects

There is limited potential for disturbances relating to future exploration activities. All exploration activities currently occurring in the vicinity by the proponent, other than grassroots prospecting, are authorized under an exploration permit (PR-22-00108) and future activities proposed would also be subject to new permitting. No negative environmental effects are expected because of the proposed issuance of a mining claim.

3.3.2 Mitigation Measures

No negative environmental effects identified. Access to the proposed claim area does not have an impact on navigation/access routes or navigability/access of waterways.

3.4 Social/ Economic/ Cultural Environment

The proposed claim area is situated 20km southeast of the City of Timmins at the southwest end of Night Hawk Lake. The site is not located within or near a populated area. There is several active mining claims currently registered over the historical Langmuir Mine. The forestry roads are used for recreational activities (ATV), exploration activities and to access a boat launch to Night Hawk Lake. Mainly seasonal and permanent residences on the lake use the forestry road to access the boat launch. The bush roads are therefore accessible to the public and other stakeholders in the area. Historically the area was subjected to forestry and mining operations.

No archaeological resources were identified in the area including any sites of Aboriginal Cultural Significance.

The proposed claim area is located within a larger area which may be used by communities exercising treaty rights (trapping, hunting, fishing, camping, gathering). The claim area is <18km of a historic Métis travel route and historic Métis post. There is no known documented Métis traditional land use within the proposed claim area.

No communities expressed specific concerns about the issuance of the mining claim. Without additional activities being permitted on the land, there are no direct potential adverse impacts on the exercise of Aboriginal and/or treaty rights.

3.4.1 Summary of Environmental Effects

There is no known exercise of Aboriginal or treaty rights at the location of the proposed mining claim. The issuance of a mining claim grants the exclusive right to conduct mineral exploration in that location but mineral exploration activities more extensive than

grassroots prospecting require additional authorizations (e.g. an exploration plan or permit, a closure plan, etc.).

The proposal to issue a mining claim has been communicated to all interested communities via MEM consultation efforts.

3.4.2 Mitigation Measures

Communities were notified by letter of the pending application pursuant to s.176(3) of the *Mining Act* at the time the application was received and were encouraged to provide comments or concerns. Communities were also engaged as part of the Class EA notification requirements in which they were invited to provide input into the proposal. Additionally, they were informed about the notice published on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO Number 025-0307).

No communities expressed specific concerns about the proposed issuance of the mining claim.

4 Approvals and Claim Issuance

With the Environmental Assessment comment period now complete, MEM will seek the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council under the authority of section 176(3) of the *Mining Act* for the Minister to issue the unpatented mining claim. The approval as authorized by Order in Council (OIC) has been sought and is pending. If approved, a mining claim will be issued to the applicant along with an approval letter outlining the requirements applicable to the mining claim and relevant timelines.

5 Monitoring Requirements

The Ministry may periodically inspect the site to ensure rehabilitation works are not disturbed or compromised by exploration activities. The claimholder will also be responsible to ensure rehabilitation works are not compromised during exploration activities. The issuance of a mining claim does not relieve a claim holder from any legal obligations, whether arising under the Act or under any other legislation, regulation or legal instrument. Exploration activities on the mining claim remain subject to compliance with relevant requirements and obtaining all necessary permissions.

6 Claim Issuance Overview and Schedule

Approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council under the authority of section 176(3) of the *Mining Act* is required for the Minister to issue the mining claim. The claim issuance has been divided into four phases, as summarize in Table 4 below.

If the LGIC approves the OIC authorizing the issuance of a mining claim, the Minister would send a letter to the applicant confirming that a mining claim has been issued, attaching a copy of the OIC, and the Ministry would record the mining claim in the Mining Lands Administration System. The letter would also contain other documentation to assist with providing notification of claim registration to surface right owners. If approved, the OIC will also be publicly posted to ontario.ca/search/orders-in-council. In addition, a Decision Notice will be posted on the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#) (ERO).

