



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Updating of “Water Use and Conservation” Chapter for PDAC’s e3 Plus Environmental Stewardship Toolkit

Summary

In 2009 the PDAC formally launched *e3 Plus: A Framework for Responsible Exploration (e3 Plus)* an information resource to help companies exploring for minerals improve their social, environmental, and health and safety performance. *e3 Plus* serves as PDAC’s signature sustainability initiative. Since its initial launch, *e3 Plus* has undergone content-based updates including the development of new and revisions to existing chapters. In 2018, PDAC conducted a gap analysis of the Excellence in Environmental Stewardship Toolkit which highlighted areas for improvement, updating, and general document streamlining and management.

PDAC is now seeking a consultant to aid in the updating of “Chapter 10: Water Use and Conservation” of the *e3 Plus* Environmental Stewardship Toolkit. This work will include the development of new material, as well as updating existing content including best practices, industry standards, and key considerations for the sector.

Submitted proposals must include an outline of content for the updated “Water Use and Conservation” Chapter, as well as a short list of intended sources. The proposal should include a particular focus on standards and leading practices, water stewardship, cumulative effects, and surface water-groundwater interaction. **Please make note of the existing Excellence in Environmental Stewardship Toolkit content and structure [here](#).**

Background

The Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) is the leading voice of the mineral exploration and development community. With over 8,000 members around the world, PDAC’s work centres on supporting a competitive, responsible mineral sector. PDAC is known worldwide for its annual PDAC Convention—the premier international event for the industry—that has attracted over 25,000 people from 135 countries in recent years.

Acknowledging a need for sustainability guidance for exploration companies operating in Canada and around the world, PDAC launched the comprehensive *e3 Plus: A Framework for Responsible Exploration* at its annual international convention in March 2009. The acronym “e3” stands for achieving excellence in three ways: environmental stewardship, social responsibility and health and safety.



e3 Plus features three comprehensive toolkits that provide in-depth information and guidance on achieving excellence in each of these key areas. The toolkits are “living documents” subject to modification and improvement as experience is gained and circumstances change.

The environmental stewardship toolkit covers key topics such as planning, land disturbance, site management and other chapters relating to the protection of the environments that explorationists find themselves working in. Case studies and check lists help to provide practical insight into topics such as drilling, setting up camp sites, reclamation and working in various climates.

As the recognition and adoption of *e3 Plus* continues to grow, PDAC is looking for ways to increase its accessibility, efficiency, and practicality for the mineral sector. In 2018, PDAC conducted a gap analysis of the Environmental Stewardship Toolkit which highlighted areas in need updating or the development of new content – one of which includes the existing chapter on water. The gap analysis will inform future updates to the Environmental Toolkit.

Upon completion of the gap analysis, it was determined that the existing Water and Conservation chapter required new content on regulations and standards, water stewardship, cumulative effects, and surface water-groundwater interaction .

Tasks Required

The objective of the project is to utilize existing and develop new content for the “Water Use, Protection and Conservation” chapter in the Environmental Toolkit. The tasks of the successful contractor will be:

- a. To thoroughly review the current content and related Gap Analysis of the relevant chapter
- b. To propose a detailed outline of the chapter including new and revised content
- c. To revise existing and produce new content for the new chapter on “Water Use and Conservation” as approved by the PDAC
- d. Review, update or develop check lists as appropriate for exploration programs.
- e. To update existing content and provide new pictures, graphics, figures and supporting documents, where appropriate, in the revised chapter

Timeline and Deliverables

January 14, 2020: Commencement of project;

January 28, 2020: Completion of stages a, and b and delivery of Interim Report with recommendations; and,

February 10, 2020: Completion of project and delivery of revised “Water Use, Protection and Conservation” chapter



Proposal

The proposal should be submitted by no later than December 20, 2019 and should include a fee structure, brief resumes, commitment to the percentage of effort or minimum number of days for senior members and the names and contact information for three references. It will be important to demonstrate evidence of:

1. Experience and knowledge of the exploration sector
2. Subject area knowledge of environmental issues related to the mineral sector, particularly water
3. Experience with the design and application of social and environmental strategies for exploration projects
4. Familiarity with *e3 Plus*
5. Staff capacity to manage the project in the time-frame required;

Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to contact Rose Stacey Analyst, Sustainable Development and International Affairs (rstacey@pdac.ca) if you require more information.