



POLARIS MINE

DECOMMISSIONING AND RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES

QUARTERLY REPORTING – 2nd QUARTER 2003

SUBMITTED TO

THE NUNAVUT WATER BOARD

AND TO THE

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS CANADA

Date Submitted: August 28, 2003

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY IN INUKTITUT

Refer to Appendix A for an executive summary of plans, reports and studies conducted under this licence during the period April 1, 2003 to June 30, 2003 that has been translated into Inuktitut.

2. INTRODUCTION

This is the second formal Decommissioning and Reclamation report submitted in relation to the Polaris Mine's Decommissioning and Reclamation Plan ('Closure Plan') and in compliance of the new Water Licence NWB1POL0311 issued on April 24, 2003 with an effective date of March 1, 2003.

The Polaris Closure Plan dated March 2001 received its initial conditional approval April 15, 2002. The Closure Plan was jointly conditionally approved by the Nunavut Water Board ('NWB') and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada ('INAC'). The Closure Plan has subsequently received further approvals. The approvals contain reporting requirements and this document has been prepared to consolidate all of the reporting requirements into one document. This report is being submitted to both NWB and INAC on a quarterly basis with an annual report completed by March 31st of the subsequent year.

3. STATUS OF AUTHORIZATIONS AND/OR APPROVALS

As of June 30, 2003, the status of project approvals were as follows:

1. Closure Plan
 - a. The terrestrial portions of the Closure Plan were approved as of April 2002
 - b. The approval of the proposal for decommissioning the Frustration Lake Freshwater System was outstanding. Under review by the NWB and INAC.
 - c. The approval for the decommissioning of Garrow Lake dam by the NWB, INAC and DFO was outstanding.
 - d. The application for the decommissioning of the marine dock and adjacent shoreline by the NWB, INAC and DFO was outstanding.
2. Polaris Water Licence Application
 - a. Polaris Mine received its new Water Licence NWB1POL0311 issued in April 2003 and effective as of March 1, 2003.
3. NIRB Screening of the Project
 - a. The NIRB screening report for the project was reviewed by the Ministers of DFO and Indian Affairs and Northern Development ('DIAND'). On June 13th, 2003 the Ministers issued a letter stating that they were in agreement with the NIRB screening report and no further reviews of the project were required.
4. Application for an Authorization under the Fisheries Act to decommission Garrow Lake dam and to decommission the marine dock was submitted to DFO in October 2001. Approval of the application was pending at the end of the period.
5. Melt Water Disposal Authorization

- a. On March 30th, 2003 Teck Cominco applied for authorization to dispose of site melt water by pumping it into the underground mine workings. On June 5, 2003 the NWB and INAC jointly approved Teck Cominco's request.
6. Landfill Operating Protocols
 - a. On May 29, 2003 the NWB granted approval for the Landfill Operating Protocols submitted by Teck Cominco.

4. UNAUTHORIZED DISCHARGES AND SUMMARY OF FOLLOW UP ACTIONS

There were no unauthorized discharges of water or effluent during the 2nd Quarter of 2003.

5. PROGRESS REPORT OF STUDIES / PLANS REQUESTED

There were no reports requested by the NWB related to Polaris's Water Licence during the 2nd Quarter of 2003.

The Closure Plan requires submission of the following plans and/or reports:

1. Certified landfill cover design specifications and plans – the design work was completed at the end of the quarter but not submitted.
2. Certified design drawings and specifications for Garrow Lake Dam Decommissioning – the design work were complete at the end of the quarter but not submitted.
3. Certified specifications and design drawings for Sealing Mine Entrances – were commissioned but not complete at the end of the period.
4. Certified specifications and design drawings for Decommissioning the marine dock and adjacent shoreline – design work complete at the end of the period but not submitted.
5. Submission of Overall Schedule for the Closure Plan – Included in the March 2001 Closure Plan and an update of the schedule is attached in Appendix B of this report.

