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3 NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
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8 Licence No.1AR-POL0311 Type A
9 Renewal/Amendment Application
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12 COMMUNITY SESSION
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18 Resolute Bay, Nunavut
19 December 4, 2014
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1		
2		
3	Description	Page
4	December 4, 2014	
5		
6	Appearances	4
7		
8	Opening by the Chair	6
9		
10	Presentation by Nunavut Water Board Staff	10
11	Comments by Nunavut Water Board Staff	18
12		
13	Presentation by Teck Resources Limited	20
14	Questions from Members of the Public	29
15		
16	Presentation by Aboriginal Affairs and	39
17	Northern Development Canada	
18	Teck Resources Limited Questions	48
19	Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development	
20	Canada	
21		
22	Final Submissions by Aboriginal Affairs	49
23	and Northern Development Canada	
24		
25	Final Submissions by Teck Resources Limited	51
26		

1	Final Submissions by Nunavut Water Board	52
2		
3	Certificate of Transcript	55
4	Exhibit Index	56
5	<hr/>	
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		

1 NUNAVUT WATER BOARD

2 T. Kabloona Chair of Hearing

3 J. Pameolik Member

4 C. Adjun Member

6 NUNAVUT WATER BOARD STAFF

7 T. Meadows Legal Counsel

8 D. Hohnstein Technical Advisor

9 S. Aredes Technical Advisor

10 B. Kogvik Board Secretary/Interpreter

11 M. Porter Licencing Administrator

13 INTERPRETERS/TRANSLATORS

14 S. Salluviniq Inuktitut Language Interpreter

15 C. Francis Sound Technician

16 K. McLeod, CSR(A), RPR Official Court Reporter

19 TECK RESOURCES LIMITED

20 B. Donald Manager, Legacy Properties

22 ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT CANADA

23 K. Costello Director of Resource

24 Management

25 I. Parsons Regional Coordinator

GRISE FIORD COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

- A. Ningiuq Elder Representative
- L. Ningiuq Hamlet Representative
- J. Akeeagok Hunters and Trappers
- Organization Chair



1 (PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 7:06 PM)

2 THE CHAIR: For the benefit of those
3 parties that are giving their presentation, have been
4 waiting all afternoon, the delegates from Grise Fiord
5 have just checked into the hotel, and they need a
6 little bit of time to get settled and have something to
7 eat, so we'll look at 7:30. Thank you for your
8 patience.

9 (ADJOURNMENT)

10 THE CHAIR: Good evening. Good evening,
11 everyone, and welcome to the community session for the
12 Nunavut Water Board's public hearing of the renewal and
13 amendment application for licence 1AR-POL0311 in
14 relation to specific monitoring and reclamation
15 activities at the former Polaris Mine mine site. My
16 name is Thomas Kabloona, and I'm the chair of the
17 Nunavut Water Board. Before we begin with tonight's
18 session, please let us begin with an opening prayer by
19 Colin.

20 (OPENING PRAYER)

21 Opening by the Chair

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you. For those of you
23 who were not here this morning when we started the
24 public hearing, I have a few brief housekeeping and
25 introductory remarks, and then I will turn the mic over
26 to the Board staff, the applicant, and the interveners

1 for this application, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
2 Development Canada. Firstly, there will be
3 interpretation available throughout the hearing, and
4 earpieces are available from the table located to my
5 right. Okay. To my right. Channel 1 is English, and
6 Channel 2 is Inuktitut. Secondly, the Board
7 appreciates if everyone signs in on the sign-in sheet
8 located at the tables as you come in. This is an
9 important record of the hearing, and we appreciate your
10 help in making sure it is complete.

11 The washrooms are located just up here at the
12 front to my left. The exit is located just where you
13 come in, and there will be coffee, tea, and snacks
14 located at the tables at the back of the hall during
15 breaks. Please help yourself.

16 There are agendas for the hearing available at the
17 table as you come in. Please pick one up and follow
18 along. Now, I would like to introduce all of this
19 Board and staff before we proceed to presentations and
20 the agenda. I will be chairing this Panel, and with me
21 today as members of the Panel are both Board members:
22 Colin Adjun on my right and to my left is Joseph
23 Pameolik. Several staff members who have contributed
24 to the NWB's administration and technical review of the
25 application are present, with legal counsel for the
26 NWB. And I will introduce the individuals attending

1 today, and when I say their name, I ask that you wave
2 so that people will know who you are. David Hohnstein,
3 director of technical services; Sonia Aredes, technical
4 advisor; Megan Porter, licencing administrator; Teresa
5 Meadows with Shores Jardine LLP, legal counsel to the
6 Board.

7 In addition, we have two interpreters available
8 for simultaneous interpretation: Ben Kogvik, secretary
9 for Board, and Susan Salluviniq, who is from Resolute
10 Bay. For audio support, we have Corey Francis from
11 Pido Productions with us. If you experience any
12 difficulties with your headsets, please see Corey, and
13 he will assist you. To ensure an accurate record of
14 the proceedings is kept, we have with us a court
15 reporter, Katie McLeod from Dicta Court Reporting
16 Incorporated. To assist our interpreters and court
17 reporter, I ask that all parties please state their
18 name prior to speaking, speak slowly and clearly, and
19 avoid the use of acronyms and abbreviations wherever
20 possible.

21 Tonight's session will involve a presentation by
22 the Nunavut Water Board's technical staff, a
23 presentation by the applicant, Teck Resources Limited,
24 and a presentation by the intervener, Aboriginal
25 Affairs and Northern Development Canada.

26 Following the presentation by Teck Resources

1 Limited and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
2 Canada, I will invite anyone who wishes to ask
3 questions or provide the Panel with their comments to
4 step up to the microphone and speak on the record. To
5 make sure our public hearing record is accurate and to
6 assist our court reporter and interpreters, before
7 speaking, please wait until you have a microphone to
8 speak and state your name and speak directly, clearly,
9 and slowly into the microphone. Please be mindful of
10 the interpreters as you go and avoid the use of
11 acronyms, abbreviations if you can.

12 We appreciate your participation -- we appreciate
13 your participation and assistance in making sure all
14 are heard and understood in this hearing. I will now
15 turn the microphone over to the Board's technical staff
16 to walk you through how this presentation has
17 progressed to this point.

18 And one further housekeeping item is Channel 3 is
19 on the floor. Channel 3.

20 MR. FRANCIS: It's just so they can listen
21 to being what's said directly off the microphone
22 instead of what's translated.

23 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.

24 MR. HOHNSTEIN: Thank you very much,
25 Mr. Chair. David Hohnstein with the Nunavut Water
26 Board. Thanks, everybody, for coming over, coming out

1 tonight. We appreciate the participation and seeing
2 some friendly faces in the -- in the crowd here. It's
3 nice to have some folks from local communities join us
4 for these meetings.

5 What we plan on doing is giving a brief
6 presentation on the Water Board and the process and how
7 we deal with licences prior to the applicant providing
8 a presentation on their application. So if you have
9 any questions while we're presenting the information,
10 by all means, you know, indicate you want to ask a
11 question. We can answer questions at any time. Please
12 don't wait until the very end.

13 And with that, I'll turn the microphone over to
14 our technical advisor for the Polaris renewal file,
15 Sonia Aredes, and she'll go through the -- the
16 information on the Nunavut Water Board. Thank you very
17 much.

