

Environmental Assessment North
Environmental Protection Operations (EPO)
Qimugjuk Building 969
P.O. Box 1870
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
Tel: (867) 975-4631
Fax: (867) 975-4645

16 September 2011

EC File: 4703 003 013
NWB File: 2AM-DOH0713

Phyllis Beaulieu
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Via email: licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org

RE: 2AM-DOH0713 Revised Interim Wtr Mgmt Plan

Environment Canada (EC) has reviewed the above-mentioned revised Interim Water Management submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB). The following specialist advice has been provided pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

Hope Bay Mining Ltd., has submitted a revised Interim Water Management Plan (Plan) for the Doris North Project in accordance with Part F Item 1 of water license 2AM-DOH0713.

Upon review of the Plan, EC provides the following comments and recommendations for the NWB's consideration:

- EC appreciates the opportunity to review Hope Bay's revised Interim Water Management Plan for the Doris North Project. The revisions to the Plan resolve questions we had related to a previously submitted version of this Plan. In our review of the revised Plan, we noted that the Sedimentation Pond (i.e., $V=2636 \text{ m}^3$) does not have enough volume to accommodate the 1 in 25, 24-h precipitation event (i.e., 3024 m^3). However, we are satisfied that mitigation option 3 under Section 7.2.5 of the Plan should alleviate any concerns related to overflow from the Sedimentation Pond. As a point of clarification, we also noted that 2 of the ponds have the same volume capacity (i.e., 6786 m^3 for Pollution Control Pond and Temporary Holding Pond) and wanted to confirm that this is the case. Further, using the volumes for each pond sited in the Plan, we determined the combined holding capacity of the 3 ponds is $16,208 \text{ m}^3$ as opposed to $14,513 \text{ m}^3$ (cited in Section 7.2.5 of the Plan). We recommend the proponent review the pond volumes and total holding capacities cited in the Plan and update accordingly any accounting errors in the next version of this Plan. For clarity, in the next iteration of this Plan, EC recommends Figure 1 be revised to include the volume capacity of each pond

If there are any changes in the Plan EC should be notified as further review may be necessary. Comments previously submitted on behalf of EC regarding water license 2AM-DOH0713 would still apply to this project. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned with any questions or

comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4631 or by email at Paula.C.Smith@ec.gc.ca

Yours truly,



Paula C. Smith
Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Carey Ogilvie (Head, Environmental Assessment-North, EPO, EC, Yellowknife, NT)
Ron Bujold (Environmental Assessment Technician, EPO, EC, Yellowknife, NT)
Allison Dunn (Sr. Environmental Assessment Coordinator, EPO, EC, Iqaluit, NU)