6. DECOMMISSIONING AND RECLAMATION PROGRESS REPORT

Manpower levels increased substantially during the period as the return of daylight and warmer weather permitted more outside activities. Manpower at began the period at 39 and increase steadily and by the end of the reporting period there were 126 people on site.

6.1. Earthworks

6.1.1. Dock and Shoreline

- o Removal of the ship loader was completed.
- o Glycol freeze pipes in dock cells 1 & 2 have been drained and removed.
- o Glycol freeze pipes in dock cells 3 & 4 have been drained but the pipes remain in place.
- o Excavation of clean fill above high tide level was initiated during the period in cells 1 & 2 (after removal of overlying metals contaminated fill).

6.1.2. Garrow Lake Dam

- o Siphons were installed at the dam in preparation for siphoning water from Garrow Lake. There was no discharge from the lake during the period.

6.1.3. Operational Landfill

- Drilling and blasting of cover cap material in the New Quarry was undertaken during the period.
- Hauling and placing of the initial lifts of the cap material were underway at the end of the period.

6.1.4. Little Red Dog Quarry Landfill

- Refuse placement continued during the period. Refer to Section 12.1 of this report for additional information.
- Began construction of first lift of fill in LRD.

6.1.5. Exploration Waste Stockpile

- Prior to closure of the mine, Operations initiated the removal of the waste rock stockpile adjacent to the Exploration Portal. The waste pile contains metal sulphides.
- During the period delineation sampling was underway to define remaining sulphide contamination to be targeted for remediation.

6.2. Building Demolition

6.2.1. Mill / Offices / Warehouse Facilities on the Barge

- Shutdown operation of the primary powerhouse located on the barge and relocated electrical generating services to the Cat building adjacent to the barge.
- Completed bypassing of other services from the barge to facilitate demolition.
- Removal of interior structure and equipment was completed during the period.
- Removal of siding from the barge was completed during the period.
- Removal of the superstructure of the barge was partially complete at the end of the period.
- Completed draining fuel and glycol from the barge facilities.
- Cleaning of the hull fuel tanks was in progress at the end of the period.
- The contractor estimates that 75% of the barge has been demolished by the end of the period.
- Water run off diversion ditches were established and/or upgraded during the period. Melt water disposal into the mine was initiated.

6.2.2. Product Storage Building

- Approximately 60% of the siding accessible by equipment has been removed.
- Foundations have been exposed.
- Bin walls have been removed.
- Loadout pockets have been removed.
- The contractor estimates that 35% of the building demolition has been completed at the end of the period.

6.2.3. Thickener Building

- Attempts at removal of the earthen foundation indicated that additional thaw time required.
- Foundation removal is estimated to be 50% complete.

6.2.4. CRF Building

- Removed concrete floor slab.
- Remediation of hydrocarbon contaminated soils was completed.
- Demolition work in the area is now complete.

- General site grading of the area remains to be completed.
- 6.2.5. Accommodations Building**
 - No demolition as in active use.
- 6.2.6. Other Buildings / Structures**
 - Nothing to report.
- 6.3. Contaminated Soil Remediation**
 - 6.3.1. Marine Dock and Adjacent Foreshore**
 - Environmental sampling for glycol and metals contamination in the dock area was conducted during the period. No evidence of glycol contamination was found. Metals contamination was further delineated in preparation for excavation and disposal.
 - Removal of metals contaminated soils in the dock area was completed during the period.
 - In June, unexpected hydrocarbons (diesel fuel) were discovered in the dock cells 1 & 2. Delineation of the extent of contamination was underway at month end.
 - 6.3.2. Fuel Bladder Storage Area**
 - Conducted extensive hydrocarbon delineation activities to better define boundaries of the known hydrocarbon contamination.
 - The hydrocarbon contaminated soils were excavated and placed underground in the mine in accordance with the Closure Plan.
 - Excavation of hydrocarbon contaminated soils was almost complete at the end of the period. Only minor quantities of soil remain to be excavated.
 - Approximately 12,000 cu. m. were excavated close to originally forecast volumes.
 - 6.3.3. Marine Foreshore – June 2002 Oil Spill**
 - Removal of residual hydrocarbon contaminated soils on the foreshore from the June 2002 oil spill was completed.
 - Contaminated soils were placed underground in the mine.
- 6.4. General Site Cleanup**
 - Removing materials / containers from the general barge and Product Storage building in preparation for soils excavation.
- 6.5. Other Site Activities**
 - Approximately 50,000 liters of glycol and waste fuels have been incinerated to-date through the incinerator installed at the site.
 - Setting up #1 & 2 foldaways as temporary shop facilities as the permanent shop located in the barge is being prepared for demolition.