Table 4 – Claim Issuance Phases and Schedule

Task	Description	Duration
1 – LGIC ratification of the OIC	Seek approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council under the authority of section 176(3) of the <i>Mining Act</i> by authorization of a signed Order in Council.	4-6 weeks
2 – Mining Claim Registration	If the LGIC approves the OIC authorizing the issuance of a mining claim, it will be registered in the Mining Lands Administration System (i.e. mining claim registry).	1-2 days after OIC is signed
3 – Notice to Applicant	The applicant will be notified by letter that a mining claim has been issued by OIC and that notification of claim registration to surface rights owners is required within 60 days after claim registration.	Same day as claim registration occurs
4 – Posting of OIC and decision notice on the ERO	Ministry will public post the OIC in the mining claim registry and will post a decision notice on the ERO.	1-5 days after claim registration occurs

7 Class EA Requirements

This project has been completed in accordance with the Category B review and planning process, as detailed in the MEM Class EA. The purpose of Category B projects is to ensure some type of public notification is provided for low-impact projects. A summary of how Category B requirements have been met is provided in Table 5 below.

Table 5 - Class EA Requirements

Category B Project Requirement	MEM Class EA Section	Description
Project Description	Section 4.1.1.1	A project description was prepared and included as supporting material on the ERO posting and distributed with consultation letters. A copy of the project description is provided in Appendix B.
Consultation Requirements – Notice of Opportunity to Provide Input	Section 4.1.2.1	A Notice of Opportunity to Provide Input was prepared that satisfies the requirements of the Class EA, as described above in Section 2.1. A copy of the Notice of Opportunity to Provide input is included in Appendix B. Government agencies, members of the public, Aboriginal communities and other interested person were provided opportunity to provide input and express concerns over a 30-day comment period.
Statement of Completion	Section 4.1.2.2	No comments or information relevant to the proposed issuance of a mining claim were received that would require special terms and conditions to be imposed on the mining claim following the 30-day comment period. As such, the ministry has issued a Statement of Completion for the proposal.

8 References

Mining Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.14. Available from: <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90m14> . Accessed: December 2023.

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, 2021 Ontario well records map. Available from: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/map-well-records> . Accessed: December 2023.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 2022. Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) Make A Map: Natural Heritage Areas. Available from: https://www.lioapplications.lrc.gov.on.ca/Natural_Heritage/index.html?viewer=Natural_Heritage.Natural_Heritage&locale=en-CA . Accessed: December 2023.

Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, 2012. A Class Environmental Assessment for Activities of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines under the *Mining Act*. Amended February 28, 2018. Available at: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/mining-act-resources#section-8>

O. Reg. 308/12: Exploration Plans and Exploration Permits available from: <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/120308> . Accessed: October 2024.

Section 176.3 of the *Mining Act*

<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90m14>

Appendix A

Project Screening

Part 2 Screening Criteria	Potential Net Environmental Effects								Description of Positive, Negative or Unknown Effect and Supporting Information	Description of Mitigation Measures / Studies Required to Address Negative or Unknown Effects
	Is there a potential environmental effect?			Is the known effect positive or negative?			Can the effect be mitigated using standard measures?			
	Yes	No	Unk.	Pos.	Neg.	Unk.	Yes	No		
1. Physical Environment										
Protected areas / Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs) (overlapping or adjacent)	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated.	No ANSI sites within or adjacent to claim area.
First Nation Reserves	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated.	No reserve identified near claim area.
Noise limits	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Noise from underground blasting and surface operations may negatively affect nearby sensitive receptors.	No explosives are being used for the exploration work program. The site is not located within or near a populated area.
Vibration limits	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Potential for vibrations from blasting to affect nearby sensitive receptors.	No blasting will occur during the exploration work program. The site is not located within or near a populated area.
Views / aesthetics	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated	The site is not located within or near a populated area. No disruption to the existing landscape is required to access the claim area or to undertake the exploration program.
Climate Change	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	The claim is in the Timmins district. Timmins is in the Boreal climate region. The weather is relatively average there with very cold and	The exploration work is low scale and most suitable during the summer/winter months when water levels are lower.

