NPC 150930: Coppermine Project

Close

Proposal Status: Conformity Determination Issued

Overview Documents

Project Overview

Type of application: Amendment

Proponent name:

Alexandre Jones Vilela da Silva

Proponent company:

1501253Â B.C. LTD

Project Description:

1501253 B.C. Ltd (the Company) operating as Somerset Minerals Ltd., is a Vancouver, B.C. registered exploration company focused on exploring for copper in the Kitikmeot Region of Nunavut. The project area is approximately 60km southwest of the community of Kugluktuk, which is supported by daily flights to Yellowknife. The continued decarbonization of our economy has resulted in increasing demand for green metals such as copper and silver, which has supported a renewed interest in the region. The Coppermine Project (the Project) comprises a 1,665 km2 area of highly prospective copper and silver ground, hosted in the Copper Creek Formation basalts. The Company holds 53 mineral claims on Crown land and 49 on Inuit Owned Land (IOL). The Company also has a Mineral Lease with Nunavut Tunngavik for exploration activities on subsurface Inuit Owned Land. The Company is applying for a Class A land use permit for exploration on Crown Land, a Type III Land Use License for exploration on Inuit Owned Land, and to amend the existing Nunavut Water Board license for increased water use. The proposed plan is to establish two camps to support drilling and other mineral exploration surveys. The Company currently has the following permits in place, under which it completed its first exploration campaign based out of Kugluktuk. •Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC), Project Proposal - NPC 150589. Exempt from Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) screening. •Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA), Land use Licence III - KTL325C002. Allows activities on CO-53, CO-54, CO-58, CO-60, and CO-61. •Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Type B Land Use Permit (LUP) - N2025C005. •Nunavut Water Board (NWB), Type B Water license - 2BE-CPM2527. Water use/disposal up to 20m3/day. Proposed exploration activities under the new licenses and permits are to

include prospecting, non-invasive aerial or ground geophysical surveys, downhole geophysical surveys, rock chip sampling, till sampling, diamond drilling, and RC drilling to test targets. Proposed activities may take place during summer, autumn, winter or spring, and take place anywhere within the Company's claims. Staff would be based out of the camps, and/or Kugluktuk. Exploration will take place on Crown Land and Inuit owned Land. Proposed exploration activities would be supported by helicopter, fixed wing, snow cats, snowmobiles, and ATVs as appropriate. Fixed wing aircraft may use skis or floats to land on lakes or ice. Drill rig models to be used are small and have a very small footprint, and will have minimal ground disturbance. The drill site will sit on 8x8x16' timbers with coco matting underneath to minimize disturbance to tundra surface. Up to 299m3 of water could be used each day for drilling and camp purposes, which will be taken from a nearby lake or river. While a typical diamond drill can use up to 30m3 of water per day, water used for drilling will be recycled in a tank and reused to reduce the amount drawn from water sources. Drummed jet fuel, diesel, and gas fuel may be stored within the project area at any given time. All fuel will be stored in secondary containment bunds, at least 31m away from the ordinary highwater mark of any waterbody. During the Blue Nose East Caribou Herd calving and post-calving, from 28th May to 1st of July, exploration activities will conform with approved Caribou mitigation measures and permit conditions. It is expected that up to 49 people may be based out of a camp at any given time to support prospecting, drilling and geophysical surveys. One camp would be established on IOL at Jura, and one camp on Crown Land near the Hope Lake airstrip. The proposed camp, equipment and fuel would be either be skidded to the location from Kugluktuk during the winter via snowcat, or flown into Kugluktuk airport or Hope Lake airstrip and mobilised to the camp location via helicopter or fixed wing. These locations would be dependent on accessing a nearby water source for drilling and camp domestic services. During winter, supplies may be transported from Kugluktuk to the drill site via winter tracks, supported by Kugluktuk based businesses or personnel. No all-weather roads or permanent structures will be built, and all waste material will be removed from the project area. Great care will be taken and consideration will be given to the environment at all times; with drill sites remediated as best as possible. The Company understands the importance of the cultural and environmental values of the area in which they are proposing to conduct exploration activities to the people of Kugluktuk. As such, they commit to working together with all regulators and the community to ensure that minimal disturbance is made to the environment and that the land, water, and wildlife are not harmed or negatively impacted. The Company commits to working within the terms and conditions of all licenses and permits, and continues to seek the advice and assistance of local knowledge holders.

Project Schedule

Start Date:

2026-01-02

End Date:

2029-01-01

Project Map

List of project geometries:

Id

Geometry

Location Name

18964

polygon

All Claims - Outline. This is the outer perimeter of all of our claims combined, and where we will be conducting exploration work including drilling etc.

