



Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency

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Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency

30th Meeting of the Board of Directors

Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

October 24th – 27th, 2002

Summary of Discussion

Directors

Red Pedersen	Tim Byers
Peter McCart	Bill Ross
Tony Pearse	François Messier
Bob Turner	

Staff

Zabey Nevitt	Sean Kollee
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Thursday October 24th, 2002

Meeting called to order by chair at 8:30 am

Agenda reviewed and accepted.

Information Updates

Red: He was unaware of yesterday's AEMP meeting so did not attend. He is traveling to Cambridge Bay after the meeting for a KIA update.

François: Encouraged Directors to read BHPB's Environmental annual report. He read an update of reclamation and OEMP waste management and in the last two weeks received inquiries from Golder regarding the WEMP and has a few treasury issues to report later.

Peter: Reading of the AEMP synthesis document constituted his recent efforts.

Bob: Provided an update on EMAB TK issues. He will approach the leaders of five aboriginal groups for recommendations in incorporating TK into projects. A theme from the NSMA AGM was accountability and there was no problem with Bob's participation in IEMA as a Director.

Bill: In August he attended the interviews for Sean's position in YK and is now close to finishing a book chapter on EIA follow up at Ekati. He aided in commissioning the poster and has kept up with reading relevant documents.

Tony: Nothing of note to report.

Tim: Arrived from Lutsel K'e with an update regarding their concerns. Steve Ellis (Lands in Lutsel K'e) reports Lutsel K'e Lands and Environment are pleased with Tim's consultation efforts.

Zabey:

- Introduced the new analyst.
- Thanked Sean for his work in creating the new poster.
- Mentioned YK radio requested a radio interview on our annual report.
- Discussed Clint Ambrose's previous comments on road watering and that the new licence defines the receiving environment and declares sump water inappropriate for road watering.
- Cited two Agency contributions: security will be the full amount without progressive reclamation for the mine expansion and the LUP for Sable project under wildlife point 28 says traffic will be limited during caribou movements. This was interpreted as further evidence the MVLWB seriously considers Agency recommendations.

Sean:

- Mentioned his start date was August 9th, 2002.
- Also had recent inquiries from Golder regarding the BHPB AEMP, and from a Harvard anthropology graduate student.
- Acted as the project manager on the poster and spent time looking at SNP and AEMP trends and current events such as the atomization project, learning and maintaining the web, and analyzing the Environmental Agreement annual report of BHPB.

A discussion began after the updates:

- The regulators collectively seem to be performing better and paying attention to us. This is good for environmental management at Ekati and suggests we are having a positive effect. There is a lack of institutional memory among regulators due to turnover compared to the tenure of some Directors.
- The communities want a combination of community and scientific knowledge to aid in mine operation. They are taxed with multiple projects and lack the technical capacity to manage all of these projects so there appears to be increased momentum for a Regional Monitoring Agency (RMA).

The Directors discussed the engineering diagram of the Pigeon culvert delivered by BHPB. The details of the culvert focused their opinion that the structure is a wildlife impediment and not appropriate for the site. Potential problems include caribou blocking

and snow build-up. Bridges and their corresponding regulatory hurdles with DFO were commented on.

Action Item #1 Consider for 2002-2003 Annual Report: The Agency recommends against the use of large culverts in future at the mine similar to the one in place at Pigeon. At the very least, all terrestrial as well as aquatic impacts of any new mine component should be carefully assessed.

Environmental Agreement Review:

Zabey briefed the Directors on the recent progress in the EA review:

- The three signatories to the Environmental Agreement have been meeting to discuss changes to the Agreement. During this process a ten-day review period was provided to aboriginal groups to review the EA and make comments.
- The signatories are now in process of drafting letters detailing what changes they have accepted. There was substantial disagreement from the signatories on the Agency's position on voting about EA changes. The Directors felt the Agency should have simply stated that it declined to provide unanimous support for any changes in order to invoke greater consultation. This issue is however irrelevant as the Agency never received any official request from the signatories requesting approvals.
- General comments were made that the three parties carried out a non-inclusive process to review the Agreement. Aboriginal groups appear to have become frustrated in their attempts to provide input. The Agency considers this to have been an inadequate review by the signatories.

