Nunavut Water Board

Notes of Site Visit
Cullaton Lake Property, Nunavut
August 24, 2001

September, 2001

P13808.01

Acres International Limited
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Table of Contents

1 Introduction

A site visit to the Cullaton Lake property was carried out on August 24, 2001 by Mr. Ramli Halim, P.Eng. Mr. Halim is a senior geotechnical engineer at Acres International Limited (Acres),Winnipeg, Manitoba, and a consultant to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB). The visit to the mine was authorized by the NWB through Ms. Dionne Filiatrault, P.Eng, the technical advisor for the NWB. The Cullaton Lake property is currently owned by Homestake Canada Inc. (Homestake), and has been undergoing site reclamation and restoration work since 1985. The purpose of the site visit was to review the site conditions at the property, and to observe Homestake's activities at the site. The Cullaton Lake property is regulated by NWB under the conditions of Water Licence No. NWB1CUL9902, which was issued on September 1, 1999 and expires on October 31, 2002.

The site visit was conducted with Mr. Vernon Betts, Manager of Environmental, Health and Safety for Homestake. Mr Betts made the arrangement for the air charter from Thompson, Manitoba to the site. He was conducting what he described as the final inspection for Homestake's reclamation activities at the site. This report summarizes the observations and comments made during the site visit.

2 Daily Log of Activities

2.1 Friday, August 24, 2001

< Travelled in the afternoon by commercial air carrier (Calm Air) from Winnipeg to Thompson, Manitoba. Met Mr. Betts at the airport. He was on his transit flight from Vancouver, B.C. The flight to Thompson was delayed for an hour due to bad weather. Arrived in Thompson approximately at 21:30h. Overnight in Thompson.

2.2 Saturday, August 25, 2001

< Flew with Mr. Betts on a Calm Air charter flight from Thompson to Cullaton Lake, Nunavut at 07:50h. The flight was arranged by Mr. Betts, and utilized a Cessna single engine Grand Caravan aircraft. Arrived at the site at approximately 09:20h.

< Conducted site visit until 14:30h. The weather at the site was mainly sunny, no rainfall, approximately 15 EC.

< Took off at 14:50h and returned to Thompson. Arrived at Thompson at approximately 17:10h. Overnight in Thompson.

2.3 Sunday, August 26, 2001

< Departed Thompson by commercial air carrier (Calm Air) in the morning for a return flight to Winnipeg.

< Arrived Winnipeg at about 13:00h. End of the trip.

Note: All times are Winnipeg time, which follows the Central Daylight Saving Time.

3 Observations

3.1 Background Information

The Cullaton Lake property is located in the southern part of the District of Keewatin in the Nunavut Territory, at 61E16' N latitude and 98E30' longitude. The property is located approximately 250 km west of Arviat, NT, 400 km northwest of Churchill, Manitoba and 600 km north of Thompson, Manitoba (see Figure 1). Cullaton Lake is a former underground gold mine, which ceased operation in September 1985. Access to the site is by helicopter or fixed wing airplanes. A 4400 ft long gravel airstrip is located at the north end of the property, and to the south of Cullaton Lake.

The Cullaton Lake area lies within the Churchill Structural province of the Canadian Shield. The mine was partially developed in 1975 by O'Brien Gold Mines. Further exploration work was carried out in 1980, resulting in the decision to develop the mine. The gold mine was in operation for four years between 1981 an 1985, and produced about 100,000 ounces of gold. The ore body is located in two ore zones : B-zone ore, and Shear Lake ore. The B- zone ore is located between Cullaton Lake to the north, and Kognak River to the south. It is located approximately 6 km south of the air strip. The shear lake ore is located adjacent to Shear Lake, approximately 4 km north of B-zone ore and 2 km south of the air strip.

The property lies in the zone of discontinuous permafrost. The landscape is generally flat, barren, and with no visible mountains or major hills. It only contains minor undulations and some rocky outcrops.

The hummocky terrain consists of either bedrock covered with shallow surficial soils, or a bouldery glacial till cover with localized shallow soil deposits. The climate is characterized by low temperatures, low precipitation, strong winds and a short growing season. The landscape is generally devoid of trees, except in the vicinity of the lakes and Kognak river. In these areas, a stunted growth of black spruce and willows exist.

3.2 Visited Areas of the Property

A map of the Cullaton Lake property and its surrounding area is shown in Figure 2. The visited areas are broken down into the following areas :

The Airstrip Area
The airstrip is located southwest of Cullaton Lake. It is a gravel air strip, which is oriented in a west to east direction. Gravel stockpiles, as well as open areas where the fuel storage tanks used to be located, are located to the south of the runway. An old site drawing (c. 1975-1980) shows an old camp to the northwest of the airstrip and near the shoreline of Cullaton Lake. At one time, the camp was connected to the air strip with a gravel road or trail.

The Shear Lake Area
The Shear Lake is located approximately 2 km south of the airstrip and 4 km north of the B-zone mine complex. Homestake set up a camp in this area in June 2001 for use during the reclamation work. Shear Lake is the location of the gold mine portal into the Shear Lake ore zone. The lake is approximately 500m long and 120m wide. The water from the lake drains in an easterly direction via a creek which exits the midpoint of the lake. The creek passes through a series of other small lakes, before its water eventually drains into the Kognak River.

