



Environmental Affairs – Programs
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Your File	Votre référence
	08MN006
Our file	Notre référence
	7184-70-1-HACR

September 30, 2008

Leslie Payette
Manager of Environment
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0

Re: Part 5 Screening for Sabina Silver Corporation's Hackett River Mine Project Proposal.

Transport Canada (TC) would like to thank the Nunavut Impact Review Board for the opportunity to provide comment on the Part 5 screening decision for the Sabina Silver Corporation's Hackett River Mine Project.

The Hackett River project will include a number of major transportation infrastructure components and TC has identified several works in the project description that may interfere with safe vessel navigation and would require a submission for a formal Approval under the *Navigable Waters Protection Act* (NWPA). TC's examination of the project proposal has found that the following works should be included in the assessment:

- Installation of multiple culverts or large culverts – works under, over, on, near or under may implicate vessel safe navigation
- Clear span bridge installations crossing the Hackett River and other waterways – crossings may impact safe vessel navigation
- Construction of the all-weather access (spur) road from Hackett River mine site to winter road connection to Bathurst Inlet port – crossings may impact safe vessel navigation.
- Construction of a mine site airstrip, 2000m in length – accident, incidents and malfunctions
- Hackett River mine site fuel storage and dispensing facility – hazardous product handling and contingency planning for accidents, incidents and malfunctions
- Deposition of tailings underwater within a fish-bearing lake - discontinued use of a waterbody for vessel navigation

- Construction of hazardous product storage facility at the BIPAR site - hazardous product handling and contingency planning for accidents, incidents and malfunctions

Transport Canada recommends that the proponent submit applications to the Navigable Waters Protection Program (NWPP) for NWPA Approval of all works on, in, near, over, or under a waterbody. The NWPP operational definitions and application for Approval can be reviewed on the NWPP website:

<http://www.tc.gc.ca/marinesafety/Ships-and-operations-standards/nwp/menu.htm>

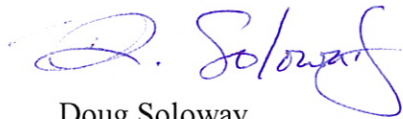
Any questions regarding the NWPA Approval process should be directed to the Navigable Waters Protection Program:

Transport Canada
Prairie and Northern Region
Navigable Waters Protection Program
1100, 9700 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4E6

Tel: (780) 495-8215
Fax (780) 495-4748

Transport Canada looks forward to working with the NIRB on the environmental review of the Hacket River Mine Project. If you require additional information, you may contact Christopher Aguirre by telephone at (204) 984-2615 or by email at aguirrc@tc.gc.ca or the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Doug Soloway
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