18 Presentation by Nunavut Water Board Staff

19 MS. AREDES: Good evening. Very nice to
20 have people from the community in this hearing. One of
21 the objectives of the hearing is to hear from the
22 people in the communities, so we're very happy to have
23 you. What we've prepared is a brief presentation about
24 the Nunavut Water Board and what are the mandates and
25 what kind of work we do and what our -- what is the
26 objective of our work. So if you want to make any

1 questions, ask, please.

2 So the presentation will start with the Nunavut
3 Water Board background information, the type of
4 authorizations that the Board may issue, how is the
5 Type A licencing process. We are here to -- to talk
6 about the application before the Board from Teck, so we
7 are going to talk about the scope of the current
8 application, then the application procedural history,
9 the next steps for the Type A application, intervener
10 participation, public participation, licence issued to
11 the project, licence issued to the project by the
12 Board, and the contact information -- Board contact
13 information.

14 So the Nunavut Water Board is an institution of
15 public government, and it was established under the
16 Article 13 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. The
17 responsibilities -- the Board has responsibilities and
18 powers over the regulation, use, and management of
19 freshwater in the Nunavut Settlement Area.

20 The objective of the Board is to provide for the
21 conservation and utilization of waters in Nunavut in a
22 manner that will provide the optimum benefit from those
23 waters for the Nunavut residents, in a particular way,
24 and Canadians in a more general way. We have a mandate
25 over all the freshwater, except for the waters that are
26 in a national park.

1 So based on this mandate, the Board may issue any
2 of the following authorizations for the use of water
3 and/or deposit of waste for undertakings in Nunavut:

4 The Board may issue an approval without -- an approval
5 without a licence; a Type B Water Licence; and a Type A
6 Water Licence. This week's hearing, this hearing, is
7 for a Type A Water Licence application.

8 And this is the process for -- for a Type A
9 licencing process. So the Board receives the
10 application and confirms what kind of an undertaking it
11 is and that the licence is a Type A. Second, the Board
12 does a review, and in that stage, the applicant may
13 have to give more information to the Board, if the
14 Board requires information, and after that, the Board
15 issues notice of application. It's a 30-day minimum
16 notice of application.

17 After that technical review, is -- there is -- the
18 parties should submit a written representation, and the
19 Board holds a technical meeting/pre-hearing conference.
20 After the pre-hearing conference, there is -- the Board
21 issues the Board decision. And also, after that, if
22 everything is going right, the Board issues the notice
23 of public hearing -- public hearing. The notice of
24 public hearing has to be 60 days before. All those
25 stages, the applicant may have to present more
26 information if the Board or if the intervener requests

1 more information.

2 So in this stage after the parties exchange
3 written interventions, the parties prepare for a public
4 hearing. While preparing for the public hearing, there
5 is exchange of information, and then we are now -- that
6 is the moment that we are, that is, holding a public
7 hearing. After the public hearing, the Board may --
8 may decide that -- to issue -- issue a decision, the
9 decision to approve the application and the licence to
10 the minister; or the Board issues a decision to not
11 approve the application and give the reasons why the
12 Board has made this decision to not approve the licence
13 to the minister.

14 When the decision from the Board comes to the
15 minister, the minister approves the issuance of the
16 licence, or the minister may -- does not approve. And
17 it's the same. I mean, in all these stage, in one
18 moment, the licence process kind of stops, because --
19 always it is because there is a good reason. It has to
20 be a very good reason, otherwise the process is going,
21 and the applicant has his licence.

22 Now, we are having an application, and the
23 applicant is Teck Resources Limited, and Teck is
24 applying for a 15-year-term water licence. The
25 proposal is to allow for long-term monitoring. This is
26 just monitoring. It's also requesting a reduction

1 and -- of the reclamation security, and proposed some
2 change in the overall terms and licence conditions
3 about monitoring, frequency, stations, and parameters.

4 So -- and this is the application procedural
5 history. In August 2013, Teck applied for the water
6 licence. The Nunavut Water Board received the
7 application from Teck, but Teck applied first for a
8 water licence, Type B. In October 2013, the Board
9 requests Teck's conformity to process the application
10 under a Type A Licence. On December 2013, Teck agreed
11 to the Type B water licence application be used as an
12 application for Type A licence. On May 2014, Nunavut
13 Water Board distributed the application for
14 completeness check, and we received comments from
15 AANDC, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
16 Canada. On June 2014, Teck responded to AANDC's
17 submission. On July 2014, Nunavut Water Board
18 distributed the application for detailed technical
19 review, and, also, we had the confirmation from the
20 Nunavut Planning Commission and from NIRB that no
21 further studies are needed.

22 And on July 2014, we have -- we received technical
23 submissions from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
24 Development Canada and also Environment Canada. On
25 August 2014, Teck submitted a response to technical
26 comments, and we have there -- in August 2014, we have

1 the technical meeting/pre-hearing conference. We
2 had -- in that technical meeting and pre-hearing
3 conference, we had -- we have representatives from
4 AANDC, EC, and Grise Fiord HTO. So after the technical
5 meetings and pre-hearing conference, the Nunavut Water
6 Board issued the pre-hearing conference decision
7 report.

8 In that moment, after discussing all the technical
9 matters on the technical meeting and pre-hearing
10 conference, the Nunavut Water Board issued a notice of
11 public hearing. And in that moment also, the applicant
12 submitted some information, monitoring that they had
13 done on the outside. On November 2014, Teck submitted
14 the clarification on Polaris Mine Geotechnical
15 Inspection Schedule. There was kind of a difference
16 between reporting and schedule.

17 On November 2014, Teck submitted the final -- one
18 of the commitments of Teck was to perform a
19 geotechnical inspection outside, and in -- they
20 performed the geotechnical inspection, and in November
21 of 2014, they submit the final report. Also we have
22 the submissions, the comments about that report from
23 AANDC -- Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
24 Canada and Environment Canada.

25 So in November 2014, we have all this information
26 coming and going that Teck submitted their final

1 response to the comments from AANDC and EC, and also
2 Nunavut Water Board submitted the letter "Comments of
3 the Nunavut Water Board Regarding Licencing of
4 Undertaking Nearing the End of the Project Lifecycle".
5 Teck was interested to know when the mine could be
6 considered closed, and we were discussing about that.

7 So we are now here in the public hearing. The
8 public hearing for the application began earlier today
9 and expected to continue until tomorrow. Information
10 that we process all during this and during the hearing
11 will help assist the Board in determining the issues
12 that will be addressed.

13 So for all the hearing, there is a Panel of the
14 Board that has the final decision, and they are here.
15 They are interested to hear from the people from the
16 community and from members and everybody who wants to
17 make a -- make a comment or have an opinion about the
18 hearing, about the application. After this public
19 hearing, the Panel will take about 30 days to consider
20 all the submissions and write to the minister regarding
21 whether to issue or not a licence to the applicant.

22 If the Board recommends that the licence should be
23 issued, also a draft licence will be attached to the
24 decision to the minister -- submitted to the minister,
25 and all the parties that are intervening in the hearing
26 will be -- will be informed about this -- about this

1 decision.

