

Cambridge Bay, Northwest Territories, Canada X0E 0C0 Tel. (403) 983-7328 Fax. (403) 983-2253

**File # 500-100-10**

Dear Mr. Macabe:

**Re: Environmental Concerns, Pelly Bay DEW Line Site**

At the last Annual General Meeting of the Kitikmeot Health Board on September 30, 1995, you expressed your community's concerns with respect to environmental contaminants at the Pelly Bay DEW Line Site. I have made a few enquiries into this matter, and have summarized my findings as follows...

The Royal Roads Military College conducted an environmental assessment of the DEW Line Site in Pelly Bay in 1992. I have enclosed a copy of the report for your information. I recently contacted Ken Reimer in Kingston whose group conducted the assessment and authored the report. As you can see from his comments in the attached letter to me, the concentration of PCB's in the soil at the building trains and in the vicinity of Barrow Lake is minimal, and is located some distance from the community. However, to address the concerns of the community regarding contaminants in the drinking water, samples will be collected for analysis in the near future. I will keep you informed of the results.

Although the levels of contamination at the Pelly Bay DEW Line Site are low, the site is scheduled for a complete clean up. According to Shawn Bindon of the National Defence DEW Line Clean Up Program, this is to take place sometime between the year 2000 and 2003.

The Mackenzie Regional Health Services and the Kitikmeot Health Board have been looking at what types of contaminants may be found in mothers and babies in the Mackenzie and Kitikmeot regions. Women who delivered their babies at Stanton Yellowknife Hospital volunteered to participate in the program which consisted of taking a small amount of blood from the mother and umbilical cord. The results indicate that most program participants showed some levels of contaminants in their blood but this was to be expected as there is pollution all over the world. It must be stressed that there are no known health

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## COMMUNITIES OF

### THE KIDKMEOT REGION.

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### ABSTRACT

— *Journal of the American Medical Association*

• **ЖУЛДУЗДАК**

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effects at these low levels and that most of the pollution comes from other parts of the globe. I have enclosed Community Newsletter #2 which should answer any questions you might have about the program. The preliminary results of the monitoring will be released in the coming weeks, and a technical report, early in the new year.

Should you have additional questions regarding the DEW Line Site, I would recommend that you contact either:

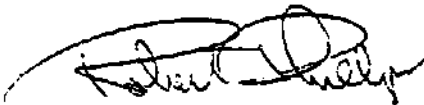
Shawn Bindon  
Design Officer  
DEW Line Clean Up  
Environmental Services Division  
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Sir Charles Tupper Building  
Riverside Drive  
Ottawa, Ontario  
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(613) 998-9524

or

Ken Reimer  
Environmental Science Group  
Royal Military College  
Kingston, Ontario  
K7K 5L0  
(613) 541-6000 ext. 6161

I hope this information will prove useful to you and answer any community concerns on this matter. Do not hesitate to contact me at (403) 983-7333 if I can be of further assistance.

Yours truly,



Robert Phillips, CPHI©  
Senior Environmental Health Officer

c.c. Dennis Lyall, Chairperson, Kitikmeot Health Board  
Marilyn Ellis, A/Executive Director, Kitikmeot Health Board  
Elwood Johnston, SAO, Hamlet of Pelly Bay