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## HAMMOND REEF GOLD PROJECT RESPONSE TO COMMENTS ON FINAL EIS/EA

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### COMMENT – T-32

**Source:** Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

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#### Summary of Comment

This section deals with the summary and conclusions of the geochemical testing for tailings samples. The Proponent states that “Other metals reporting sporadic concentrations greater than the comparison guideline values in waste rock leach testing include cadmium, silver, chromium, zinc and iron.” It is not clear why the Proponent is talking about the comparison guideline values in waste rock leach testing for metals in tailings samples. The mention of comparison guideline values for waste rock leach testing above does not seem appropriate for the tailings.

#### Proposed Action

Clarify why Osisko [Canadian Malartic Corporation] used the comparison guideline values in waste rock leach testing for tailings samples.

This needs to be clarified to ensure that the conclusions of the geochemical testing for tailings samples are sound.

#### Reference to EIS

Hammond Reef Gold Project Geochemistry, Geology and Soils Technical Support Document (TSD)

Section 3.6.2 Tailings of the Geochemistry, Geology and Soil TSD, Version 1

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#### Response

In response to comments received on the Final EIS/EA Report, Canadian Malartic Corporation held a Geochemistry and Water Quality workshop on June 4, 2014, with the Government Review Team. This workshop focussed on water quality modelling methods and assumptions, and worked through detailed examples to fully explain modelling rationale. A Technical Memorandum was also produced to provide further detail showing the similarity of the geochemistry of the rock types and tailings, which allows a better understanding of the context of the overall results. This information was circulated to the Government Review Team and is provided in a memorandum entitled ‘Water Quality Background Information’, provided *in Part D of the Addendum to the Version 3 EIS/EA as Attachment 4 of the Final EIS/EA Report Addendum*.

The tailings are comprised of the various rock types within the deposit. By necessity, the amount of tailings produced during the exploration phase and feasibility stages of a project is limited, therefore a comparison to the values from the various rock types included in the waste rock samples provides context with respect to how consistent the tailings leachate values are relative to those of the waste rock, which allows for a better understanding of the characteristics of the data-set, deposit and tailings as a whole.