The B-Zone Mine and Mill Complex
The main mine and mill complex is located between the Kognak River and Cullaton Lake. The gold mine started operations in this area in 1975, with the development of a 110m decline. The ore deposit in this area was identified as the B-zone ore deposit. The mine and mill complex also included two tailings ponds, identified as Tailings Pond No. 1, and Tailings Pond No. 2. Tailings Pond No. 2 acts as a polishing pond, before discharging water to the surrounding swamps. A quarry pit was located to the south of Tailings Pond No. 1.

Kognak River
Kognak River is located approximately 2km south of the main mill complex. The river flows in an easterly direction and drains into Hudson Bay. South of the main mine and mill complex, the river widens after passing through a constriction area and some water rapids. A pump house and a water intake structure used to be located at the Kognak river, with water pipelines running northerly from the river to the mill site. An old exploration camp is located to the west of the pump house area, and just to the north of the rapids.

3.3 Discussions

3.3.1 The Airstrip Area

Photographs which were taken in the airstrip area are presented in Appendix A (Photos 1 to 9 inclusive). Part of the airstrip is located directly south of Cullaton Lake, approximately 400m from the lake (Photo 1). The airstrip itself appears to be in good condition. At the time of the site visit, it was observed that the airstrip was not equipped with a windsock or runway lights. It is understood that when the mine is finally abandoned, the airstrip will be left in its present condition.

A former work area exists to the south to southwest of the airstrip. This area was used for storage of supplies and materials, during loading and unloading of the airplanes. A HS 748 turboprop airplane had landed at the site earlier in the day of the site visit. Old or used tires from some heavy construction equipment, which had been left at the site, were loaded into the airplane. The airplane left Cullaton Lake for Churchill, Manitoba a few hours later.

Numerous water puddles were observed in the work area (Photos 5 to 8) at the time of the site visit. Mr. Bill Millward, Homestake's site manager who is responsible for the camp and reclamation work at the site, indicated that there had been a few rainfalls in the days prior to the site visit. Granular stockpiles (Photo 9), and a small pit filled with water were also observed along the south end of the work area.

A shack and some piles of wood are located to the southwest of the airstrip, and along the side of the access road to the mine (Photo 5). Mr. Betts mentioned that the shack and the wood will be left at the site for the use of local hunters and trappers, and could also be used as an emergency shelter.

In general, the airstrip has been cleared of any structures, waste materials, scrap metals, etc. Once the camp supplies and other items which were stored in the work area are removed, there will be no other structures/materials left in this area, except for the airstrip, the shack and the piles of wood. It is understood that the small pit adjacent to the granular stockpiles will be used to bury items during the final phases of the cleanup, and prior to completion of the reclamation work.

3.3.2 Shear Lake Area

Photographs which were taken in the Shear Lake area are presented in Appendix A (Photos 10 to 36 inclusive). The photographs depict conditions at Homestake's temporary campsite, the Shear Lake area, and the waste rock stockpile areas. Photos 10 and 11 show aerial views of the site. The access road which runs from the airstrip to the main B-zone mine/mill complex passes through an area located to the east of the lake.

Camp Site

Homestake's camp site for the 2001 reclamation work was located at the north end of Shear Lake, and along the west side of the access road. The camp consisted of 5 tents for living quarters and 4 service tents (one each for dining room, kitchen, laundry/bathroom and recreation facilities). In addition, four steel containers for refrigerated food storage, water purification and a diesel generator, as well as 4 portable toilets were observed at the back of the camp site (Photos 12 and 13).

Mr. Millward provided the following information related to the camp's operation :

- The camp was set up in mid June 2001. It is suitable for up to 30 persons. At the time of the site visit, there were approximately 18 persons living in the camp.
- Construction equipment consisted of : 2 Volvo A25 trucks, 1 CAT D6B dozer, 2 CAT 315B excavators, 1 forklift loader, 1 man handler forklift, 2 F350 Ford pick-up trucks, and 1 service truck. All of the heavy equipment and transport vehicles were brought to the side using Hercules air transports.
- The main construction activities at the site was subcontracted to Ledcor Industries of Edmonton, Alberta. The camp facilities and services were provided by PTI Camp Services. Some of the construction equipment and vehicles were supplied by United Rentals.
- The reclamation work was in its final week. They intended to start demobilization on the first week of September 2001. Similar to the mobilization activities, camp and construction equipment will be air-lifted using Hercules airplanes. Demobilization will take approximately a week, with twice daily flights from the site to Churchill or Thompson, Manitoba.

Mr. Millward indicated that all of the camp equipment and supplies will be removed from the camp site at the end of the work. Solid wastes and garbage

from the camp will be burnt, and the camp's sewage will be disposed of in a trench and buried. The camp site will be cleared and returned to its original condition.