2 So what is the role of the intervener? The
3 intervener participates in the process of the
4 applications from the beginning until the final and
5 provide the Board with valuable technical information,
6 participate in formal and informal discussions.

7 What is the role of the public participation? We
8 expect that everybody participate on the hearing
9 community -- hearing conference in these community
10 sessions. And if someone is interested to go farther
11 and to see some documentation, you can contact Megan.
12 Megan is the licence admin assistant. She will help
13 you with any information you need. We have all the
14 information that's public. It's on our FTP site. So
15 we have a website where you can access, and you can
16 look at all the information.

17 This is the history of the licence from the
18 project, because the project has been with a licence
19 since long ago. The first licence was issued by the
20 Northwest Territories Board, and we don't have much
21 details, because they were in that jurisdiction. The
22 Board has issued just one licence and one amendment.
23 The licence was issued -- that's issued by the Board is
24 the Nunavut Water Board 1POL-0311 that was issued to
25 Teck Cominco Limited. It was a licence for an
26 eight-year term and covered two years of the

1 decommissioning and reclamation work and six years of
2 post-closure monitoring; also authorized water use
3 during two years, 2003 and 2004.

4 This licence was amended in 2009 to reduce the
5 security. This licence requests very extensive
6 reporting, quarterly and annual report of monitoring
7 and site activities, and also in the monitoring program
8 of Garrow Lake and Garrow Creek. It was monitoring of
9 Garrow Lake, Garrow Creek -- and Garrow Creek and also
10 geotechnical monitoring outside, nine years of
11 submission of reports, and this licence expired in
12 2011. Even if it expired, the licensee is still
13 responsible.

14 So after the expiring of the licence, the
15 applicant, in 2013, applied for this new water licence,
16 and that's it the -- that's it; that is the one that we
17 are discussing today.

18 Any questions?

19 THE CHAIR: Teresa.

20 Comments by Nunavut Water Board Staff

21 MS. MEADOWS: Mr. Chair, thank you. Teresa
22 Meadows for the Nunavut Water Board. There was just
23 one point of clarification that we wanted to point out
24 in the presentation notes. I believe there was an
25 error that said the term of licence that you're
26 applying for is 15 years. Our understanding from the

1 evidence today that we heard from the applicant is that
2 it is actually, more accurately, 16 years, because it
3 will be 2015 to 2031.

4 MS. AREDES: Yeah.

5 MS. MEADOWS: So it's more accurate to say
6 that it's actually 16 years.

7 MS. AREDES: Yeah, 16 years. Yeah, that's
8 true.

9 MS. MEADOWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. One
10 more point of clarification: We didn't -- we didn't
11 enter the presentation notes as an exhibit in the
12 hearing so that they got on the hearing record. We've
13 been telling everyone else to make sure that they enter
14 their exhibits on the record, and then the Water Board
15 didn't enter ours. So better late than never.

16 I have two presentations, one in Inuktitut and one
17 in English that are the notes that were just presented,
18 and we'll be entering them as Exhibits 6 and 7 in the
19 hearing record. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

21 EXHIBIT 6 - Hard Copy PowerPoint Presentation

22 NWB Community Session Presentation for

23 Type A Licence 1AR-P0L0311, Renewal

24 Application Former Polaris Mine (English)

25 EXHIBIT 7 - Hard Copy PowerPoint Presentation

26 NWB Community Session Presentation for

1 Type A Licence 1AR-P0L0311, Renewal

2 Application Former Polaris Mine (Inuktitut)

3 THE CHAIR: Any questions from the
4 applicant?

5 AANDC?

6 MS. COSTELLO: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

7 Aboriginal Affairs -- Karen Costello on behalf of
8 Aboriginal Affairs. We have no questions. Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Any questions from
10 the public? Any questions from the public?

11 Okay. Staff? Members? Board members? No?

12 Thank you.

13 You may do your presentation.

14 Presentation by Teck Resources Limited

15 MR. DONALD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My name
16 is Bruce Donald, and I'm with Teck Resources, and I
17 have --

18 MR. HOHNSTEIN: Do you have a presentation for
19 me?

20 MR. DONALD: -- a short presentation.

21 Yeah, it should be right on the screen there.

22 My presentation is concerning our application for
23 the water licence for the supplemental long-term
24 monitoring. In the presentation, I will outline the
25 topics I'm going to cover. First of all, the location
26 of the mine site, a brief history of the mine, some

1 pictures showing the decommissioning and reclamation
2 process that we went through, discussing the monitoring
3 we did after the reclamation, and then discussing our
4 licence application for the supplemental long-term
5 monitoring of the site, and then I'll summarize with a
6 few key points in our application.

7 The mine site, for those of you who aren't
8 familiar with it, is on Little Cornwallis Island, and
9 I'll see if I can -- the pointer doesn't -- it doesn't
10 seem -- it doesn't want to do it. Anyway, I can just
11 quickly -- I'll quickly point it out here.

12 So it's right on Little Cornwallis Island, so
13 about 100 kilometres north, a little bit west, of
14 Resolute.

15 This is a picture of the mine near the end of its
16 operating days. The mine is a lead -- was a lead-zinc
17 mine, and it was mainly an underground mining
18 operation. It operated from 1981 through until 2002,
19 so about a 20-year period, and it was a planned closure
20 as the ore reserves were mined out. Through the life
21 of the mine, 25 million tonnes of ore were produced,
22 and after the mine closed, immediately we started the
23 decommissioning and the reclamation of the site. So
24 the mine closed in September 2002, and we started work
25 right away and -- and took us two years to finish the
26 work at the site. So we finished in September 2004,

1 and from 2004 until 2011 when the water licence
2 expired, we continued monitoring the site on an --
3 according to the approved closure plan.

4 Here are some photographs of the site as we
5 started work decommissioning. The picture on the lower
6 right-hand corner is the mill building, and that's
7 where the ore was processed. And in the picture right
8 above it, it's in the middle of the picture, that's the
9 same building, and you can see that the siding has been
10 taken off and it's -- it's gradually being torn town.
11 The building right on the very right-hand corner of
12 that picture is the concentrate storage shed, and then
13 in front of the mill on the oceanfront was the deepsea
14 port. And then lastly, on the top of the hill is the
15 accommodation building.

16 The photograph on the left shows equipment
17 excavating, and that was to clean up some of the
18 hydrocarbon spills that we had at the site to make sure
19 that we got all of the spilled hydrocarbons, and there
20 was also metal-contaminated soil from around the mill
21 and the storage area. The majority of all that
22 material was taken and buried down inside the mine.
23 Near the end of the project, we still had some
24 metal-contaminated soil that was left, and that was
25 placed in our quarry over in Little Red Dog Pit.

26 There's a photograph of the same area, but it's a

1 little bit further on in the -- in the decommissioning
2 process. If you look right down in the front of the
3 picture, in this area here, that's the mill, and now
4 the mill is -- has been torn down to the base of -- of
5 the mill. And that actually was a barge, because the
6 mill was originally brought to site -- it was floated
7 up as part of a barge, and so that was the barge hull.
8 So that was the last part of the mill that we took
9 apart. You can also see that the deepsea dock, it was
10 starting to be dismantled, and this picture was taken
11 in late summer when we had our supply ship bring more
12 supplies up so that we were -- had enough supplies to
13 go for another year. This picture was taken right in
14 the middle of the decommissioning in the summer of
15 2003.

