

AT THE HEART OF STEEL

200 - 235 Front Street

Tumbler Ridge, BC V0C 2W0

www.conumaresources.com

April 4, 2024

Mayor Joan Atkinson District of Mackenzie P.O. Bag 340 Mackenzie, BC, V0J 2C0

RE: Letter of Support Request -Quintette Mine Early Works

Dear Mayor Atkinson:

In February 2023, Conuma Mining Services Limited (Conuma) acquired the Quintette Mine from Teck Resources. The transaction included the transfer of the Quintette Mine *Mines Act* Permit C-156 and *Environmental Management Act* Permit PE-6739 which approve the mine and reclamation plans for the Windy and Window Pits and associated effluent discharge, respectively.

Conuma directly operates three mines in Northeast British Columbia (NEBC), employing approximately 1,100 people directly, and supporting approximately 2,200 indirect jobs. The Wolverine Mine operation, which is Conuma's closest operation to the Quintette Mine, employs more than four hundred of these people, with over 75% living in the communities of Tumbler Ridge, Chetwynd, Moberly Lake, Mackenzie, and Dawson Creek. Coal production at the Wolverine Mine will end by early May 2024, at which time Conuma intends to transition employees to the Quintette Mine to sustain employment and continue mining operations.

On September 12, 2023, Conuma submitted the Restart Application, a joint *Mines Act* and *Environmental Management Act* permit amendment application, to the BC Government to restart operations in Window, Little and Big Windy Pits. The BC Government has indicated that the approval process of the Restart Application will extend well past May 2024. Without approval of Restart Application by May 1, 2024, there will be a disruption in coal production and significant reduction in the workforce as the operations at Wolverine Mine will end.

In response to the potential disruption in coal production and significant reduction in the workforce, Conuma submitted the Quintette Mine Early Works (Early Works) application to the BC Government on March 28, 2024. The Early Works application requests to mine a previously mined portion of the Little Windy Pit to sustain operations. Early Works activities are (1) consistent with existing permits, (2) do not require new disturbance, (3) will occur in the previously mined Little Windy Pit, and (4) use existing infrastructure. Additionally, the Early Works activities do not require an amendment to the *Environmental Management Act* PE-6739 and meets its permits conditions. Conuma is targeting approval of the Early Works application by May 1, 2024 and activities would span a period of 17 months to October 15, 2025.

A figure on page 2 to illustrate the Early Works activities.

Conuma is respectfully asking the District of Mackenzie to provide written support for the Early Works application.

We would be happy to address questions and comments or provide additional information.

Most sincerely,

Lisa Risvold

Vice President, Indigenous and Community Affairs

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## **Quintette Mine: Early Works Project Overview**

Conuma has applied for Early Works in the previously mined Little Windy Pit, as illustrated by the green polygon. Early Works includes advancing the Little Windy Spoil, as illustrated by the tan polygon. The grey polygons represent the footprint of the approved mine plan. All activity is within the footprint of the approved mine plan, does not require new disturbance and uses existing infrastructure.

