THE MINERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

PROJECT EXPLORATION AND DEFINITION

- Concept and review of existing data
- Purchase claims
- Geosciences and prospecting
- Early and advanced exploration (discovery and definition drilling)

PROJECT ENGINEERING AND VALUATION

- Geomodelling and resource estimation
- Geotechnical and condemnation drilling
- Preliminary Economic Assessment
- Feasibility and project design: economics of infrastructure and activities, environmental and social considerations
- Feasibility Study

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS AND PERMITS

- Initiation of baseline environmental and social studies
- Preparation of the project description based on the proposed infrastructure and activities
- Submit preliminary information statement (provincial; Section 22: COMEV/COMEX) and initial project description (federal; IAAC)
- Preparation of Environmental and Socioeconomic Impact Assessment
- Impact Assessment submission to and review by relevant authorities
- Development of mitigation and monitoring plans
- Development of closure and restoration plans
- Public consultations
- Apply for project authorizations and permits

DEVELOPMENT AND PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

- Detailed Engineering
- Scheduling and acquisition of key components
- Pre-development construction (tree removal, camp, road, borrow pits, tree removal, power infrastructure, communications, etc.)
- Site preparation and pre-stripping (tree removal, overburden, stockpiles, etc.)

PROJECT OPERATIONS AND COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION

- Mining operations (blasting, crushing, ore processing, material transport)
- Power generation
- Water (incl. treatment and processed residues) and waste management (waste rock, ore stockpiles, domestic waste)
- Camp facilities, labour management, logistics and procurement
- Road maintenance
- Environmental monitoring
- Progressive restoration (revegetation)

CLOSURE AND RESTORATION

- Implementation of restoration plan (revegetation, water and waste management)
- Implementation of environmental closure monitoring
- Dismantling and divestment of infrastructure and equipment