18965

polygon

Jura - Camp Area (IOL). This is the area inside which we would like to build a camp. The exact location will depend on water sources etc.

18966

polygon

Hope Lake - Camp Area (Crown). This is the area inside which we would like to build a camp. The exact location will depend on water sources etc.

19025

polygon

ProjectOutlineNPC. This is the area in which other activities related to exploration may take place, such as storing fuel or building winter roads.

NPC Planning regions:

No Approved Plan

Project Land Use and Authorizations

Project Land Use:

Mineral Exploration

Site Cleanup/Remediation

Temporary Structures

Winter Access

Licensing Agencies:

Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Nunavut Water Board

Government of Canada - Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

Nunavut Water Board

Government of Canada - Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Government of Canada - Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

Nunavut Impact Review Board

Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

Material Use

Equipment:

Type

Quantity

Type

Use

Generator

1-4

5 kw Gasoline generator or equivalent

Power for water pumps

Reverse Circulation Drill

1-3

4,400 (all components)

RC Hornet or similar for chip samples

Diamond Drill

1-2

8,600 including rods and casings

Boyles 25A/37 or similar for core samples

Solids removal equipment

1-2

3000 kg each

Built in 25 kW generator to remove solids from drill water

Heater

1-4

150 kg

Frost Fighter to heat the drill shack

Helicopters

1-2

Bell 407 or similar

Bell 407 or similar for drill moves, crew transport

snowmachines

1-8

standard

200 kg. Transport to/from drills, geophysics, camp support

ATV and trailer

4

standard

500 kg Transport equipment and supplies

inflatable boat

2

Zondiac or similar

300 kg lake bathometry

diesel generator

1-4

20 kw diesel generator or similar – 500 kg

20 kw each for camp power

water pumps

1-4

standard

10 kg generator; Drill Rig/camp support

chest freezer

2

standard

one for each camp domestic purposes

stove

2

30

one for each camp, domestic purposes

fridge

2

standard

one for each camp, domestic purposes

Generator

2

20 kw

one for each camp Camp/ water pumps

water pump

2

Honda WT20XK4C or equivalent

one water pump per camp for camp use

incinerator

1

dual chamber

incinerate domestic waste

pacto toilets

4

standard

human waste

clothes washer

2

standard

one clothes washer per camp for domestic purposes

clothes dryer

2

standard

one clothes dryer for camp for domestic purposes

Toyo stove heaters

12

L731/732 or equivalent

one per tent for heating purposes

sloop or equivanent

2

5000 kg

Winter/Ice Road low pressure transport trailer/sled on tracks or skis

Chieftan or equivalent

2

31,700 kg

Winter/Ice Road low pressure transport

snow cat or similar

3

98,000 kg

Winter/Ice Road low pressure transport

heater

3

150 kg

frost fighter heaters

light tower

3

150 kg

lighting

water truck

1

11,250 kg

winter/ice road

Skid steers or equivalent

1

5000 kg

moving drill rigs

dozer or equivalent

1

10,000 kb

moving drill rigs

loader

1

6,800 kb

ice road maintenance

Hagglund or similar

2

4500 kg

Winter/Ice Road low pressure transport

service trucks

2

2500 kg

ice road transport

grader

1

21,700 kg

Winter/Ice road construction and maintenance

Plough truck or equivalent

1

17,700 kg

Winter/Ice road construction and maintenance

sleeper tents

9

4.3 x 4.9

sleeping tents per camp

first aid tent

1

4.3 x 4.9

one each camp

kitchen dining tent

1

4.8 x 9.8

one kitchen dining tent per camp

mens dry

1

4.8 x 9.8

one mens dry per camp

womens dry

1

4.8 x 9.8

one women's dry per camp

office

1

4.3 x 4.9

one office tent per camp

core shack

1

4.3 x 9.8

one core shack per camp

Drill/Mud/Lubricants shack

1

4.3 x 4.9

one drill/mud/lubricants shack per camp

toilet facility

1

4.3 x 4.9

one toilet facility shack per camp

generator shack

1

3.7 x 4.9

one generator shack per camp

storage shack

1

4.3 x 4.9

one storage shack per camp

pump shack

1

4 x 4

one pump shack per camp

emergency shelter for drill

1-4

10 x 10

1-4 emergency shelters for drillers

twin otter

1

16 m

transport

Fuel Use:

Type

Container

Capacity

Use

Diesel

200

205

fuel for camp / drill use

Aviation fuel

200

205

helicopter refuel

Propane

30

100

cooking

Gasoline

10

205

camp support/Snowmachine/ATV/generator

Other

50

20

Oil for generator; Drill Rig/camp support

Other

50

20

drill lubricants

Other

50

20

Drill Mud/additives

Hazardous Material and Chemical Use:

