



February 27, 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 5 - Detailed Review: Phase 4

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 complete 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 submission 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 the Phase 4 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 as well as the integration of Decision Document terms and conditions and Proponent Commitments applicable to a quartz mining license.

The requests made in Information Request 5 (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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Please note that the review period of Phase 4 of the application remains open, additional comments or information requests may be issued. The requests contained in this letter should therefore not be interpreted as final or exhaustive. For example, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in review comments are not represented. Further clarification or supplemental information may be required to complete the Detailed Review prior to a licensing decision.

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 'M. 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 5 - Detailed Review: Phase 4

Information Request 5 - Detailed Review: Phase 4

The Mineral Resources Branch (MRB) has completed a detailed review of the Heritage Resource Protection Plan, submitted as part of Fuerte Metals' Quartz Mining License application (the "application") for the Coffee Gold Mine. The objective of the Heritage Resource Protection Plan is to outline the policies and procedures that are in place for identifying, reporting and protecting historic resources and cultural values.

Yukon government requests that the Proponent update the Heritage Resource Protection Plan. The following information requests outline required revisions and clarifications.

1. General Comments

1.1. Corporate

Numerous sections of the management plan 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 4 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.

- IR5-1:** 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.
- IR5-2:** 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 or decision-making processes.
- IR5-3:** 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 clearly identify:

- a. the source and version of any standard applied;
- b. the key requirements or performance criteria relevant to the plan;
- c. how the standard will be implemented, monitored, and audited at the site level;
- d. any associated training, documentation, or reporting processes.

IR5-4: Identify and justify any changes to commitments or management approaches that result 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.

2. Heritage Resource Protection Plan

IR5-5: Throughout the Heritage Resource Protection Plan, acknowledge where additional regulatory permits will be required to conduct or proceed with specific project activities. This includes identifying activities that trigger separate authorizations under applicable Yukon legislation and ensuring that these permitting requirements are clearly referenced within the plan.

IR5-6: Develop a confidential version of the HPP that includes:

- a. maps showing the locations of heritage sites within the Project Local Assessment Area, and
- b. site specific schematics for project activities that infringe on the heritage protection buffers in areas where new project construction, vegetation clearing, or land disturbance is undertaken.

Due to the confidential nature of traditional knowledge and heritage resources, but to ensure regulators have sufficient information on heritage site locations and project interactions to ensure appropriate management and mitigations. Yukon government will maintain both public-facing and confidential versions of the plan internally.

IR5-7: Install signage at likely access points to heritage sites buffers (including barricades) clearly indicating a “No Work Zone.” Signage must include contact information for the Project’s Environmental Manager (as per responsibilities listed in section 1.5, Table 1-2).

IR5-8: Ensure all land-disturbing activities in areas where permafrost is present are monitored by staff qualified in the identification of paleontological materials. Communicate stop work procedures to all project staff working in permafrost areas, including protocols for significant finds (e.g., mummified animal remains).

- IR5-9:** Describe procedures for collaborating with non-First Nation stakeholders in the event that Systematic Data Recovery (SDR) impacts a heritage resource of importance to other group(s).
- IR5-10:** We recommend the involvement of all affected First Nations in the development of the project orientation curriculum, as well as any specialized training associated with the HRPP for employees and contractors.
- IR5-11:** Provide detailed information regarding the development, content, and delivery of the training program Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), for employees that will undergo specialized training (section 7.0). The response should include:
- a. the full SOP or, if the SOP is still under development, a summary of the key actions, responsibilities, and procedures that will be included;
 - b. clarification on how the training program will be implemented

A review of mine site infrastructure shows that several heritage resources are in moderate proximity to industrial activity areas but will likely remain unimpacted by activities as currently proposed. Archaeological site KfVvk-1 is considered of significant archaeological value and is located in close proximity to heavy industrial use sites including the projects Heap Leach Pad.

Currently in Appendix B, this site is listed as “Heritage Site Avoided”, however, due to its proximity to the Heap Leach Pad, there would be risk to this site of exposure to toxic contaminants once the Project is in production. If KfVvk-1 becomes exposed to toxins the ability to complete an SDR type mitigation will not be feasible for health and safety reasons and the site will be considered effectively impacted through alienation of cultural or scientific use. Also, the heritage management buffer for KfVvk-1 does overlap with emergency activities listed in the Spill Management Plan that are related to the Heap Leach Pad; in severe cases spill and contamination management does include mechanical excavation and soil removal as a mitigation to prevent contaminants from spreading into the environment. These activities would expose Heritage Resources to risk of partial or total destruction if implemented in a site boundary.

Archaeological site data recovery excavations (permitted under the Yukon Archaeological Sites Regulations) are recommended prior to construction should this mitigation measure be determined more appropriate. The heritage character of the site will be permanently impacted by the mine site development, and it is Yukon government’s determination that this site should not be managed as “Heritage Site Avoided”.

- IR5-12:** Clarify what mitigations are required to address the risk of contaminant exposure and emergency activity encroachment on heritage site KfVvk-1. Including:

- a. update all plan text, maps, figures, buffers and tables (including Appendix B) to reflect any revised management and mitigation approaches,
- b. identify engineering controls (e.g., grading, diversion, containment features) designed to minimize potential for contaminant transport toward KfVk-1,
- c. demonstrate how design and operating procedures for the Heap Leach Pad and associated infrastructure prevent contaminant migration to the site under normal and upset conditions,
- d. confirm no-work/no-ground disturbance operational restrictions for the site footprint and buffer under normal operations,
- e. confirm any additional protective measures such as permanent barricades, signage, or access-control features that will be installed to prevent unintentional encroachment into the site or buffer during operations or emergency response, and
- f. describe any necessary updates to spill and emergency response procedures to ensure intrusive mitigation measures (e.g., mechanical excavation, soil removal) are not conducted within the site footprint or buffer unless mitigation has been completed or specific regulatory authorization is obtained.

Additional updates as they relate to the appendices of the Heritage Resource Protection Plan:

IR5-13: Incorporate heritage site KfVj-8 into Appendix B. Although not expected to be impacted by project activities, it must be included in the summary table for completeness.