Review of Agency's Annual Report 2001

Zabey provided an opportunity for Directors to express feedback on the Agency's annual report and its new format:

- The Directors wanted to create a document people are willing to read in the communities. Elders were observed studying the summary so it was at least successful in capturing their interest.
- Tony wondered if a larger font would be more appropriate, Zabey agreed and indicated how an attempt was made in the first paragraph of each section to make it larger and stand out.
- An element of the report is missing compared to two years ago (assessment of the environmental management by BHPB of the mine).

Action Item #2 Include in the next annual report an evaluation of the mine operators and regulators from a big picture a "how are they doing" assessment of the environmental management of the mine.

Action Item #3 Deadline for Director's comments on BHPB's annual report: November 4th

Action Item #4 Submit letter to BHPB (cc'd to members) with comments on BHPB's annual report.

Action Item #5 Consider developing a wrap up document if the agency is disbanded and the RMA comes into being to ensure the institutional memory developed by the Agency is not lost.

Preparation for AGM:

The Directors discussed the upcoming AGM and how to present the proposed budget and work-plan that allows meaningful input from the society members and includes:

- The effect the upcoming RMA could have on the two-year work-plan. The two-year work-plan will include greater integration of monitoring activities and more regional assessment and needs to show innovation.
- A cost estimate for the Agency's (increased) workload due to mine expansion.

Friday October 25th, 8:30 am

Preparation for meetings with DIAND Inspectors and BHPB:

The Directors had a general discussion of issues that the DIAND inspectors could address during the meeting such as spills at Misery, an update on the ammonium nitrate storage building status, and the Pigeon culvert from BHBP.

Meeting with DIAND Inspectors Darnell McCurdy (BHPB) and Julian (Diavik):

Red introduced the board and staff to Darnell and Julian. The Directors asked Darnell about:

- Spills that have gone unreported.
- Misery Site and how it is performing.
- Status of his recent inspections.
- Animal habituation.
- Material removed from the land-farm.
- Wildlife Issues at Diavik – those that act cumulatively with Ekati impacts.
- If spills inside a bermed area need to be reported.
- SNP data analysis.
- pH issues.
- Discharge to Cell D.

Darnell reported:

- During construction a small spill had not been reported among all other spills.
- Talk of a permanent environmental staff person for Misery has occurred.

Summary of Discussion from the 30th Meeting of the Board of Directors.

- At the asphalt plant there is some reclamation ongoing and he believes it is a contaminated site due to the diesel tanks. BHPB has excavated to a depth of 1.5 metres to remove the contaminated soils.
- Darnell and Directors discussed the established protocol for inspection report release. Darnell indicated his next inspection is scheduled for October 28th.
- Misery seems to be taking more care with disposal of waste.
- The ammonium nitrate facility is an ongoing issue and is probably contained now. On the lower pad, excavation of contaminated material continues, soil sampling indicates removal was necessary due to a fine layer of prill just below the surface. Indoor loadings should resolve the ammonium nitrate contamination problem in the future. Bag storage is an issue and may be resolved by building a sprung structure. BHPB are also going to install a drainage structure in to control water at the site.
- Reclamation of airstrip esker is ongoing. Zone S is not really a hot spot but he is always checking on the dumping there (it is located on Koala waste rock pile at a minimum of 100 metres from the edge and accepts hydrocarbon contaminated rock from the pits). It became full of material that could be land-farmed and BHPB was told to remove material from there on more than one occasion. BHPB has done a good job with the landfill. It has a single access only and is large enough so that the wastes can be separated. One side is designated for salvageable metal, the bottom is lined with coarse ore rejects, and a sea can is used for burning combustibles. The land-farm will continually grow upwards with the waste rock pile. Contaminated soil goes to the land-farm.
- BHPB needs to find out how deep the liner of the land-farm is. It is leaving the low or sump end open to allow drainage of the material when necessary.
- After a question from a Director, Julian indicated waste management at Diavik appears to be improving and he has not been aware of any wildlife problems.
- Darnell receives SNP data but there was a lag of 8-9 months during which the SNP data were not looked at. Darnell noted on the July SNP data lower pH's, 5.6 and 5.4. These were not at discharge points.
- With baseline data at Sable, a pH of 5.4 to 5.6 is not a problem but 4 may be.
- Julian indicated some pH below 5 has been seen at Diavik.
- BHPB has enough lake bottom sediments so the Fox sediments will be disposed of. Discharge of Lake water to Cell D was approved by the MVLWB.