7. UPDATE OF DECOMMISSIONING AND RECLAMATION SCHEDULE

Appendix B contains an updated decommissioning schedule current as of June 30, 2003. The source of the data for the schedule is primarily from our demolition contractor. There are some revisions to the near term portions of the schedule due to more detailed planning. The project is still forecast to be completed by the end of September of 2004.

8. UPDATE OF ESTIMATED MINE DECOMMISSIONING, RECLAMATION AND MONITORING COSTS

Appendix C contains the detailed estimate of Mine Closure Costs updated as of June 30, 2003 in accordance with Part B, Item 3 or Part G, Item 21 and forecasts of cost to the end of 2011.

In summary, total Mine Closure Costs to June 30, 2003 were \$24,539,792. Estimated cost to complete decommissioning, reclamation and monitoring through to 2011 have increased to \$53,860,906.

9. PUBLIC CONSULTATION / PARTICIPATION

No public consultation occurred during the period.

10. SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN RESPONSE TO INSPECTION/COMPLIANCE REPORTS

There was not work required to be done in response to inspection/compliance reports.

11. FRESHWATER WATER USE

Freshwater use from Frustration Lake for all uses during the 2nd Quarter of 2003 was:

April 2003	15,855 cu. M.
May 2003	9,521 cu. M.
June 2003	<u>3,712 cu. M.</u>
Total 2 nd Quarter	29,088 cu. M.
Total 1 st Quarter	<u>56,927 cu. M.</u>
Total June 30 YTD	86,015 cu. M.

12. Physical Monitoring of Site

12.1. Placement of Demolition Debris into Landfills

The approval letter for Landfill protocols requires us to report with record of materials (preferably in digital form). Refer to Appendix D for a listing of demolition debris transported to LRD pit during the quarter and a drawing of disposal locations and a photographic log of the work during the period.

12.2. Placement of Metals / Hydrocarbon Contaminated Wastes Underground in the Mine

Excavation of contaminated soils in the Bladder Spill area identified in the Closure Plan was the focus of earth work activity in April and May. During the period approximately 13,300 cu. m. of hydrocarbon contaminated soils were disposed of in the mine. The mine workings were coated with water prior to disposal of the hydrocarbon materials. In June, excavation of metals contaminated soils from the surface of the dock area was initiated. Approximately 15,200 cu. m. of metals contaminated soils were disposed of in the mine during the period. The volumes reported are approximate as they are based on truck counts. As remediation of areas

is completed, the areas will be surveyed to provide accurate volumes. Appendix E contains a series of drawings of the each mine level where materials have been placed. These drawings are dated August 22, 2003 and so indicate more recent data than the end of the period. The drawings also indicate the locations that other material types are stored in the mine workings such as tailings lines (refer to 960 Level drawing) which the Closure Plan specified would be disposed of in the mine.

12.3. Thermistors Data

12.3.1. Garrow Dam

Garrow Lake dam has three sets of thermistors that are recorded on a monthly basis. This will continue until Garrow Lake has been lowered to its original elevation. This data is reported in Appendix F.

