

## Environmental Assessment Process

**We Want Your Feedback!**

Make sure your comments, questions and concerns are heard during Eagle's Nest's EA process.

**For more information, please contact:**

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### What is an Environmental Assessment (EA)?

The Noront Resources Eagle's Nest Ni/Cu/PGM Project must meet stringent federal and provincial environmental assessment (EA) requirements before it can be constructed and operated. Requirements include completion of:

- A Comprehensive Study assessment under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA)*.
- An individual EA under the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act (EAA)*.

The EA is a government-driven planning and decision-making process used to assess and evaluate the potential effects of a proposed project on the environment and, if required, identify mitigation measures before it can move forward with development.

### An EA Includes:

- A description of the proposed project;
- A description of the existing environmental conditions (baselines studies);
- A process to discuss and receive input on issues and concerns from Aboriginal and neighbouring communities, and interested stakeholders;
- Consideration of project alternatives, including their advantages and disadvantages;
- Identification of possible environmental impacts (positive and negative);
- Proposed measures to mitigate and manage identified environmental impacts, and
- Recommendations for follow-up monitoring.

### Why is there an Environmental Assessment (EA)?

The EA process:

- Provides government agencies with information to make decisions about the Project;
- Identifies measures to avoid, manage or mitigate effects on the environment;
- Minimizes or avoids adverse environmental effects before they occur (mitigation by design);
- Incorporates environmental factors into the decision-making process;
- Provides an opportunity for Aboriginal and other stakeholder participation in Project planning, and
- Ensures that information on both positive and negative effects are shared with Aboriginal communities and stakeholders.

