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Nunavut Regional Office
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October 30, 2003

Phyllis Beaulieu
Licencing Administrator
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0E 1J0



Your file - Votre référence
NWB1POL0311
Our file - Notre référence

Via facsimile

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Re: Polaris Decommissioning and Reclamation Plan - Request for Modification of Haulage Location

On behalf of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), I am pleased to have had the opportunity to review the October 15, 2003, Teck Cominco request for the modification of the haulage location for dam core material removed during the Garrow Lake Dam (GLD) decommissioning.

The core material cited in the application was interpreted to refer only to the frozen core of the dam, to the exemption of other dam construction materials including styrofoam or the surrounding shell material. If this is not the case and these additional components are to be included in the materials deposited in the barge void, it is requested that the application be revised to represent this inclusion.

The frozen dam core is identified as consisting of crushed shale. Section 5.1.6 of the Polaris and Decommissioning and Reclamation Plan (DRP) identifies shale as containing comparatively high concentrations of metals and sulphate. It is requested that, prior to deposition in the barge void, samples of the dam core be assessed for metals concentrations, acid rock drainage and metal leaching potential, and residuals contamination resulting from dam removal processes. Deposition of these materials into the barge void should proceed only when it can be clearly ascertained that such deposition will not represent the creation of an area of unacceptable contamination or potential contamination.

It is further requested that GLD core material be transported and deposited in a manner that precludes the migration of solids, including those currently suspended in the ice matrix, from entering any surrounding water body under either thawed or frozen conditions. Similar protective measures should be applied to solids generated during dam removal.

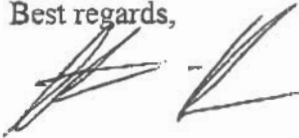
With the exception of the items identified above requiring attention prior to core disposal, it is not expected that the proposed alteration in haulage location will otherwise

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pose an increased risk to surrounding freshwater systems. It is therefore requested that the supporting documentation regarding the chemical and physical composition, location of final deposit in the barge void, and potential for material mobility be provided prior to the commencement of the proposed activity.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if **you** have 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

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