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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD

NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI

File: NWB1POL0311/TR/E1

December 22, 2003

By Email and regular mail

Mr. John Knapp
Site Manager
Teck Cominco Ltd., Polaris Operations
P.O. Box 188
Resolute Bay, NU
X0A 0E0

Subject: Review of Spill Contingency Plan for Polaris Mine

Dear Mr. Knapp,

The Nunavut Water Board ("NWB") and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development ("DIAND") have reviewed the above-cited submission, dated May 20, 2003 (revised December, 2003) from TeckCominco Limited ("the Licensee"). Following a public review of the submission, comments were received from Environment Canada & BGC Engineering. Those submissions are available on the NWB's FTP site at:

<http://ftp.nunavut.ca/nwb/NWB1%20MINING/NWB1POL0311%20Polaris/Polaris%20Spill%20Plan/>

The NWB and DIAND conditionally accept the Licensee's Spill Contingency Plan for the Polaris Mine ("Plan") provided that the following terms and conditions are met:

1. The Licensee should update its spill response equipment inventory regularly and report upon any changes.
2. The Licensee should, as is pursuant to Part E, Item 1(v), describe what specific spill response training activities, including stated simulation programs, have taken place to date during the decommissioning and closure program.
3. The Licensee should provide an inventory of the approximate current volumes of hydrocarbons and other chemicals kept at the mine site that may constitute a significant spill risk.

The Licensee must address the above-cited issues in an addendum to the original Plan

which is required under Part E, Items 2 and 3 of the Licence. This addendum is required to be filed with the Annual Report, due March 31st, 2004, pursuant to Part B, Item 6(ii) of the Licence.

Any questions can be directed to the undersigned at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Dionne Filiatrault
Senior Technical Advisor
Nunavut Water Board

c.c. Polaris Distribution List

Original signed by:

Carl McLean
Manager, Land Administration
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada