

# Update on Goldboro Mine Project

Technical Briefing: Wednesday, August 27, 2025

# What is an Industrial Approval (IA) ?

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- ▶ An IA is the operational approval required prior to the start-up and ongoing operations of a mine that allows a company to construct, operate and reclaim a mine .
- ▶ The IA comes after the Environmental Assessment (EA) approval
- ▶ It includes terms and conditions that protect the environment while supporting companies to develop.

# Goldboro Mine Timeline:

- ▶ August 1, 2018: Anaconda Mining Inc. first registers the Goldboro mine project for Environmental Assessment (EA)
- ▶ September 19, 2019: Former Environment Minister requests more information from the company to inform the EA
- ▶ June 10, 2022: Signal Gold Inc. (formerly Anaconda Mining Inc.) registers the Goldboro mine project for EA
- ▶ August 2, 2022: Environmental Assessment approval is issued
- ▶ August 28, 2023: NexGold Mining Corp. (formerly Signal Gold) submits application for Industrial Approval (IA)
- ▶ July 24, 2024: Province issues mineral lease to NexGold
- ▶ May 21, 2025: Province leases 779 hectares of Crown land to NexGold Mining Corp.
- ▶ August 27, 2025: Goldboro mine project receives its IA with stringent terms and conditions

# Goldboro Mine Environmental Assessment

## 2022 Signal Gold Environmental Assessment

- ▶ Extensive studies and engagement with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia and the public were completed by Signal Gold.
- ▶ Environmental Assessment submission included:
  - ▶ Mi'kmaq Ecological Knowledge Study
  - ▶ Surface water, wetland and groundwater studies
  - ▶ Wildlife and Species at Risk studies
  - ▶ Air and noise emissions assessment
  - ▶ Fish and fish habitat assessment
  - ▶ Archaeological Assessment
  - ▶ Environmental Management Plan with mitigations for potential impacts

# Goldboro Mine Industrial Approval

- ▶ Industrial Approval Application Submission included:
  - ▶ Third-Party Agreements/Approvals
  - ▶ Reclamation Plan and Estimated Costs
  - ▶ Surface Water Quality Predictions and Mitigation Measures
  - ▶ Groundwater Quality Predictions and Mitigation Measures
  - ▶ Waste Rock & Historic Tailings Management Plans
  - ▶ Site Layout and Design Plans
  - ▶ Air and Noise Monitoring Plans and Mitigations
  - ▶ Emergency/Contingency Response Plans

# Industrial Approval Terms & Conditions for Goldboro Mine Include:

- ▶ Compliance criteria - for all relevant parameters
- ▶ Air Quality – an ambient air monitoring plan consistent with departmental guidance
- ▶ Surface Water Monitoring – 25 surface water monitoring stations
- ▶ Groundwater Monitoring - 55 Monitoring well locations
- ▶ Metal Leaching and Acid Rock Drainage - Confirmatory sampling plan
- ▶ Blasting – includes monitoring stations
- ▶ Reporting – extensive reporting to the Department
- ▶ Tailings Management Facility – designed to the Canadian Dam Association Safety Guidelines
- ▶ Historical Tailings Management – a management plan prepared by a site professional
- ▶ Reclamation Plan prepared by qualified professional and updated regularly

# Compliance and Enforcement:

- ▶ Inspectors promote compliance by educating industry to help them achieve compliance through inspections. Inspections are usually planned but can be unannounced.
- ▶ Progressive compliance and enforcement may be taken based on an individual or organization's willingness to comply, their compliance history, and risk to the environment.
- ▶ Non-punitive means are used to achieve compliance. This can be education, inspection reports, warning reports or the suspension of legal authorizations (approval).
- ▶ Sometimes enforcement action by an Investigator is needed to compel compliance.
- ▶ Upon conclusion of an investigation, enforcement could result in any of the following:
  - Summary Offence Ticket
  - Long Form Information
  - Ministerial Order

# Why Mining Matters in Nova Scotia:

- ▶ Mining is the backbone of modern economies, powering everything from green energy to medical and defence applications, while also sustaining economies, communities and governments
- ▶ Mining creates economic prosperity through job creation, local benefits and government revenue
- ▶ Mining in Nova Scotia occupies a very small area, approximately 0.02% of the Nova Scotia landmass.
- ▶ Mining accounts for 0.73% of GDP while employing 0.5% of the workforce (46% above average Nova Scotia GDP per capita).
- ▶ Approximately 2,500 people are employed by the mining sector. Mining is one of the highest-wage industrial sectors
- ▶ For every mining job, 2–5 indirect jobs are created in supply chains, construction, logistics, and services

# Gold: Strategic Mineral in Nova Scotia

- ▶ Gold is a strategic asset with enduring demand that becomes even more critical in times of uncertainty. And remains one of the safest stores of value.
- ▶ Gold is essential in electronics, aerospace, and medicine due to its conductivity, resistance to corrosion, and biocompatibility.
- ▶ Gold is critical in emerging fields like quantum computing and advanced semiconductors.
- ▶ Gold mines serve as an anchor for mining regions, attracting capital and as such can be driver for critical minerals development.
- ▶ Gold has been identified as a strategic mineral for Nova Scotia. It has great potential to bring investment, jobs and revenue to the province.

# Economic Benefits of Goldboro Mine:

- ▶ Total project spend: \$1.7B
- ▶ GDP impact for NS (direct and indirect): \$2B over 15 years
- ▶ Household income impact: \$1.1B in direct and spin-off income for households
- ▶ Jobs: 735 direct and indirect jobs per year (230 direct/on-site, 505 spin-off)
- ▶ Government tax revenues: \$528M
- ▶ NexGold has signed benefit agreements with the Municipality of the District of Guysborough and the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs
- ▶ The agreement with the Mi'kmaq outlines the economic, environmental, cultural, employment and other benefits

**Source:** [Group ATN: Goldboro Socioeconomic Study](#)

[Independent Socioeconomic Assessment for the Goldboro Gold Project - The Globe and Mail](#)

Questions ?