Presentation to Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board Workshop on Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth Water Licence Renewal

November 4/5, 2008

bhpbilliton
resourcing the future

Presentation Outline

I. BHP Billiton's approach to Renewal of the Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth Water Licence
II. The role of Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth in the EKATI mining operation
III. Review of the Mining Plans for the Sable Pigeon and Beartooth kimberlites

Break

IV. Review of the Sable / Horseshoe Aquatic Environment
V. Review of the current Sable EQC's
VI. Summary

Questions and Discussions – after lunch

Slide 2

Welcome!

Slide 3

Part I.
BHP Billiton's approach to Renewal of the Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth Water Licence

Key Points:

There have been no design changes to the project since 2002.

The experience gained from mining at Beartooth and other areas since 2002 led to some changes proposed to the terms and conditions.

This workshop is an opportunity to clear up questions and improve the submissions to the Board.

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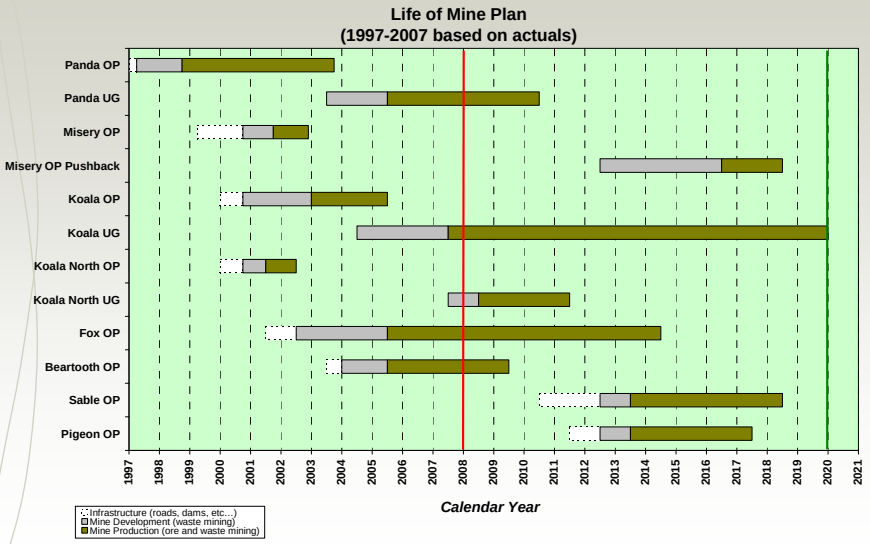
Part II.
The role of Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth in the EKATI mining operation



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Part II.
The role of Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth in the EKATI mining operation

Key Points:

The Pigeon and Sable resources play an important role in the EKAI Life of Mine Plan

The value of the ore, distances from the process plant and the capital costs make the economics poor (especially Sable)

Certainty in the water license conditions ensures that planning of the new pit developments proceeds in a way that provides for a continuous mining operation at EKATI

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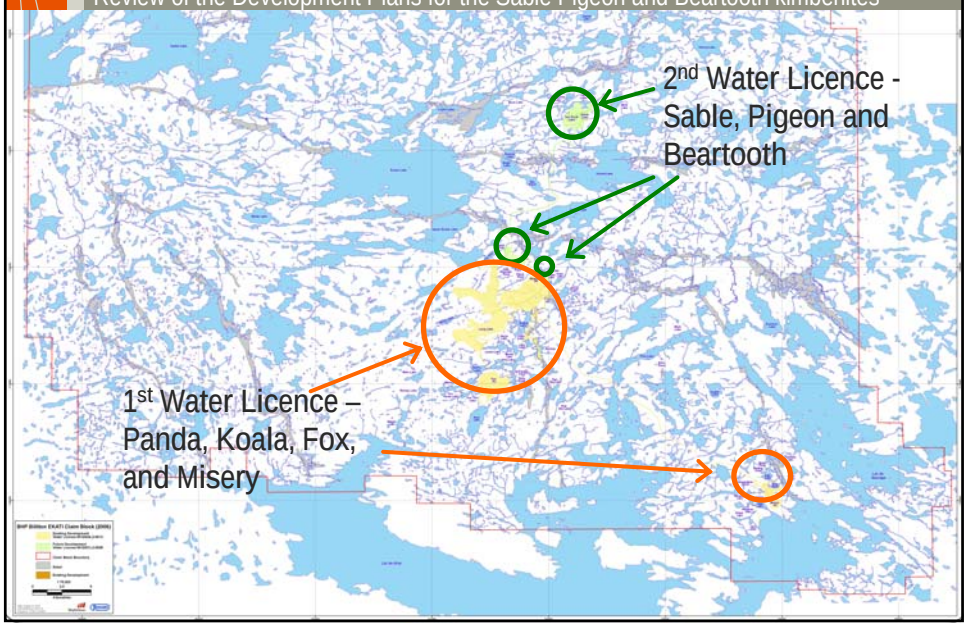
Part III.
Review of the Development Plans for the Sable Pigeon and Beartooth kimberlites



Water Licence History

1995	EKATI environmental assessment initiated
1997	EKATI Main Site received water licence
1998	EKATI begins processing
1998	Applied for water licence for Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth
2000	Environmental assessment for Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth
2002	Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth water licence received
2005	EKATI main site water licence renewed - good until 2013
2009	Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth water licence expires

2008 BHP Billiton submitted a renewal application for the Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth Water Licence and Land Use Permits

Beartooth Pit - Water Use and Waste Disposal

- Dewatering of Beartooth Lake (completed in 2003)
- Divert water from Bearclaw Lake around Beartooth Pit
- Pit water goes to LLCF (Main Licence)
- Waste rock trucked to main site (Main Licence)
- Ore goes to Processing Plant (Main Licence)

