



Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

Affaires indiennes
et du Nord Canada



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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI

March 4, 2002

One Page by Telecopier and Email

Mr. Bruce Donald
Reclamation Manager
Environment and Corporate Affairs
Teck Cominco Ltd.

Subject: Polaris Mine – Decommissioning and Reclamation Plan

Dear Mr. Donald:

On February 1, 2002 the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs (DIAND) wrote to all parties listed on our distribution list asking them whether, in their opinion, TeckCominco had provided a satisfactory response to their respective comments. Generally, parties who have replied to our request are satisfied with Teck Cominco's response to their comments. However, we have been advised by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) that the application for an authorization under the *Fisheries Act* for the decommissioning of Garrow Lake and the dock area, which is presently being screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), is still pending and will not be approved by DFO within the timeframe envisaged by DIAND and the NWB.

We have now reviewed all submissions and are ready to proceed with the joint approval of the proposed Decommissioning Plan, with the exception of the reclamation/decommissioning of Garrow Lake and the dock area that are the object of a *Fisheries Act* authorization. Our formal approval should be completed by April 15, 2002. With respect to the components of the Plan subject to the DFO authorization, the NWB and DIAND expect to issue their respective approval after DFO completes its review and approval process. This letter represents approval in principle of the A & R plan subject to the terms and conditions contained in our final review and formal approval and excluding those aspects that require authorization under the Fisheries Act.

All questions regarding the above shall be made in writing to the attention of the undersigned.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Philippe di Pizzo (pdipizzo@polarnet.ca)
Executive Director
Nunavut Water Board

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Carl McLean (mcleanc@inac.gc.ca)
Manager, Land Administration
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c.c. Distribution List

Polaris Decommissioning Distribution List – March 4, 2002

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