

April 12, 2024

Chair Sperling and Regional Board
Peace River Regional District
Box 810
1981 Alaska Highway
Dawson Creek, BC, V1H 4H8

RE: Letter of Support Request –Quintette Mine Early Works

Dear Chair Sperling and Regional Board:

In February 2023, Conuma Mining Services Limited (Conuma) acquired the Quintette Mine from Teck Resources. The transaction included the transfer of the Quintette Mine *Mines Act* Permit C-156 and *Environmental Management Act* Permit PE-6739 which approve the mine plans for the Windy and Window Pits and associated effluent discharge.

Conuma currently operates three mines in NEBC, employing approximately 1,100 people directly, and supporting approximately 2,200 indirect jobs. The Wolverine Mine, which is Conuma's closest operation to the Quintette Mine, employs more than 400 of these people, with over 75% living in the communities of Tumbler Ridge, Chetwynd, Moberly Lake, Mackenzie, and Dawson Creek. Coal production at the Wolverine Mine will end by early May 2024, at which time Conuma intends to transition employees to the Quintette Mine to sustain employment and continue mining operations.

On September 12, 2023 Conuma submitted the Restart Application, a joint *Mines Act* and *Environmental Management Act* permit amendment application, to the BC Government to restart operations in Window, Little and Big Windy Pits. The BC Government has indicated that the approval process of the Restart application will extend well past May 2024. Without approval of Early Works by May 1, 2024, there will be a disruption in coal production and significant reduction in the workforce as the operations at Wolverine Mine will end.

In response to the potential disruption in coal production and significant reduction in workforce, Conuma submitted the Quintette Mine Early Works (Early Works) application to the BC Government (Ministries of Environment and Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation) on March 28, 2024. The Early Works application requests to mine a previously mined portion of the Little Windy Pit to sustain operations. Early Works activities are (1) consistent with existing permits, (2) do not require new disturbance, (3) will occur in the previously mined Little Windy Pit, and (4) use existing infrastructure. Additionally, the Early Works activities do not require amendments to the *Mines Act* Permit C-156 and *Environmental Management Act* PE-6739 and meets permit conditions.

Construction at the Quintette Mine includes modernizing the Coal Processing Plant. Modernization of the Coal Processing Plant will not be completed by May 1, 2024. Therefore, the period of May 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024 will require processing of coal at the Wolverine Mine Coal Processing Plant. Conuma has requested approval from the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation to import 250,000 tonnes of coal from Quintette Mine to the Wolverine Mine. Conuma plans to haul coal from the Quintette Mine to the Wolverine Mine using Mast Resource Road along the Kinuseo Falls Road. The empty coal haul trucks would return to Quintette through the Wolverine Forest Service Road, Highways 29 and 52. This second route, would be a backup for the coal haul.

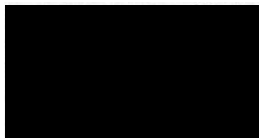
Conuma is targeting approval of the Early Works application by May 1, 2024 and mining would span a period of 17 months to October 15, 2025.

A figure is on page 3 to illustrate the Early Works activities.

Conuma is respectfully asking the Peace River Regional District to provide written support for the Quintette Early Works Application and Coal Importation Amendment Application. Conuma is not making a request for financial assistance from the Peace River Regional District.

Please let me know if you would like additional information or have any questions or comments.

Most sincerely,



Lisa Risvold
Vice President, Indigenous and Community Affairs
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Quintette Mine: Early Works Project Overview

Conuma has applied for Early Works in the previously mined Little Windy Pit, as illustrated by the green polygon. Early Works includes advancing the Little Windy Spoil, as illustrated by the tan polygon. The grey polygons represent the footprint of the approved mine plan. All activity is within the footprint of the approved mine plan, does not require new disturbance and uses existing infrastructure.

