Snake Bay Project

TRI-SIL MINERALS INC.

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Property File 092GNW052

Dear Mr. Savage:

## Re: BENEFICIATION OF SNAKE BAY WOLLASTONITE

Please find enclosed two copies of our final report presenting results of tests on the Snake Bay material.

In general, I would describe the results as favourable with respect to technical feasibility of preparing a marketable wollastonite concentrate. Results of dry magnetic separation tests indicate acceptable overall product quality even for relatively coarse-crushed (-5 mm) material. Better liberation and product grades were observed for finer (-0.5 mm) material.

For initial development, a relatively simple process sequence of comminution and dry magnetic separation could generate marketable product at about 70-75 wt% recovery. This conclusion is dependent on confirmation of adequate reserves of good quality, low carbonate feed similar to the material provided for this test program. If you anticipate a development along these lines, my assessment of priorities for further work is:

- confirmation of reserves.
- o bulk (~1 tonne) dry magnetic separation tests to provide scale-up data and test samples for marketing.

Ore Sorters will charge for further work, but it is my understanding that costs can be applied to the purchase price of equipment.

Current results indicate product acicularity is in the standard grade range. My opinion, based on observations of material behaviour in dilute acid, is that a highly acicular product could be prepared from the Snake Bay material. Further laboratory research would be required to investigate this possibility and there is a degree of risk that a workable method would not be found. There is a substantial price premium associated with highly acicular material, but it is also reasonable to expect higher unit marketing costs as well as whatever extra processing costs are required.

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A further and more speculative research possibility described in the report is manufacture of high brightness paper filler from wollastonite. While this concept is attractive in terms of market size and price, a considerable research-development marketing program would be required.

I have enclosed a TAP completion form with the project description filled in and a blank in case you prefer to provide your own description. Prompt return of the form will expedite your refund for the eligible portion of expenditure.

I trust the report is satisfactory; if you have any questions or comments, please contact me.

This has been a particularly interesting project for us, and I would be pleased to submit a proposal on any further work for which we are qualified.

Yours very truly,

**B.C. RESEARCH** 

R. O. McElroy Group Leader Extractive Metallurgy Industrial Chemistry Division

ROM/md Enc.