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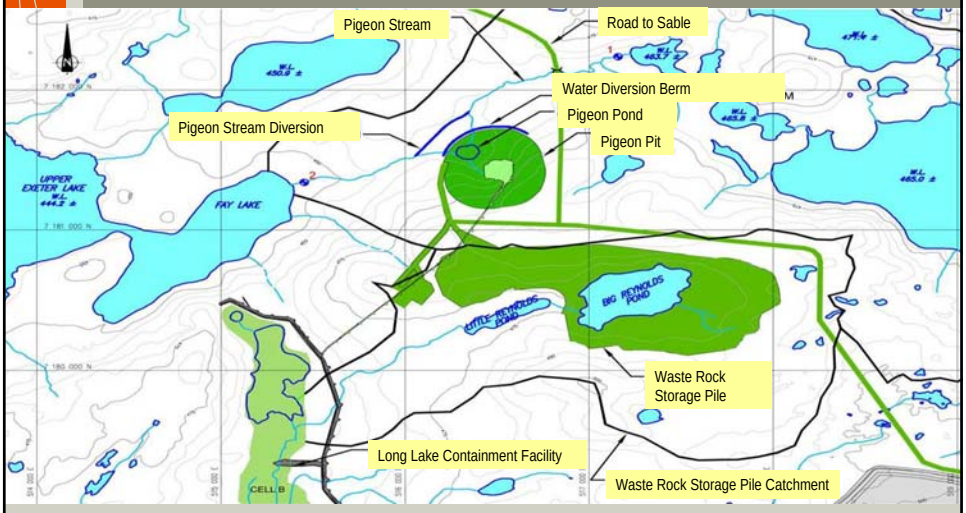
Future Pigeon Pit - Water Use and Waste Disposal



Dewatering of Pigeon Pond
Diversion of Pigeon Stream
Waste rock placed in Big Reynolds Pond
Minewater goes to LLCF (Main Licence)
Ore goes to Processing Plant (Main Licence)

Future Sable Pit and Sable Road - Water Use and Waste Disposal

- Dewatering of Sable Lake
- Use of Two-Rock Lake as a settling pond for minewater
- Waste rock placed beside Sable Pit - berms to minimize runoff
- Watering of Sable Road (road is 23.6 km)
- Ore goes to Processing Plant (Main Licence)

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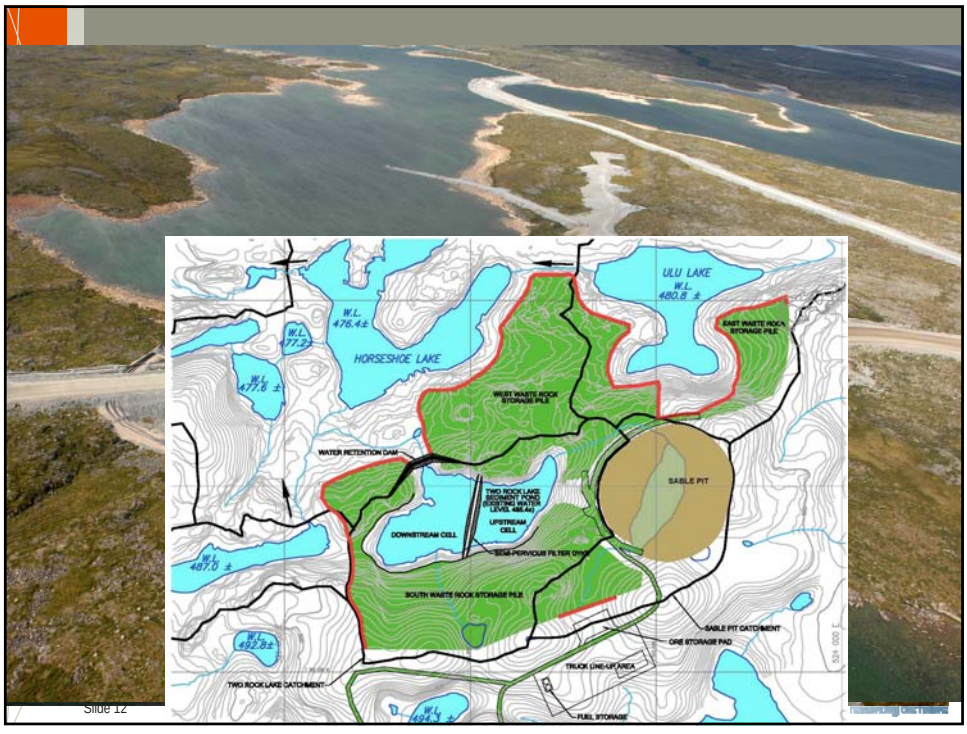

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Part III.
Review of the Development Plans for the Sable Pigeon and Beartooth kimberlites

Key Points:

All of the kimberlite ore from Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth will be processed at the one EKATI process plant

Sable is only area where minewater does not flow to the LLCF

Sable minewater flows through Two-Rock Pond to the north and west into Exeter Lake and then Yamba Lake.

