



February 2, 2026

Jasmin Dobson
Vice-President Environment and Permitting
Coffee Mine Project

By Email: jdobson@fuertemetals.com

Re: Coffee Gold Quartz Mining License Application, Information Request 3 - Detailed Review: Phase 2

Dear Ms. Dobson,

On May 21, 2025, Mineral Resources Branch (MRB) sent Newmont Corporation a letter confirming that the Coffee Gold Quartz Mining License Application (the “application”) had been deemed completed and was ready to proceed to Detailed Review and consultation with affected First Nations.

The Detailed Review of the application is following a phased approach, separating the documents into six distinct phases. MRB is engaging Yukon government interdepartmental working groups, an external consultant Core Geoscience Services, and affected First Nations to review the application. During the review of Phase 2 application materials, it was identified that additional clarification, supporting data, and/or revisions are required to ensure compliance with relevant Yukon legislation, policies and guidelines and the integration of Decision Document terms and conditions and Proponent Commitments relevant to a quartz mining license.

The requests made in Information Request 3 (attached) are pertinent to our ability to complete the review of the application. If the information requested is not available or deemed unnecessary by Fuerte, a response with expected timelines or rationale for its exclusion is required.

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Once you have taken the time to consider the contents of this letter and its attachments, please confirm your estimated timeline for response. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact myself or Andrea Kenward at andrea.kenward@yukon.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Monica Nordling', with a stylized, cursive script.

Monica Nordling

A/Manager, Major Mines Licensing

CC: Jennie Gjertsen, Fuerte Metals Corporation
 Katie Fraser, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in
 Odin Miller, White River First Nation
 Tanya Harrison, Selkirk First Nation

Enclosed: Information Request 3 - Detailed Review: Phase 2

Information Request 3 - Detailed Review: Phase 2

The Mineral Resources Branch (MRB) has completed a detailed review of the Phase 2 materials submitted as part of Fuerte Metals' Quartz Mining License application (the "application") for the Coffee Gold Mine. This information requests pertains to the following Phase 2 plans:

- Wildlife Protection Plan
- Wildlife Monitoring Plan - Environmental Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan: Appendix G

Wildlife management and monitoring measures must be implemented consistently across both the proposed mine site and the Northern Access Route. Although this information request is being issued as part of the Quartz Mining License application, the need for consistency has been fully considered in the development of these requests. Regulators responsible for potential authorizations related to the Northern Access Route have participated in the review of these plans to ensure alignment and consistency in wildlife management requirements.

Timely submission of all requested information is essential to avoid delays in the regulatory review process. Updated plans must include a concordance table demonstrating how Decision Document terms and conditions and proponent commitments have been met and indicate how and where information requirements have been addressed.

1. General Application Comments

The following comments and requirements apply broadly to multiple plans and reports submitted as part of the Coffee Gold application. Plan updates are necessary to ensure compliance with Yukon legislation, guidance, and best practices.

1.1. Decision Document Concordance Table

The Decision Document concordance table that was provided and replicated in each plan was found to contain errors and inconsistencies with respect to plan references. For example, term and condition #2 referenced a non-existent section.

The concordance table is used to locate where information is included within the application, cross reference application material that is contained in multiple sections and to ensure that the Decision Document terms and conditions have been adequately addressed in the application, as such a complete and accurate table is an important tool for our review.

IR3-1: Revise and submit updated concordance tables for both the Wildlife Protection Plan and Wildlife Monitoring Plan (Environmental Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan: Appendix G) to reflect current plan structure, for both decision document and proponent commitment concordance.

1.2. Corporate

Numerous sections of the management plans reference “Newmont Global Corporate Standards” and other corporate-specific commitments, procedures, and roles that are not considered sufficiently detailed for this stage of the regulatory review. In addition, with the recent change in ownership from Newmont Corporation to Fuerte Metals, all submitted management plans must reflect the new corporate structure, governance framework, and operational accountabilities.

Accordingly, Yukon government requests that the Proponent undertake the following updates to all plans included within the Phase 2 review. In recognition that the remaining plans associated with subsequent phases of the application review have already been submitted, Yukon government will issue corresponding information requests for those phases, as appropriate, to ensure consistency across all management plans.

