

**Cambridge Bay
Public Consultation Meeting
December 5, 2005
Kiilnik High School
7:00 p.m. Start**

Miramar Hope Bay Ltd. (“MHBL”) gave a PowerPoint presentation and opened the floor for questions during and after the presentation.

Question. Will the water released after the mine closes be safe?

Answer. It will have to meet MMER and CCME standards which means that it will be safe. MHBL will only discharge water if the water meets these requirements.

Question. Who monitors the water?

Answer. MHBL staff will monitor water under the Nunavut Water Board water license and the water surveillance network. It also will be sampled by regulatory authorities. There will be rigidly controlled monitoring with sophisticated ICP analysis equipment on site including quality assurance and control. Tailings will go through the water treatment plant prior to release to destroys cyanide.

Question. Have the creeks and rivers that go in and out of Tail Lake been identified?

Answer. Yes and there is only one going out of the lake. The dam will hold all water back and there will be a controlled discharge.

Question. What do you do if something goes wrong with the water in Tail Lake?

Answer. MHBL will stop the mill if the problem is the water treatment plant. The lake has the capacity to hold all of the water for the life of the operation, so if anything unexpected happens, MHBL can hold water until the problem is fixed.

Question. Is there an emergency plan?

Answer. Yes, and there is lots of flexibility if the water builds up and MHBL will monitor what goes through the mill. It is a small mill and MHBL will use cyanide in the circuit in the mill to destroy chemicals at the water treatment plant. MHBL will recycle the water from the lake for ore processing.

Question. What about birds? Birds, they can snack on fish and then will fly 20 miles away. How will you know whether they are harmed?

Answer. MHBL looked at the risks with birds early on. MHBL looked at a study in Nevada where the cyanide was 500 times more toxic and it did not harm the birds. The risk assessment shows no harm to birds.

Question. Will you be fishing the lake with gill nets? What size nets?

Answer. DFO has a protocol where you fish until no more being caught and then you wait a few days and then go back and do it again until no fish are caught. Various mesh sizes will be used.

Question. Who will do the fishing?

Answer. This is not yet determined. Likely MHBL will supply the nets and local people do the fishing and take the fish away.

Question. What if the water is bad?

Answer. MHBL will use guidelines that were agreed with the Environmental Ministers across the country to ensure that the water is good when discharged. MHBL has committed to meeting higher standards than the drinking water level. The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment all came together and established guidelines for levels of contaminants to set safe standards.

Comment. The fish trapped in Roberts Creek, my grandfather fished there.

Answer. Rather than have the fish dying there, by improving access to Roberts Lake fewer fish will die and more fish will get up the lake to spawn so it should increase the number of fish.

Question. Why is Kugaruuk not participating?

Answer. It is further from the site than the four main communities and MHBL has not employed anyone from Kugaruuk, but it has employed people from Cambridge Bay, Kugluktuk, Taloyoak and Gjoa Haven. The environmental assessment conducted under NIRB's direction focused on these four communities as the main impacted communities. The KIA represents all communities in the region and the KIA has the power and ability to spread the benefits from the IIBA in principle to people in the entire Kitikmeot region.

Question. The focus is on Doris North. What about Tail Lake if there are further developments? How far have studies gone in assessing future developments?

Answer. The feasibility studies on the next phases have not been completed. SRK looked at the capacity of Tail Lake and estimated that it has a capacity of 25-30 million tons of ore. The Doris North Project will have 450k tons, so Tail Lake could accommodate tailings from the known resources on the entire Hope Bay belt. If the lake is full MHBL will go from sub-aqueous to sub-aerial deposit and cover the tailings with waste rock and freeze the tailings in place as at Lupin. Detailed studies are underway now. The current NIRB review is only looking at Doris North and further phases will require new permitting processes.

Question. If there are changes, will there be further consultation?

Answer. Yes. Each future phase will be subject to further NIRB review.

Question. Will there be testing above the waterfall?

Answer. Water testing will be after a mixing zone above the waterfall. The waterfall stops char going into Tail Lake or Doris Lake.

Question. What will be the impact of the Newmont investment?

Answer. It means that people now recognize the potential of the Hope Bay belt for production beyond Doris North. The funds received will help finance Doris North and future phases.

Question. What will you do for people with disabilities?

Answer. MHBL will not be able to solve all problems and the government will have to help with people with disabilities. MHBL does not have any specific programs for people with disabilities.

Question. Will there be an upgrading program?

Answer. That is part of the general labour market development that the GN is working on. There is \$10 million for mine training and a trades centre. The Mine Training Committee will be working on that and Alex Buchan is working with them on the Board.

