



NOV - 9 2011

Mr. Ivan and
Mrs. Donna Sambolec
1871 Lodgepole Drive
Kamloops BC V1S 1X8

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Sambolec:

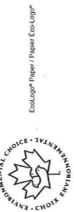
Thank you for your letter of August 14, in which you express concerns related to the proposed Ajax Copper-Gold Mine Project (the Project) located near Kamloops, British Columbia.

The Project is subject to a comprehensive study type assessment pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (the Act). The Project is also subject to review under British Columbia's *Environmental Assessment Act*. The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency) and British Columbia's Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) are conducting a cooperative federal and provincial environmental assessment of the Project. The objective of that process is an efficient and rigorous assessment of the environmental effects of the Project that is informed by meaningful participation of the public.

The Agency and British Columbia's EAO are currently preparing Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines, which will direct KGHM Ajax Mining Inc. (the proponent) to undertake detailed analyses of the Project's potential environmental effects and to identify opportunities to mitigate adverse effects. A draft of the Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines will be made available for public comment. At that time, you will have an opportunity to review and comment on the environmental effects of the Project to be examined by the proponent.

Under the Act, I have the discretion to refer a project to a review panel when, taking into account the implementation of any mitigation measures, the Project may cause significant adverse environmental effects, or where public concerns related to such effects warrant a referral. Based on the information currently available on the potential environmental effects of the Project, referral to a review panel is not warranted at this time. However, the Agency will continue to work

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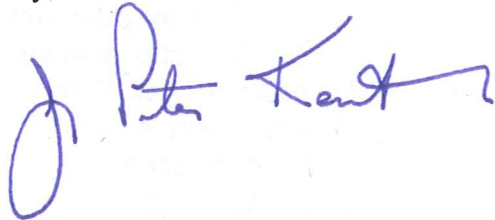


with federal departments and British Columbia's EAO to gather and review information on the Project and its environmental effects, including the issues you have identified, to ensure that they will be addressed in the environmental assessment process.

Under the Act, the factors examined through a comprehensive study process and review panel process are identical. Both processes deliver high quality environmental assessments leading to a determination of the significance of adverse environmental effects of a project. Both processes involve public participation and funding to assist the public and Aboriginal groups to participate in the environmental assessment.

To remain informed of the environmental assessment for this project, I would encourage you to consult the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry website at: www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/details-eng.cfm?evaluation=60633.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter Kent". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

The Honourable Peter Kent, P.C., M.P.