16 We also had a -- oh, I should go forward. That
17 picture is of the same area that we saw of the mill and
18 the deepsea port. So that was after all of those
19 facilities were -- were taken out.

20 I think I can go -- I'll have to go ...

21 Going back a slide, we also had a fuel tank farm
22 onsite, and the picture in the bottom right is in the
23 middle of taking it apart. There was two tanks. One
24 is already gone there, and the second one is almost cut
25 up. So we emptied them of fuel, washed them out, and
26 then cut them into pieces. And the picture on the top

1 left is of the same area after the tank farm had been
2 removed.

3 We had a limestone quarry onsite that we called
4 "Little Red Dog Pit", and the building debris, the
5 steel, the siding, and things like that were placed
6 in -- in the bottom of the pit and covered over with
7 rock from around the site. Before doing that, all of
8 the hazardous materials that were onsite in the mill,
9 those were all packaged and shipped off from site and
10 taken down south for recycling or -- or disposal. The
11 picture on the bottom left is once we finished filling
12 the pit and we put a 1.8-metre-thick cover cap on top
13 of the pit.

14 The mine also had a landfill that it used through
15 its years of operating, and this is a picture of -- of
16 that area. It's a little hard to pick out from the
17 hillside, but it's this lighter-coloured material in
18 this area. So the landfill was re-sloped so that it
19 didn't have steep slopes on it, and it also got a cover
20 cap that was 1.8 metres thick put on it as well.

21 Garrow Lake was the place where the tailings were
22 deposited, and during operations, a dam was built
23 across the outlet of the lake to raise the level of the
24 lake, and this is a picture of that dam. And the lake
25 used to be back about here. When the dam was put in,
26 this low area flooded behind the dam. So part of

1 closing the site, we lowered the water level down by
2 siphoning out the water, and then we cut out the middle
3 part of -- of the dam; and that allowed the lake to go
4 back to its original elevation and the outlet of the
5 lake to flow down its original channel. There's a
6 picture of the creek after we took the dam out, and the
7 bottom right-hand corner, it's a little hard to tell,
8 but you can see the -- the slopes up from the side of
9 the creek, and that's where the remains of the dam are.

10 In 2004 when we were finishing up doing the work,
11 all of the contractors' equipment and their supplies
12 and any of the equipment that we had sold to go down
13 south were all moved over to near the shore to get
14 ready for when the ship came in to pick everything up.
15 And on September 6th, the supply ship that was coming
16 up to Resolute Bay stopped over at the island, and they
17 had a barge and some tugs, and so they loaded all of
18 the equipment and sea-cans and other pieces that were
19 on the island. So nothing was left on the island,
20 other than a few small portable trailers that we used
21 for the summer when we would go up to do monitoring.

22 There's a picture of the island after the
23 reclamation was completed, and you can see that there's
24 no -- no buildings or facilities left on the -- on the
25 site, other than there's actually one small wood shed
26 that's -- or house that's still there.

1 So Teck has successfully completed all of the
2 required work that was in our approved decommissioning
3 and reclamation plan. We were released from
4 Environment Canada's Metal Mining Effluent Regulations,
5 as we were deemed a closed mine, because we were able
6 to demonstrate that the water quality coming from the
7 site met all of their requirements. As I said, the
8 only thing that's left on the site is a wood cabin that
9 we gave to one of the local residents here, and the --
10 the post-reclamation geotechnical monitoring and the
11 water quality monitoring that we did for years after
12 the reclamation has demonstrated the success of the
13 work that was done and verifies that the site is
14 stable, both from a physical, as well as from -- from
15 chemical issues; and we feel that this is a positive
16 example of mine reclamation for -- for Nunavut, as well
17 as, I think, for a lot of other areas of Canada. I
18 think it's probably one of the better mine closures
19 within Canada.

20 So our proposed monitoring program that is part of
21 the licence that we are applying for, we proposed to do
22 decreased frequency of sampling. So we proposed that
23 we would sample this year, 2014, again in 2019, and
24 finally in 2029, and that's providing that the results
25 of the monitoring continue to confirm that things are
26 stable. And we've committed that, if any significant

1 concerns are identified by the monitoring or through
2 other inspections or reports, that we would then review
3 and increase our monitoring in -- we would have
4 discussions with the regulators in terms of what would
5 be the appropriate frequency and take other measures,
6 if necessary. So we're not walking away from the site;
7 we still are committed to -- to keep an eye on it.

8 The scope of the monitoring program includes site
9 inspections by a geotechnical engineer to look at the
10 physical stability of the site and also water quality
11 monitoring in Garrow Creek in 2014, 2019, and again in
12 2029. And also, of Garrow Lake itself, to have a look
13 at the -- through the vertical depth of the water in
14 the lake, to look at the chemistry of the lake, and the
15 physical structure, because the lake is a layered lake.
16 It's meromictic, and it's salty. And it's layered
17 because it's saltier as you go down into the -- into
18 the depths of the lake.

19 We have already done our 2014 monitoring program,
20 and it confirmed, from a geotechnical standpoint, that
21 subsidence issues are not -- are not changing and that
22 the water chemistry is compliant with our permit and
23 is the quality that we've expected and is consistent.
24 So, again, it, so far, is continuing to show that
25 everything is going along as predicted.

26 And we've already submitted that report to the

1 Water Board. And as we go forward after we do our
2 inspections in 2019 and 2029, we would do similar
3 reports to the Water Board so that they have a record
4 of what we found.

5 When we originally made proposals on the
6 monitoring, there -- we had submissions and discussions
7 from both Environment Canada, as well as Aboriginal and
8 Northern Development Canada (sic). And through those
9 discussions and in concert with the Water Board, we did
10 agree to some changes of our monitoring plan, which are
11 as I've described them, and the parties that have been
12 in these discussions agreed that those are suitable
13 plans.

14 We also -- we also, as part of our application,
15 proposed that reclamation security be set at
16 \$1,324,000, and through discussions with Aboriginal and
17 Northern Development Canada, we've agreed that we would
18 accept their submission that the security should be
19 \$1,565,000. So we've come to agreement on that number
20 as well. And we also were, again, wanting to emphasize
21 that the next proposed monitoring, as part of our
22 licence application, is in 2019 and that the monitoring
23 program in the proposed licence, it has been simplified
24 and targeted for where the key interest is, and that's
25 Garrow Creek effluent or discharge.

26 The licence term that we proposed is to expire in

1 2031, and a bit of confusion over how many years the
2 licence is, just because we applied last year. We're
3 still talking about it this year, and the approval
4 won't happen next year, but the end date is to sample
5 in 2029 and have the licence expire in 2031. And the
6 reason for that gap was to provide time for us to get
7 the results from -- from the monitoring in 2029 and
8 then have discussions with -- with government and with
9 the Water Board as to cancelling the licence. At that
10 point in time, if we continue to show that the site is
11 stable, then -- then we feel it's time to be able to
12 cancel the licence, and so that would be our intent to
13 do at that -- at that time.

14 That's the end of my presentation, a few pictures
15 that we took from the site over the years, and thank
16 you for your attention. And if anyone has any
17 questions, I'd be pleased to answer them.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Any questions?

