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By Licensing Administrative Assistant at 11:32 am, Sep 14, 2011

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Submitted by email. Paper copy to follow by mail

September 12, 2011

Nunavut Water Board
Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU
X0B 0J0

Attention: Phyllis Beaulieu, Manager of Licensing

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
P.O. Box 100
Building 918
Iqaluit, Nunavut
X0A 0H0

Attention: Jeff Mercer, Manager, Lands Administration

Dear Ms. Beaulieu and Mr. Mercer;

Re: Polaris Mine – 2011 1st and 2nd Decommissioning and Reclamation Monitoring Report (Water Licence #NWB1POL0311)

During the 1st quarter of 2011, the Polaris Mine site was unoccupied as normal due to winter weather conditions. The mid-winter sampling of Garrow Lake was not done as it is not possible to safely travel and work at the site under these conditions.

For the first time since 2004 during the post-reclamation monitoring program, the 2nd quarter sampling event for Garrow Lake was not completed as required in the water licence. The 2nd quarter sampling is intended to occur during maximum ice thickness conditions on Garrow Lake. This work is typically timed for mid to late May when weather conditions are favorable but before the ice begins to thin. For example, last year in late May, the ice on Garrow Lake was approximately just under 4 metres thick when the 2010 2nd quarter sampling event was conducted. This year, sampling supplies were shipped to Resolute Bay in late April as planned by the Vancouver based laboratory. This is normally more than adequate time to transport materials to Resolute Bay, even allowing for the normal shipping delays expected when working in the North. However, this year the courier company did not properly identify and package the sample preservatives which are hazardous materials. The shipment got as far as Iqaluit before the packaging/manifesting problem was identified by the carrier and the shipment was held there. Despite repeated attempts to sort this out, it took several additional weeks before the shipment finally got to Resolute Bay. The shipment did not arrive in time for the planned sampling event and so the sampling event was rescheduled.

To conduct the Garrow Lake maximum ice thickness sampling, we contract an operator based in Resolute who is experienced operating the hydraulic drill that is mounted on a Skidozer at

Polaris. The Skidozer drills through the ice with a large enough diameter hole to accommodate the sampling equipment. By the time the previously discussed delayed sampling supplies arrived in Resolute Bay, the equipment operator had left on his scheduled rest rotation to southern Canada for a month. Once he returned to Resolute, we had an environmental technician to travel from southern Canada to Resolute Bay to do the sampling. Upon the technician's arrival, we were informed that the equipment operator's company would not allow him to travel to the Polaris Mine site as they had other priority work that was behind schedule. This unexpected event left us stuck with no trained operator for the drill. As it was now early June, and with the warmer spring weather it was too late to reschedule the work again as surface ice conditions were starting to deteriorate. As a consequence despite our best efforts, the maximum ice thickness sampling was not done.

If there are any questions with regard to this report, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,



Bruce Donald
Manager, Dormant Properties
Environment and Corporate Affairs
Teck Resources Limited

Attachments: Letter translated into Inuktitut.

CC: Ian Parsons, INAC

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