12.3.2. Operational Landfill

The Operational Landfill currently has four thermistors in operation and actively monitored. The Closure Plan indicates that a minimum of three will be maintained to confirm that freezing of the landfill has occurred.
Refer to Appendix F for Data

12.3.3. Little Red Dog Quarry Landfill

Heavy metal pipes have been installed in the pit bottom and will remain in place during the filling of Little Red Dog Quarry. Once placing of the debris is complete and the pipes are extended to their final elevation, thermistor strings will not be installed in the pipes. No thermistor readings will be available until that time as indicated in the approved monitoring plans.

13. GARROW LAKE STRATIGRAPHIC MONITORING

There was no monitoring of Garrow Lake required in the 2nd Quarter of 2003.

14. SUMMARY OF EFFLUENT MONITORING AND EFFLUENT CHARACTERIZATION

Appendix G contains the effluent monitoring results as required in Part H in the form set out in Schedule 6 of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations.

15. OTHER DETAILS RELATED TO WATER USE OR WASTE DISPOSAL REQUESTED

Melt water was disposed of in the underground workings during June. The disposal location is shown on the 980 Level drawing enclosed in Appendix E.

APPENDIX A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY IN INUKTITUT

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APPENDIX B

UPDATE OF

DECOMMISSIONING AND RECLAMATION SCHEDULE

POLARIS MINE - DECOMMISSIONING & RECLAMATION SCHEDULE

UPDATED AS OF JUNE 30, 2003

ACTIVITY	Prior To Period	2nd Qtr. 2003			3rd Qtr. 2003			4th Qtr. 2003			1st Qtr. 2004			2nd Qtr. 2004			3rd Qtr. 2004		
		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
CONTRACTOR MOBILIZATION																			
Pre-mobilization Planning / Order Materials/Equip																			
Ship to Site with Contractor Equipment																			
Offload Ship																			
Setup Warehousing/Laydown Area																			
SETUP TEMPORARY FACILITIES																			
DECOMMISSIONING UNDERGROUND																			
Remove / Salvage Mine Equipment & Crusher																			
Remove Refrigeration Plant																			
Remove Surface Ventilation Fans																			
Seal Mine Openings																			
MILL / BARGE DEMOLITION																			
Initial Cleanup of Barge by Teck Cominco																			
Removal of Barge Services																			
Transfer fuel to Tank Farm & Clean Hull																			
Remove hazardous Materials / Wastes																			
Remove / Salvage Process Equipment																			
Demolish Internal Equipment																			
Demolish Structure																			
Remove Hydrocarbon/Metals Contaminated Soils																			
Regrade Area Surrounding Barge																			
PRODUCT STORAGE BUILDING DEMOLITION																			
Cleanup of Building / Remove Liquids from Equip.																			
Demolish Exterior Conveyors																			
Demolish Reclaim Conveyors																			
Remove Cladding from Building																			
Demolish Structure																			
Demolish Foundations																			
Remove Contaminated Soils																			
Regrading Area																			