Part 2 Screening Criteria	Potential Net Environmental Effects								Description of Positive, Negative or Unknown Effect and Supporting Information	Description of Mitigation Measures / Studies Required to Address Negative or Unknown Effects
	Is there a potential environmental effect?			Is the known effect positive or negative?			Can the effect be mitigated using standard measures?			
	Yes	No	Unk.	Pos.	Neg.	Unk.	Yes	No		
									dry winters and warm and wet summers. Its climate is influenced by the Continental air masses as well as the air mass from the gulf.	
Additional Information / comments: 										
Biological Environment										
Fish and other aquatic species or habitat	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated.	Pike and walleye habitat in Nighthawk Lake 600m away from claim area.
Terrestrial species or habitat	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated.	Historic beaver activity/habitat in the historical tailings dam within the claim area
Endangered Species / Species at risk or habitat	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated.	No concerns identified.
Migratory bird species	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated.	No concerns identified
Ground <u>water</u> quality/ quantity	☒	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☒	☐	Potential for the contamination of groundwater from historical <u>mine</u> operations.	Tailings dam deemed stable in 2013 by MNDM inspection. No known further instability based on inspections conducted in 2018/2021.
Surface water - quality/ quantity	☒	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☒	☐	Potential for the contamination of surface water bodies from historical mine operations	Tailings dam deemed stable in 2013/2018/2021. Nickel remains in tailings. Attenuation

Part 2 Screening Criteria	Potential Net Environmental Effects								Description of Positive, Negative or Unknown Effect and Supporting Information	Description of Mitigation Measures / Studies Required to Address Negative or Unknown Effects
	Is there a potential environmental effect?			Is the known effect positive or negative?			Can the effect be mitigated using standard measures?			
	Yes	No	Unk.	Pos.	Neg.	Unk.	Yes	No		
										for all other potential contaminants.
Soils - contaminants, sedimentation, erosion	☒	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☒	☐	Potential for the contamination of soils from historical <u>mine</u> activities.	Area of subsidence located adjacent to claim area was rehabilitated to standards. Samples taken in 2013 are within standards. (MNDM IR- 2013)
Wells / drinking water sources	☒	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☒	☐	Potential for the contamination of water sources from historical mine tailings	Nearest residential well is >12km away from the historic Langmuir Mine. The south end of Night Hawk Lake is approx. 600m from claim area. Night Hawk Lake is a lake in the city of Timmins. It is in the James Bay drainage
Air quality	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Source of emissions from surface operations.	No impacts identified.
Additional Information / comments: 										
Built / Structural Environment										
Infrastructure (roads, powerlines, pipelines, etc.)	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated.	Access to claim area follows existing bush forest roads.
Navigation routes	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated.	Travel to claim area is from <u>Connaugh Hill</u> on Stringers

Part 2 Screening Criteria	Potential Net Environmental Effects								Description of Positive, Negative or Unknown Effect and Supporting Information	Description of Mitigation Measures / Studies Required to Address Negative or Unknown Effects	
	Is there a potential environmental effect?			Is the known effect positive or negative?			Can the effect be mitigated using standard measures?				
	Yes	No	Unk.	Pos.	Neg.	Unk.	Yes	No			
											Forest access road until the road's Y. Turn east on <u>Langmuir road</u> for 9km.
Seasonal or permanent residences	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated		Claim area is situated 600m from Night Hawk Lake. Seasonal and permanent residences on the lake use the forestry road to access a public boat launch.
Natural or human-made hazards	☒	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☒	☐	Industrial hazards on surface (heavy equipment and fixed processing equipment.		Historical mine features on site. Claim area is situated in east section of tailings dam, recycle tailings dam, west section of subsidence and vent raise as per 2013 MNDM inspection report for AMIS-00052
Other projects or activities (adjacent)	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated		Exploration activities authorized under PR-22-00108.
Additional Information / comments:											