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Break

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V. Review of the current Sable EQC's

VI. Summary

Questions and Discussions – after lunch

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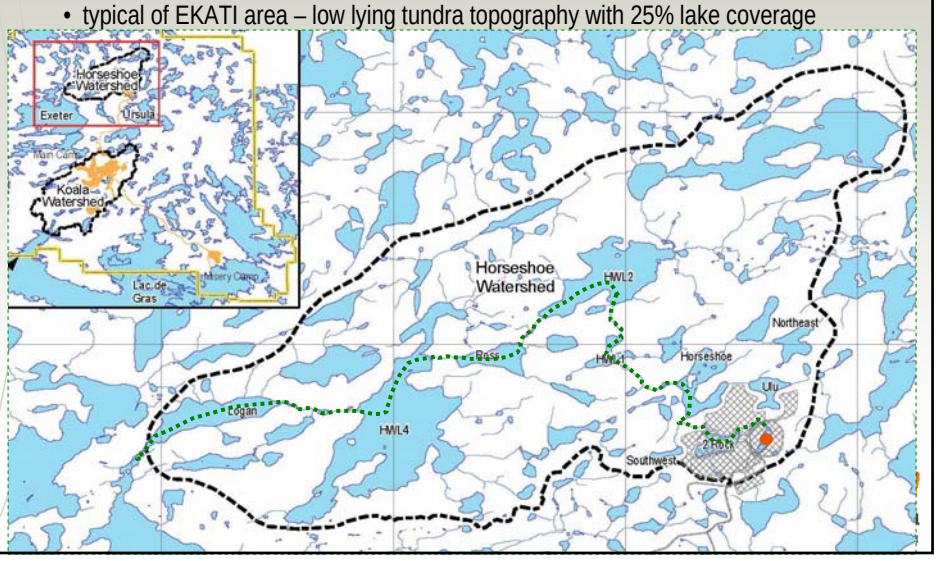
Horseshoe Watershed

- Horseshoe Watershed is 87 km2
- typical of EKATI area – low lying tundra topography with 25% lake coverage



Sable Area – Aquatic Baseline Data Collection

- Baseline data collected in the Sable Area covers 16 lakes and 10 streams over 4 watersheds

Lakes	Streams
Water Quality	Stream Flow Measurements
Sediment Quality	Water Quality
Physical Limnology	Stream Benthos
Phytoplankton	Fish Communities
Zooplankton	Fish Habitat
Lake Benthos	
Fish Communities	
Fish Habitat	

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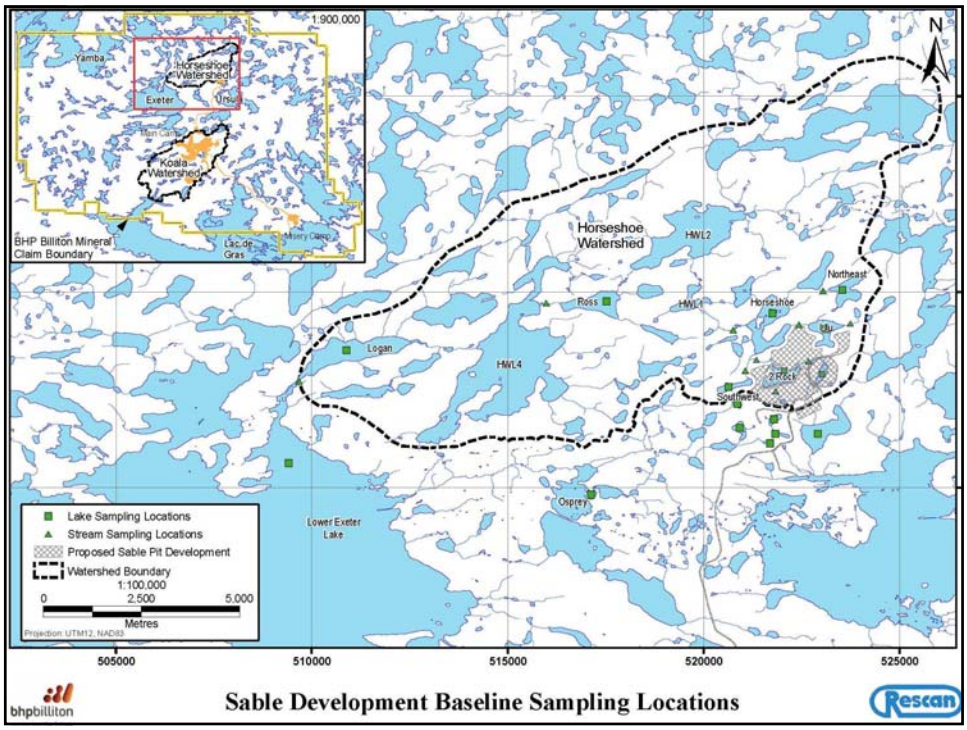

Water Quality

Parameter	Two-Rock Lake	Horseshoe Lake	CCME
pH	6.54	6.55	6.5-9.0
Ammonia-N	0.007	<0.005	pH and Temp dependant
Nitrite-N	0.005	0.002	0.06
Nitrate-N	0.007	0.004	2.9 (interim)
Total Phosphorus	0.0067	0.006	-
Metals			
Total Aluminum	0.0164	0.0155	0.1
Total Arsenic	0.00008	0.00016	0.005
Total Cadmium	<0.00005	0.00003	0.000017
Total Chromiun	0.00005	0.00005	0.089
Total Copper	0.0003	0.0005	0.02
Total Lead	0.00007	0.00010	0.001
Total Nickel	0.00035	0.00033	0.025
Total Zinc	0.0005	0.00045	0.03

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Fish Habitat Two-Rock Outflow