19 MR. DONALD: Thank you.

20 Questions from Members of the Public

21 LIZA NINGIUQ: Are you able to hear me?

22 Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. My name is Liza Ningiuq
23 from Grise Fiord. I'm the mayor of Grise Fiord. I
24 thank everybody for inviting us. Are you able to hear
25 me? Are you able to hear me? Can you hear me? I'm
26 able to hear on Channel 1. Can you hear me?

1 I'll try again. Can you hear me? Yeah, they're
2 able to hear me, but maybe it's for a recording? Can
3 everybody hear me all right? Are you able to hear me?
4 Can you hear me?

5 MS. MEADOWS: Mr. Chair, Teresa Meadows
6 legal counsel for the Nunavut Water Board. Our
7 apologies. We are unable to hear the interpretation
8 that was coming in our -- in our ear, so if I can ask
9 you to repeat the question for us so that we can get it
10 on the record, I would appreciate that. Thank you.

11 THE INTERPRETER: She was waiting to see if you
12 were able to hear her.

13 LIZA NINGIUQ: Thank you. My question is,
14 the presentations are very good. The closure -- for
15 the closure, we used to meet about it, and after it
16 was -- after reclamations, it seems that we were able
17 to go and see the land there, but I'm very glad to be
18 able to see the land, because we were told that we
19 would be able to go and see the land after it had been
20 cleaned up. My main question, it seems like -- it
21 seems to be monitored well, and -- after the cleaning.
22 I'd like to know the tailings, where does it leak to
23 after -- after the well -- after -- after? It seems
24 like I was going to ask the people of Resolute Bay, but
25 it seems like none of them are here. I wanted to see
26 how they feel about the closure of the land and where

1 the tailing was being poured out to. Was it poured out
2 into the sea? (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN) -- will see how
3 the wildlife are affected, especially seals. Their
4 livers, from what I heard, are not all that good. So
5 it has been my main question to ask people of Resolute
6 Bay if this is affected by the mine -- if this was
7 affected by the mine and the tailings? Where was it
8 taken -- poured out into? Although he told me the
9 chemical (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKEN) of Garrow lake. Thank
10 you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Do you have an
12 answer?

13 MR. DONALD: I wasn't able to get anything
14 at all on my earphones.

15 THE CHAIR: Why don't we take a
16 five-minute health break so we can work on our
17 technical audio equipment.

18 (ADJOURNMENT)

19 THE CHAIR: Did you get the question?

20 LIZA NINGIUQ: Do you want me to ask the
21 question again?

22 Thank you. I hope you can hear a little better.
23 Thank you, Mr. Chair. My question was that the slides
24 and the presentation that we just saw, they seem to be
25 well presented. But my question is, because I just
26 wanted to clarify, Garrow Lake, the tailings

1 impoundment, it was -- it has a creek down to the
2 ocean, and I just wanted to clarify whether or not the
3 tailings and the water from Garrow Lake was drained
4 into the ocean and whether or not, you know, this
5 would -- if this happened, I would be very concerned
6 about whether or not the surrounding area, the animals,
7 the mammals, et cetera, would be affected by this, and
8 if it was discharging to the ocean, that's what we're
9 concerned about. Thank you very much.

10 MR. DONALD: Bruce Donald from Teck. Thank
11 you for the question. So Garrow Lake was where the
12 tailings were deposited, but before that happened, the
13 lake was selected because it is very salty, and the
14 bottom part of the lake is so salty, it's saltier than
15 the ocean; and the top part of the lake is also salty,
16 but less so. So the water -- the less-salty water
17 floats on top. The lake has no oxygen at the bottom,
18 and so it's not good fish habitat. There were, before
19 we started to use the lake, some sculpins living in the
20 top layer, and after the mine closed and we did some
21 more studies on the lake, there were still sculpins
22 living in the lake. Through the operation of the mine,
23 all of the tailings were deposited to the bottom of the
24 lake, and none of the tailings travelled down to the
25 ocean. And even during the operation of the mine, the
26 water quality was regularly sampled, and it always met

1 all of the permit requirements. So there was no impact
2 on the ocean from -- from the discharges, either while
3 the mine was operating or now that the mine is closed.
4 I hope this answers your question. Thank you.

5 LIZA NINGIUQ: Thank you. That was my
6 question, and you've answered and made it very clear
7 for me.

8 I just wanted to ask a second question. Have you
9 heard from the residents of Resolute Bay whether or not
10 there were any effects to any of the animals in the
11 surrounding area, the mammals? Was there anything that
12 might be odd about their normality?

13 MR. DONALD: Bruce Donald from Teck. Thank
14 you for your follow-up question. Before the mine
15 started, there were surveys done of the -- of the
16 wildlife and discussions with the local hunters and
17 trappers in Resolute, and that hasn't been a prime
18 habitat for -- for caribou or other animals. Bears
19 will pass through there, but there's -- it's not a
20 prime hunting area. During the life of the mine,
21 occasionally animals were seen, but they tended to pass
22 through the area. All of the studies that have been
23 done of the conditions around the mine say that it
24 wouldn't have any impact on any of the animals that
25 would pass by there and eat any of the grasses or any
26 of the animals that were -- were there. I've never

1 heard of any comments about anyone identifying any
2 problems.

3 We have -- every year when we've gone up and done
4 our sampling, we've always taken one of -- at least one
5 of the residents from the community up with us so that
6 they can see the site and see what we're doing and what
7 we're sampling, and so I'm confident, if there were
8 concerns or any issues like that, we would have heard
9 about them from the community over the years, and we
10 haven't, to my knowledge. Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Anyone else? Any further
12 questions? Any questions from the public?

13 JAYPETEE AKEEAGOK: Thank you. Jaypetee Akeeagok
14 from HTO, chairperson, of Grise Fiord. First of all,
15 I'd like to thank everybody for inviting us from Grise
16 Fiord. So we welcome you in Resolute Bay. First of
17 all, I would like to say that, concerning mining for
18 lead and zinc, I don't have any knowledge of it, but
19 concerning wildlife and our environment, this is
20 something that we watch out for.

21 I'll have two questions. Thanks once again. And
22 I'm going to ask two -- well, I guess two questions.
23 One of the questions that I came here for is, what is
24 monitoring? What are we monitoring until 2029? Water
25 level? What's inside the water? I mean, what's the
26 whole purpose of it, first of all? Because when we

1 first start hearing "mining", our concerns were not
2 being answered really, and after the closure of the
3 mine, what are we monitoring, Nunavut Water Board? Is
4 it just water, or is it chemical -- difference of
5 chemical levels in the water and the atmosphere and how
6 they travel to surrounding communities?

7 Correct me if I'm wrong or if I'm going off the
8 topic of what you guys are hearing from this hearing.
9 That is one of the few questions I would like an
10 answer, because we always fear of different chemical
11 levels on the wildlife that we eat or consume. So
12 that, I want an answer for.

13 I have -- I'm one of the few fortunate that have
14 been up to the mine and toured the mine, inside the
15 mine shafts. It was creepy. Let me tell you, it was
16 creepy, and they told us we're under the sea level now.
17 My questions towards that is, because some of the
18 tunnels go under the ocean -- correct me if I'm wrong,
19 but that's what they told us; we were under the ocean
20 now. I'm not a geoscientist, so I would like to know
21 if there's any seepage of ocean water going into the
22 chambers in the mine, if I'm with the topic for this
23 hearing. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Do we have an
25 answer?

