

Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Yellowknife, NT – October 6th, 2022

Summary of Discussion

Directors

Emery Paquin
Tim Byers
Ron Allen
Jesse Jasper
Kim Poole
Bill Slater

Staff

Marc Casas, *Executive Director*
Jamie Mistry, *Communications & Admin Specialist*

Meeting chaired by Emery Paquin (Chairperson).

Start time: 9:03am

Agency Business

Chair/Director Updates

The Chair and Directors provided brief summaries of their participation in recent workshops and meetings, including the MVRMA Consultation and Engagement Policy workshop, Diavik's Closure Workshop Series and meetings related to a caribou telemetry analysis. Directors also shared their general thoughts on recent meetings and upcoming events.

Financials: Variance Report

- In review of the year-to-date variance report, the Agency is on track for budgeted expenses for the 2022-23 fiscal year. Anticipated significant expenses expected to occur before the end of fiscal include:
 - Water licence renewal process
 - WEMP/WMMP renewal process
 - Digitizing the resource library
 - Draft ICRP version 3.1
- The Agency will also look at opportunities to visit a community and to host additional community information sessions this winter.

Current Review Items

Point Lake WRSA Design Plan and Seepage Prediction Reports

Directors have reviewed the WRSA Design Plan and the Seepage Prediction reports. Both documents contain important information regarding the overall design of the waste rock and overburden piles and

the chemistry of the seepage specific to the Point Lake Project. A response letter will be drafted stating the Agency's comments on the plans.

Water Licence Renewal Application

Ekati's water licence is scheduled to expire in October 2023. The company plans to submit their renewal application package at the end of October 2022. Directors discussed the proposed changes that Arctic Diamond intends to include in the package. The Agency anticipates the WLWB to distribute a workplan in November once the conformity check is complete.

ICRP v3.1 Submission Update

Arctic Diamond was expected to submit draft version 3.1 of the ICRP at the end of October. Based on the WLWB's Reason for Decision for the Information Package (submitted in April 2022), the company is now expected to submit the updated draft version by the end of the year to address revisions required by the WLWB.

Directors also discussed differences and similarities between the closure criteria proposed for the Diavik and Ekati mines.

WEMP Renewal and Wildlife Updates

Directors shared details of recent meetings regarding Arctic Diamond's proposed Caribou Telemetry Study, including details of the study design, methodology and potential timelines. Directors also reviewed the letter sent by GWNT-ENR to Arctic Diamond that outlines their expectations for the upcoming WEMP/WMMP renewal application and Arctic Diamond's response to it. The current WEMP expires October 2023.

Draft Waste and Wastewater Management Plan

In reference to recent decision made by the WLWB for Diavik's Water Licence Amendment application, Directors discussed details of the disagreement emerging on discharge criteria. This disagreement involves whether discharge criteria need to be included as conditions of a water licence, or whether the criteria can be included in Schedules to the water licence or in management plans.

October 5th Site Visit

General Thoughts/comments

Directors discussed their experience and general impressions after visiting the Ekati site on October 4 after 2 years of no site visits. The visit included the Sable Road, the completed Pigeon Pit, Koala Pit, Lac du Sauvage Road, Point Lake Project site, the King Pond Settling Facility and the Long Lake Containment Facility. Directors discussed various components of the mine with Ekati staff during the visit and appreciate their cooperation and insights.

Overall, Directors were pleased for the opportunity to view multiple areas across the site. It was particularly helpful for Directors to visit the Point Lake area to better understand the existing terrain and landscape in the area as planning for the open pit continues.

Communications Updates

Annual Report: Status and Public Release

The annual report is currently being finalized and will be available to print soon. Once a final digital copy of the report is available it will be posted to the Agency's website and notification will be sent to Society Members.

Directors would also like to make the release of the annual report more public using various media platforms to announce the release.

Resource Library

Staff will continue to bring material to a local copy store to scan documents. The digital files will gradually be uploaded to the website for cataloguing.

Other Business

Annual General Meeting

The Agency will be planning a hybrid Annual General Meeting this year, like previous years, which will allow participants flexibility to attend in person or join remotely. Staff will reach out to Society Members with potential dates in November and once confirmed, a notification will be sent out by email and in the newspaper.

Next Meeting

Directors will schedule the next board meeting based on availability in February or March 2023

Meeting adjourned 4:23 pm