Meeting with BHPB:

Red welcomed the BHPB staff present and thanked them for taking the time to attend. The Directors asked for a general update on site activities.

BHBP:

- Discussed the Energy savings program on site.
- A wind gauge on a 30-metre tower is up and for one year it will collect data on wind speed at that elevation. If it is seen to be economic BHPB will consider wind power at the site. The historic wind speed at 5 metres is marginal for wind energy.

Summary of Discussion from the 30th Meeting of the Board of Directors.

- BHPB is striving to save 500,000 litres of diesel per year. Examples of potential energy savings include cycling block heaters every 20 minutes and not plugging in above minus 20 and motion-detector lights. It takes one quarter of a litre of diesel to produce 1 kWh of electricity. A block heater is 1500 watts; to plug a vehicle represents 3-4 litres of fuel for a night.

Mining

- Panda surface mining will be finished between March and June, 2003 at 460 m total excavation, or 210 m above sea level. Koala underground is at 110 metres above sea level. In November, BHPB will get production out of Koala north.

Air Quality report:

- 4-6 weeks away

Annual Workshop:

- February 3rd – 4th at Northern United Place, AEMP, wildlife, seepage, reclamation, air, TK and others to be presented.
- December 10th – 12th pre-technical meetings include wildlife, aquatics and maybe seepage, another AEMP review would be coming up later.
- Dennis Greggor will be coming to YK to present his air quality findings.
- With regard to the 5-month old female wolf pup fatality on Misery road, the necropsy findings are back. Cause of death is a blow to head by a vehicle.
- No problems with wolverine although the Inspector saw many tracks in spring around the land-farm. Visitors from YK Dene identified tracks at Pigeon site.
- Inuit have approached the mine while hunting (prey not mentioned), BHPB knows of 8 individuals who arrived to hunt late last winter.

Directors reiterated their concerns over the construction of the Pigeon culvert:

- Pigeon crossing is a hotspot for caribou crossing as part of an esker system and the valley is highly used by caribou.
- Directors recommend a 1:3 to 1:5 slope on the side of the road to allow caribou to cross and give careful consideration to the make-up of berm material.

BHPB responded by indicating that the engineering required for Pigeon culvert was very different from other bridges due to the geology. The choice of using a culvert was made directly by BHPB, not under direction of DFO.

Directors requested a letter explaining why a culvert was superior to a bridge. Tim mentioned a concern he had heard in Lutsel K'e; they wanted to know if snow would drift through the culvert.

BHPB responded that snow might drift, and would probably require digging out.

Waste Management Plan:

BHPB discussed the new format it was using to bring its management plans up to ISO 14001 standard. The first document to be adapted will be the Waste Management Plan.

Summary of Discussion from the 30th Meeting of the Board of Directors.

The Directors asked for an update on BHPB's commitment to recycle office paper and other types of recycling. BHPB responded it is looking at getting tetra packs offsite for recycling and their cans and office paper is not a significant amount, possibly not worthwhile.

Misery – Spills and Waste food handling:

BHPB reported it believes Nuna Logistics has improved dramatically in these areas.

Road Watering:

BHPB stated King Pond is a source of water for road watering, and also Cell C or D of LLCF. Sump water was not used outside the pit except in 2001 when Koala north water was used. BHPB only put down one application of the dust suppressant agent in July due to the wet summer. They have no way to control dust when water cannot be applied on roads due to safety reasons i.e., April and May.

