

Environmental Health Program (EHP)
Regulatory Operations and Enforcement Branch (ROEB), Health Canada
391 York Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0P4

July 03, 2023

Leah Klassen
Impact Assessment Officer
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

Sent by email to: info@nirb.ca

Subject: Health Canada's response to the Comment Request for B2Gold's Back River Project 2023 Annual Monitoring Report

Dear Leah Klassen:

Thank you for your letter dated May 13, 2024, requesting comments on the Back River Project 2023 Annual Monitoring Report provided by B2Gold Corporation.

Health Canada (HC) participates in environmental assessments as a federal authority under the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14 (*NuPPAA*). Health Canada makes available specialist or expert information or knowledge in its possession to review panels and responsible authorities, among others.

The objective and scope of HC's review is to verify that the potential health impacts of the project are properly identified and to support Responsible Authorities to prevent, reduce, and mitigate the potential health impacts of project activities.

Health Canada has reviewed the 2023 Annual Monitoring Report and has no comments to provide at this time. Health Canada acknowledges that the noise monitoring and management plans are being updated as of 2023, and will be able to review and provide comments as the updated monitoring program ensues.

Should you have any questions concerning HC's response, please contact Cassidy Dutchak at cassidy.dutchak@hc-sc.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

David Kitchen
Regional Manager, MB/SK/NU Region
Environmental Health Programs
Regulatory Operations & Enforcement Branch
Health Canada

cc: Heather Jones-Otazo, A/Manager, Environmental Assessment and Contaminated Sites (EACS) Division, Healthy Environments and Consumer Safety Branch (HECSB), Health Canada
Cassidy Dutchak, Impact Assessment Specialist, EHP, ROEB, Health Canada
Aurelia Thevenot, Senior Environmental Health Specialist, EACS, HECBS, Health Canada
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