Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada

Unclassified - Non-Classifié

Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program
Arctic Region
301 – 5204 50th Ave. (Wıìlıìdeh)
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
X1A 1E2

Programme de protection du poisson et de son habitat
Région de l'Arctique
301 – 5204 50th Ave. (Wıìlıìdeh)
Yellowknife, Territoires du Nord-Ouest
X1A 1E2

Our file *Notre référence*
12-HCAA-CA7-00007

Your file *Votre référence*
2AM-BRP1831

October 23, 2026

Subject: B2Gold Nunavut – Echo Tailings Facility Dike

To whom it may concern,

On October 21st, 2026, the Nunavut Water Board invited parties to comment on B2Gold Nunavut's *Echo TF Dike – Design Overview and Notice of Constructio*n for the Back River Mine. The Fish and Fish Habitat Program (FFHPP) of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) appreciates the opportunity to review the document in accordance with our mandate and has the following comment.

DFO Comment #1

DFO understands that B2Gold Nunavut plans to construct a dike in the Echo Tailings Facility to increase the capacity for tailings containment at the Back River Mine. DFO also acknowledges that the proposed construction activities associated with dike construction will not include any proposed impacts to fish or fish habitat. Additionally, the installation of the downstream containment sump (and subsequent Echo/Goose Waste Rock Storage Area Contact Water Pond) will provide additional mitigation for any potential seepage or surface runoff from the tailings facility.

However, it is B2Gold Nunavut's Duty to Notify DFO if they have caused, or are about to cause, the death of fish by means other than fishing and/or the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat – including the unauthorized deposition of deleterious substances. Such notifications should be directed to DFO.ARCEMTriage-TriageGEARC.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Regards,



William Richmond
Biologist
Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program
Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Canada