Misery Surplus Water Atomization Project:

The Directors asked:

- What BHPB's role in monitoring vs. EC's role will be?
- Does EC have any problem with using the receiving environment in this prototype and as the receiving body as the performance sampling point?
- How will BHPB verify compliance with the water at the points of discharge into Cujo Lake? What will happen to ammonia?
- Is noise an issue?

BHPB responded:

- The company is responsible for funding, ensuring compliance, system optimization, tundra response, etc.
- EC will take the lead on monitoring performance. Much of the effluent will not make it to the lake and some runoff will drain along defined inlets into Cujo Lake where it will be monitored. Ammonia will be stripped as a gas. Any nitrate in solution will stay in solution and fall to the ground and potentially be taken up by vegetation. The operation is surprisingly quiet but performance figures are not available.

Exploration:

BHPB discussed their exploration program.

- Six to eight holes were drilled in 2001 on a new tripod rig that captures fragments rather than core samples using a re-circulation system. Any dust or chips that fall to the side will be pushed back down the hole making drill sites almost invisible after decommissioning.

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The Directors asked if the operating procedures that accompanied the exploration program are part of the OEMP. BHPB replied that exploration is outside OEMP.

Ammonium Nitrate Storage:

The Directors asked BHPB to brief the board about the ammonium nitrate storage facility.

BHPB

- They were unsure of how long the problem has existed.
- Seeps testing indicated high levels of Ammonia, as did samples in the lake. The DIAND inspector requested an action plan and their response was to strip the lower pad of old crush.
- They checked the lower bench for specific conductance. The remediation plan for the lower pad was installation of a sump to collect water and discharge to the top of Cell B. Around 1500 bags a month are used in blasting and they will all be removed in November; the new bags coming in will be placed on a marked pad on the waste rock dump. The lower area will be totally remediated next summer with all crush material sent to Zone S, a liner and a sprung building over the entire area is a final option. This plan has been proposed to the inspector.

Caribou:

BHPB reported it was a very good year in terms of data collection, the caribou came through in three days and they monitored traffic on Misery and shut it down at times. At least 5000 caribou came through in a steady stream.

TK implementation progress:

BHPB responded to the Director's request for a TK information update:

- The elders want to keep caribou away from the northern area of the mine and had concerns about the Pigeon valley. Elders have ideas on caribou diversion around the mine based on experience for corralling caribou during hunting.
- They made recommendations on where additional caribou crossings are needed.

Traffic:

- BHPB reported traffic monitoring has occurred and will be expanded along with mine expansion.

By-catch:

- BHPB reported Diavik lost 6 red-throated loons and it lost two from by-catch i.e., loons getting caught in fishnets. BHPB and Directors then discussed the difficulties of following the fish out protocol and the high cost of fishing out Beartooth, around \$100,000.

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Diamonds TAC:

- BHPB reported that from its perspective, the Diamonds TAC is at the conceptual level, the TOR for a committee have not been distributed and the company has requested the MVLWB to allow comments to be made before they are finalized.

Red thanked BHPB for their attendance.

Personnel Issue:

Red mentioned an extraordinary item for the board to deal with. Zabej announced his resignation effective November 30th, 2002. He thanked the board for the support and experiences he had been provided with over the last two years. He assured the board that his decision was based on his interest in his new position as Implementation Facilitator for the Dogrib First Nation, not any dissatisfaction with his current work. The Directors thanked Zabej for his work at the Agency and wished him well in his new position.

Comments of directors and follow-up from AGM

The Directors discussed the AGM as one of the most successful ever in terms of member input. The minutes of the AGM will mention that directors will consider the input seriously in the next work-plan and budget.

- The member motion to create a TK panel was in itself a significant event for the Agency.
- We recommended last year that the aboriginal members meet to get a clear view of a TK plan. This is still necessary in the view of the Agency.
- Creating a TK panel was discussed from the point of view of how it could be made to fit into the Agency's mandate. The Directors then discussed the logistics of hosting a workshop and the funding requirements for it such as translators, travel and accommodations and a possible EMAB partnership.

The Directors made further comments on the Pigeon culvert and the need for the road to allow caribou movements without danger to the animals.