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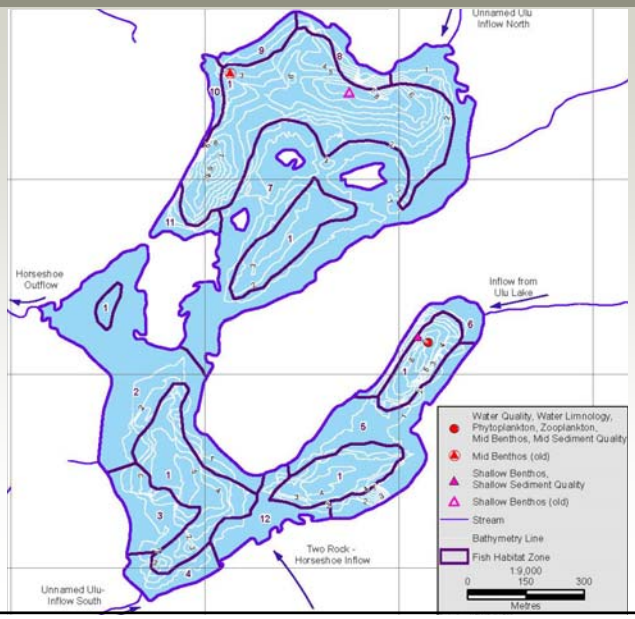
Fish Habitat Horseshoe Lake



Part V.
Review of the current Sable EQC's

The EQC's play a key role in protecting the aquatic environment, but they are not the only means:

Effluent Quality Criteria (EQC's)

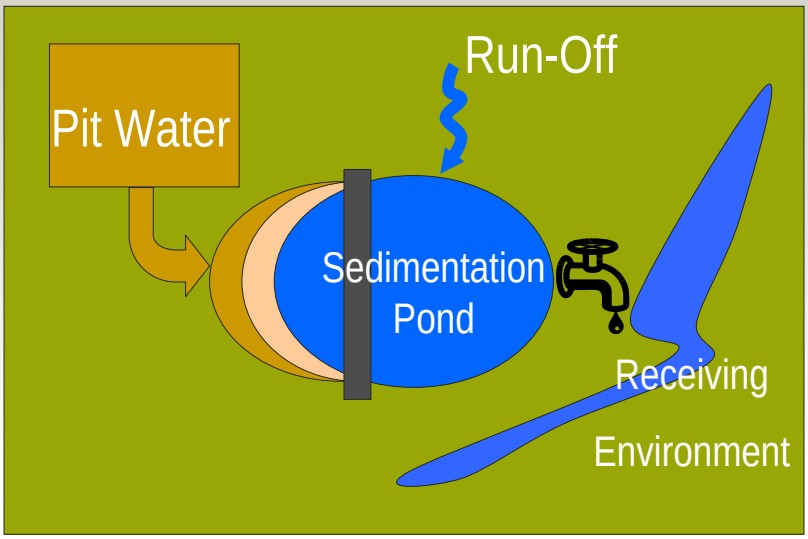
Surveillance Network Program (SNP)

3-Year Environmental Impact Review (EIR)

Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program (AEMP)

Watershed Adaptive Management Plan (WAMP)

Effluent Quality Criteria – Point of Control



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Origin of Sable EQC's

Parameter	Diavik WL				SPB WL	
	TAC Recommendation		Final EQC			
	Max Average	Max Grab	Max Average	Max Grab	Max Average	Max Grab
Ammonia	2	4	2.0 / 6.0	4.0 / 12.0	2.0	4.0
Aluminum	0.1	0.2	1.5	3.0	1.0	2.0
arsenic	0.05	0.1	0.05	0.10	0.050	0.10
copper	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.04
cadmium	0.001	0.002	0.0015	0.003	0.0015	0.003
chromium	0.015	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.04
lead	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02
zinc	0.1	0.2	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02
nickel	0.05	0.1	0.05	0.1	0.05	0.1
nitrite	1	2	1.0	2.0	1.0	2.0
TSS	10	20	15.0	25.0	15	25
turbidity	5	10	10 NTU	15 NTU	10 NTU	15 NTU
phosphorus	0.1	0.2	loading based	-	0.2	0.4
pH	-	6.0-8.4	-	6.0-8.4	-	6.0-9.0
acute toxicity	-	non-toxic	-	non-toxic	-	non-toxic
oil&grease	3	5	3.0	5.0	-	3

Observations:

The Sable EQC's appear to have been generally adopted from the Diavik WL

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Comparison of Sable EQC's to Other Diamond Mines

WL: *Issued:* *Renewed:*	EKATI WL NWTWB 1997 MVLWB 2005		Diavik WL NWTWB 2000 WLWB 2007		SPB WL MVLWB 2002 WLWB in progess		Snap Lake WL MVLWB 2004 -	
Parameter	Max Average	Max Grab	Max Average	Max Grab	Max Average	Max Grab	Max Average	Max Grab
ammonia	2.0	4.0	2.0 / 6.0	4.0 / 12.0	2.0	4.0	-	20
aluminum	1.0	2.0	1.5	3.0	1.0	2.0	1	2
arsenic	0.50	1.0	0.05	0.10	0.050	0.10	0.020	0.040
copper	0.10	0.20	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.010	0.020
cadmium	-	-	0.0015	0.003	0.0015	0.003	0.001	0.002
chromium	-	-	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.020	0.040
lead	-	-	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.005	0.009
zinc	-	-	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.010	0.020
nickel	0.15	0.30	0.05	0.1	0.05	0.1	0.050	0.100
nitrite	-	-	1.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	1	2.0
TSS	15.0	25.0	15.0	25.0	15	25	7	14
turbidity	-	-	10 NTU	15 NTU	10 NTU	15 NTU	-	-
phosphorus	-	-	loading based	-	0.2	0.4	loading based	-
pH	-	6.0-9.0	-	6.0-8.4	-	6.0-9.0	-	6.0-9.0
acute toxicity	-	non-toxic	-	non-toxic	-	non-toxic	-	non-toxic
oil&grease	-	-	3.0	5.0	-	3	3.0	5.0