**Gjoa Haven
Public Consultation Meeting
December 6, 2005
Gjoa Haven Community Hall
7:00 p.m. Start**

MHBL gave a PowerPoint presentation and opened the floor for questions during and after the presentation.

Question. What effects will the project have on Doris Lake?

Answer: No tailings will go into Doris Lake and the lake will be used for domestic water only.

Comment. Based on the presentation given, I agree that Tail Lake should not be fenced.

Comment/Question. We have seen signs that animals and wildlife are continuously moving. We have noticed that infrastructure tends to alter the way they move. This new mine will attract wildlife. Will this be monitored? I believe that monitoring should be done on the aquatic animals, especially birds.

Answer. Organic waste from the mine site will be incinerated to minimize the attractants for wildlife. Inorganic waste will be stored on site and shipped out or buried and covered. Wildlife will be monitored.

Question. If Tail Lake is dewatered and fish taken out, how will the water be replaced?

Answer. Tail Lake will not be dewatered. Water will actually be held back in Tail Lake for a period of time, increasing the water level in the lake until the water is a quality which can be discharged. Water will then be discharged returning the lake to its normal level.

Question. How long will the project site be monitored for effects on wildlife?

Answer. There is presently no set time for this type of monitoring and that this is the subject of ongoing discussions with the GN Department of the Environment.

Question. How much compensation is being provided to KIA for the project's effects on water?

Answer. The amounts in the water compensation agreement in principle are confidential. The KIA has legitimate business reasons for keeping this information confidential.

Question. What is the amount of Royalties that will be provided to NTI related to the project?

Answer. The Royalty is a 12% net profits royalty, however, the lease agreement will limit the amount of expenses that MHBL can claim as expenses in calculating profitability and that this will result in NTI always receiving some royalties. The total royalties could amount to \$5 or \$6 million over the course of the project.

Question/Comment. I have noticed this summer while working on drilling rigs that it is difficult to remove pipe from the ground, and often this pipe has to be cutoff flush with the ground.

Answer. Sometimes pipe is left to show where a hole was drilled, but later the pipe is cut off at ground level. The KIA inspects the property including drill sites to ensure they left in an acceptable manner.

Comment. It would be nice for the project not to leave behind any scrap.

Answer. No scrap would be left behind although if KIA requested that buildings be left on site, this would be considered.

Question. How will people be trained for jobs at Doris North?

Answer. The mine life limits the amount of training that can be provided. There will be specific on-site training initiatives that will be undertaken including environmental technician training and assay lab technician training.

Question. What exactly are the jobs that are available?

Answer. There is a list of jobs that will be required for the project that MHBL will make available.

Question. How will workers get to the mine?

Answer. The plan is to send workers on commercial flights from their home communities to Cambridge Bay and then go to site via charter from there at MHBL's cost.

Question. There are people in the community that have no skills and are unable to obtain jobs as a result. What will be done to alleviate this?

Answer. MHBL recognizes the issues and MHBL will hire only Inuit for entry level positions so that unskilled people may be able to work.

Comment. I take applications for employment in Gjoa Haven and want people to realize that other people in other communities are applying for mineral exploration jobs as well. The companies select workers based on their education and training. Although there are many jobs that are available, the public has to realize that it is not easy to get a job.

Answer. Agreed.

Question. Wally Porter is becoming overwhelmed as the only person in the community that can find out about jobs and let people know about them. What is being done to address this?

Answer. MHBL Community Relations staff will post jobs and take resumes. Several new government initiatives should help, including the new Nunavut Community Skills Inventory Database, and the commitment in the draft Adult Learning Strategy to hire Career Development Officers for each community.

Comment. People should be reminded that Gjoa Haven is a traditional community and that not many people have access to computers to do job searching.

Question. Is it true that before a person is hired, they need to know CPR?

Answer. CPR is preferable but not essential and could be trained on site.

**Taloyoak
Public Consultation Meeting
December 7, 2005
Taloyoak Community Hall
7:00 p.m. Start**

MHBL gave a PowerPoint presentation and opened the floor for questions during and after the presentation.

Question. Has MHBL drilled around or under Tail Lake to see the quality of the land underneath? We are concerned for the people from Umingmaktok who live in the area of the mine. What about their hunting and fishing areas that might be affected? What about their archeological resources?

Answer. MHBL has done some drilling around the outside of the lake.

Alex Buchan said that there are people from Umingmaktok working at the Hope Bay property and have said they are happy to have the mine there. Two elders from Cambridge Bay went to the mine site. They are happy to have the mine and they would like to see mining go ahead as long as there are jobs. In Kugluktuk people have coffee at the MHBL office. Two people from Umingmaktok would like jobs at Doris North so that they can go back and live at Umingmaktok. They would like to go back to their homes.