Diamonds TAC:

Zabej discussed the recent history of the upcoming diamonds TAC and the Directors discussed how the MVLWB would like to see a panel for all diamonds projects however the MVLWB lawyer is not as confident it will work from a legal context. Red mentioned the NWT water board, and how the Agency declined to participate in it.

Review of BHPB's Annual Report 2001:

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Zabey mentioned the upcoming deadline distributed by Tamara Hamilton (DIAND) and explained the work done by Agency staff on investigating the BHPB annual report for compliance.

The Directors discussed what comments to send to DIAND. They debated the main issue, if the report is satisfactory although it may not acknowledge all of the Agency's recommendations such as the severity of wildlife impacts. The board decided to send a letter just to BHPB and Members. Tamara Hamilton (DIAND) will forward it to the minister if necessary. Zabey set an internal deadline of November 4th for contents of the letter to BHPB on their annual report.

Action Item #6 Submit letter to BHPB (cc'd to members) with comments on BHPB's annual report.

Spring Seepage Survey:

Zabey summarized the ongoing discussion on low pH levels in natural tundra water. BHPB field staff have experienced large difference between field and laboratory pHs. Regarding the Fox pit, BHPB has responded to an agency comment stating it is not unreasonable to suspect pH measurements below 4.0. The Directors then agreed to write a letter to BHPB describing the importance of field calibration of instruments.

Action Item #7 Write a letter to BHPB and the MVLWB describing the importance of meter calibration in light of recent pH issues at the site and concerns about pH statements.

Selection of Officers for 2002-2003:

Red introduced this topic and a unanimous motion was passed to retain the current officers.

Budget:

Zabey discussed how the apparent reduction in Agency spending on community consultation could be partially due to coding expenses differently to the account for Director's travel and accommodation.

Action Item #8 Change the coding structure of Directors and staff expense forms to ensure all expenses relating to community consultation are correctly reflected in expenditure reports.

Other issues:

The Directors agreed that the issue of nitrate toxicity is important enough to contract out some expertise on the subject especially now that Leslie Lake is being considered for fish habitat compensation for the expansion project. Dr. Sprague was selected to carry out

Summary of Discussion from the 30th Meeting of the Board of Directors.

this research on behalf of the Agency. A related issue is fish egg exposure over the winter months where nitrate is elevated by two or more times compared to the open water season.

Saturday October 26, 2002

Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth:

Zabey updated the Directors on the mine expansion:

- The DIAND Minister signed a draft Type 'A' water licence.
- LUP's have already been issued (LUP's do not require ministerial permission).
- Traffic has been limited in the LUP to less than 200 vehicles per 24-hour period, as per Agency recommendation.
- The security figure is an amount BHPB proposed without progressive reclamation (\$22 million split between the regulatory bodies and licences) as per Agency recommendation.

The Directors discussed the mine expansion and habitat exchange involving Leslie Lake and possible impacts on it due to increased nitrate levels from water discharged from the Long Lake containment facility. Liabilities for reclamation, the frequency of reviews of the security and the ministerial discretion involved in ensuring the company fixes problems were also mentioned. The Directors agreed ensuring proper reclamation is one of the most important tasks for the Agency over the next years.

Action Item #9 Send a letter to DFO re: the Sable, Pigeon, Beartooth et al. Fisheries authorization, and issues of nitrate increases in the lake system. Leslie Lake may not be appropriate habitat to compensate for the mine expansion due to potential impact on fish in Leslie Lake from elevated nitrate levels.

Fox Development:

Zabey updated the Directors on the Fox development:

- Last winter, the ice collapsed during pumping and the sediments were disturbed making the water very cloudy. BHPB planned to dewater 2 million cubic metres but only managed to pump one million cubic metres prior to reaching the TSS discharge limit.
- The next stage was to decant the dirty water (above 25 mg/L TSS). BHPB originally said they would discharge this water into Cell C after putting it through a treatment plant. Now they plan to build a flocculent plant and discharge the water into cell D.
- BHPB has indicated they will want to discharge the mine water into Cell D as well but they lack regulatory approval to do so at this time.

The Directors discussed the importance of these changes to the operation of LLCFC:

- Cell D is a buffer leaving only Cell E to improve discharge water, pumping to Cell C is a precautionary measure.