Observations:

Ammonia is noticeably lower than the Diavik and Snap Lake WL's

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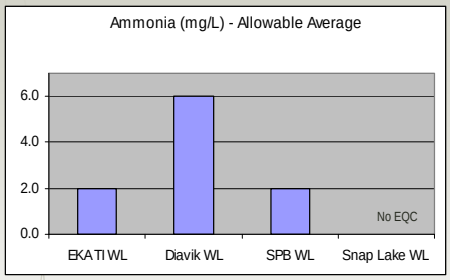
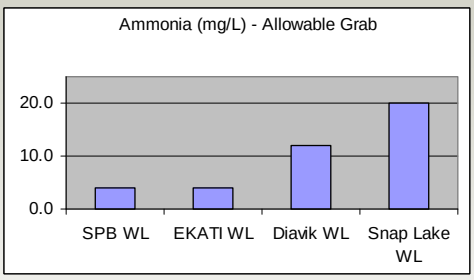
Comparison of Sable EQC's to Others - Ammonia





Observation:

Ammonia is noticeably lower than other WL's

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Comparison of Sable EQC's to Standards

Parameter	SPB WL		MMER			CCME		
	Max Average	Max Grab	Max Average	Max Grab	% of MMER	Tier 1 WQG	times CCME	Note
Ammonia	2.0	4.0	-	-	-	10.3	5 X LESS	pH=7.0;T=10C
Aluminum	1.0	2.0	-	-	-	0.1	10 X	pH>=6.5
arsenic	0.050	0.10	0.50	1.00	10%	0.0050	10 X	
copper	0.02	0.04	0.30	0.60	7%	0.002	10 X	hardness<120mg/L
cadmium	0.0015	0.003	-	-	-	0.000017	88 X	
chromium	0.02	0.04	-	-	-	0.0010	20 X	Cr(VI)
lead	0.01	0.02	0.20	0.40	5%	0.001	10 X	hardness<60mg/L
zinc	0.01	0.02	0.50	1.00	2%	0.030	3 X LESS	
nickel	0.05	0.1	0.50	1.00	10%	0.025	2 X	hardness<60mg/L
nitrite	1.0	2.0	-	-	-	0.060	17 X	
TSS	15	25	15.00	30.00	100% / 83%	-	-	
turbidity	10 NTU	15 NTU	-	-	-	-	-	
phosphorus	0.2	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	
pH	-	6.0-9.0	-	-	-	6.5-9.0	-	
acute toxicity	-	non-toxic	-	-	-	-	-	
oil&grease	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	

Observations:

Zinc and ammonia (at typical pH/temp) are the only parameters less than the WQG

Cadmium is much greater than the WQG

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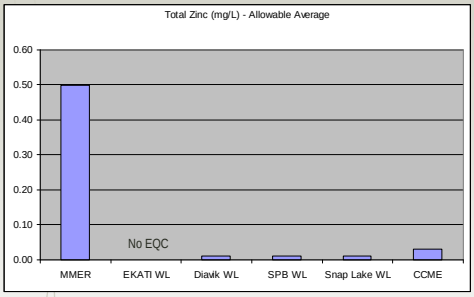
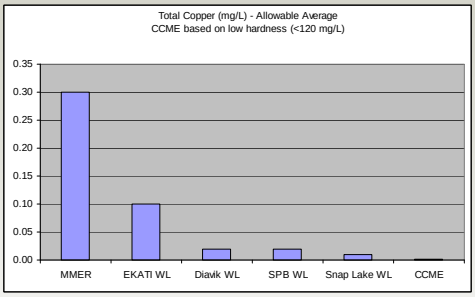
Comparison of Sable EQC's to Standards – Zinc





Observations:

Zinc is less than the WQG, atypical to other metals such as copper

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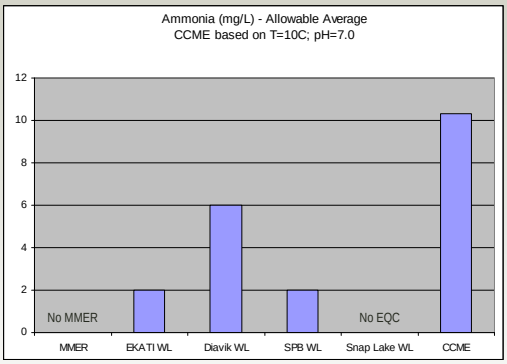
Comparison of Sable EQC's to Standards – Ammonia



Observations:

Ammonia is less than the WQG, at typical pH and temperature (the WQG increases as pH decreases or as temperature decreases)

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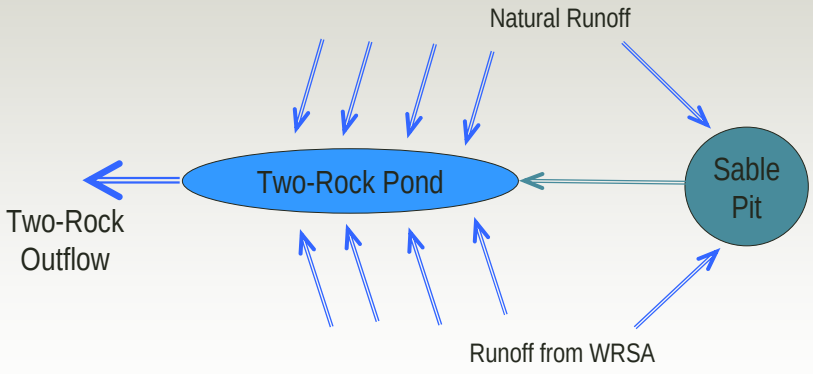
Estimated Water Quality in Two-Rock Pond

