

ERRATUM – WATER QUALITY MODEL – Supporting Document S6 Change in CCME Guideline Value for Nitrite

In the October 2005 FEIS and in the November 2006 WL Application Support Document, MHBL had predicted that the estimated maximum concentrations in Doris Creek would meet the CCME Guidelines with the exception of nitrite. In the Water Quality Model the maximum concentration of nitrite-nitrogen was predicted to be about 0.023 mg/L, which is equal to 0.102 mg/L nitrite, and it was reported that this would exceed the CCME guideline of 0.06 mg/L nitrite (which is equivalent to 0.018 mg/L nitrite-nitrogen), marginally for a total of five months during the entire period, comprising July of the first year, June and August of the second year, and June and July of the third year of discharge. This is based on the assumption that no additional nitrite oxidation would occur within Doris Creek, which is unlikely.

In mid April, MHBL became aware that the units for the CCME Guideline value for Nitrite was adjusted through an amendment dated December 2006 (Update 6.0.1). The numeric value for nitrite in the Summary Table of the Canadian Water Quality Guideline for the Protection of Aquatic Life did not change (0.060 mg/L) however footnote 'z'¹ was added which indicates that the guideline value is reported as Nitrite-nitrogen which equates to 0.197 mg/L Total Nitrite. Consequently the MHBL prediction that the maximum concentration of nitrite would marginally have exceeded the CCME Guideline for a total of five months is no longer applicable. Nitrite concentrations in Doris Creek are predicted to not exceed the CCME Guideline of 0.197 mg/L total nitrite and, under the base case, nitrite concentrations are not predicted to be a constraint on discharge.

This correction has been added to the text in the main body of the Revised Water License Application Support Document but was not discovered until after the SRK Water Quality Model report had been finalized. Consequently the reader is advised of this discrepancy in text between the two documents through this erratum.

¹ The 'z' Footnote added in the Update 6.0.1 Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Aquatic Life Summary Table is as follows: (*z Guideline is expressed as μg nitrite-nitrogen-L-1. This value is equivalent to 197 μg nitrite-L-1.*)