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- The Rescan report was based on pumping to Cell C, and one year of kimberlite deposition into Cell D years from now. Predictions for 1616-30 are no longer as applicable now.
- Pumping to Cell D will change flushing rates of how the water will move through the system.
- We need to consider this when BHPB applies to discharge mine water into Cell D to ask for a recalculation of the mass balances prior to approval of this by MVLWB

Action Item #10 If BHPB requests a change to the Fox mine-plan to discharge mine-water to cell D, ask for a recalculation of the modeling (Prediction of Water Quality) carried out by Rescan.

AEMP review:

Francois discussed 3 core issues of the AEMP re-evaluation:

- A change to sampling for phytoplankton in August only, instead of three months of data, will result in a slight reduction in statistical power (an increase in the minimum detectable difference by 9-16%). This will make trend detection slightly more difficult.
- Reduction of replicates for stream water sampling from three to two replicates. This will increase the difference detectable by 12-15% depending on the water parameter (duplication remains necessary in case of errors with the first sample).
- BHPB has recognized the need for a rigorous outlier detection method and has done a thorough examination of the techniques for picking up outliers.
- The Agency will await BHPB's release of their data distribution protocol. The Directors discussed identifying and cleaning outliers, detection limit standardization and presentation in the AEMP reports, and parameter evaluation triggers.

Action Item #11 Draft a letter summarizing the three points of significance in the AEMP re-evaluation and our position (points include frequency of trend analysis, frequency of phytoplankton/ zooplankton monitoring, evaluated parameter selection and screening, zooplankton research).

Action Item #12 Obtain from Jim Millard copy of summary of costs of AEMP programs at various mine-sites.

Sean presented a slideshow on Moose Lake relative to changes in water quality parameters from 1998 to 2001, compared to baseline averages from 1994 to 1997.

Regional Monitoring Agency:

The Directors discussed the mandate, timeline and structure of the proposed RMA in broad terms as well as a key issue, incorporating TK effectively:

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- To include TK, the RMA could look similar to EMAB and have a technical and TK panel.
- The panels may report to the central board, and each would draft recommendations as they see fit.
- The RMA could benefit from going to a level of influence above IEMA and EMAB where it could institute binding recommendations on projects.
- If there is an issue that is technically very important, it could be discounted by a political body. There has to be a provision so experts can effectively voice concerns.
- The issue of independence is critical. The fact that Directors may not be employees of the company or government is fundamental to this issue.
- If there is a contradiction between community members and technical issues, there must be a method of resolution.
- The makeup of the RMA must respond to the challenge of how to get effective scientific and community expertise to guide the agency. This is more difficult to address than independence.
- The TK committee in the WKSS reviewed everything the scientists did. It was a filter but they didn't change the scientific recommendations.
- The RMA should offer advice and direction as to how best to do collect monitoring data.
- There could be multiple technical panels underneath the main board with the ultimate goal to ensure there are no significant adverse effects on the land.
- A technical panel can determine research gaps required to make good management decisions.
- Attendance at the RMA meeting was agreed; Red, Bill and Francois will participate in the meeting.

The Directors discussed the merits of fish palatability testing and its weighting vs. scientific testing and its usefulness for environmental management.

Action Item #12 Red, Bill and François will attend RMA workshop.
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Wildlife:

Zabey introduced the agenda items, the first item being a list of all the wildlife incidents of 2002 and the second is haul data (traffic).

The Directors:

- Wanted clarification that the traffic is always presented in one-way trips.
- Discussed the poor availability of data relating to wolverine harvesting in the Lac de Gras area compared to informally reported harvest figures.
- Discussed the most significant wildlife incident (the Misery wolf kill). The robin's nest incident was mentioned related to the RWED investigation and how the staff at the mine may be becoming less likely to provide information.

Human Resources:

The group discussed the replacement of Zabey as the manager of the Agency and agreed to identify the website as a source of information as well as advertisements in the News North and Yellowknifer. A timeline was arranged to have interviews on the 13th-14th of November as a part of the Directors participation in the RMA workshop in order to have a northern and southern Director present for the hiring.

