



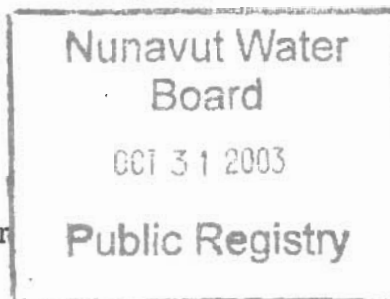
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Nunavut Regional Office
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October 31, 2003

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Senior Technical Advisor
Nunavut Water Board
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Your file - Votre référence
NWB1POL0311
Our file - Notre référence

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Via facsimile

Re: Polaris Mine 1st and 2nd Quarter Reports

On behalf of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), I am pleased to be able to provide comment on the Polaris 1st and 2nd Quarter Report, submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) by Teck Cominco Ltd., on September 3, 2003.

The Plan was submitted in concordance with water license NWB1POL0311. Following a review of the submitted documents, we are pleased to provide the following comments:

1. The water drawn from Frustration Lake in the first two quarters, 86 015 cu. M identified in Section 11 of the 2nd Quarter Report, is well within the 250 000 per annum permitted by Part C, Item 2 in the current water licence.
2. There were no unauthorized discharges of water or effluent during wither the first or second quarters (Section 4). The site of a hydrocarbon spill in the 1st quarter has been identified for remediation.
3. There was no effluent discharge over the Garrow Lake Dam in either the 1st or 2nd quarters, and MMER monitoring requirements were met.
4. Stratigraphic monitoring occurred in the 1st but not 2nd quarter. It is anticipated that stratigraphic monitoring will occur in the 3rd quarter, prior to freeze up, as set out in Table 1 of the current water licence.

With respect to water use and wastewater production, therefore, there were no new items of concern identified in the Polaris 1st or 2nd Quarter Decommissioning and Reclamation Reports.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any further questions or concerns.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Hawkins', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephanie Hawkins

Qikiqtani Regional Coordinator, Water Resources
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