Shear Lake

The camp operation did not appear to be producing any disturbance on Shear Lake (Photos 14 and 15). Water was withdrawn from the lake for camp usage using a portable water pump. The mine portal at Shear Lake (Photos 22 and 23) had been blocked and covered with granular fill. Some structures, such as the old camp building, miscellaneous old equipment and parts, and an old yellow bus, which were shown in some of the photos taken during the 1999 site visit had been removed and cleared. This area was relatively clean and free from any debris. Some landscaping work had been carried out in this area as part of the reclamation work.

The old gravel dam which separates the Shear Lake and another water body located to the north of the lake (Photos 16 and 17) was not disturbed and remained in similar condition as before. It is understood that the dam was constructed prior to the dewatering activities in 1984.

The drainage creek from the lake is shown on Photos 18 to 21 inclusive. The water in the creek crosses the access road through four, 6 in. diameter culvert pipes under the roadway. At the time of the site visit, however, the drainage water overflowed the roadway, as the water level at Shear Lake was relatively higher than normal. The region had experienced some heavy rainfalls prior to the site visit date. Mr. Millward indicated that they plan to retrieve all the culvert pipes under the access road, as they withdraw from the site.

Waste Rock Stockpile

A waste rock stockpile was previously reported to be spread out in front of the mine portal at Shear Lake. The stockpile (old waste stockpile) was located to the east of the access road . Homestake estimated that the volume of the waste rock in this area was up to approximately 35000 m^3. However, this estimate was based only on reports and had never been actually surveyed. They also indicated that some of the waste rock had been removed from the site. Photos 24 and 25 show the remnant of the old stockpile area, after the materials were removed and stockpiled at another location as part of the reclamation work in 2001.

Observations at the location of the old waste stock pile showed that there was no waste rock at depths below the ground surface. Photos 26 to 28 show that a layer of dark peat was encountered at the base of the stockpile at approximately the same level with the original ground surface level in the surrounding area.

During the reclamation work this year, Homestake removed the waste rock from the old waste rock stockpile location, and placed it on another prepared location across the road from the old stockpile. Mr. Millward indicated that a base pad was prepared in the new area prior to the placement of the waste rock materials. The new site was cut into a rock outcrop along the east bank of the Shear Lake. The newly placed waste rock stockpile was then capped with a minimum 1m thick layer of glacial till materials, obtained from the surrounding area (Photos 29 to 36 inclusive). For erosion protection, they planned to seed the area prior to demobilization.

The thickness of the capping material, as well as the final quantity of the waste rock being placed at the new location could not be confirmed. Mr. Betts indicated that the quantity was much lower than the previously estimated quantity, and believed that most of what was left at the old site prior to the removal had been the waste rock mixed with the base pad for the stockpile. Mr. Millward mentioned that photographs were taken during the construction of the new waste rock stockpile. He also had kept records on some basic chemical tests performed on the water samples taken from Shear Lake during this work period. No instrumentation was installed in the vicinity of the new stockpile material. They planned to leave the capped, compacted and contoured berm to be as natural as possible. The final finished grade of the new stockpile was higher than the surrounding area, so that all surface water will drain away from the stockpile berm.

Some minor erosion was noted to have occurred along the side slopes of the finished berm. (Photos 35 and 36). The site of the old waste rock area was cleared, and freed of all waste rock materials. Cobble and boulder size stones were left in the area, so that it would remain to have a natural appearance. Mr. Millward indicated that they might place some patches of grass taken from the surrounding area to facilitate growth of vegetation in the old stock pile area. To confirm that traces of metal or chemical concentrations from the old and new stock piles do not leach into the creek, some chemical test will be required on water samples taken from the lake and the drainage creek areas.

Homestake's plan to bury and cap the waste rock materials at the Shear Lake did not follow their original plan, which had been to bury these materials under water at the Shear Lake. It is understood that the work was carried out at the site, as they were awaiting approval for the original plan from Canada - Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). They indicated that they were running out of time as the reclamation work for the summer was nearing an end. Mr. Betts indicated that they plan to send the revised plan, together with the actual construction report, to NWB for approval.

3.3.3 B-Zone Mine and Mill Complex

Photographs which were taken in the mine and mill complex areas are presented in Appendix A (Photos 37 to 68 inclusive). Aerial views of the site are presented in Photos 37 to 39 inclusive.

Access Road

Ruts from construction vehicle activity were noticeable along the access road, particularly along some sections of the access road between the airstrip and Shear Lake. Mr. Millward indicated that they plan to grade the road as they demobilize the camp and retreat toward the airstrip area.

Between Shear Lake and the main mine and mill complex, there are a total of six creek crossings on the access road. In each of these crossings, three to four 6 in. diameter culvert pipes have been used under the roadway (Photos 41 and 42). They intend to retrieve these culvert pipes as they demobilize from the site. They also plan to seed portions or patches of the roadway, so that re-vegetation along the roadway will occur more quickly.

