

PRESS RELEASE - November 22, 2011

Barrick's Hemlo Operation receives 'Towards Sustainable Mining' leadership award

Toronto – The Mining Association of Canada (MAC) is presenting a special Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM) Leadership Award to Barrick Gold's Hemlo operation, recognizing its excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). The award is being presented today in Ottawa during MAC's annual Mining Day on the Hill.

Hemlo is located east of Marathon, Ontario and consists of the Williams and David Bell mines. The operation met or exceeded an "A" ranking across four TSM performance categories:

- Tailings Management
- Energy Use and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions
- External Outreach
- Crisis Management Planning

"Barrick is only the second company to win a Leadership Award since the TSM Awards were inaugurated in 2006," said Pierre Gratton, President and CEO of The Mining Association of Canada. "The management and staff at Barrick's Hemlo facility are to be congratulated on operating a facility that Canada's mining industry can hold up as an example of sustainable mining excellence."

"Whether in Canada or abroad, Barrick strives to meet high standards for corporate social responsibility," said Kelvin Dushnisky, Executive Vice President of Corporate and Legal Affairs at Barrick. "By meeting these standards and proactively engaging with local communities and stakeholders, we are able to maintain strong support for our operations."

"We are very proud to see our Hemlo operation recognized as a leader in responsible mining by Canada's mining industry, and congratulate everyone involved in this great achievement."

While Hemlo's scores reflect leadership across all TSM categories, external outreach is a critical part of the operation's – and Barrick's – ongoing commitment to responsible mining. Hemlo works with a wide range of communities of interest, including two First Nations, three municipalities and a national park.

The operation regularly engages in meaningful and transparent dialogue with stakeholders, and holds site update meetings at least three times annually. Hemlo partners with local organizations and institutions on programs to benefit the region and organizes Student Mining Days, which bring mining information and technology to area schools.

The mine has developed constructive relationships with the Pic River and Pic Mobert communities and has established Socio-Economic Agreements to bring opportunities associated with the operation to its First Nations neighbours. The Agreements provide for skills training for present and future mining opportunities, through a partnership with Confederation College, as well as support for the development of First Nations-led businesses and involvement in environmental monitoring and stewardship.

Today, about 10 per cent of Hemlo's workforce comes from local Aboriginal communities.

“We are honoured to be receiving this special award,” said Roger Souckey, Superintendent of Employee Relations at Hemlo. “We place great value on our relationships with First Nations, local communities and on environmental stewardship.”

TSM was developed by MAC in 2004 to improve the Canadian mining industry’s performance by helping companies to manage their corporate responsibilities for social and environmental sustainability. The industry has adopted a common set of measurable sustainability guidelines and performance indicators that provide a way for the sector to find common ground with communities of interest in order to build a better mining industry in Canada, today and in the future.

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