

February 10, 2026

Heather Malcolmson
Director of Client Service and Permissions Branch
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Avenue West, Floor 1
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5

heather.malcolmson@ontario.ca
enviropemissions@ontario.ca

Re: Comments related to ERO Number 026-0015; Alamos Gold Inc. – Permit to take water amendment

Hello Ms Malcolmson:

On behalf of our Board of Directors and members, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed amendment to the permit to take water for Alamos Gold Inc.. As representatives of Ontario's resource-based tourism sector, we urge you to reconsider this amendment due to its far-reaching consequences for our industry and the region.

Ontario's tourism industry is globally renowned, built on the province's unparalleled natural resources. Activities such as angling, hunting, and canoeing have consistently attracted visitors, driving economic growth and sustaining vibrant communities. The continued success of this sector depends on the preservation of these resources.

Category 3 Permit to Take Water:

The proposed water taking is classified as Category 3, signifying the highest risk of unacceptable environmental impact. Approving this amendment threatens to irreversibly damage fisheries, ecosystems, and the tourism businesses that rely on them.

Insufficient Consultation:

A 30-day comment period is inadequate for meaningful engagement with the many tourism businesses and Indigenous and non-Indigenous stakeholders affected. Given the sector's economic significance, a more comprehensive consultation process is essential.

Competing Water Use:

Existing power generation already places demand on these waterbodies. Additional withdrawals risk destabilizing water levels and quality, jeopardizing tourism activities and infrastructure such as float plane operations.

More than ten tourism businesses on these waterways contribute significantly to Northern Ontario's economy. Activities with a high risk of environmental impact threaten not only their sustainability but also the broader regional prosperity.

Tourism generates \$3.1 billion annually for Northern Ontario, with 90% of revenue remaining in the region. Approving this amendment would undermine a vital economic pillar. We strongly urge the Ministry to reject the proposed changes and commit to robust stakeholder consultation for future decisions. NOTO stands ready to support these efforts.



We appreciate your consideration and welcome further discussion to ensure the long-term health and prosperity of Ontario's tourism sector.

Sincerely,

Laurie Marcil
Executive Director