

Final Environmental Impact Statement

As mentioned above, the NIRB cannot provide input or direction on the content of the FEIS until after the completion of the PHC. The PHC Decision report, which will include directions on the FEIS, is only completed after considering comments from affected communities, interveners and other interested Parties that will be forthcoming during the PHC.

Pre-hearing Conference Schedule

In regards to the PHC schedule, Zinifex requested to postpone the High Lake PHC in light of their decision to focus on the Izok project (May 6, 2008 correspondence). Once Zinifex believes that they are ready to proceed with the High Lake project and commence the PHC, the NIRB and Parties should be informed. At that point, the NIRB will schedule the PHC and contact communities to inform them of the status of the project and that a PHC will be forthcoming.

Water Quality and Climate Change Workshops

On May 27th – May 29th, 2008, Zinifex held the water quality and climate change workshops in Yellowknife. These workshops served to address the outstanding issues respecting water quality and climate change that were brought up during the technical meetings in November 2007. Parties requested the results of the climate variability model, results of the water quality and quantity model, and workshops to discuss the results in order to complete the Technical Review of the High Lake project. As the workshops have concluded, the NIRB considers this commitment by Zinifex to be complete, and that the Technical Review of the High Lake project as it now stands is complete. However, additional comments may be provided by Parties on the results of the models that were presented at the workshops. Consequently, the NIRB requests that Zinifex provide the Board with the results of the workshop as they pertain to outstanding issues that were brought up during the workshops for distribution and comment.

The Board looks forward to continuing its work with all Parties on the Part 5 Review of the High Lake project. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Jeff Rusk at (867) 983-4611 or Sophia Granchinho at (867) 983-4607.

Sincerely,

(original signed by:)

Stephanie Autut
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Honourable Chuck Strahl, Minister of INAC

Encl. *Draft Commitment List as of May 30, 2008*