



2004-5 Year in Review and Annual Report Summary



Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency

Presentation Outline

- Agency 2004-05 Annual Report Summary
- Agency Highlights in 2004-05
- Agency focus since April 2005
- Focus for the future
- Summary

Agency Annual Report Summary, 2004-05

“The Monitoring Agency shall report annually.....to BHPB, the Minister, and the GNWT. All reports of the Monitoring Agency shall be made available to the Aboriginal Peoples and the general public.”

Environmental Agreement
BHP Billiton Diamond Project



Ekati Environmental Workshop March 2005

Wildlife Effects Monitoring Program



Caribou Monitoring

- Monitoring focuses on the area around the mine and is effective and of good quality
- Aboriginal Peoples have told us they are concerned about the health of the Bathurst caribou herd
- Monitoring at Ekati does not identify harmful effects to caribou
- More work is needed on plants the caribou eat

Wolverine have become a Problem at Ekati



Some wolverine have been killed and others trapped and sent away from the mine. However, management of garbage has been good.

Traditional Knowledge

The Agency

recommends that:

- BHPB should enable greater participation of Aboriginal Peoples in the design and delivery of monitoring programs at Ekati.



Communications and Consultation



The LLCF
review process

The Agency recommends that:

- BHPB should adopt a more collaborative approach to the review and design of reports, programs, projects and risk assessments.

Regional Monitoring and Cumulative Effects

- Agency cooperated with efforts for a regional monitoring agency - however not a lot of progress in 2004-5
- Recent studies suggest caribou tend to avoid the diamond mines - monitoring at Ekati does not identify this effect
- We have heard valuable suggestions from our Aboriginal members on improved caribou monitoring

Regional Monitoring and Cumulative Effects Recommendation

The Agency

recommends that:

- DIAND, GNWT, GNU and BHPB should be involved in regional caribou monitoring of the Bathurst Caribou herd.



Caribou near Ekati, 2003

Assessment of the Regulators

- Agency participated in the water licence renewal process - suggested improvements to the MVLWB.
- Key Agency message:
 - There is need for the Board to provide better direction to staff in order that the Board can make more effective and timely decisions
 - Timely decision making suffered from an attempt to reach consensus among participants

Assessment of the Regulators



The Agency recommends that:

Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

There is a need for greater clarity on the issue of water quality and the definition of the receiving environment that could take the form of guidelines from the MVLWB. Building of internal technical capacity may assist with this initiative.

Reclamation and Closure

- At this stage in the mine's life, there is a need for much more progress on closure planning
- BHPB does not have a closure plan that reflects the current mine operation
- The Agency believes planning to close the mine is the most important issue at Ekati
- The Agency hosted a workshop in early 2005 on reclamation and closure
- The Agency of the view that DIAND's draft reclamation guidelines require more work

Reclamation and Closure Recommendations

The Agency recommends that:

- BHPB should develop a workable closure plan, within one year, with closure objectives and preferred options for the mine components leading to specific closure criteria.



Area reclaimed in 2002, photo 2003

Reclamation and Closure Recommendations

The Agency recommends
that:

- Decisions should be made about closure of mine components based on information from the corresponding studies in the forthcoming Abandonment and Reclamation research plan.



Reclamation at Fred's Channel, 2003

Reclamation and Closure Recommendations

The Agency

recommends that:

- BHPB should develop a collaborative consultation process to assist in developing its next closure plan, similar to the process used for improving the operation of the Long Lake Containment Facility.



KIA delegates at the site tour in October 2004

Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program

2004 was the seventh year of monitoring water quality since operations began. The Agency reviewed the AEMP report and suggested:

- Determining the cause of rising water chemistry variables downstream of Ekati is important
- Lake zooplankton (food for fish) remain an area of interest for future monitoring

AEMP Third Party Review

- AEMP independent third party review (supported by DIAND, EC, DFO and the Agency) found that BHPB has a good program
 - Especially for plankton and benthic organisms
- More effort recommended to determine the relationship between water quality and effects on aquatic life

Agency Highlights in 2004-05

Highlights in 2004-05 • IEMA AGM 2005



Agency visit to Kugluktuk and school

Agency Highlights 2004-05



Hosted an Open House in Kugluktuk August 2004

Agency Highlights in 2004-05



Water Licence Hearing Intervention

Environmental Workshops

- Agency hosted the environmental workshop for the second time in March 2005
- Recommendations were forwarded to BHPB and the regulators for consideration
- Workshop was well attended
- Valuable comments on caribou monitoring received

Environmental Workshop



Highlights in 2004-5 • IEMA AGM 2005

Agency Hosted the Mine Reclamation and Closure Workshop



Agency Update since April 2005

- Attempts to resolve Agency budget and work plan disagreement
 - mediation or arbitration now likely
- Review of Ekati water licence
- Review of 2004 waste rock seepage report
- Offers to BHPB to assist with 2006 environmental impact report and related public meetings

Focus for the Future

- Participating in MVLWB and BHPB's reclamation and closure planning processes—whatever form these may take
- Continued efforts to consult with members
- Assisting BHPB with 2006 Environmental Impact Review and Workshop

Overall Perspective on Ekati

- Ekati continues to enjoy good environmental performance
- No unanticipated significant impacts to the environment have been identified
- Need to ensure inclusive adaptive environmental management and good reclamation and closure planning

THANK YOU



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