

Definitions Used in the Mining Information Kit

There are several models to describe the mineral resource development sequence. Although similar overall, they differ from one another in terms of how the various steps are defined.

For the purpose of simplicity, the mining sequence used in this Mining Information Kit groups together certain steps and therefore differs from the generalized model of mineral resource development used by Natural Resources Canada (refer to the table on the next page). Approved in 1997 by the federal, provincial and territorial governments and by the industry, the model is a more systematic approach that details the transition between the steps and facilitates a clear understanding of the economic value of projects. It includes, for each step, the objectives, evaluation methods, results, mineral resources inventory, investment, and risk.

For a description and detailed analysis of the generalized model, the reader can consult: http://mmsd1.mms.nrcan.gc.ca/mmsd/exploration/default_e.asp.

PHASES	MINERAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT Surveys, research, synthesis	MINERAL EXPLORATION					MINERAL DEPOSIT APPRAISAL				MINE COMPLEX DEVELOPMENT	MINE PRODUCTION	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION
Stage		Exploration planning	Regional reconnaissance	Prospecting, ground surveys	Verification of anomalies	Discovery, delimitation	Deposit definition	Engineering	Economics	Feasibility, production decision	Construction	Production, marketing, renewal of reserves	Mine closure Decommissioning Restoration
Objectives	Supply information and tools to develop mineral potential.	Select targets. Establish exploration strategies.	Find regional anomalies. Select significant targets. Acquire claims or permits.	Confirm anomalies. Acquire additional claims.	Investigate anomalies. Find mineral showings.	Discover a mineral deposit. Appraise data to justify deposit appraisal.	Define characteristics of the deposit. Acquire data for engineering.	Establish technical feasibility. Obtain plans, cost estimates.	Carry out economic, financial, socio- political evaluation of the project.	Ensure validity of the project. Decide whether or not to undertake the project. Obtain permits.	Complete mine development and construction. Ensure mine and concentrator start-up.	Achieve planned rate and specifications of commercial production. Achieve profitability.	Restore the mine site to an environmentally acceptable condition. Ensure future quality of environment.
Evaluation methods	Surveys, research, compilation and synthesis	Research, review of information	Airborne surveys, aerial photography, prospecting	Ground surveys (geological, geophysical, geochemical)	Mapping, trenching, drilling, sampling	Stripping, mapping, drilling, down-hole geophysics, initial mineral processing tests, environmental surveys, resource estimation	Detailed mapping, sampling, drilling, envonmental studies, mineral processing tests, pre-feasibility studies	Pilot tests, engineering design and planning, cost studies, pre- feasibility studies	Market and financial studies, risk analysis, pre- feasibility studies	Due diligence review of all data, evaluation of all factors and profitability	Project management methods, training programs, detailed start-up plan	Production management methods, exploration, deposit appraisal and development of new zones	Mine closure, decommissioning, restoration, monitoring
Results	Geoscientific database	Exploration projects	Regional anomalies	Local anomalies	Mineral showings	Mineral deposit	Deposit appraisal project Mi		Mining project	Mining complex	Mineral production	Restored site	

SUMMARY OF NRCan GENERALIZED MODEL OF MINERAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Source: Canadian Minerals Yearbook, 2004 Review and Outlook, p. 2.2

SUMMARY OF MINING INFORMATION KIT MINING SEQUENCE

MODULES	EX		OPERATION	CLOSURE			
	Preliminary	Detailed	Evaluation	Mine planning	Construction	Hiring	Shut-down
Activities	Review of geoscientific data, maps	Detailed sampling	Detailed drilling	Mine and plant design	Construction	Training	Decommissioning
	Airborne surveys	Geophysical, geochemical ground surveys	Detailed analyis and	Feasibility studies	of mine and	Commissioning	Reclamation
	Prospecting	Mapping	evaluation	Mine closure and reclamation	infrastructure,	Production	Post-closure
	Claim staking	Drilling	Bulk sampling	plan	training	Mine expansion	activities
	Sampling	Environmental baseline work	Processing tests	Permitting	programs		
			Pre-feasibility studies	Negotiation of agreements			
			Environmental assessment	Decision			
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Source: Mining Information Kit for Aboriginal Communities