POLARIS MINE - DECOMMISSIONING & RECLAMATION SCHEDULE

UPDATED AS OF JUNE 30, 2003

ACTIVITY	Prior To Period	2nd Qtr. 2003			3rd Qtr. 2003			4th Qtr. 2003			1st Qtr. 2004			2nd Qtr. 2004			3rd Qtr. 2004		
		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
SHIP LOADER / RECLAIM CONVEYOR DEMOL.																			
Cleanup of Conveyor Areas/Remove Oils																			
Demolish Conveyors																			
DOCK DECOMMISSIONING																			
Inspect / Remove Glycols from Freeze Pipes																			
Remove Metals Contaminated Soils																			
Remove Cells 1 & 2																			
Remove Cells 3 & 4																			
Removal of Temporary Dock																			
Shoreline Recontouring																			
Berm Removal																			
Grade New Beach to Final Profiles																			
TAILINGS SYSTEM DEMOLITION																			
Final Cleanup of Thickener																			
Flush Tails Lines																			
Salvage Equipment																			
Remove hazardous Materials / Wastes																			
Remove Tails Line / Return Line																			
Demolish Equipment																			
Demolish Structure																			
Remove Foundations																			
Remove Contaminated Soils																			
Regrading																			
GARROW LAKE / DAM DECOMMISSIONING																			
Drawdown Lake																			
Removal of Centre Section of Dam																			
Creek Channel Construction																			
Final Grading / Armouring of Dam Remnants																			
CRF PLANT DEMOLITION																			
Final Cleanup of Plant																			
Remove hazardous Materials / Wastes																			
Demolish Plant Equipment																			
Demolish Buildings																			
Site Grading (Plant & Surrounding Area)																			

POLARIS MINE - DECOMMISSIONING & RECLAMATION SCHEDULE

UPDATED AS OF JUNE 30, 2003

ACTIVITY	Prior To Period	2nd Qtr. 2003			3rd Qtr. 2003			4th Qtr. 2003			1st Qtr. 2004			2nd Qtr. 2004			3rd Qtr. 2004		
		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
ACCOMMODATIONS COMPLEX DEMOLITION																			
Establish Temporary Offices / Building Services																			
Use Accommodations Complex																			
Establish Temporary Camp Accommodations																			
Use Temporary Camp																			
Remove hazardous Materials / Wastes																			
Demolish Buildings																			
Regrade Area																			
Remove Temporary Camp																			
FUEL STORAGE (TANK FARM) DEMOLITION																			
Temporary Modifications																			
Transfer Fuel to Temporary Storage																			
Cleaning of Tanks / Piping																			
Demolish Tanks / Piping																			
Cleanup of Berm & Liner																			
Site Grading																			
BLADDER AREA CONTAMINATED SOILS																			
Cleanup of Hydrocarbon Soils																			
Area Grading																			
MISC. BUILDING DEMOLITION																			
Exploration Quonset Huts																			
Core Shack (Atco Trailer)																			
Emergency Shelter at North Portal																			
Steam Wash Bay & Tire Shop																			
Generator Building																			
Bent Horn Building																			
Dock Office Trailer																			
Airstrip Storage Hut																			
Fresh Water Pump House																			
Fresh Water Tank & Shed																			
Carpenter Shop																			
Shipping Containers (Sea Cans)																			
Foldaways by Temporary Dock (3)																			
Firehall																			

POLARIS MINE - DECOMMISSIONING & RECLAMATION SCHEDULE
UPDATED AS OF JUNE 30, 2003

ACTIVITY	Prior To Period	2nd Qtr. 2003			3rd Qtr. 2003			4th Qtr. 2003			1st Qtr. 2004			2nd Qtr. 2004			3rd Qtr. 2004		
		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
OPERATIONAL LANDFILL CLOSURE																			
Relocate Construction Landfill																			
Hauling Landfill Cover Cap Material																			
LRD QUARRY Landfill																			
Cut Notch into Quarry / Construct Haul Road																			
Installation of Thermistor Pipe Stands																			
Placing debris in Quarry																			
Grading of Notch to Match Cap																			
Placement of Cap and Final Grading																			
Installation of Thermistors into Pipes																			
MISC. SITE RECLAMATION & EARTHWORKS																			
Reduction in spare parts/supplies by TCML																			
Ship Mill Process Chemicals South for Sale/Recycle																			
Site Cleanup of scrap material during operations																			
Regrading North 40 Area																			
Grading of Reclamation Landfill Area																			
Road Closure / Culvert Removals/Runway																			
DEMOBILIZE FROM SITE																			
Prepare Equipment / Supplies for shipping from site																			
Prepare Residual Chemicals / Wastes for shipping																			
Last Ship from Polaris																			