Type

Container

Capacity

Use

diesel

200

205

Backhaul to camp, and then remove to Kugluktuk to be transported to an approved facility for disposal

Jet a

200

205

Backhaul to camp, and then remove to Kugluktuk to be transported to an approved facility for disposal

Propane

30

100

Backhaul to camp, and then remove to Kugluktuk to be transported to an approved facility for disposal

Gasoline

10

205

Backhaul to camp, and then remove to Kugluktuk to be transported to an approved facility for disposal

Oil

50

20

Backhaul to camp, and then remove to Kugluktuk to be transported to an approved facility for disposal

drill lubricants

50

20

Backhaul to camp, and then remove to Kugluktuk to be transported to an approved facility for disposal

drill mud additives

50

20

Backhaul to camp, and then remove to Kugluktuk to be transported to an approved facility for disposal

Water Consumption:

Daily Amount (m^2)

Retrieval Method

Retrieval Location

299

Lake and rivers close to drill site

Small diameter water line and pump. Uptake will have screen mesh as per DFO requirements to prevent fish entrapment

Waste and Impacts

Environmental Impacts:

1501253 B.C. Ltd is firmly committed to the protection and conservation of the natural environment and to ensuring the health and safety of its employees, and people in surrounding communities. This is a small drilling program with no expected affect on the environment, resources or wildlife. The program will completely cease operations during the Bluenose East Caribou Calving and post calving from 28th May to 3rd July. Great care will be made to avoid and reduce any disturbance of wildlife and the environment. Denning and nesting sites will be avoided, and the locations recorded and provided to the regional wildlife authorities. All archaeological sites will be respected and reported immediately. There will be no discharge of any kind into any water bodies. There will not be any pollutants discharged into any water body. All water pumped downhole for drill bit cooling that is returned to surface will be collected in a hand-dug sump and pumped into a settling tank for further drill use. Using returned water will substantially reduce the daily water consumption during drilling. There will not be any deleterious contaminants polluting the ground or water sources during the drill program. No drilling will occur, waste deposited, or sump created within 31 m of the normal high-water mark of any water body. Additionally, all hazardous materials will be placed in secondary containment and stored a minimum of 31 m from the normal high-water mark of any water body. All waste materials will be incinerated, reused, recycled and/or disposed of at an accredited facility. The drill to be used has a very small footprint requiring approximately a 3x5 metre area to be levelled. The total drill site is likely to take 10x10 metres, with the drill only occupying 3x5m area. On gentle slopes, the drill site can be blocked with timbers to provide a level operating surface with very little surface disturbance. On moderate to steeper slopes, a minor amount of excavation by hand (pick and shovel) may be necessary to provide a level area for the drill. On completion the area will be re-contoured as best as possible. Restoration and site clean-up will take place immediately after drilling is completed at each site. All garbage

and waste will be removed from each drill site during drilling and cleanup will be performed when the drill has been moved off the site. Any overburden or soil moved during drill rig setup or drilling will be set aside to be replaced afterwards. Any soil with flora or fauna moved during the placement of the drill will be set aside and carefully replaced when the site is reclaimed. Afterwards, drill holes will be cemented shut and monumented with a wooden stake to mark it for future reference. When prospecting and rock chip sampling, small hand tools may be used to expose rock if soil is on top, as small thin shallow trenches (~0.5m wide). All removed soil will be placed back afterwards, with care taken to minimize damage to flora. ATVs may be used for transporting light equipment between nearby drill sites. Low pressure ATV tires enable transport over dry tundra with minimal to no impact to the ground surface. The ATVs may traverse as much as 4000 meters during the course of the program, so the Company is applying for a ground disturbance area of 0.8 hectares of disturbance given a 2-metre traverse width. Up to 20 holes may be drilled, each with a footprint of 10x10m x 20holes = 0.2 hectares + 0.8 from ATV = 1 hectare total disturbance. Please see updated Management Plans.

Waste Management:

Waste Type

Quantity Generated

Treatement Method

Disposal Method

Combustible wastes

5 cu metre

ash collected in empty 45 gallon drums to be removed to an approved disposal facility

incineration

Greywater

unknown

bury at the end of the season

once solids and grease are removed, divert to a trench

Hazardous waste

100 litres

removed to an approved disposal facility

oil changes for drill rigs, collected in sealed containers

Non-Combustible wastes

3 cubic meters

removed for approved disposal

transport to Kugluktuk for appropriate disposal

Overburden (organic soil, waste material, tailings)

2 cubic metres

N/A

Drill cuttings - settled in a sump, then buried. 0.1 cubic metre per hole.

Sewage (human waste)

5 cu meters

incinerate and remove ash to sealed 45 gallon drums to an approved facility for disposal