



Water Resources
Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 100
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NWB file - Votre référence
IQALUIT - #492350

AANDC file - Notre référence
2AM-DOH0713 - Modification

November 24, 2011

Phyllis Beaulieu
Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0A 1J0

**Re: Water Licence No. 2AM-DOH0713, Notice of Proposed Modification to
Airstrip Expansion and Bypass Road Design – Doris North Gold
Project – Hope Bay Mining Ltd. – Kitikmeot Region**

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) has performed a review of the above-referenced notice of proposed modification regarding a revision to the design of the Doris North Project's airstrip expansion at the airstrip's existing location. The Nunavut Water Board (NWB) distributed the application for comment on October 24, 2011. The following comments are provided pursuant to AANDC's mandated responsibilities for the enforcement of the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Act*.

In conducting this review, I have referred to all documents on the NWB's FTP site as it relates to Water Licence No. 2AM-DOH0713. Attached is a Technical Review Memorandum for your consideration.

Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Andrea Cull, AANDC Water Pollution Specialist. I can be reached by telephone at (867) 975-4555 or email at david.abernethy@aadnc-gc.ca and Andrea can be reached by telephone at (867) 975-4566 or email at andrea.cull@aadnc-gc.ca.

Sincerely,

David Abernethy
Water Resources Regional Coordinator

Cc. Andrea Cull, Pollution Policy Specialist
Ian Parsons, A/Manager of Water Resources
Kevin Robertson, A/Manager of Field Operations

Technical Review Memorandum

To: Phyllis Beaulieu – Manager of Licensing, Nunavut Water Board

From: David Abernethy – Water Resources Regional Coordinator, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.

Re: Water Licence No. 2AM-DOH0713, Notice of Modification to Airstrip Expansion and Bypass Road Design – Doris North Gold Project – Hope Bay Mining Ltd. – Kitikmeot Region

Background

On October 24, 2011 the Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) distributed Hope Bay Mining Ltd.'s (HBML) notice to modify the airstrip expansion and bypass road design for their Doris North Gold Project to interested parties for review.

Part H of the Doris North Water Licence No. 2AM-DOH0713 permits HBML to without written consent from the Board, carry out Modification to the Water Supply Facilities and Waste Disposal Facilities permitted under the Licence, provided that such Modifications are consistent with the terms of the Licence and the requirements are met under Item 1 of Part H.

HBML has submitted a notice to revise the design of the airstrip expansion at the existing airstrip location. The previously approved design allowed for the construction of a separate bypass road and expansion of the airstrip (Amendment No. 2). HBML has decided to not construct a separate bypass road but rather, construct an 8 meter wide bypass road along the eastern edge of the expanded airstrip. HBML has provided reference drawings that illustrate the redesigned airstrip expansion.

Results of Review

On behalf of the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) Water Resources Division, I am providing the following comments/recommendations for the Board's consideration,

- It appears that the revised airstrip expansion and bypass road design will not cause any additional impacts to water drainage in the vicinity of Roberts Bay. Rather, the project footprint will be minimized by not constructing a separate bypass road.

- The proposed modification will not result in an increase to the licensed water consumption allowance or generation of waste.
- The AANDC Water Resources Division does not have any issues pertaining to the modifications presented by HBML to the airstrip expansion and bypass road design at this time.
- Provided that HBML continues to comply with the terms and conditions of the Water Licence (particularly Part D: Conditions Applying to Construction) during construction and operation, AANDC should not have any concerns.
- The AANDC Water Resources Division recommends that Transport Canada be provided an opportunity to confirm that any regulations applicable to the redesigned airstrip expansion and bypass road design have been taken into consideration. This would be in addition to requesting confirmation from the Nunavut Impact Review Board that the proposed modification is consistent with the project certificate.

Prepared by David Abernethy and Andrea Cull

Cc. Andrea Cull, Pollution Policy Specialist
 Ian Parsons, A/Manager of Water Resources
 Kevin Robertson, A/Manager of Field Operations