Misery Surplus Water Atomization Project:

Zabey provided comments on where the approval process SWAP is currently:

- The application was filed this summer and most comments were relatively supportive for the project depending on a quality monitoring program design.
- The MVLWB then sent out another information request to DFO, Environment Canada, RWED and DIAND. This was unusual because in general most of the regulator comments were favourable towards the project. BHPB provided a critical response to the nature of the information request and also extra information in response to the MVLWB questions.
- BHPB is concerned about the uncertainty of the review process as it presents a significant risk to them. The company may be sensitive to having someone else working at their project (EC as the main program monitor) since they are responsible for compliance.

Environment Canada Studies:

Zabey provided an update of the ongoing research projects:

- Cell E Benthic Invertebrate Re-colonization: the toxicity of kimberlite in the LLCF is studied to determine its suitability for benthic re-habitation. This is an ongoing project complicated by the presence of a mysterious brown layer of indeterminate origin.
- Flocculent/Coagulant Toxicity Exploration: is underway, no new reports.

Revised Waste Management Plan:

Zabey discussed the updates with the Directors:

- The electronic copy of the Waste Management Plan is now used by BHPB internally as its official copy.
- Dealing with juice boxes is given priority.
- Sewage sludge is preferred as a soil amendment rather than disposal at the landfill.
- The Directors questioned BHPB's ideas on recycling paper or lack of and may seek an explanation of recycling feasibility and volumes.

The Directors agreed to follow up on this topic to ensure BHPB clarifies:

- The operation and use of the land-farm such as the frequency of separating oil from water and recycling feasibility.

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Action Item #13 Write a letter to ensure BHPB clarifies the operation and use of the land-farm including the frequency of separating oil from water, BHPB should provide figures for the volume of office wastes that are recyclable.

Sunday October 27, 2002

Treasurers Report:

Francois reported the Treasurer's business:

- Approximately 52% of the budget will be spent by the end of October. This is very similar to predictions of spending made at the beginning of the year. Extra costs will occur in November and December with workshops on the RMA and the BHPB technical workshops.

The Directors had a discussion involving:

- How a TK initiative will affect our budget and decided to proceed with a two-year budget plan in accordance with the EA.
- The TK panel as a part of the core budget vs. an extra item and its likelihood of funding by BHPB.
- An agreement to start discussing the budget with Scott Williams.
- How funding needs to be addressed at the RMA workshop.
- A wrap-up report was agreed to be an excellent special item addition to the Agency budget.
- Improved documentation of spending on community consultation and the need to enhance the prominence of consultations in publications. Various ideas were discussed such as changing the location of meetings and extending personal invitations to individuals.

Human Resources:

Red inquired if there was anything more to add, and Zabey mentioned he was pleased to fulfill his two years with the Agency.

Schedule Planning:

Bob provided an update on the TK workshop (the IEMA and EMAB joint workshop will likely not occur on the 2-5th of December). On November 5th – 7th, the MVEIRB has a workshop on incorporating TK into the Environmental Assessment process.

The Directors agreed to meet on December 8th – 9th rather than on the 7th as previously planned in addition to a number of days at the technical workshops.

Administration:

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Zabey mentioned Sean is working to keep the website up to date and may have Tamarack analyze our data and hit counts and present a summary on our web visitors. The summary annual report and poster were prepared in lieu of a current issue of the Ekati Monitor newsletter. Now that both are complete a newsletter is scheduled for early 2003.

Other Business:

- The Directors mentioned staff should seek opportunities for professional development and make sure to bring back a summary and an addition for the resource library.
- Monday December 9th is a potential target date for a Christmas open house.
- The AEMP station in Moose Lake may not be ideally situated or as representative of water quality entering from Little Lake due to its positioning.
- Sean will check on getting a lot of hats before our open house.

Meeting adjourned at 16:30.

Date of next Board of Directors Meeting December 8th – 9th, 2002 followed by the BHBP technical workshops December 10th – 11th, 2002.

Minutes Approved by François Messier, Treasurer.