

Northern Division
Environmental Protection Branch
Prairie and Northern Region
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Dec. 6, 2000

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Our File: 4705 037 CULL

By email: dionne@polarnet.ca

Re: NWB1CUL9902 - Revised Implementation Schedule and Changes to Abandonment and Restoration Plan

I have reviewed the response from Sharon Meyer of Homestake Canada Inc. on behalf of the Environment Canada (EC) and offer the following comments:

Disposal of hydrocarbon-contaminated soils: The soils intended for spreading on the airstrip are estimated to be 75 m² in area, and "a few" centimetres in depth. Using five centimetres depth to give a rough idea of volumes, this would suggest less than four cubic metres of materials. It would be reasonable to spread these out for passive remediation, provided this is done well away from any watercourse.

Concerns with frost heave: Measures outlined include careful filling of voids, ensuring cover depth is at least one metre, ongoing inspections of work, and possible placement of additional waste rock prior to final capping. Use of additional material is encouraged, as are the measures to ensure cover is properly implemented. Because this concern was originally identified by the geotechnical engineer (Mr. Hartmaier) further comments on adequacy should come from him.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 669-4735 with any questions or comments regarding the foregoing.

Yours truly,

Anne Wilson
Water Pollution Specialist

cc: Steve Harbicht (Head, Assessment & Monitoring, EPB)
Paula Pacholek (Co-ordinator, A&M, EPB)