### What are the Benefits of the Environmental Assessment (EA)?

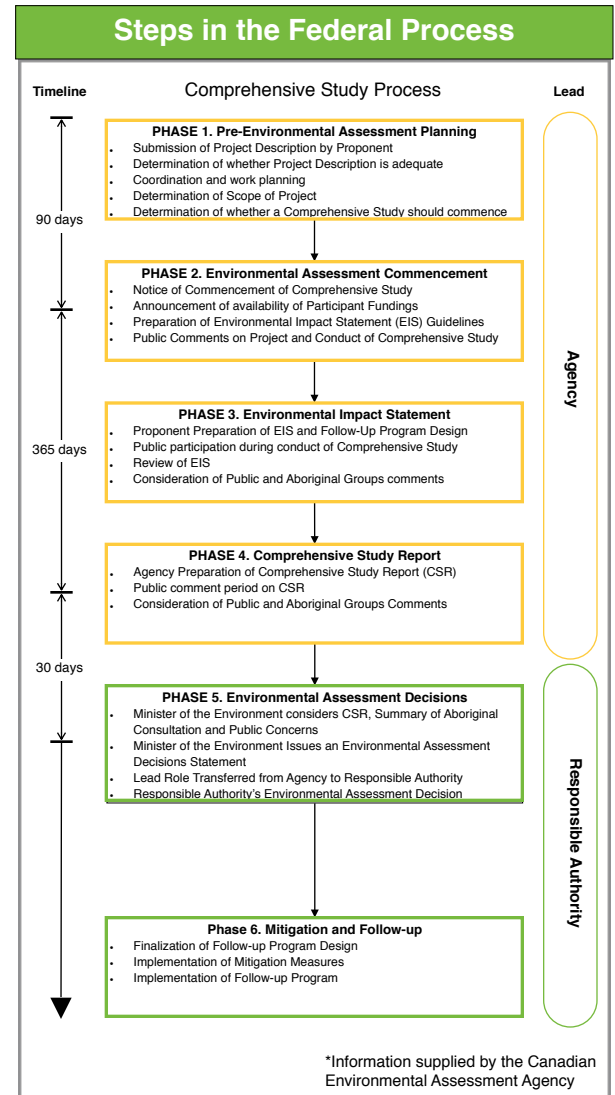
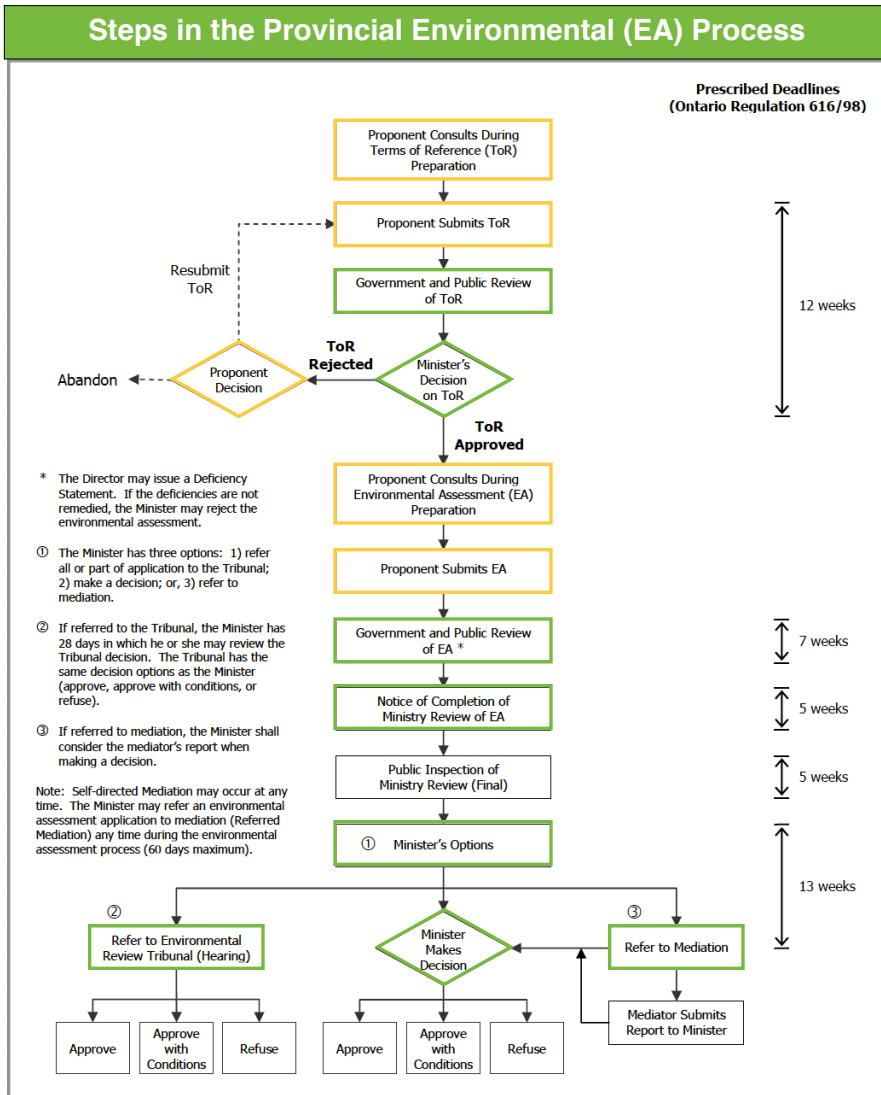
The EA will:

- Ensure responsible development of the Eagle's Nest deposit for the benefit of Ontario and Canada;
- Increase protection of the environment and human health by minimizing and/or mitigating adverse impacts;
- Provide opportunities to capture feedback and share Project and EA information with First Nation communities and other stakeholders through open houses, presentations and written communications, in native languages where appropriate;
- Identify business, training and employment opportunities for local communities, and
- Study and address cumulative impacts for Eagle's Nest and other Ring of Fire developments.



Baseline Environmental Scientists 2011

The Provincially-regulated Individual EA and the Federal EA will be coordinated so that only one document is prepared to meet both the federal and provincial requirements.



### Additional Permits and Approvals:

After approval of the EA by Federal and Provincial Ministries of the Environment, Noront will then be required to obtain a number of approvals and permits before construction begins on the Eagle's Nest Mine. Examples of these permits are listed below:

- **Construction:** permits required for roads and buildings
- **Explosives:** license required for constructing or maintaining an explosives magazine
- **Fish:** authorization required if impacts on fish habitat are expected
- **Water:** permits required to take, discharge or cross water
- **Air and Noise:** required for all discharge of airborne contaminants (rock crushing, ventilation, and other)
- **Closure Plan:** required for reclamation of the property following the completion of operations

# Opportunity

THE RIGHT PROJECT, PLAN, TEAM, TIME

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