



Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency

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**Summary of Discussion from the
Inter-Agency Coordinating Team (IACT)
Meeting May 6th, 2004**

Participants

Carole Mills	Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency (IEMA)
Sean Kollee	IEMA
Buddy Williams	Dep. of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND)
Rebecca Chouinard	DIAND
Robin Staples	DIAND
Malcom Robb	DIAND
Lionel Marcinkoski	DIAND
Darnell McCurdy	DIAND
Anne Wilson	Environment Canada (EC)
Dave Balint	Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO)
Kelly Cott	DFO
Chris Hanks	BHP Billiton (BHPB)
Jane Howe	BHPB
Jason McNeil	Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development (RWED)
Gavin More	RWED

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Mine Reclamation Guidelines for the Northwest Territories and Nunavut

Rebecca presented the draft DIAND reclamation guidelines. The presentation is available by request.

Water Licence MV2003L2-0013 Technical issues for discussion – BHPB

It was noted that interventions are due on May 18th, 2004 to the MVLWB.

BHPB requested for the sake of clarity and document control that deleted clauses or added clauses not require renumbering of the entire water license. Instead the clause could be left in and labeled as revoked or deleted. This is a language issue so old documents or plans could be referenced without errors. IACT viewed this as a reasonable suggestion.

DFO discussed moving towards incorporating the new licence with the Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth licence. Discharge limits are an example where DFO proposes that both

licenses should be the same. DFO also noted they had reviewed the report by BHPB that evaluated the potential for harm to fish habitat associated with the proposed increased withdrawal of water from Grizzly Lake.

BHPB indicated that a valid ecological concern is warranted to justify changing effluent discharge levels. If an ecological problem exists or could develop, BHPB will support changing discharge criteria, but change - just to be compatible with MV2001L2-008 is not a valid reason. The mine and the LLCF were designed around compliance with current discharge criteria.

DIAND was requested to update IACT on the source of the DIAND intervention in the renewal process. Robin responded that Francis Jackson is the lead from DIAND on this. Darnell worked extensively with MVLWB staff to enhance the enforceability of the water licence clauses and does not plan to have an operational intervention; the water licence parameters would have to come from the water resources side of DIAND.

Ekati Update – BHPB

Jane presented the Ekati update; the presentation is available from BHPB.

- Misery to re-open in mid 2004, permission from MVLWB will be sought to amend the waste rock plan to allow storage of kimberlite in the mine footprint.
- *WWPKMP* due for revision in 2005, consultation will occur at both a community and regulatory level. Three alternatives will be presented for the future operation of LLCF; status quo operation, deferral and possible avoidance of cell d for PK deposition and a hybrid between these two options.
- A pilot flotation circuit using standard reagents and equipment will be used to test capture of smallest diamond particles. Toxicity testing will be done on the effluent.
- Diesel generator number six will be installed soon, the requirement for additional power is largely driven by underground demand.
- Discharging water from the LLCF over the winter period resulted in ice build-up at the narrows between Nero-Nema Lakes, adjacent to the Fox bridge. This ice build-up was removed in consultation with DFO/DIAND Inspector and crews were careful to ensure that there was no harm to fish habitat.

Round Table Updates

Environment Canada - Anne is preparing comments on the BHPB seepage survey, AEMP review and water licence renewal. Other news includes the benthic study on LLCF cell e is soon to be available in draft form. This is the second study with the University of Saskatchewan. Air quality modeling on a regional basis is another initiative involving Jayda from BHPB and Dave Fox from EC.

DFO - Dave introduced Kelly Cott (joined DFO in the YK office from Inuvik). She will be doing work on diamond projects, Elaine Blais has returned to DIAND. DFO hopes

this will allow a greater division of workload between the various staff. Water Licence and BHPB Annual report comments have been distributed as well as comments on seepage, A&R, and various letters on compensation activities.

DIAND - Darnell has distributed copies of his last inspections. Operations are continuing as normal at the site, the contaminated snow facility is a huge benefit for management of contaminants and the landfarm. This will account for strictly snow and ice, should allow bioremediation to begin in the landfarm. Robin is participating in the AEMP third party review project.

RWED - Gavin noted that most parties have ratified the Debeers Environmental Agreement. Part of the discussion is looking at the future of the monitoring agencies. If and when this agreement is finalized it will have large ramifications for the monitoring of the projects. GNWT is considering regional activities, and the announcement of the Bathurst road carries a recommendation for the GNWT to be included in scoping the potential effects of the project. Grizzly and wolverine may be considered as species of concern. Jason noted that the A&R plan was very recently received due to delays with distribution, the Environmental Protection group within RWED would be looking into commenting on it.

IEMA - Sean mentioned that environmental workshop comments were distributed by the Agency as well as on many of the other subjects already mentioned.

BHPB – Chris noted that replacing Peter McCart has been slowed due to the lack of correspondence from GNWT and DIAND. Lionel and Gavin agreed to look into it.

Next Meeting

October 8th, 2004 at the Agency boardroom, 1:15 pm.