



P.O. BOX 119
GJOA HAVEN, NU X0B 1J0
TEL: (867) 360-6338
FAX: (867) 360-6369

ᓄᓇᓂᓪ ᐃᓕᓕᓂᓪᓴᓪ ᑲᓂᓕᓂᓪᓴᓪ
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File No: 2AM-DOH0713/L2

August 26, 2009

Mr. Christopher Hanks
Director, Environment and Social Responsibility
Hope Bay Mining Ltd.
300-889 Harbourside Drive
North Vancouver BC V7P 3S1
Email: Chris.Hanks@newmont.com

**Subject: Withdrawal of Care and Maintenance Request for the Doris North Type A
Licence No. 2AM-DOH0713**

Dear Mr. Hanks:

The Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) is writing in follow up to Hope Bay Mining Limited's (HBML) letter of August 4, 2009, stating that HBML is not proposing to proceed on a Care and Maintenance basis and is not requesting that the NWB make any decision in respect of the Doris North Type A Licence 2AM-DOH0713 (Licence). Based on this submission, the Board requests and advises that:

- HBML confirm in writing to the Board that its letter of April 21, 2009, constitutes a withdrawal of the January 13, 2009, notice pursuant to Part L, Item 2 of Doris North Type A Water Licence 2AM-DOH0713 of intent to enter into a care and maintenance phase;
- Technical staff have reviewed HBML's submissions of April 21, 2009, and based on the information provided it does not appear that the deferral of construction of certain facilities and infrastructure will contravene terms and conditions of the Licence identified by HBML; however, INAC is ultimately responsible for enforcing compliance with the terms of the Licence;
- HBML is responsible for ensuring compliance with the terms of the Licence, and applying for an amendment prior to any unauthorized uses of water or deposition of waste, or if circumstances are such that the terms and conditions of the Licence cannot be met;
- The Board's expectation that HBML will advise the Board when decisions are made with respect to the Doris North Project and development of the Hope Bay belt and submit any associated applications on a timely basis;
- The Board acknowledges HBML's commitment to continue to keep KIA informed with respect to its planned and proposed activities on IOL on the Hope Bay Belt; and
- The Board acknowledges HBML's commitment to submit updated operational and monitoring plans in accordance with the dates set out in HBML's letter of August 4, 2009,

and further requests the filing of outstanding administrative requirements associated with the Licence as identified below without delay:

- Part D, Item 8: An Annual Construction and Monitoring Report (by March 31 of each year);
- Part D, Item 26: Construction Summary Report (90 days completion) for construction of Roberts Bay Fuel Storage if the secondary containment is considered a structure to contain water or wastes;
- Part F, Item 1: Revised Water Management Plan (May 1, 2008);
- Part G, Item 7: Landfill Management Plan, (May 1, 2008), (HBML indicated that KIA not authorized landfill, therefore not a requirement);
- Part G, Item 14: Landfarm Management Plan (June 1, 2008) (HBML indicated no landfarm constructed, therefore not a requirement);
- Part G, Item 15: Revised Waste Rock Management Plan (April 1, 2008) (HBML indicated that mining not taking place, therefore not a requirement);
- Part G, Item 23: Tailings Management Plan (September 1, 2008) (HBML indicated that mining not taking place, therefore not a requirement); and
- Part K, Item 5: Revised Monitoring and Follow-up Plan (March 1, 2008);

In addition to the above requests, the NWB would like to draw attention to Licence conditions Part D, Item 20 and Part G, Item 3, which address the operation of the Sewage Treatment Plant and discharge of effluent at monitoring station ST-8 and monitoring of run-off prior to entering Doris Lake at monitoring station ST-9. These two conditions specifically relate to operation and monitoring during the Construction Phase of the project, where upon completion of construction, the Sewage Treatment Plant effluent was to be directed to the Tailings Impoundment Area (TIA) (Part G, Item 3(d)).

While the current Licence contemplated construction to be completed in a given timeframe and treated sewage effluent to be directed through the TIA for the duration of the operational phase of the project and beyond, this schedule has been altered with further construction deferred, as indicated in the initial correspondence¹ on the subject and most recently during the review of information provided by HBML.

The NWB requests that HBML provide the following with respect to the Project and the Licence conditions governing the Sewage Treatment Plant operation and monitoring:

- Understanding of the Project status, whether there is still ongoing site construction with respect to the Doris North Project, and if so when completion is anticipated;
- If Project components have been completed, in consideration of the Project being deferred as indicated in recent correspondence, the plans for sewage treatment given that Part G, Item 3 requires an alternative effluent discharge upon completion of construction;
- A review of sewage treatment/discharge alternatives and proposal for the evaluation of qualitative and quantitative impacts to the receiving water, based on the current understanding of the project and the indefinite timelines for development of the Hope Bay Belt area;

¹ Letter dated September 11, 2008 from Chris Hanks, Director Environment and Social Responsibility, "Hope Bay Mining Ltd. (HBML) development of the Hope Bay Belt and the Miramar Doris North Project".

- The mitigation measures contemplated by HBML for continued operation of the Sewage Treatment Plant and discharge to its current location, in order to limit impacts to water quality in Doris Lake; and
- Any changes necessary to the Sewage Treatment Management Plan.

Please contact the undersigned in writing should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Filiatrault', written in a cursive style.

Dionne Filiatrault, P. Eng.
Executive Director

Cc: Kitikmeot Distribution List