Future water quality in Two-Rock Pond was estimated from a water quality model:



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Estimated Water Quality in Two-Rock Pond

1. Natural runoff was estimated from experience at EKATI (Rescan)

- *10-year average runoff coefficient = 0.50*
  - *runoff coefficient for pit benches = 0.70*
  - *runoff coefficient for WRSA = 0.10 – 0.25*

- *precipitation varied in the model using monte-carlo simulation*
  - *10-year average monthly flow distribution >80% during freshet*
  - *average annual precipitation = 333 mm*
    - *1 in 100 dry year = 162 mm*
    - *1 in 100 wet year = 621 mm*

Estimated Water Quality in Two-Rock Pond

2. Baseline water quality was measured at the site

- *Sable and Two-Rock Lake have been directly sampled and that data used*

Estimated Water Quality in Two-Rock Pond

3. Runoff quality from the Sable WRSA was estimated (SRK)

- *Kinetic testing was done on samples of Sable waste rock and that data used*
- *The test data was verified against observed seepage quality at EKATI*

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Estimated Water Quality in Two-Rock Pond

4. Water quality in Sable pit was estimated using data from Beartooth Pit

- *Beartooth and Sable pits have similar geology*
- *Beartooth and Sable pits are both within permafrost*
- *Median and 75% percentile water quality data from Beartooth pit was used to represent average Sable pit water quality*

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Estimated Water Quality in Two-Rock Pond

Parameter	Sable Baseline	Sable WRSA Runoff	Sable Pit (Beartooth data)		Two-Rock Pond Average Best Estimate	
			Between …	And …	Between …	And …
Ammonia	0.009	0.035	10	19	3	6.1
Aluminum	0.018	0.16	2.5	4.7	0.79	1.5
arsenic	0.00008	0.0014	0.0032	0.0045	0.0013	0.0016
copper	0.00034	0.0054	0.021	0.026	0.0077	0.0091
cadmium	<0.00005	0.00007	0.00014	0.00021	0.00007	0.000089
chromium	0.000049	0.0005	0.0076	0.014	0.0024	0.0053
lead	0.00005	0.0002	0.0016	0.0024	0.00055	0.00082
zinc	0.00046	0.0075	0.013	0.02	0.0059	0.0075
nickel	0.00035	0.011	0.058	0.11	0.018	0.02
nitrite	0.0053	0.009	2.8	4.1	0.55	1
TSS	-	-	-	-	<15	<15
turbidity	-	-	-	-	<10 NTU	<10 NTU
phosphorus	0.0076	0.020	3.7	6	0.053	0.055
pH	-	-	-	-	6.0-9.0	6.0-9.0
acute toxicity	-	-	-	-	non-toxic	non-toxic
oil&grease	-	-	-	-	<3	<3

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Achievability of Average EQC's

Parameter	Two-Rock Pond Average Best Estimate		SPB WL	Comment
	Between …	And …	Max Average	
Ammonia	3	6.1	2.0	100% compliance unlikely
Aluminum	0.79	1.5	1.0	100% compliance unlikely
arsenic	0.0013	0.0016	0.050	
copper	0.0077	0.0091	0.02	100% compliance uncertain
cadmium	0.00007	0.000089	0.0015	
chromium	0.0024	0.0053	0.02	
lead	0.00055	0.00082	0.01	
zinc	0.0059	0.0075	0.01	100% compliance uncertain
nickel	0.018	0.02	0.05	100% compliance uncertain
nitrite	0.55	1	1.0	100% compliance uncertain
TSS	<15	<15	15	
turbidity	<10 NTU	<10 NTU	10 NTU	
phosphorus	0.053	0.055	0.2	
pH	6.0-9.0	6.0-9.0	-	
acute toxicity	non-toxic	non-toxic	-	
oil&grease	<3	<3	-	

Observations:

100% compliance on an average basis appears unlikely or uncertain for ammonia, aluminum, copper, nickel, nitrite and zinc.

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Achievability of Grab EQC's

Normal mine operations will result in short term variability – which is regulated by the *Grab Sample EQC's*

BHP Billiton needs to be in 100% compliance with the Grab Sample EQC's as well the average EQC's

The possible variability in grab samples from Two-Rock Pond was estimated from data collected at the Beartooth Pit

The actual daily data collected at Beartooth Pit was run through the Two-Rock Pond water quality model to see what the short term variability would be in Two-Rock Pond

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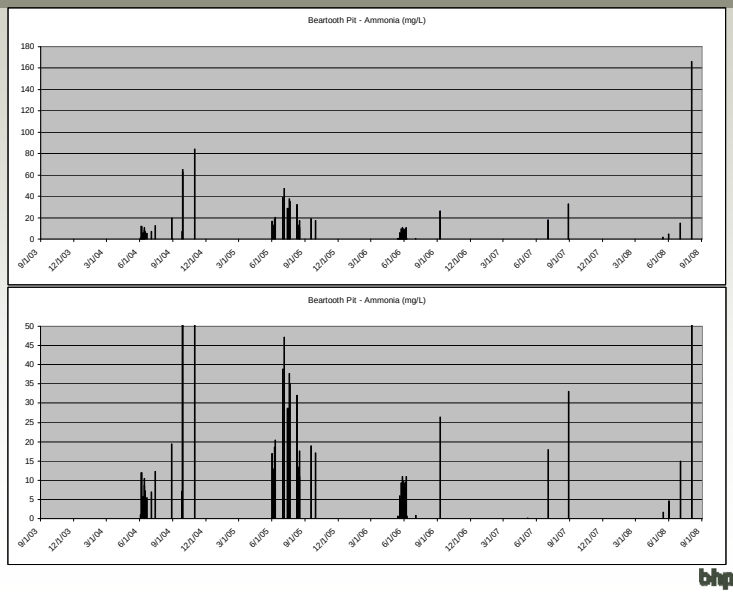
Beartooth Pit Data – Ammonia