Part 2 Screening Criteria	Potential Net Environmental Effects								Description of Positive, Negative or Unknown Effect and Supporting Information	Description of Mitigation Measures / Studies Required to Address Negative or Unknown Effects
	Is there a potential environmental effect?			Is the known effect positive or negative?			Can the effect be mitigated using standard measures?			
	Yes	No	Unk.	Pos.	Neg.	Unk.	Yes	No		
Social / Economic / Cultural Environment ¹										
Archaeological resources	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated.	None identified.
Built heritage resources / cultural heritage landscapes	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated	None identified.
Agricultural or forestry uses	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated	Historical forestry/mining operations for the Langmuir Mine.
Site(s) of Aboriginal cultural significance	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated	There are no known sites of Aboriginal Cultural Significance in the area
Recreational uses	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated	ATV on bush roads. Recreational activities would occur mainly on Night Hawk Lake.
Tourism uses	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated	None on or in vicinity of claim area
Industrial uses	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated	None on or in vicinity of claim area
Local / regional economies or businesses	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated	None on or in vicinity of claim area

¹ Completed in accordance with the screening checklists provided in Schedule A (Screening for Built Heritage resources and Cultural heritage Landscapes) and Schedule B (Screening for Archaeological Resources) in the document *A Class Environmental Assessment for Activities of the Ministry of Northern Development of Mines under the Mining Act*.

Part 2 Screening Criteria	Potential Net Environmental Effects								Description of Positive, Negative or Unknown Effect and Supporting Information	Description of Mitigation Measures / Studies Required to Address Negative or Unknown Effects
	Is there a potential environmental effect?			Is the known effect positive or negative?			Can the effect be mitigated using standard measures?			
	Yes	No	Unk.	Pos.	Neg.	Unk.	Yes	No		
Public health and safety	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated	Any potential mine hazards have been rehabilitated to standards.
First Nation land claims	☐	☒	☐	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No new environmental effects anticipated	Treaty Land Entitlement claim submitted 2009, negotiations with Ontario ongoing. Candidate lands withdrawn do not include this site. No documented Metis traditional land use within the claim area.

Additional Information / comments:

Appendix B

Notice of Opportunity to Provide Input and Project Description

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

Issuance of an unpatented boundary mining claim to EV Nickel Inc.

The Ministry of Mines invites you to comment on the applicant's request for the issuance of an unpatented boundary mining claim under subsection 176(3) of the *Mining Act* (the Act). The issuance of an unpatented mining claim under this section of the Act requires Lieutenant Governor in Council approval. In addition, the issuance may be subject to terms and conditions as considered appropriate by the Minister.

There are currently two registered boundary claims held by separate claimholders within boundary cell 42A06H380 in the geographic Township of Langmuir, situated over a part of the abandoned Langmuir Mine. Within this boundary cell there is also approximately 14.79 hectares of mining lands where no mining claim is currently registered. These mining lands are currently open for claim registration; however, subsection 38(3) of the *Mining Act* only permits a licensee to register cell claims that are not boundary claims. Because there are two existing boundary claims within the cell, the 14.79 hectares cannot be registered as a cell claim and is therefore unavailable for claim registration.

The Ministry is considering the applicant's request to issue an unpatented boundary mining claim for the 14.79 hectares within boundary cell number 42A06H380. The requested area of land covers the east part of the former Langmuir mine which operated from 1973 to 1978 where 2 million tons of nickel ore was mined. The available lands are contiguous to other mining claims held by the applicant and those mining claims are currently subject to an exploration permit. The applicant's work program on the adjacent lands commenced in June 2024. The applicant has informed the Ministry that the requested area is integral to the applicant for the purposes of expanding current exploration activities occurring on adjacent mining claims and to further develop the prospective high-grade nickel targets.

The Ministry does not anticipate any new environmental impacts associated with the issuance of an unpatented mining claim, given the small size of the area, the area being adjacent to the applicant's existing boundary claim, and since activities on the claim are subject to other regulatory authorizations and requirements that govern environmental impacts.

The issuance of an unpatented mining claim under subsection 176(3) of the Act is an instrument for the purposes of the *Environmental Bill of Rights, 1993*. An information notice for the proposed issuance has also been posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario as ERO Number 025-0307.

In addition, the proposed Category B project is being carried out in accordance with the *Class Environmental Assessment for Activities of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines under the Mining Act* (Class EA).

For both of these purposes, you are invited to comment on the request to issue an unpatented boundary mining claim.

