

1 of metals. So, yeah, it does need to be defined
2 clearly.

3 GREG MISSAL: I think finally, Mr. Chair,
4 I would just like to make reference to, I think it
5 is Table 4.2 in the Environment Canada submission,
6 and just to point out and emphasize that we
7 obviously don't believe that all of these
8 requirements should be -- all of these discharge
9 limits should be regulated limits, if you will
10 recall my slide, I guess it was just this morning,
11 there were six of the items that we believe should
12 only be monitored, and we would certainly still
13 maintain that position.

14 And then I would also like to add that any
15 further position that we have on the Environment
16 Canada items will be discussed in our closing
17 comments as well. Thank you.

18 ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson,
19 Environment Canada. I would just like to note on
20 the discharge limits that in Table 4.2, technical
21 memorandum 0, proposed discharge limits. It does
22 state that those were all proposed discharge
23 limits, and that was where I had come from on that.
24 Unfortunately not having been here last night for
25 Kelly's presentation, I wasn't aware that some of
26 them were to be thresholds. But nonetheless,

1 Environment Canada does believe that the ones,
2 nitrate and arsenic should be regulated as opposed
3 to thresholds.

4 CHAIRMAN: Any further questions?
5 Any questions from the floor to be addressed to
6 Environment Canada?

7 DILLON CONSULTING QUESTIONS ENVIRONMENT CANADA:

8 Q BRIAN LEECE: Brian Leece, Dillon
9 Consulting. I'm wondering, Mr. Chairman, if
10 Environment Canada could provide a rationale for
11 why they think it necessary to average hex chrome
12 and chrome 3. If I understand it correctly, hex
13 chrome is very seldom found in environmental
14 samples, most of it is converted to chromium 3. So
15 I am curious as to why they are concerned about
16 averaging hex chrome and chrome 3 for a discharge
17 limit for chromium?

18 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson,
19 Environment Canada. That is the approach that has
20 currently been taken in the evaluation of the Ekati
21 license limits, and I think the big reason behind
22 that is that we don't have specific data on that
23 site's composition of the species of chromium. So
24 it is trying to walk a middle road without saying
25 we are going to take the worst-case scenario and
26 assume it is all hexavalent.

1 Q BRIAN LEECE: Just an additional
2 clarification. Not being familiar with the Ekati,
3 Mr. Chairman, is there any evidence at Ekati that
4 hex chrome is actually present?

5 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson,
6 Environment Canada. We are only getting numbers
7 for total chromium, they aren't distinguishing the
8 species.

9 CHAIRMAN: Are there any
10 questions from DIAND?

11 GLEN STEPHENS: No.

12 CHAIRMAN: Any questions from
13 DFO?

14 DERRIK MOGGY: No questions,
15 Mr. Chairman.

16 CHAIRMAN: Any questions from
17 NTI? Any questions from KIA?

18 JOHN DONIHEE: No, sir.

19 CHAIRMAN: Any questions from
20 independent consultants?

21 RAMLI HALIM: No more questions, Mr.
22 Chair.

23 CHAIRMAN: Any questions from the
24 Hamlet of Kugluktuk? Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much,
26 Anne Wilson.

1 WATER BOARD STAFF QUESTIONS ENVIRONMENT CANADA:

2 Q DIONNE FILIATRAULT: Thank you, Mr.
3 Chairman. Anne, based on the presentation that you
4 gave, has Environment Canada verified the
5 monitoring recommendations specific to ammonia
6 against the proposed monitoring that Tahera
7 provided? Can you be a little more specific with
8 respect to location, frequency, parameters and the
9 phase of the project where you feel that there
10 potentially needs to be -- it needs to be
11 monitored?

12 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson,
13 Environment Canada. The timing for ammonia would,
14 of course, be postproduction, as soon as the PKCA
15 is receiving the kimberlite. What is proposed in
16 the most recent draft, which I have just scanned
17 over supper, appears to be adequate in that it is
18 looking at monthly sampling, if I recollect that
19 correctly.