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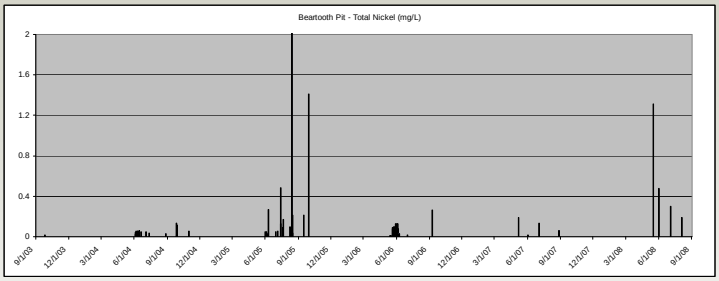
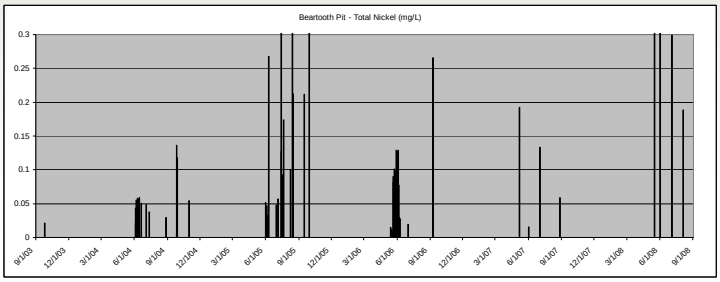
Beartooth Pit Data – Nickel





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Possible Grab Sample Quality in Two-Rock Pond

Parameter	Beartooth Pit Water Quality Grab Samples			Two-Rock Pond Possible Grab Sample	
	median	75%'ile	95%'ile	Between …	And …
Ammonia	9.4	18	58	6.1	6.5
Aluminum	2.6	5.4	78	2	4
arsenic	0.0032	0.0045		<0.01	<0.01
copper	0.023	0.035	0.31	0.01	0.02
cadmium	0.00013	0.00022	0.0012	0.0001	0.0001
chromium	0.008	0.016	0.69	0.01	0.03
lead	0.0017	0.0027	0.041	0.001	0.003
zinc	0.014	0.027	0.48	0.01	0.02
nickel	0.06	0.13	0.48	0.03	0.05
nitrite	2.6	4.2	5.5	1	1.2
phosphorus	<0.3	<0.3	6.9	0.2	0.3

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Achievability of Grab Sample EQC's

Parameter	Two-Rock Pond Possible Grab Sample		SPB WL	Comment
	Between ...	And ...	Max Grab	
Ammonia	6.1	6.5	4.0	100% compliance unlikely
Aluminum	2	4	2.0	100% compliance unlikely
arsenic	<0.01	<0.01	0.10	
copper	0.01	0.02	0.04	
cadmium	0.0001	0.0001	0.003	
chromium	0.01	0.03	0.04	
lead	0.001	0.003	0.02	
zinc	0.01	0.02	0.02	100% compliance uncertain
nickel	0.03	0.05	0.1	
nitrite	1	1.2	2.0	
phosphorus	0.2	0.3	0.4	

Observations:

100% compliance for Grab Samples appears unlikely or uncertain for ammonia, aluminum and zinc.

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Summary of EQC Assessment

EQC's for which 100% compliance appears unlikely or uncertain:

ammonia – average and grab

aluminum – average and grab

copper – average

nickel – average

nitrite - average

zinc – average and grab

These should be reviewed further!

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Further Review – Ammonia (1)

Ammonia originates from residual blasting agents.

The Two-Rock Pond model does not consider the loss of ammonia to the atmosphere due to natural volatilization.

This is an extremely difficult item to predict.

For Two-Rock Pond, a possible rate of ammonia loss of approximately 40% during the open water season was estimated based on experience at the Misery Pit - King Pond system.

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Further Review – Ammonia (2)

Two Rock Pond Prediction				SPB WL	
no ammonia loss		with ammonia loss			
Est Average	Poss Grab	Est Average	Poss Grab	Max Average	Max Grab
3 - 6.1	6.1 - 6.5	2 - 4	4	2.0	4.0

Observations:

With the estimated loss of ammonia from Two-Rock Pond to the atmosphere, 100% compliance continues to be unlikely

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Further Review – Ammonia (3)

BHP Billiton has proposed a receiving water quality objective for ammonia that works with the known relationship between ammonia, pH and temperature.

pH	Total Ammonia Concentration (mg/L)	
	Average	Grab
6.4	6.75	n/a
6.5	6.67	n/a
6.6	6.57	n/a
6.7	6.44	n/a
6.8	6.29	n/a
6.9	6.12	n/a
7.0	5.91	n/a
7.1	5.67	21.9
7.2	5.39	19.7
7.3	5.08	17.5
7.4	4.73	15.3
7.5	4.36	13.3
n/a: not applicable because the acute toxicity threshold is greater than four times the maximum allowable average concentration.		
Note 1: All ammonia concentrations are valid for water temperature up to 14 degrees C; no effluent may be released above 14 degrees C unless specifically approved by the Board.		

BHP Billiton proposes that this be used as the Sable EQC, with the possible future integration of an effluent mixing zone.

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Further Review – Aluminum

Total aluminum originates from the natural soil and rock particles and is strongly related to total suspended solids.

The Two Rock model does not take account of the filter dyke, which is designed to retain suspended sediments in the upper half of the pond.

Since the filter dyke is designed to remove suspended sediment, it will also reduce total aluminum.

On this basis, BHP Billiton feels that 100% compliance for total aluminum is likely.

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Further Review – Copper (1)

Copper originates from the mined rock.

There are no anticipated reduction mechanisms for copper in Two-Rock Pond beyond the in-pond mixing that the Two Rock Pond model predicts.

On this basis, 100% compliance continues to be uncertain.

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Further Review – Copper (2)

The Diavik EQC for copper (0.02 / 0.04 mg/L) was derived on the basis of an assumed BATT performance of 0.02 mg/L or better and on the specific water mixing ratios and pond configurations at the Diavik site, which were taken as showing that this was reasonably achievable.

A 2002 Report by Senes/Lakefield for DIAND indicated an average BATT performance in the range of 0.014 to 0.17 mg/L (lime treatment) and a 95th percentile performance of 0.25 mg/L.

On this basis, the EQC for copper may not be reasonably achievable.

BHP Billiton feels that the EQC should be reconsidered by the Board.

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Further Review – Nickel (1)

Nickel originates from the mined rock.

There are no anticipated reduction mechanisms for nickel in Two-Rock Pond beyond the in-pond mixing that the Two Rock Pond model predicts.

On this basis, 100% compliance continues to be uncertain.

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Further Review – Nickel (2)

The Diavik EQC for nickel (0.05 / 0.1 mg/L) was derived on the basis of an assumed BATT performance of 0.05 mg/L or better and on the specific water mixing ratios and pond configurations at the Diavik site, which were taken as showing that this was reasonably achievable.

A 2002 Report by Senes/Lakefield for DIAND indicated an average BATT performance in the range of 0.06 to 0.19 mg/L (lime treatment) and a 95th percentile performance of 0.43 mg/L.

On this basis, the EQC for nickel may not be reasonably achievable.

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Further Review – Nickel (3)

The EQC for nickel is 2 times the CCME WQG, a lower ratio than for most other parameters.

On this basis, such a low value may not be necessary to protect the environment at the Sable site.

BHP Billiton feels that the EQC should be reconsidered by the Board.

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Further Review – Nitrite (1)

Nitrite originates indirectly from residual blasting agents.

There are no anticipated reduction mechanisms for nitrite in Two-Rock Pond beyond the in-pond mixing that the Two Rock Pond model predicts.

On this basis, 100% compliance continues to be uncertain.

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Further Review – Nitrite (2)

The derivation of the Diavik EQC (1.0 / 2.0 mg/L) found "little information" on Best Available Treatment Technology (BATT) for nitrite but thought that 1 mg/L was achievable.

A 2002 Report by Senes/Lakefield for DIAND did not identify any BATT technologies or performance standards for nitrite.

On this basis, the EQC for nitrite may not be reasonably achievable.

BHP Billiton feels that the EQC should be reconsidered by the Board.

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Further Review – Zinc (1)

Zinc originates from the mined rock.

There are no anticipated reduction mechanisms for zinc in Two-Rock Pond beyond the in-pond mixing that the Two Rock Pond model predicts.

On this basis, 100% compliance continues to be uncertain.

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Further Review – Zinc (2)

The Diavik EQC for zinc (0.01 / 0.02 mg/L) was not taken from the recommendation of the Diavik TAC committee, which recommended an EQC of 0.1 and 0.2 mg/L.

The Diavik TAC recommendation was derived for the Diavik site on the basis of an assumed BATT performance of 0.02 mg/L or better and on the specific water mixing ratios and pond configurations at the Diavik site, which were taken as showing that 0.1 / 0.2 mg/L was reasonably achievable.

A 2002 Report by Senes/Lakefield for DIAND indicated an average BATT performance in the range of 0.13 to 0.22 mg/L (lime treatment) and a 95th percentile performance of 0.44 mg/L.

On this basis, the EQC for zinc may not be reasonably achievable.

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Further Review – Zinc (3)

The EQC for zinc is less than the CCME Water Quality Guideline (0.01/0.02 versus WQG 0.03).

This is atypical and inconsistent with other parameters.

On this basis, such a low value may not be necessary to protect the environment at the Sable site.

BHP Billiton feels that the EQC should be reconsidered by the Board

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EQC Review Summary

- A very high degree of confidence in achieving 100% compliance while ensuring that the environment is protected is necessary.
- The Sable EQC's appear to have been adopted from site-specific derivations conducted for the Diavik site.
- Currently, 100% compliance is unlikely or uncertain for 5 of the 16 EQC parameters: *ammonia, copper, nickel, nitrite and zinc*.
- BHP Billiton has suggested a simple solution that provides consistency across the entire EKATI operation using EQC's demonstrated at the EKATI site.

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Part VI.
Summary

BHP Billiton is seeking ways to make sure that the Sable kimberlite pipe can confidently be implemented as part of the EKATI mining operation

Mining at Sable will continue the general benefits to all parties of a stable and long-term mining operation

The proposed changes to the Water Licence are an important part of this process

BHP Billiton is open to discussing ways of achieving these goals and ensuring that the environment is protected

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