There are specific rules about protecting archaeological resources and MHBL has procedures and training to ensure that archaeological resources are protected.

Question. How long is the term of MHBL studies on wildlife, fish and humans?

Answer. The term of studies on wildlife, fish and humans are determined in consultation with the various regulatory authorities as part of the permitting process.

Question. What is the effect of the project on the fish?

Answer. The fish from Tail Lake will be fished out and compensated for by the compensation plans in the presentation.

Question. What do the people of Cambridge Bay think of the project. What are the benefits?

Answer. The people of Cambridge Bay want jobs and contracts but have concerns to ensure that the environment is protected. The benefits are jobs, contracts, royalties, lease payments and IIBA benefits.

Question. What did you do to get this land?

Answer. MHBL bought the property in 1999 from BHP Billiton who had staked the property.

Question. What will be done about garbage and the effects of the Jetty?

Answer. Garbage will be buried or incinerated. The jetty effects will be compensated for by creating shoreline habitat.

Comment. I disagree with the project. I don't see any benefits to having the mine. People from Taloyoak do not have skills and therefore will not get jobs. We want to retain the natural beauty of the land and we see Tail Lake as an environmental disaster for years to come.

Answer. MHBL cannot build the mine with no disturbance to the land, just as the communities cannot operate without disturbance to the land. Nunavut is land rich and has to balance the use of its land with the need for developing an economic base for Nunavut. That is why the Government of Nunavut wants to see responsible mining. The Doris North project could be part of future economic development.

Question. Why did Miramar state that there are no fish in Tail Lake to NIRB? Is this why NIRB said no?

Answer. MHBL never said to NIRB that there were no fish in Tail Lake. MHBL documents have always indicated that there were fish in Tail Lake.

Question. Bathurst Inlet is our only outpost community and if the animals go away from the machinery, caribou might go away. But good luck on the project. Why did NIRB say the project could not proceed?

Answer. NIRB did not say "no" to the project because if they had MHBL would have stopped permitting the project. NIRB said that they wanted more information in five areas as described in the presentation.

Question. Is cyanide used to take the gold out?

Answer. Yes, however, before the tailings go from the mill to the lake, MHBL uses another chemical to destroy the cyanide so that there is a very low level when the tailings get diluted in the lake water. Biologists have done calculations as indicated in the EIS to show that the lake water will be safe and INAC, DFO, and KIA all have experts who are reviewing the water management strategy to ensure that the water in the lake is good.

Question. Will your company give out progress reports on the mine?

Answer. Yes, on wildlife and water quality, to the Nunavut Water Board, NTI, and other regulators.

Question. What about the communities rather than the reports to the agencies? To reassure the community about what MHBL is doing about the land, etc.

Answer. It is Alex Buchan's job to keep communities up-to-date.

Question. I am in support of the project. I am thinking of the economy for the children and grandchildren. I'm an elder and my children need a place to work to get off the welfare system—it has to be done. We have to wait for welfare and we need an economy that works for us.

Question. I worked in one MHBL project. Sometimes MHBL hires people from the south like Vancouver, taking jobs from Inuit. If MHBL is making money off Nunavut, we don't want money only going to people from Vancouver, white people.

Answer. From 1999-2005 10,000 man-days at the Hope Bay project went to Inuit and almost \$2 million in wages. It is cheaper for MHBL to bring Inuit to the mine than people from Vancouver, so MHBL needs skilled local workers. Until there is more training and education, there will be limits on the jobs that can be offered to Inuit.

Question. How will you be transporting cyanide here? How will it get here, by barge?

Answer. Cyanide will come from the south by barge from Hay River on the Mackenzie River. It comes in tote bags that are in a ¾" plywood box and the box is in another container. It has three levels of security. It is stored and locked in the container on the site until MHBL can use it. It is in 2 inch solid briquettes that are hard and not in powdered form.

Question. Was there a mine in Yellowknife that had a cyanide problem?

Answer. The Giant Mine problem is not cyanide but arsenic. There is no arsenic in the ore from Doris North.

Question. Drugs and alcohol? I know of somebody who was suffering the effects of drugs and going to a site and going cold turkey. It was not a pretty sight.

Answer. It is a big concern about safety with anyone working under the influence of drugs or alcohol. MHBL has a no drugs and alcohol policy. MHBL will train employees about the effects of drugs and alcohol, MHBL will have counseling and if someone is under the effects of drugs or alcohol, MHBL will remove them from site. When in operations, MHBL will have searching and some testing for anyone who might be under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

Question. What about adult learning? People need to learn and could use their time after work to do studies.

Answer. Due to the project's small size, MHBL will not have an adult learning centre such as other big mines do. MHBL will have internet access and people can use it to do some studies.

Question. Will you send reports to hamlet councils?

Answer. Alex Buchan will deal directly with the hamlet councils and be in contact with other community groups such as Wellness Committees.

Question. [Not noted]

Answer. Adults have minds of their own to do what they want to do. It is up to them how they act. MHBL can give them advice but they may not listen. Adults make their own choices.

Question. What about caribou drinking the water.

Answer. The water will be safe for the caribou to drink.

Question. What kind of equipment will you have? Will you need a driver's license?

Answer. MHBL will have all kinds of equipment. For surface, MHBL will have loaders, dozers, graders, v-trains, and trucks. Underground MHBL will have scoop trams and other equipment. MHBL will use trucks for snow clearing and for moving supplies to and from the coast. MHBL

will not be using the big trucks used in open pit mining. No license will be required on the site. MHBL will train people on the equipment and when they are ready, put them to work.

Comment. I support having jobs for young people. Because of the needs of the youth the project should go ahead. I am against welfare.

Comment. I worked in Miramar's mines before and that there are a great deal of white people working there. He said that when the company hires white people, Inuit always lose out.

Question. Do not know for sure about the impact on caribou. Want to see more people from Taloyoak go to work at this mine. Now more people from Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk get work as they are closer. Want to see more for Taloyoak working in the mines this time. Want to see some going for training.

This is a two year project, I have concerns about this. Company makes lots of money from it, looking for gold, if only working two years. What I said before is about training for Taloyoak. Have you thought about what happens in two years? I will ask later about safety. I think that the company should give 50/50 royalties.

Answer. MHBL could not afford to develop the mine and run it with a 50/50 royalty. NTI put a lot of work into finding the right amount of royalties that works for them and works for companies: too low a royalty doesn't benefit Inuit, but too high a royalty means there will be no mines, so NTI determined a royalty that would be appropriate. Although this is a two year project, MHBL hopes to be able continue on after the two years with more mining. If MHBL cannot mine beyond two years, then people will have more skills and experience to do work at other mines.

Question. There is low employment in Taloyoak and Gjoa Haven. Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk and have other industry and government in those communities. How to ensure employ more from Taloyoak and Gjoa Haven? We want to see more hires from smaller communities.

Answer. Taloyoak and Gjoa Haven will be points of hire, but MHBL has to hire people based on education and ability to do the job. Taloyoak workers will have to compete for jobs with workers from other communities.

Question. Where is the place to put garbage? A lot of chemicals are brought from mines and projects in the north. This is not the first time for chemicals in the region. The environmental impact is huge for caribou and fish. From Taloyoak, it is a long distance to go to work for \$300 a day, but companies pay well. MHBL are not subjected to chemicals like PCBs. The companies that I worked for were careful with chemicals.

Answer. Organic garbage will be incinerated and non-organic garbage will be removed from the site or placed in a landfill and buried.

Comment. I am in favor of this mine only if you don't touch fish from the lake, only if MHBL puts tailings back underground where they came from and only if you take the jetty out. Not in favor of the mine as presented.

Answer. MHBL would not be able to put all the tailings underground, so the mine could not proceed on the basis suggested.

Comment. Tail Lake is a concern. In Taloyoak there are not enough jobs. The project entails some jobs and we have no jobs and have social assistance, so we support you.

Question. The DEW line reclamation is getting rid of contaminates. In a year people will know better how to get rid of contaminates. This is the last place on earth that is still fresh. In the South you can't swim in the lakes. MHL should see the DEW line people to find out how they have cleaned up contaminants and come back in a year. This land is ours and nobody else's.

Answer. MHL looked at the DEW line work and has a plan. All the buildings will be cleaned and taken away. If it can't be removed, it will be cleaned and buried in quarry and covered with rock. All chemicals will be removed. MHL will continue monitoring water for 7 years until people can consume the water.

Question: In what month can we apply for summer work?

Answer: April and May.

Question: If KIA is not satisfied what procedure do they use and steps to they take to fix the problem?

Answer. If it is a small problem, MHL will fix it. If it is a big problem, MHL will stop the mining. KIA has the right to stop mining for a major breach of the lease agreement. The Nunavut Water Board will be monitoring and there will be water sampling. The surveillance network program by the Nunavut Water Board has sampling.

Question: Has MHL considered Climatic change?