26 MR. DONALD: Thank you. It's Bruce Donald

1 from Teck. Thank you for those questions, and both of
2 those are, you know, really pertinent questions. The
3 water flowing from Garrow Lake down -- down to the
4 ocean -- excuse me -- is called Garrow Creek, and the
5 monitoring program that we've done up until now and
6 continuing on as part of our application is to sample
7 the chemistry of the water so we know what the -- what
8 the amount of metals are in the water. So there's over
9 30 years of history of that information being -- being
10 available. So that's one of the key things that the
11 Water Board wants us to measure.

12 With regard to your question about part of the
13 mine being under the ocean there, there is one corner
14 of the mine that does, in fact, go under the edge of
15 the ocean, and when the mine was operating, they
16 designed it in such a way that water from the ocean
17 wasn't -- wasn't coming into it, and those areas were
18 also backfilled as part of the mining process, so there
19 wouldn't be ocean water going into the mine. Thank
20 you.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

22 JAYPETEE AKEEAGOK: Thank you. Jaypetee Akeeagok
23 speaking. I guess every question has another question
24 on top of it. What -- I mean, do we -- maybe this is
25 directed to the Water Board or whoever. Do we have a
26 record of what's being collected? What are the results

1 of the monitoring? Are the levels of what the
2 environment higher in chemicals than they were before
3 the mine? I hope I'm (OTHER LANGUAGE SPOKE). That, to
4 me, is the monitoring for a long time. I mean, are we,
5 in Canada, at a safe level or what? Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Perhaps I will direct this
7 question to staff.

8 MR. HOHNSTEIN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. David
9 Hohnstein, director of technical services with the
10 Water Board. Yes, all the monitoring that the company
11 has been doing at the mine site, they've collected the
12 data and provided an annual reporting, and in some
13 cases, I believe probably quarterly reporting. So on
14 a -- on a quarterly basis to the Nunavut Water Board,
15 and this information is all maintained within what's
16 referred to as a public registry. So information can
17 be requested by anybody of the -- of the Water Board to
18 provide that information, you know, if -- if needed.
19 There's information there on all the water quality,
20 information that's been collected over the years, all
21 the geotechnical inspections and studies that have been
22 done at the mine site since operations began. And, you
23 know, I can probably turn it over to the company,
24 Bruce, to elaborate a little bit more on some of the
25 detailed information, but there has been some, I guess,
26 reports presented on summaries of the data that's being

1 collected to further substantiate their application and
2 the -- I guess the monitoring that they're requesting
3 to do for this next licence term, and, you know, the --
4 the water quality that they would be analyzing for and
5 the frequency and that sort of thing. So I'll pass it
6 over to Bruce to maybe provide a little more
7 information on that, but if you do want to have access
8 or look at some of that information, it is available
9 from the Water Board. Megan at our front desk there is
10 our licencing administrator for the file, and she could
11 possibly help you look at some of the information.
12 We've got all the information available here right now,
13 but she could provide, you know, some copies of the
14 information if you would like to see that. So I'll
15 pass it over, then, to Teck Resources.

16 MR. DONALD: Bruce Donald from Teck again.
17 So during our last water licence, we were required to
18 sample the water weekly in the -- in the summertime
19 when the water was flowing, and we did that from --
20 well, apart from when the mine was running, but
21 continuously through until the last licence ended in
22 2011. So there is volumes and volumes of data, and all
23 of the data shows that the water quality meets the
24 requirements under the water licence, and the water
25 licence sets the water quality at a level where science
26 says that it's -- it's safe to discharge.

1 Environment Canada has also reviewed our water
2 quality over the years and had us do very detailed
3 studies three years after the mine closed to prove to
4 them that the water quality was acceptable for the
5 environment, and so all of that has been -- been done.
6 And because the water quality has been so consistent
7 over the years since closure, that's why we're now
8 asking to still monitor the water but just less
9 frequently and in just the key locations. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

11 Is that understandable?

12 JAYPETEE AKEEAGOK: Yes. Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Any other questions from
14 anybody from the public?

15 Next we have AANDC doing their presentation.
16 Presentation by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
17 Development Canada

18 MS. COSTELLO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good
19 evening, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Karen
20 Costello. I'm the director of resource management with
21 Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada from
22 the Nunavut regional office based in Iqaluit. I'm
23 joined by Ian Parsons. He is a regional coordinator
24 with our water resources division, and he is
25 responsible for this file.

26 I would like to thank the Nunavut Water Board for

1 providing this opportunity to make a presentation to
2 the community members. We're very happy to see you
3 here, and if you have any questions after the
4 presentation, I'm happy to answer them. I'd like to
5 just take a moment to outline this very brief
6 presentation. I will talk about the department, and
7 that is Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
8 Canada. So I'll give a brief overview of our roles and
9 responsibilities; I will mention our contributions to
10 this water licence renewal and amendment application
11 process; I will talk on the four areas which we
12 submitted technical comments; I'll touch on what we
13 call "other water licencing considerations"; and then
14 just have a short conclusion.

15 Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
16 has a very broad mandate to ensure the protection of
17 freshwater resources and to manage Crown land in
18 Nunavut under a variety applicable laws. These include
19 the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern
20 Development Act, the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act,
21 the Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal
22 Act and its associated regulations, and the Territorial
23 Lands Act and its regulations, and that covers Crown
24 land.

25 The department also has a role for inspections
26 where we inspect when there's a land-use permit or

1 authorization for Crown land, and we also inspect and
2 monitoring for compliance with the terms and conditions
3 of any licence issued by the Nunavut Water Board.

4 So far, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
5 Development Canada has participated in this water
6 licence renewal amendment process with a variety of
7 submissions. In June, the department submitted a
8 review letter requesting information to the Nunavut
9 Water Board. This is called the "information request
10 stage", and our requests were passed on to Teck by the
11 Water Board. In July, the department submitted a
12 technical review memo to the Board, and this was
13 followed up with a second technical review memo in
14 November. In response to our submissions, Teck
15 provided further clarification and additional
16 information on all of the issues. In addition,
17 Aboriginal Affairs and Teck have engaged in several
18 discussions, and we have been able to reach agreement
19 on all outstanding issues.

20 So I'll just mention briefly the four areas where
21 we had technical comments. Our first recommendation
22 had to do with geotechnical monitoring. The department
23 is satisfied with the proposed geotechnical monitoring
24 frequency as described in the licence application, with
25 following -- with followup inspections to occur in 2019
26 and 2024 (sic). The 2014 -- or 2029. The 2014

1 geotechnical inspection that was proposed in their
2 licence application has occurred, and as you heard from
3 the company, that information has already been
4 submitted to the Water Board. If any of the
5 geotechnical monitoring should indicate that the site
6 is becoming unstable in any way -- and this may be
7 documented visually during one of the monitoring
8 inspections or through an inspection by Aboriginal
9 Affairs -- if we identify a risk to people or wildlife,
10 the frequency of inspection for geotechnical purposes
11 would be increased in accordance with the risk
12 proposed. So that being said, the department is
13 satisfied with the commitment by Teck and recommends --
14 is recommending that it be included in the new water
15 licence.

16 I've included a few photographs that were taken by
17 our staff when we conducted an inspection this past
18 summer. This area is titled as an "area of
19 subsidence", but it has been confirmed by Teck that
20 this is actually just a small area where there's been
21 some superficial settling due to ice lenses in the
22 active layer. So that is the area above the permafrost
23 and warms up and basically defrosts on an annual basis,
24 and with the melting of ice, you get some slumping.

25 This is just that same area from a different
26 perspective. You'll see the person in the background,

1 so it just gives you a little bit of a sense of the
2 nature of the slumping and the scale.

3 During mining, raised bore holes or bore-hole
4 raises were used, and this is just an example. It's
5 the most extreme example that has been documented where
6 a raise that has just been -- has been backfilled,
7 there's just been a little bit of settling and washout
8 around the side.

9 Our second recommendation had to do with water
10 quality monitoring. The department supports the
11 adoption of long-term water quality monitoring program,
12 as has been proposed by Teck in their application. We
13 have recommended that the water licencing provide a
14 mechanism to increase monitoring frequency if there is
15 an upward trend or exceedance of water licence
16 parameter limits documented in a monitoring event.

17 We've already had a few questions and some
18 discussion on Garrow Creek, which drains from Garrow
19 Lake, and this -- this picture in the back -- all
20 right. Apologies. The mouse has gone to bed for the
21 night, so I can't use the pointer.

22 The Garrow Lake is over on the right-hand side.
23 You can see the -- the creek going through the
24 snowbank, and you can actually see the -- yeah, you can
25 see the buff band across the centre, and that was what
26 Teck had previously shown pictures from a different

1 perspective; that was the dam. So the creek was
2 allowed to return to following its natural drainage
3 following Environment Canada's determination that the
4 water quality met the requirements of the Metal Mine
5 Effluent Regulations.

6 Our third recommendation had to do with the amount
7 of security that is held under the water licence. We
8 currently -- Aboriginal Affairs' minister currently
9 holds \$3.6 million in security. Teck had applied for a
10 reduction in security. The department had made a
11 recommendation -- excuse me -- that an estimate of
12 around 1.5 million would be sufficient to address any
13 potential risks. In a submission by Teck to the Water
14 Board on November 14th, they have -- they have agreed
15 to the estimate, even though it is slightly more than
16 the estimate they were proposing. This represents a
17 reduction in security for approximately \$2 million, and
18 the reduced amount still provides -- takes into account
19 the need, should it be necessary, for an independent
20 third party to conduct the geotechnical water quality
21 monitoring events for both 2019 and 2029, as well as
22 taking into account any adaptive management measures
23 that may be required. The security amount also takes
24 into account the need for any potential fencing around
25 areas of -- significant areas of subsidence, should
26 they occur in the future.

1 That leads me to Recommendation Number 4. The
2 department and Teck have agreed that signs, instead of
3 a physical barrier, such as fencing or boulderings, be
4 erected to mitigate potential safety issues that --
5 public safety issues that might arise from subsidence.
6 What should be on those signs might be something that
7 you, as community reps, could share as to what you
8 think might be appropriate.

9 This is an aerial shot that shows some of the
10 areas that have been reclaimed, a slightly different
11 perspective from some of the pictures you have seen.
12 All the infrastructure is gone. While it is obvious,
13 if you look closely, you can see parallel tracks in the
14 foreground. That is where a tracked equipment, a
15 bulldozer or something, went by. So while obvious,
16 there has been activity on the land, the site has been
17 returned to its natural -- to allow for its natural use
18 as per the decommissioning and reclamation plan.

19 Under other water licencing considerations, both
20 the Nunavut Water Board and Teck had asked Aboriginal
21 Affairs to comment on the end-of-mine life and the
22 potential to cancel a Type A Water Licence.
23 Ultimately, the minister of Aboriginal Affairs and
24 Northern Development will make a decision on the
25 cancellation of the licence as per the Nunavut Waters
26 and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act. By the end of

1 the proposed licence term that is before the Board,
2 which will take the -- the term will go to 2031, there
3 will have been approximately 25 years of post-closure
4 monitoring. It is our expectation that the process to
5 cancel the water licence will be very similar to the
6 current Type A Licence and will provide an opportunity
7 for the company and other interveners to present
8 evidence on the effectiveness of the decommissioning
9 and reclamation plan and to look at the monitoring.
10 Once we've finalized our policy, we will be making it
11 available to the Nunavut Water Board. It is still
12 being worked on internally.

13 So in conclusion, we had four recommendations. As
14 I said, one had to do with the proposed geotechnical
15 monitoring program. We were recommending that the
16 program, as proposed by Teck, be adopted with the
17 condition that more frequent geotechnical inspections
18 be required, should further subsidence occur. The
19 department is recommending that the proposed water
20 quality program should be adopted with the condition
21 that more frequent water quality monitoring being
22 required, should water licence parameters be exceeded
23 or indicate an upward trend. As I also mentioned, the
24 department and Teck have reached agreement that the
25 financial security should be reduced, and the amount
26 that we've agreed on is around \$1.5 million.

1 The department had recommended some form of
2 barrier or -- or -- around the areas that had
3 significant subsidence, and we have agreed with Teck
4 that the use of signage is the best option. And while
5 we know that wildlife can't read, we're hoping that,
6 from a public safety, if we put signs up there -- if
7 signs are put up there by Teck, it would just give
8 people a bit of a warning that there's some uneven
9 ground. And as I mentioned, we are looking at the
10 process and finalizing our internal policy for the
11 cancellation of a Type A Water Licence.

12 I would also like to let the community know that,
13 since the mine ceased operations, the department has
14 been actively inspecting the site. We have inspected
15 Polaris on a number of occasions, the most recent one
16 being in 2014. All of our inspection reports and
17 results of any samples we take and photographs we take
18 are submitted to the Water Board and posted on their
19 public registry that the Board has referred to. During
20 the course of this -- this process, we have engaged in
21 dialogue with Teck, and we're very satisfied with the
22 recommendations that we've been able to put forward.

23 And if you have any questions about my
24 presentation, I'd be happy to take them at this time.
25 Thank you.

26 THE CHAIR: Any questions, anybody? Any

1 questions to AANDC on their presentation?

2 Teck Resources Limited Questions Aboriginal Affairs and
3 Northern Development Canada

4 MR. DONALD: Bruce Donald from Teck. One
5 quick question as a way of just clarification. In your
6 summary, in Aboriginal Affairs' summary in talking
7 about signage, the bullet on the slide made it appear
8 like that was a recommendation that signage be put up,
9 but I don't believe that is our understanding. That's
10 if -- if we find that there is instability in the
11 future, that that would be one of the adaptive
12 management things that we would undertake at that time,
13 but it's not being -- my understanding is it's not
14 being asked for now by Aboriginal Affairs. And so I
15 just wanted to ask for a clarification on that. Thank
16 you.

17 MS. COSTELLO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Karen
18 Costello for Aboriginal Affairs. Yes, as per the text
19 on the slide, the use of signage is recommended, in the
20 event that areas of subsidence pose a risk to people.
21 So it is not recommended to occur at this time, but if
22 there is a significant risk that needs to be addressed,
23 that is what we're looking at for -- for signage. And
24 as I said, we know that wildlife can't read, but we
25 hope that people who are perhaps chasing the wildlife
26 can read it. Thank you.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Does that answer
2 your question?

3 MR. DONALD: Bruce Donald from Teck. Yes,
4 that was a satisfactory answer. Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Anybody else from
6 the public? Any questions?
7 Staff? Members? No?

8 MR. PAMEOLIK: No.

9 THE CHAIR: Okay. Before we proceed to
10 the closing statements of the interveners and the
11 applicant and the Board's concluding remarks and before
12 the close of the hearing record, I ask that any parties
13 having any motions or objections in relation to the
14 conclusion of the public hearing identify such motions
15 or objections now.

16 We'll turn now to the closing statements of the
17 community representatives from Grise Fiord or members
18 of the public from Resolute Bay; anybody who would like
19 to make closing statements.

20 Intervenors? Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
21 Development Canada?
22 Final Submissions by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
23 Development Canada

24 MS. COSTELLO: Thank you very much,
25 Mr. Chair. On behalf of Aboriginal Affairs and
26 Northern Development Canada, specifically Ian and

1 myself, I would like to express my thanks to the
2 Nunavut Water Board staff and their Board for their
3 attention to this file. Events like this appear to go
4 seamless, and that is because of the efforts of the --
5 that have been put in place to plan and prepare for
6 this. Thank you to Megan; thank you to Ben and
7 Susan -- did I get it right -- for doing the
8 interpretation, and, of course, the Pido crew for your
9 technical support on making sure that we -- despite
10 many times working with your equipment, we always learn
11 something new about how to work with it so we can hear.

12 This is my first trip to Resolute. While I would
13 have liked to have seen more, the sun was not willing,
14 at this time of the year, to stick its head out, but it
15 was -- it has truly been a pleasure to come here. This
16 has worked out to be an excellent venue, and our -- the
17 catering support we have received has made sure that we
18 haven't gone hungry.

19 The department has been actively engaged in this
20 water licence renewal and amendment process, and should
21 the Board issue a new licence, we will continue to be
22 engaged in reviewing monitoring reports and conducting
23 our own site inspections by our staff. We look forward
24 to continuing to work with the Water Board and Teck on
25 this file. Our thanks to Bruce at -- Bruce Donald at
26 Teck. Always been very open and quick to respond to

1 any of the issues that we have raised, either through
2 our reviews of licences or through our inspections, and
3 we appreciate that the -- that very much a cooperative
4 spirit and the spirit of collaboration and to helping
5 inform us. It makes our job a lot easier, and we look
6 forward to -- like I say, to continuing to work on this
7 file and as the Polaris site transitions into further
8 long-term monitoring. Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you. The applicant?

10 Final Submissions by Teck Resources Limited

11 MR. DONALD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Bruce
12 Donald from Teck. I'd like to thank the Board members
13 for their interest and their attention and to the staff
14 working with us, as we've gone through the application
15 process. We found that working with Environment
16 Canada, as well as with Aboriginal Affairs has been
17 open and cooperative, and we've had some good, frank
18 dialogue, and we've found that our -- our issues and
19 concerns were listened to; and as a result, I think
20 there was a good working relationship, and that's
21 really helped us get to this point where we have a
22 hearing where, really, there aren't any outstanding
23 issues. And I guess that's really what we -- where we
24 wanted to be when we came -- came into this.

25 And I'd also like to thank the residents from
26 Grise for coming over and listening to our

1 presentation. I've only been over to Grise once, and
2 that was two years ago when we -- we went over before
3 we made our application to visit the community and talk
4 with them before we made our submission. And we did a
5 similar thing in Resolute, and we've always made a
6 point of making sure there are residents from Resolute
7 that come along on our inspections so the community is
8 aware of what's going on at the site when we're over
9 there, and it's -- I think it's helped maintain a
10 positive relationship that's important to us in this
11 community. So I'd like to thank you for the process
12 and look forward to receiving a licence in the new
13 year. Thank you.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

15 Final Submissions by Nunavut Water Board

16 THE CHAIR: The Board would also like to
17 take this opportunity to thank the parties, especially
18 the applicant; the NWB staff and legal counsel; the
19 interveners, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
20 Development Canada and the community members from Grise
21 Fiord; the interpreters, Ben Kogvik and Susan
22 Salluviniq; court reporter, Katie McLeod; sound
23 technician from Pido Productions, Corey Francis; and,
24 of course, all the community members and Elders for
25 sharing their views, stories, and information with the
26 Panel and the participants in contributing to a

1 productive, respectful public hearing. Thanks also to
2 the Hamlet of Resolute Bay for your hospitality and
3 support during both the Board's planning of the public
4 hearing and over the course of planning for and
5 conducting this hearing.

6 As we are at the close of this hearing, I will
7 make some comments to let parties know what happens
8 next for the application. Although the public hearing
9 is completed, the NWB's work continues. First, I
10 advise all parties that the hearing record for the
11 renewal and amendment for Type A Water Licence
12 1AR-POL0311 submitted by Teck Resources Limited is now
13 closed. What this means is that, unless the Board
14 directs otherwise, no additional information will be
15 accepted on this application, prior to the Board making
16 a final decision on the application. The hearing
17 record will consist of all of the documentation filed
18 with us at the hearing, the oral evidence given in
19 these proceedings, and exhibits filed during the public
20 hearing. Within about 30 to 45 days from the close of
21 this hearing, the Panel will issue a decision report to
22 the minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
23 Development Canada regarding whether to issue a renewed
24 or amended Type A Licence to the applicant. If the
25 Board's decision is to recommend that a Type A Licence
26 be issued, the Board will also attach a copy of the

1 licence and the decision for the review of the
2 minister. The Board's reasons for decision attachments
3 will also be provided to distribution lists for the
4 file and will be publicly available from the NWB's
5 public registry as well. I would encourage anyone
6 interested in receiving a copy of the Board's reasons
7 for decision to get in touch with the Board and staff,
8 and make sure you are on the distribution list.

9 In closing, I would like to wish everyone a good
10 evening to all the visitors who have joined us for the
11 proceedings from elsewhere, I hope you enjoyed your
12 time spent in Resolute Bay and that you return home
13 safely. I want to -- I want to wish you a happy
14 holiday season. The hearing is now adjourned.

15 Please let us close the hearing the same way we
16 began; with a closing prayer.

17 (CLOSING PRAYER)

18 _____
19 PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED
20 _____

1 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPT:

2
3 I, Katie McLeod, certify that the foregoing pages
4 are a complete and accurate transcript of the
5 proceedings, taken down by me in shorthand and
6 transcribed from my shorthand notes to the best of my
7 skill and ability.

8 Dated at the City of Calgary, Province of Alberta,
9 this 10th day of December 2014.

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13 _____
14 Katie McLeod, CSR(A), RPR
15 Official Court Reporter
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EXHIBITS ENTERED

DECEMBER 4, 2014

PAGE NUMBER:

EXHIBIT 6 - Hard Copy PowerPoint 19

Presentation NWB Community Session

Presentation for Type A Licence

1AR-POL0311, Renewal Application Former

Polaris Mine (English)

EXHIBIT 7 - Hard Copy PowerPoint 19

Presentation NWB Community Session

Presentation for Type A Licence

1AR-POL0311, Renewal Application Former

Polaris Mine (Inuktitut)