

Doris North Project Aquatic Monitoring Workshop Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2016

Time: 8:30 am – 3 pm (MST)

Location: Executive Royal Hotel, Edmonton, AB.

Organizer: Katsky Venter, TMAC Resources Inc.

Attendees:

In person:	By phone:
Katsky Venter, TMAC Resources Inc.	Julie Marentette, DFO
Paula Siwik, ECCC	Sonia Aredes, NWB
Meagan Tobin, ECCC	Kelli Gillard, NIRB
John Roesch, KIA	
Deborah Sinclair, KIA Consultant	
Sarah Forté, INAC	
Mike Henry, ERM	
Fraser Ross, ERM	

Meeting Agenda:

Safety Moment

Introductions

Overview of Amended Project

Importance of Roberts Bay (IEAC Input)

Overview of Proposed Aquatic Monitoring

Proposed Marine Monitoring

Marine Monitoring Discussion

Proposed Freshwater Monitoring

Freshwater Monitoring Discussion

Moving Forward

Conclusions

General Comments

- John Roesch (KIA) indicated that the amended footprint at Roberts Bay for the discharge pipeline is not within the lease and so the area needs to be resurveyed in conformance with the KIA grid method. John recommended conducting a full survey of the Project (including all amendment pieces) this summer as there is a commitment to do this in year -2. Combining the two surveys will save TMAC time and money.
- Sampling downstream of mixing box in a convenient location for 'end-of-pipe' was considered appropriate by ECCC.
- ECCC has a voluntary Technical Advisory Committee including INAC and NWB that they review the EEM submissions with. The KIA (John Roesch) will be included on receipt of a request. Following the request, EEM reports submitted to ECCC will be distributed to these groups and this will fulfill the KIA's request to receive them.
- EEM sampling cycle is required until the mine enters a 'closed mine status' as outlined in the MMER (this is unrelated to the NWB or NIRB closed mine recognition).
- The deadlines associated with MMER are determined by the trigger date and these dates are not flexible.
- Recent near- and far-field modeling will likely be sufficient to fulfill the 'plume characterization' requirement of the EEM without field sampling, given the very high dilution and low inputs expected. TMAC will submit the models with real-effluent concentrations in the cycle 1 study design. No CTD or dye studies will be required if effluent is similar or better than what was predicted.
- Sarah Forté (INAC) will speak with INAC staff who attended the Technical Meeting to be briefed on the groundwater inflow model and can later be connected with SRK if questions on this model remain (Sarah was only put on this project last week, in David Abernethy's absence).
- General acceptance that fish sampling for either fish population or fish tissue studies may be challenging. Should either program be triggered, multiple approaches may be required.
- The AEMP cannot be suspended until the Type A Water License is amended, despite that there will be sampling this summer not relevant to the discharge strategy.
- Received confirmation of resolution of all KIA and ECCC Information Requests and Technical Comments.

Action Items

TMAC: Provide to ECCC revised EEM memo that includes possible change in secondary reference location and baseline sampling plan and request review and acceptance.

TMAC: Prepare cover letter to accompany updated memo that requests feedback from ECCC in advance of initiation of EEM.

TMAC: Provide to ECCC references to baseline sampling history for Roberts Bay.

TMAC: TMAC to include summary columns for all metals in appendices of MMER water quality report (as is currently done for AEMP).

TMAC: Submit AEMP by June 1. Plan will include a response framework for water quality exceedances.

TMAC: Provide proposed revisions to the SNP in June 2016.

TMAC: In advance of NWB pre-hearing, and after submitting the AEMP and SNP revisions, set up another working group meeting with EC, INAC, NWB, KIA, (possibly DFO, NIRB?) to discuss SNP revisions.

TMAC: Provide DFO with groundwater inflow mitigation outline.