Old Mine and Mill Complex

During the mining years, the mine and mill complex consisted of various structures, such as the living quarters (bunk house), mine portal and ventilation shaft, storage buildings and areas, waste dump, ore stockpiles, crusher plant, fuel storage tanks, and the mill building. At the time of the site visit, the only remaining structures in the area which could still be seen were the concrete pads where the fuel storage tanks sit. These pads were used to place and store the core boxes (Photo 45). It is understood that these core boxes will be left as shown in the photo. The mine portal and ventilation shaft outlet structures were blocked, backfilled and contoured with granular

fill materials. All that remain are the two granular mounds where these two structures were formerly located (Photos 43 and 44). Other structures, such as the concrete pads and footings, remnants of buildings, waste materials (such as old tanks, machinery parts, etc) had all been cleared from the site. Mr. Millward mentioned that the concrete pads and footings, old tanks, etc were broken apart or cut into pieces and buried in the quarry pit.

Dry Tailings Area

The dry tailings area is located between the mill complex and the tailings ponds. The area had been capped and seeded. Some instrumentation, such as thermocouples and some piezometers were located in this area (Photos 46 to 49 inclusive). The area, which had been seeded in the previous years, was covered with patches of arctic grass. No reclamation work is carried out in this area for the 2001 program.

Quarry Pit

An old quarry pit is located to the south of Tailings Dam No. 1. The southern portion of the pit was used for burial of inert, waste materials, such as metal structures, concrete pads, steel tanks, old machinery parts and equipment, etc. The work in this area was almost complete (Photos 50, 51, 54 to 56 inclusive) at the time of the site visit. The area had been cleared, and some grass seeding had been undertaken in the area. A flat bed for the truck (Photo 56) would be hauled to the airstrip and would be removed from the site as part of the demobilization.

The northern portion of the pit contained some water, forming a small pond. The side slopes of the pit had been recently graded (Photos 52 and 53). This pit was proposed to be left as a pond.

Tailings Ponds and Dams

The condition of the dam at Tailings Pond No. 1 was generally satisfactory. The dam has a wide crest, and has a relatively flat downstream slope. Occasional areas of grass and weeds grow along the crest and downstream slope of the dam. It was observed that the pond appeared to have adequate freeboard. No sign of distress, slumping or stability problems were observed along the dam. No seepage nor erosion were noticeable during the site visit. The downstream toe area of the pond showed some depressions filled with water, but no seepage was evident in these areas. These water puddles were assumed to be formed from recent rainfalls in the area. Photos 57 to 68 were taken in the tailings pond area.

Photos 64 to 68 show the spillway conditions at Tailings Pond No. 1. Water was flowing through the spillway at the time of the site visit. The steel weir which had previously been placed at the downstream end of the spillway had been removed. Some exposed geomembrane was still visible in this area (Photo 68), and Homestake stated that they plan to cover the geomembrane before they move off the site.

A site visit was not carried out to the Tailings Pond No. 2 area (Photo 59) because of limited time. In addition, recent heavy rainfalls had made any vehicle access difficult, and may have lead to further damage to the area. There is no reclamation work carried out in this area for the 2001 program. As part of the water license requirements which were regulated by NWB, Trow Consulting Engineers, which is the geotechnical consultant to Homestake had carried out a dam inspection earlier this year.

3.3.4 Kognak River

Photographs which were taken in the area are presented in Appendix A (Photos 69 to 73 inclusive). Photos 69 and 70 provide an aerial view of the site.

The remaining structure which can still be recognized in this area was the gravel road from the B-zone main complex. Some patches of grass and weeds have already covered some parts of this section of the road. The pump house, the water intake and pipelines were removed a long time ago, and only the gravel pads still remained in the area (Photos 72 and 73). The old exploration camp could be seen from pump house area (Photo 71), but could not be accessed due to time limitations. It is understood that this area has been abandoned for more than 15 years, and no construction activities was scheduled for the reclamation work in 2001.

4 Conclusions and Recommendations

In general, the site has been cleaned and is generally free from debris, old structures and waste materials associated with the mining operation activities. The reclamation work undertaken in 2001 was intended to complete all of the previous abandonment and reclamation activities, which have been on-going since the last mining operation ceased in 1985.

Before final demobilization from the site, Homestake has indicated that they plan to carry out the following activities:

- Remove a flat bed from the quarry pit area.
- Bury inert, waste materials and cap the southern portion of the quarry pit.
- Retrieve all of the drainage pipe culverts from under the roadway and hauled away from the site as part of demobilization.
- Grade the access road, so that all the ruts from construction traffic will be recontoured.
- Leave the core boxes on the concrete pads in the main mill complex.
- Remove all of the structures in the camp. Burn all the solid waste/garbage from the camp, and bury the camp's sewage in a trench.
- Leave the shack and wood supplies for emergency use by the local trappers and hunters.
- Provide random seeding on some sections of the access road, in the quarry pit area, in the camp area, and in the new and old waste rock stockpile areas at Shear Lake.
- Clear and bury any waste materials in the work area to the south of the airstrip, and level the small pit in the area.
- Leave the airstrip for usage as an emergency landing airstrip.

Some of these final activities may need to be checked during coming or future inspections of the site. The majority of the reclamation work at the site is generally complete. Other requirements which were stipulated in the water license, such as monitoring the water chemistry at compliance points, instrumentation readings, dam and dike inspection, etc. will need to be carried out until all of the requirements for the abandonment plan are complete, and all of the results of the tests, inspection and instrumentation readings are satisfactory to both the NWB, and other government agencies.