Answer: MHL has taken forecasts of global warming and built its plans around these forecasts.

Question: You said that it costs less for Inuit people to work – does that mean you pay lower wages to Inuit?

Answer: No, the savings to MHL is in costs of transportation of workers to the mine.

Question: Why take fish out of Tail Lake if the water is safe?

Answer: The rock in the tailings buries the plants at the bottom of the lake that the fish eat. When the lake freezes there is only a small area in the bottom of the lake that will fill with tailing and the fish likely would not survive.

Question. If chemicals are coming out, where are they going? Ten years from now, I am concerned for my kids and grandchildren from so many chemical going up north and staying in the north.

Answer. NIRB sent MHL back to do more work on the water management strategy to ensure that it would be safe. KIA, NTI, INAC, DFO and others are looking at this work to make sure that the water is no problem.

Question: Will someone be testing the water?

Answer. There will be testing of water in the mill, in Tail Lake and water nearby.

Question/Comment. I am thinking of great grandchildren dying because of the mine. I care about jobs for children, getting skills etc.

Question: If the cyanide is destroyed with Caro's Acid, is it harmful to animals?

Answer: MHBL adds Caros's acid to destroy cyanide which breaks the cyanide down. The Caro's acid will not make the water harmful.

**Kugluktuk
Public Consultation Meeting
December 8, 2005
Community Recreation Centre
7:00 p.m. Start**

MHBL gave a PowerPoint presentation and opened the floor for questions during and after the presentation.

Question: What will the mine do with garbage?

Answer: Non-organic material will be buried and cover, other waste paper and organic material will be incinerated.

Question: Will there be a liner under the garbage?

Answer: No as there will be hard rock under the garbage. There will be a lip where water can be collected so it is not free to go on to the land.

Question: Why is Tail Lake not healthy for fish now?

Answer: The fish are small and thin skinny as there is not enough food such as sticklebacks etc. and there are no small lake trout.

Question: What about overflow from Tail Lake?

Answer. MHBL knows the height of the dam and how much water will flow into Tail Lake. In spring MHBL will discharge water over the waterfall.

Question: When will the operation start?

Answer: The target had been the end of 2007, however, that may be the end of 2008. It depends completely on the timing of getting permits after the NIRB process if NIRB says that the project can go forward.

Question. How do you apply for jobs or talk to someone about the mine.

Answer. Contact Alex Buchan at the MHBL Vancouver office at 1 800 663 8780 or the Kugluktuk Office at 867 982 3200.

Question. When will you be hiring?

Answer. MHBL will not be hiring until the mine is further through permitting, but MHBL hires people for exploration work. If anyone is interested working, MHBL encourages them to give their resume to Alex Buchan.

Question: Will MHBL take people to the airport?

Answer: Alex Buchan and community liaison officers will help ensure that people go to the airport.

Question: If MHBL is taking the fish out of Tail Lake, where will MHBL put the fish?

Answer: The fish in the lake will be taken out by local people. Department of Environment has a protocol and fish go to the community if they want it.

Question: When the mine is finished, will you put the fish back?

Answer. No, there will be tailings in the lake. As compensation MHBL will improve the char run in Roberts Bay and other measures as discussed in the presentation.

Question: Where will you put the explosives?

Answer: 800m from the camp behind an outcrop according to government standards for how far from a mine the magazine should be.

Question: How will you make sure that drugs and alcohol will not get in the camp?

Answer: When MHBL is in operations, MHBL will have people sign a consent to search so that if MHBL has reasonable grounds to believe there is drugs and alcohol, then MHBL can search before people get on the plane and go to site. MHBL will test if there is an incident or accident and under certain circumstances will test for alcohol and drugs. MHBL will do a criminal record check.

Question: The food supply, where will it be becoming from?

Answer: The bulk of the food will come on the sea lift and the fresh food will come from Cambridge Bay and Yellowknife. It depends on what companies have the best services and price.

Questions/Comment. I have been going to one of the mines on a tour, I will not say which mine, and I saw beer on the plane going into the camp. One box was marked groceries but had beer. There was no security.

Answer. MHBL has concerns with alcohol and drugs going into Windy Camp. MHBL has been discussing this with the RCMP. When operating, MHBL will do searches. Windy is an exploration camp and it is not as easy to do searches there.

Question: Will you fish Tail Lake before opening the mine?

Answer. MHBL will you fish the lake out the summer before MHBL starts operations.

Question: Will the royalties be paid to government?

Answer. Doris North is on Inuit owned mineral rights, so that the royalties go to NTI on behalf of all beneficiaries under the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement.