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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI

File: NWB1CUL0207/TR/B4

November 21, 2003

By Email and Regular Mail

Mr. Vernon Betts
Western Canada Environment Manager
Homestake Canada Inc.
P.O. Box 164
Suite 951, 409 Granville Street
Vancouver, BC
V6C 1T2

Subject: Licence NWB1CUL0207 Annual Report

Dear Mr. Betts:

The Nunavut Water Board ("NWB") has completed its review of the Cullaton Lake 2002 annual report pursuant to Part B, Item 4 of Licence NWB1CUL0207. The following items were identified during the review and need to be addressed.

Part B, Item 4(d) requires that;

"The Licensee shall file an annual report with the Board no later than March 31 of the Year following the calendar year reported, which shall contain the following information: [] d. "Any revisions to the approved Contingency Plan, QA/QC Plan and A&R Plan"

Supported by;

- Part E, Item 3 of the License requires that

"The Licensee shall annually review the Spill Contingency Plan and modify the Plan to reflect changes in operation, technology and personnel, as necessary. Any proposed modification shall be re-submitted to the Board for approval."

A revised contingency plan is required under this section. There was no mention of a revision being submitted for 2002 or reference in the Report to the reviewed plan.

- Part F, Item 4 of the License requires that;

"The Licensee shall annually review the Abandonment and Restoration Plan and shall modify the Plan to reflect changing operations, technology and the results of reclamation and other studies, as necessary. The proposed modifications shall be submitted to the Board for approval."

A revised Abandonment and Restoration Plan is required under this section. There was no mention of a revision being submitted for 2002 or reference in the Report to the reviewed plan.

- Part G, Item 3 of the License requires that;

“The Licensee shall annually review the approved quality assurance/quality control plan and modify the plan as necessary. Proposed modification shall be submitted to the Board for approval.”

A revised QA/QC Plan is required under this section. There was no mention of a revision being submitted for 2002 or reference in the Report to the reviewed plan.

And,

- Part G, Item 5 of the License requires that

“The Licensee shall, unless otherwise requested by an Inspector, include all data and information required by the “SNP” including the results of the approved quality assurance program in the Licensee’s Annual Report as required under Part B, Item 4 of the license.”

The Annual Report included the analytical results for samples obtained (in duplicate) under the SNP, however it did not include any additional data with respect to the quality assurance program (ie detection limits, methods, and lab QC). This data is required to be submitted for the 2002 Annual Report and subsequent annual reports as specified in the License.

In addition to the above items that were omitted from the annual report, the Board requests that the thermistor information that has typically been recorded in July be delayed until later in the summer to determine if there is a further change/increase in ground temperatures. The SNP specifies between June 1st and August 31st of each year however it is unknown if this period is typically the warmest period for ground temperatures as annual data is not available for review.

Other than the aforementioned items, the NWB has no further comments regarding the 2002 annual report, nor does it request additional information to be included in the forthcoming 2003 annual report beyond that required in water licence NWB1CUL0207. The 2003 annual report is to be received by the NWB no later than March 31st, 2004. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Yours truly,

Original signed by:

David Hohnstein, C.E.T.
Technical Advisor Mining

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2002 Annual Report
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NWB1CUL0207

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