Based on the site visit, it would appear that Homestake has been making all of the final efforts in addressing the environmental issues related to the mining operation,

taking action in regard to the disposal of the waste rock stockpile at Shear Lake, and following the final abandonment and restoration plan for the Cullaton Lake property.

It should be noted that the burial and capping of the waste rock at the Shear Lake site was carried out without obtaining prior approval from NWB. Some of the concerns which may need to be checked and confirmed include the following :

- Adequacy of constructed capping thickness for the waste rock. No records were available to confirm the 1m thickness of the capping fill. Homestake indicated that construction photographs were taken during the actual work at the site, and should be made available to NWB for records.
- Adequacy of the preparation of the base pad of the new waste rock stockpile.
- Concerns related to the potential leaching of the waste rock to the surrounding soil, and to Shear Lake.
- Short and long term water quality at the drainage creek from Shear Lake. Monitoring and sampling of water will be required to determine if there is any increase in metal concentration levels in the water as a result of the reclaimed activity at this site.
- Effectiveness of the grass seeding on the capped fill at the new waste rock berm/pile, and potential erosion from water run-off at this site.
- Drainage in the area surrounding the new waste rock berm/pile.
- Concerns related to potential piping, if any, of the capping materials into the underlying waste rock materials.
- Regrowth of vegetation in the old waste rock stockpile.

The above concerns/issues may need to be addressed and checked during future site visits and inspection, and sampling and testing programs will need to be continued until satisfactory test results are all obtained.

5 References

1. Homestake Canada Inc., “Application for Approval of Disposal of Shear Lake Waste Rock Located at the Cullaton Lake property”, Report to Nunavut Water Board, February 2001.

2. Acres International Limited, “Notes of Site Visit - Cullaton Lake Mine - July 24, 1999", Report to Nunavut Water Board, August 1999.

3. Homestake Canada Inc., “Cullaton Lake Gold Mines Ltd - Final Abandonment and Restoration Plan”, Submitted to DIAND - Land Division, and the NWT Water Board, March 1996.