Comments must be received by April 30, 2025. For more information, or to submit comments, please contact:

Lisette Prudhomme
B3-933 Ramsey Lake Road
Sudbury, Ontario P3E 6B5
Email: Lisette.prudhomme@ontario.ca

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 the Ministry of Mines under the authority of the *Environmental Assessment Act* for the purpose of engaging in public consultation regarding the proposed project. Personal information may be shared with the Environmental Approvals and Permissions Branch of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation 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.

Project Description: EV Nickel Inc. – application for the issuance of an unpatented boundary mining claim

BACKGROUND
Under subsection 176(3) of the *Mining Act* (the “Act”), despite anything in the Act, in special circumstances the Minister may, subject to the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, issue an unpatented mining claim on such terms and conditions as the Minister considers appropriate.

EV Nickel Inc. has applied for the issuance of an unpatented mining claim under subsection 176(3) of the *Mining Act* (the “Act”). The area which would be subject to the requested mining claim is not currently available for mining claim registration by licensees due to the existence of two other boundary claims within the cell.

The requested area, approximately 14.79 hectares, is situated within provincial grid cell number 42A06H380. This cell covers part of the east part of the abandoned Langmuir Mine, located approximately 20km southeast of the City of Timmins, at the southeast end of Night Hawk Lake. The historical mine operated from 1973 to 1978 where two million tons of nickel ore was mined. The mine features a tailing dam, polishing pond, head frame and surrounding perimeter road (dyke). Ministry inspections conducted in 2013, 2018 and 2021 observed the dams were stable and showed no signs of impending failure. The site continues to be monitored for maintenance required to clear debris in sewage works that direct water out of the dams.

The former leases issued for the mine terminated in 1992 and the mining rights were reopened to claim registration. The unpatented mining claim that formerly occupied the requested area forfeited in 2019 and the cell has remained unavailable for registration by licensees due to the existence of two other active boundary claims within the cell.

The location of the site is provided below on Figure 1 and Figure 2.

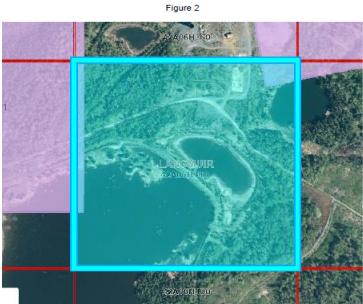


Table 1. Environmental Effects		
Environmental Effect	Description	Proposed Mitigation Measure
Ground water quality/quantity	Potential for the contamination of groundwater from historical mine operations.	Tailings dam deemed stable in 2013 by MNMND inspection. No known further instability based on further inspections conducted in 2018 and 2021.
Surface water - quality/quantity	Potential for the contamination of surface water bodies from historical mine operations	Tailings dam deemed stable in 2013, 2018 and 2021. Nickel remains in tailings. Attenuation for all other potential contaminants.
Soils - contaminants, sedimentation, erosion	Potential for the contamination of soils from historical mine activities.	Area of subsidence located adjacent to claim area was rehabilitated to standards. Samples taken in 2013 are within standards. (MNDM IR-2013)
Wells / drinking water sources	Potential for the contamination of water sources from historical mine tailings	Nearest residential well is >12km away from the historic Langmuir Mine. The south end of Night Hawk Lake is approx. 600m from claim area. Night Hawk Lake is a lake in the city of Timmins. It is in the James Bay drainage basin and is the source of the Frederick House River, which flows via the Abitibi River and Moose River to James Bay.
Natural or human-made hazards	Industrial hazards on surface (heavy equipment and fixed processing equipment.	Historical mine features on site. Claim area is situated in east section of tailings dam, recycle tailings dam, west section of subsidence and vent raise as per 2013 MNMND inspection report for AMIS-00052

NEXT STEPS
The Ministry of Mines is currently seeking input on the proposed disposition of crown mining rights and proposed mitigation measures as part of the Class EA process. The Ministry has also notified proximate Indigenous communities and stakeholders seeking input. Such input will be considered as the application is being evaluated. If the Ministry determines that the application should proceed, the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council would be expected to be sought before Fall 2025 (subject to Cabinet scheduling) and the mining claim would be issued shortly after final government

approvals. As noted above, the commencement of any exploration activities would be subject to the completion of any permitting requirements associated with such activities.