



**Conservation and Water Stewardship**

Environmental Stewardship Division  
Environmental Approvals Branch  
123 Main Street, Suite 160, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 1A5  
T 204 945-8321 F 204 945-5229  
[www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eal](http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eal)

**File: 1906.20**

September 29, 2014

Mr. Wentzel Coetzer  
Facility General Manager  
Tantalum Mining Corporation of Canada Ltd.  
Bernic Lake, Box 2000  
Lac du Bonnet, MB R0E 1A0

Dear Mr. Coetzer:

**Re: Tantalum Mining Corporation of Canada Ltd. (Tanco) – Environment Act Licence No. 973 – Notice of Alteration – Project West**

Receipt of your August 27, 2014 and September 9, 2014 letters is acknowledged as a notice of alteration in accordance with Section 14 of *The Environment Act*.

The August 27, 2014 letter states that Tanco would like to withdraw the notice of alteration submitted on August 19, 2013 for the Crown Pillar Mitigation Project and is requesting approval to proceed with an alternative alteration to the development. The letter states that Tanco will be decommissioning the temporary access road that was approved on October 24, 2013 in accordance with the conditions provided in that letter.

The proposed alteration to the development as licensed is to secure and stabilize the west zone of the mine such that mining could resume in that area. In order to stabilize the west zone, backfilling would be required that would in turn require the development of a quarry, temporary crusher and ore storage buildings. The letter states that a quarry lease application has been filed with the Manitoba Mineral Resources Branch.

The September 9, 2014 addendum letter states that in addition to the work proposed in the August 27, 2014 notice of alteration, additional instrumentation to enhance the crown pillar rock mass monitoring system is required. Specifically, the installation of Time Domain Reflectometry (TDR) cables from the surface of the mine site into the crown pillar above the fall of ground area is proposed.

The potential environmental effect of the requested changes to the development as Licensed is insignificant and considered to be a minor alteration in accordance with section 14(2) of *The Environment Act*. Approval is hereby granted for the backfill raise, temporary crusher, ore storage buildings and fuel storage and construction trailers as described in the August 27,

2014 letter and for the installation of additional instrumentation as described in the September 9, 2014 letter subject to the following condition:

1. The Licencee shall not cause or permit a noise nuisance to be created as a result of the construction, operation or alteration of the Development, and shall take such steps as the Director may require to eliminate or mitigate a noise nuisance.

where:

**“noise nuisance”** means an unwanted sound, in an affected area, which is annoying, troublesome, or disagreeable to a person:

- a) residing in an affected area;
- b) working in an affected area; or
- c) present at a location in an affected area which is normally open to members of the public;

if the unwanted sound

d) is the subject of at least 5 written complaints, received by the Director in a form satisfactory to the Director and within a 90-day period, from 5 different persons falling within clauses a), b) or c), who do not live in the same household; or

e) is the subject of at least one written complaint, received by the Director in a form satisfactory to the Director, from a person falling within clauses a), b) or c) and the Director is of the opinion that if the unwanted sound had occurred in a more densely populated area there would have been at least 5 written complaints received within a 90-day period, from 5 different persons who do not live in the same household.

As requested, the notice of alteration for the Crown Pillar Mitigation Project submitted on August 19, 2013 is hereby withdrawn. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Winsor, P.Eng. at 204-945-7012.

Yours truly,

*“original signed by”*

Tracey Braun, M.Sc.  
Director

- c. Don Labossiere, Director – Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch, Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship  
Donna Smiley, Provincial Manager – Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch, Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship  
Diane Oertel, Regional Supervisor - Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch, Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship  
Chris Beaumont-Smith, A/Director – Mines Branch, Manitoba Mineral Resources Branch  
Public Registries