IR3-2: Replace all references to Newmont Corporation - including corporate standards, policies, procedures, commitments, governance documents, and internal reporting structures - with those of Fuerte Metals, where applicable.

IR3-3: Revise and update all roles and responsibilities to reflect Fuerte Metals' organizational structure, including

- a. operational and managerial roles,
- b. environmental, health, and safety roles,
- c. senior management oversight, and
- d. corporate-level accountability and decision-making processes.

IR3-4: Provide complete descriptions of all corporate standards, guidelines, or procedures proposed for implementation at the Project. Yukon government reiterates that references to a company's “global standards” or “corporate requirements” without detailed description of the specific standard are insufficient. Where appropriate, each plan must identify:

- a. source and version of any standard applied,
- b. key requirements or performance criteria,
- c. implementation, monitoring, and audit processes at site level, and
- d. associated training, documentation, and reporting processes,

IR3-5: Identify and justify any changes to commitments or management approaches resulting from the transition to Fuerte Metals ownership. If changes to methodologies, risk management processes, or monitoring programs are proposed, provide rationale and describe how these changes remain consistent with the scope of the assessment, regulatory requirements and best practice.

1.3. Provision of Referenced Material and Reduction of Plan Redundancy

Throughout the plans references have been made to supporting materials. These referenced materials often contain critical details—such as methodologies, test results, interpretations, recommendations, and design assumptions—that are not fully summarized within the plans themselves.

This information is essential to complete the Detailed Review of the application and to be able to verify that all design and operational decisions are supported by appropriate technical evidence and comply with Yukon regulatory requirements.

IR3-6: Provide all project-specific materials referenced in submitted plans and appendices, clearly indicate where these materials can be found or provide a clear summary of pertinent information from the reference.

IR3-7: References other application documents/plans where an activity is to be carried out in accordance with (developed based on, characterized by, or described) that plan.

2. Wildlife Protection Plan

A Wildlife Protection Plan must demonstrate how disturbance to wildlife will be minimized through policy, training, traffic and access management, wildlife barriers, and avoidance of disturbance or harassment of wildlife. To strengthen the plan's effectiveness and meet regulatory expectations, Yukon government recommends the following clarifications and updates:

IR3-8: Update the plan to include figures depicting wildlife corridors and migration routes, including along the Northern Access Route. Figures should illustrate previously identified and likely travel/migration routes for all key species of concern.

IR3-9: Provide a map or series of maps identifying the locations/areas that will require specific construction and operational considerations using defined objectives and accompanying mitigations. Maps must:

- a. clearly identify polygons with defined objectives and associated mitigations/tasks (e.g., Protect wildlife and minimize wildlife mortality, manage alignment and vegetation to ensure no moose strikes in late winter),

- b. include attributes detailed enough to interpret purpose and required actions, and
- c. incorporate available wildlife survey, remote camera, collar, or observation data that document pertinent species distributions and movements to narrow and prioritize mitigation efforts.

IR3-10: Provide clearer description of mitigation objectives and success measures, including:

- a. mitigation objectives,
- b. the specific mitigation measures that will be applied,
- c. how success will be measured, and
- d. how results will be reported.

IR3-11: Describe how adaptive management will be applied to wildlife mitigations during each project phase. Include:

- a. mechanisms for review,
- b. parties that will be engaged or involved,
- c. timing and triggers for regular or emergency reviews,
- d. decision-making processes and how effectiveness will be evaluated,
- e. If applicable, terms of reference for any project committees or formal review structures, and
- f. provide clear references to the Environmental Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan where appropriate to reduce redundancies.

IR3-12: Clarify access controls that will be implemented at the Yukon River South Barge Landing, to comply with Decision Document term and condition #2.

IR3-13: Decision Document Term and Condition #5 requires retention of an individual qualified in caribou behaviour. Provide details on:

- a. when the specialist will be hired,
- b. how and when consultation with Yukon government will begin,
- c. how their recommendations will be incorporated into management and monitoring plans, and
- d. expected completion timelines for design features that minimize entrapment and reduce sensory disturbance (noise, visual, light stimuli).