Figures

FIGURE 1 SITE MAP

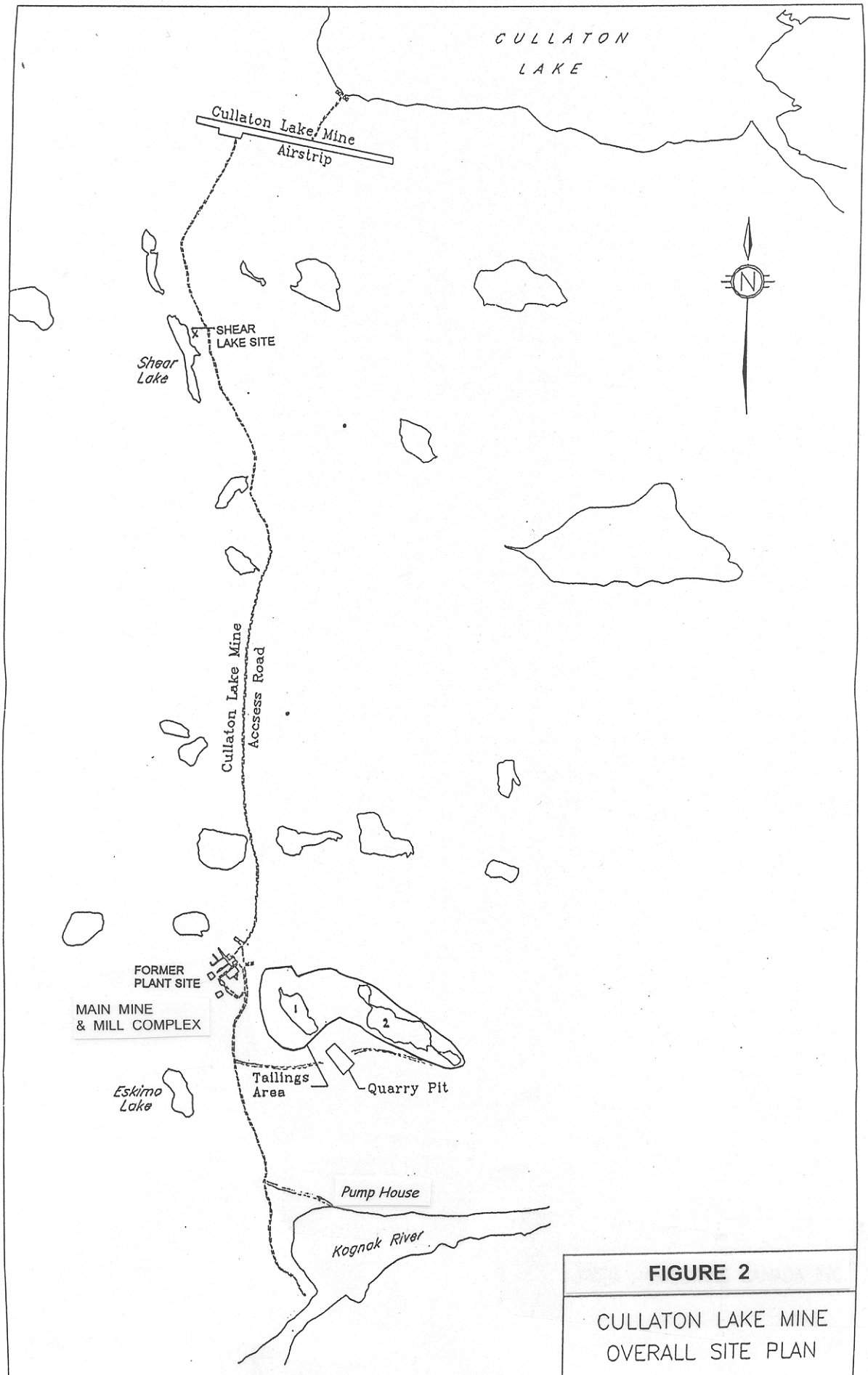

FIGURE 2

CULLATON LAKE MINE
OVERALL SITE PLAN

1000 0 1000 2000
FEET

Source : Homestake Canada Inc.

Appendix A

Photographs

Photo 1. An aerial view of the airstrip. Photo is looking to the south to southwest. The large body of water in the foreground is Cullaton Lake.

Photo 2. Another aerial view of the airstrip, taken from the east. Cullaton Lake is further to the right (not shown). The Shear Lake area is located on top left corner (open area in the photo).

Photo 3. General view of part of the runway, and the loading/unloading storage area on the southwest corner of the runway.

Photo 4. Loading the Calm Air's Cessna Grand Caravan before the return trip to Thompson, Manitoba.

Photo 5. Access road from the airstrip to the mine. The shack and the piles of timber behind it will be left for the local trappers.

Photo 6. A HS748 turboprop airplane arrived in the morning, to load old tires.

Photo 7. Another view of the HS748. The plane returned to Churchill in the afternoon.

Photo 8. A working area for loading and unloading materials at the airstrip

Photo 9. Granular stockpiles , just south of the working area of the airstrip.

Photo 10. An aerial view of the Shear Lake Area. The camp is located on the north side (green colour tents on right side of photo, near an old gravel dam)

Photo 11. An aerial close up view of Shear Lake. Note the drainage creek which runs from the lake on the bottom left corner of the photo. The old waste rock site is on east side of the access road (North side is on the right of the photo).

Photo 12. Front view of the Homestake's camp. Newly constructed capped berm containing waste rock is on the left (south of the camp site). Shear Lake is behind the campsite.

Photo 13. The back side of the camp. Blue containers are used for refrigerated food storage, water purification plant and diesel generator. Green tents are for kitchen, dining room, laundry, recreation facilities, and for living quarters.

Photo 14. Shear Lake. Photo is looking north. Note the light colour area on the top left side is the location of the old mine portal. Campsite is further to the north of the mine portal.

Photo 15. Another photo of Shear Lake, looking to the south. The area between the lake and the access road / waste rock stockpile consists of bedrock outcrop (left side of photo).

Photo 16. Old gravel dam separating Shear Lake and another body of water to the north of the Lake. Photo is looking north/northwest.

Photo 17. Close up view of the old gravel dam, north of the Shear Lake. This area is located behind the campsite.

Photo 18. A creek which drains the water from Shear Lake and flows eastward through a series of small lakes until it reaches Kognak River. Old mine portal is in the background. Access road is on the right side. Photo is looking north.

Photo 19. The same creek as in Photo 18 as it crosses the access road. Photo was taken from the rock outcrop located east of the lake and looking east/northeast.

Photo 20. Close up view of the drainage creek from Shear Lake, as it crosses the access road. Photo is looking to the west.

Photo 21. Another view of the creek which crosses the access road. The water level was relatively high due to recent rainfall. Usually water crosses under the access road through three to four 6in. dia. culvert pipes.

Photo 22. Shear Lake's old mine portal, which has been completely blocked off. Photo is looking north.

Photo 23. A close up view of the blocked mine portal. The area has been cleaned and contoured. The new capped waste rock pile/berm is located to the north of the mine portal area. Photo is looking north.

Photo 24. Previous location of waste rock pile (on the other side of the access road). Photo is looking east. The newly constructed capped waste rock pile is located on the left, and west side of the access road.

Photo 25. Old waste stock pile (right side - east of the road). Photo is looking north. Waste rock has been removed to the east side of the road. Note that some natural boulders were left at the old site.

Photo 26. Old waste rock area. Photo is looking north/ northwest. The newly constructed waste rock pile is on the background left. Camp is located adjacent to and north of the new pile.

Photo 27. Another view of the old waste rock area. Natural cobbles and boulders were left on side. Photo is looking to the east.

Photo 28. Close up view of the base area where the old waste rock was stockpiled. Notice the dark colour peat layer above the native soil.

Photo 29. Newly built waste rock pile. The pile was capped with till fill materials. Photo is looking to the north, with access road separating the location of the new and old waste rock stockpiles. Part of the camp can be seen at the middle right side of the photo.

Photo 30. New waste rock pile. Photo is looking east/northeast. Note one of the living quarters at the campsite (white structure).

Photo 31. A view of the crest of the capped waste rock pile. Photo is looking to the north/northeast. Notice the contact between the new fill (darker brown) and the rock outcrop in the foreground.

Photo 32. Another close up view of the crest of the new waste rock pile, showing the contact between the fill and the rock outcrop. Photo is looking east.

Photo 33. East slope of the new waste rock pile. Photo is looking north.

Photo 34. Another view of the east slope of the new pile.

Photo 35. East slope of the new waste rock pile. Photo shows the northern portion of the pile, where capping materials contain more silt (silt till).

Photo 36. Close up view of the silt till capping materials. Note the degree of compaction, and some erosion from the water runoff.

Photo 37. Aerial view of the B-zone mine and mill complex. Tailings Pond No. 1 is in the centre, and Tailing Ponds No. 2 on the centre right corner. Kognak River is on the bottom left corner. Photo is looking north to northwest.

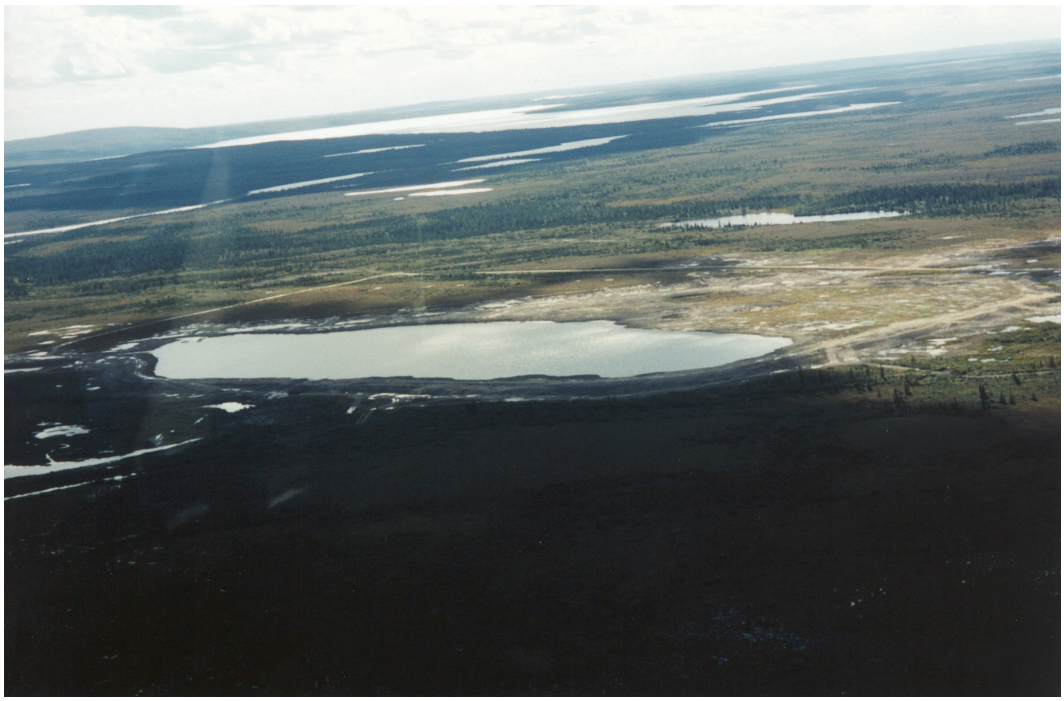

Photo 38. Aerial view of Tailings Pond No. 1. Photo is looking south /southwest. The main B-zone mine complex is located on centre right of the photo.

