



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

Fish Habitat Management
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Pêches et Océans
Canada

Gestion de l'Habitat du Poisson
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Your file *Votre référence*

Our file *Notre référence*

January 28, 2008

Dr. Kathy Racher
Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board
Box 32, Wekweeti, NT X0E 1W0

RE: BHP Billiton (BHPB) Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan, Section 3 verification comments

Dear Kathy:

The comments Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) provided on Section 3 of the ICRP were both related to the LLCF.

Tracking Number 4

Review Comment

No processed kimberlite will ever be placed in Cell E. In addition, as stated on page 200 of the ICRP, the goal of operations and closure of the LLCF is to avoid depositing processed kimberlite into Cell D. DFO supports this position and feels that connectivity should be re-established if water quality criteria are met to allow fish to re-colonize the area (Cell D and Cell E), restoring it to a self-sustaining aquatic ecosystem. According to the ICRP, BHPB proposes to construct a fish barrier at the outlet of Cell E to prevent fish passage from Leslie Lake into Long Lake. BHPB and DFO are currently working together to reach resolution on the topic of fish barriers for the LLCF and the end pit lakes.

Status

While this issue has not yet been resolved, BHP Billiton and DFO continue to work together towards reaching a resolution.

Tracking Number 28

Review Comment


DFO supports the recommendation from INAC that BHPB conduct profile monitoring of the LLCF to determine how fast permafrost is aggrading in the processed kimberlite, and what the quality of pore water currently is and what it is expected to be once final closure is completed.

Status

This issue is resolved on the understanding that pore water information has been collected and will be made available as part of a comprehensive document on the LLCF.

Canada

If you have any questions, please contact me at (867) 669-4931.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Hanna". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bruce" and last name "Hanna" clearly distinguishable.

Bruce Hanna
Habitat Biologist
Fish Habitat Management
Department of Fisheries and Oceans - Western Arctic Area