



Thursday, May 21, 2026

Yukon Water Board will consider recommendations in the Independent Review Board report

Regarding water licence applications for quartz undertakings where a heap leach facility exists or is proposed, the Yukon Water Board will consider relevant recommendations from the Independent Review Board's ("IRB") [Eagle Gold Mine June 2024 Heap Leach Failure report](#).

Background

The IRB report suggests changes to management systems and processes in all phases of a quartz mine project life to help reduce and eliminate the potential for heap leach facility ("HLF") failures.

In its role as the regulatory authority for the use of water and deposit of waste to water, the Board understands the importance of addressing the recommendations in the IRB report.

The Board also acknowledges the [Government of Yukon's review of the IRB report](#) and its work to implement the recommendations.

In line with the Government's steps to ensure that all quartz mine licences reflect IRB recommendations, the Board will consider relevant recommendations from the IRB report during its deliberations of applications for new, renewal and amended water licences for quartz undertakings where a HLF exists or is proposed.

Implementation

All applicants of water licences for quartz undertakings where there is an existing or proposed HLF will be made aware that the Board will consider the IRB report in its decision-making.

IRB recommendations relevant to an application may be incorporated in licence conditions.