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Tantalum Mining Corp. of Canada Ltd.  
Bernic Lake, Box 2000  
Lac du Bonnet, Manitoba R0E 1A0  
CANADA

Manitoba Conservation  
Environmental Assessment & Licensing Branch  
123 Main St., Suite 160  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 1A5

Attention: Tracey Braun, Director

Dear Ms. Braun:

Re: Tantalum Mining Corporation of Canada Ltd. (Tanco) Mine access road

Further to our letter of September 23, 2013 requesting approval of preliminary steps, we write to provide further information concerning the proposed access road from our existing access road to Bernic Lake. While we sought approval of this road as a preliminary step, we note that, as well, the request to approve construction of this access road could be considered as a notice of minor alteration of *Environment Act* License No. 973 under section 14 (2) of *The Environment Act*.

This road will be needed in the event that you approve the crown pillar mitigation project for which we submitted a notice of (major) alteration dated August 10, 2013. The need for this road is urgent because, if it is not constructed now, the winter season required for construction and operation of the mitigation project will be lost. In turn, the risk that the crown pillar will collapse before the work can be completed rises. As you may be aware, collapse of the crown pillar would flood the workings, resulting in the permanent loss of the mine.

Please be assured that we make no assumption that you will approve the mitigation project. We fully understand that you require satisfactory additional information before completing your review of our application. Work is underway now to complete these answers. We are prepared to incur the cost of road construction even though your review has not yet been completed and the outcome may not be favourable.

Please also be assured that if the mitigation project is not approved, the access road will be removed and the environment fully restored as required in accordance with the Mine Closure Regulation (Manitoba Regulation 67/99) and the General Closure Plan Guidelines.

We trust that the enclosed additional information provided by our consultant, Tetra Tech, demonstrates that the impacts of construction and operation of the road are minor, reversible and accommodated within the terms and conditions of *Environment Act* License No. 973.

As well, we hope that you would take into consideration that the construction of such a minor work would not, of itself, trigger a requirement for an *Environment Act* license.



For all these reasons, we hope very much that you will be able to approve the construction of this road on an urgent basis.

Yours truly,  
Cabot Corporation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will Brits". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "W" and a long, sweeping tail.

Will Brits  
General Manager