IR3-14: Update Table 4.1 to clarify mitigations and distinguish between:

- a. actions like additional monitoring and communication, and
- b. mitigations that are intended to reduce or remove negative effects

3. Wildlife Monitoring Plan (Environmental Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan, Appendix G)

A Wildlife Monitoring Plan must include detailed implementation actions that demonstrate how mitigation measures will be applied and evaluated. The plan must provide benchmark data to confirm effectiveness, validate predictions, and identify when adaptive management is

required. The plan must provide, clearly, the activities proposed and how they will be implemented so that the design (e.g., type of survey, footprint, frequency, analysis approach) can be easily replicated. This information could be provided in a standard operating procedure or appendix of program details (e.g. description of methodologies)

IR3-15: Provide clear linkages between predicted effects and residuals, plan objectives, the overall design of the program to meet these objectives, approach to analyse the data, and identify the SOPs that will operationalize the program where applicable.

IR3-16: Describe how adaptive management will be applied to wildlife monitoring results during each project phase. Include:

- a. mechanisms of review,
- b. parties that will be engaged or involved,
- c. timing and triggers for regular or emergency reviews,
- d. decision-making processes and how effectiveness will be evaluated,
- e. if applicable, terms of reference for any project committees or formal review structures, and
- f. provide clear references to the Environmental Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan where appropriate to reduce redundancies.

SOPs are essential components of management and monitoring plans, as they describe the detailed, repeatable actions and procedures that ensure consistent implementation, operational performance, and the effectiveness of proposed mitigation measures throughout the life of the project. The information typically contained within SOPs is required to complete the Detailed Review of the application and to determine whether the monitoring and management approaches are appropriate and will be effective throughout the life of the Project.

For SOPs that support activities proposed or are necessary to evaluate the feasibility, adequacy, and reliability of mitigation measures in the current regulatory review, the SOPs must be provided prior to plan approval.

IR3-17: Provide all Standard Operating Procedures that are referenced in the plans. If an SOP is not available provide a summary of the monitoring activities (e.g., frequency of data collection, locations, frequency of data analysis, etc.).

IR3-18: Provide a list of all SOPs intended to be developed and summarize the actions that would be included in that SOP.

IR3-19: Describe the process that will be followed to update SOPs, when and how they are reviewed or updated, and how/when parties will be incorporated into reviews of the updated SOPs.

Soundscapes provide a more direct approach to understanding the mechanisms that alter wildlife behaviour relative to a mine site and road operations. Identifying the mechanisms altering wildlife behaviour is necessary in determining appropriate responses to mitigate effects. For example, wildlife use of habitats may decrease due to noise disturbance caused by an operating mine and additional noise cancelling techniques may need to be deployed. The current proposed deployment of Automated Recording Units (ARUs) is not sufficient for this purpose and Fuerte Metals' proposed deployment must be expanded to ensure a complete soundscape is captured relative to the mine site and along portions of the roadway to better describe soundscapes for this purpose.

IR3-20: Expand the monitoring program to include additional monitoring along the proposed transects, including the mine site, with:

- a. use of noise modelling to determine optimal spacing and placement of monitoring devices (e.g., closer spacing near noise sources and wider spacing farther away).
- b. The objective is to understand any possible noise effects on wildlife within proximity to the project. Provide justification for the sites selection and describe how the deployment will provide sufficient coverage to measure noise within the project area.

IR3-21: Pair enough ARU devices with additional devices to measure noise (e.g., Larson David 831 Noise Meter) to test noise predictions and to ensure noise amelioration meets project predictions. Describe the deployment and justify the numbers used to complete this assessment.

Primary effects to moose established by the assessment included direct mortality (i.e., harvest and road strikes). In order to comply with Decision Document monitoring requirements, section 110 #C, Yukon government recommends the following clarifications and updates:

IR3-22: Define how effects monitoring will occur to meet the conditions of section 110 #C. Clarify where the project will lead monitoring efforts with the support of the Yukon government and where the project will support initiatives that will be led by the Yukon government.

IR3-23: Describe how the company will ensure that assessment predictions and residuals will be addressed within the scope of the company's responsibility and the division of effort with Yukon government.