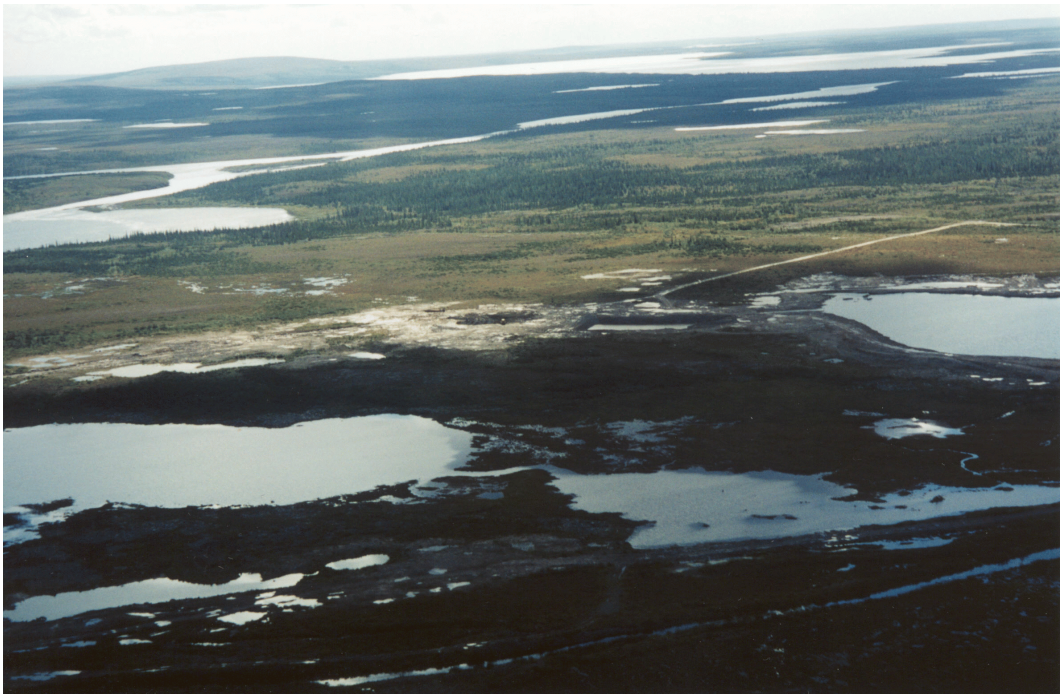

Photo 39. Aerial view of the Quarry Pit area (centre), with part of the Tailings Pond No. 1 (centre-right), and Tailing Ponds No. 2 (bottom). Kognak River is running across on top of the photo. Photo is looking southwest.

Photo 40. Typical photo of the access road connecting the airstrip, Shear Lake , and the B-zone main mine complex.

Photo 41. One of the six creek crossings along the access road between Shear Lake and the B-zone mine complex. Water level was relatively high due to recent heavy rainfalls.

Photo 42. Close up view of the creek crossing. Photo is looking north. Note the existing 6in. dia pipes under the road (generally 3 to 4 culvert pipes per road crossing).

Photo 43. Two “berms” where the B-zone mine’s portal (left) and ventilation outlet (right) used to be located. Photo was taken from Tailings Pond No.1 area, looking west.

Photo 44. Close up view of one of the two “berms”. The ventilation outlet has been blocked, backfilled with granular materials and contoured.

Photo 45. B-zone mine main complex. Core boxes which were stacked up and laid on top of the concrete bases, where fuel storage tanks used to be located.

Photo 46. Dry tailings area which is located west of Tailings Pond No. 1 (in the background). Thermo couples and some piezometers were located in this area.

Photo 47. Dry tailings area adjacent to Tailings Pond No.1. The area was seeded with arctic grass. Photo was taken from the core boxes area.

Photo 48. Close up view of the dry tailings area. Tailings Pond No. 1 is in the background.

Photo 49. Another view of the dry tailings area. Black pipes show the location of the thermocouples.

Photo 50. General view of the area located south of the Quarry Pit. Photo is looking southeast. The area was generally clear and free from debris.

Photo 51. A portion of the Quarry Pit was used to bury crushed, inert waste materials, such as concrete rubble, steel plates, steel structures, etc. The backhoe was utilized to bury the last pieces of waste materials : an old bus and a burn box.

Photo 52. The north portion of the Quarry Pit, where it will be left as a pond. Tailings Pond No. 1 is in the background.

Photo 53. A close up view of the Quarry Pit pond. Notice the work to tidy up the side slopes of the pond. Photo is looking north/northeast. Tailings Ponds No. 1 and No. 2 are on the horizon (Pond No. 1 - left, Pond No. 2 - right)

Photo 54. Burial of inert waste materials in the southern portion of the Quarry Pit.

Photo 55. Close up of the burn box, buried in the Quarry Pit. The area would be tidied up and grass seeded.

Photo 56. A flat bed left at the Quarry Pit area. It will be hauled to the airstrip and removed from the site as part of the demobilization.

Photo 57. A view of Tailings Pond No. 1. Photo is looking west/northwest

Photo 58. Upstream slope of Tailings Pond No. 1. Photo was taken from the south end.

Photo 59. Tailings Pond No. 2 area, taken from an area between Pond No. 1 and the Quarry Pit pond.

Photo 60. Typical crest of the Tailings Pond No. 1 dam. Photo is looking south, from northwest corner of the pond.

Photo 61. Downstream slope of Tailings Pond No. 1 dam along the south end of the pond. Photo is looking north and Tailings Pond No. 2 is on the right.

Photo 62. Downstream slope of Tailings Pond No. 1 dam. Water puddles were from recent rainfall.

Photo 63. Another view of the downstream slope of Tailings pond No.1 dam. The crest of the dam was generally wide, and the downstream slope was relatively flat.

Photo 64. Water entering the spillway at the upstream side of Tailings Pond No. 1

Photo 65. Spillway channel. Photo is looking downstream.

Photo 66. Water flowing downstream of the pond's spillway channel.

Photo 67. Another view of the spillway channel, looking downstream.

Photo 68. Spillway channel. Photo is looking upstream, showing water flow from the pond. Note the exposed piece of geomembrane. The steel weir formerly located in this area had been removed.

Photo 69. An aerial view of the Kognak river. Water flows from left to right. Notice the access road (also the old water line) from the B-zone mine complex to the river.

Photo 70. A close up view of the Kognak River. Water rapids are located at the end of the river constriction (centre of photo). An old camp is located to the north of the rapids. Photo is looking south.

Photo 71. Kognak River. Photo was taken from the demolished pump house area, looking west. River rapids are on the left, and the old camp area is to the right of the rapids.

Photo 72. The access road to Kognak River. The demolished pump house is on a cleared area located on the centre right.

Photo 73. Kognak River at the water intake for the mine. Photo is looking south.