20 And the reason for bringing up the point in
21 the presentation is while we have draft programs in
22 front of us for both the AEMP and the SNP, we
23 haven't got a final SNP or AEMP that we know it is
24 going to be in. So we are making a point, even
25 though the proponent has substantially covered that
26 in the proposed frequency and locations of their

1 monitoring.

2 Q DIONNE FILIATRAULT: So, Mr. Chairman, so
3 this point you are agreeing with the proposal of
4 monthly monitoring?

5 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson, for
6 ammonia, I'm sorry, yes. Because our concern is
7 largely going to be with the concentrations in the
8 PKCA. The downstream concentrations will be picked
9 up in the AEMP.

10 Q DIONNE FILIATRAULT: Mr. Chairman, in the
11 presentation under Recommended Criteria, you had
12 some discussion with Tahera, and I'm not sure I
13 kind of caught it all. But based on what you
14 submitted, dissolved aluminum is of concern at
15 freshet. Is it expected to be a concern after that
16 freshet for the next three months of discharge?
17 And, I guess, would it be appropriate to set two
18 levels or recommended criteria, one that would be
19 imposed at freshet and one that would be imposed
20 for the other three months of the period of
21 discharge? That's one concept.

22 And the other is, the proposed limits that
23 are submitted by Tahera, ultimately do they protect
24 freshwater aquatic life, which I think is the
25 bottom line of what Environment Canada is trying to
26 achieve?

1 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson. To start
2 with the question about freshet and thinking of
3 different limits, the period at which we don't feel
4 those limits, the proposed limits would be
5 protective would be at freshet when we have the
6 lowest dilution. There is going to be that brief
7 period of time where it is only ten to one, the
8 concentrations under, I think, two of the scenarios
9 could be into levels that are not protective.

10 With respect to the rest of the limits, other
11 than the chromium and the nitrite, we feel that
12 Tahera has done an excellent job of developing
13 criteria and water quality objectives.

14 Q DIONNE FILIATRAULT: Mr. Chairman, in the
15 submission, you also make reference, and I am
16 looking for some clarification with respect to the
17 faecal coliform limit of a hundred that you have
18 proposed. From the perspective that you had
19 indicated that if you are planning to recycle water
20 through the processing plant, that the faecal
21 coliform limit from -- basically you can't have any
22 faecal coliform limits in the PKCA.

23 So are we -- are you saying that the option
24 is is that if we want -- on balance, there is two
25 options here, one is we discharge from the waste
26 water treatment plant to the PKCA at a certain

1 effluent level that the proponent has proposed, but
2 then they would not be able to recycle, because
3 there is known faecal coliforms in the effluent
4 water from the PKCA?

5 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson. The
6 sewage treatment package, which was detailed in the
7 recent submissions, does propose to have
8 ozonization and disinfection. I believe it would
9 be disinfection; it had two options listed there,
10 and should not have any -- it should have full
11 disinfection. There shouldn't be any faecal
12 coliforms when it is going into the PKCA. So there
13 shouldn't be any reason not to recycle, but it
14 should be tested annually. And if they are going
15 to recycle, then there shouldn't be a hundred
16 limit, there should be no faecal coliforms for
17 human health concerns, of course.

18 VICE-CHAIRMAN: Just for
19 clarification, the interpreters are having a
20 problem with the acronyms that you are constantly
21 using. There is no Inuktitut for acronyms, so if
22 you can perhaps tell them what it is. Like SNP and
23 AEMPs, and so forth. They just dropped us a note,
24 and they don't know what it is.

25 DIONNE FILIATRAULT: Mr. Chairman, for the
26 clarification of what some of the acronyms are,

1 AEMP refers to the aquatic effects monitoring
2 program which is the sampling program proposed by
3 the proponent to assess aquatic effects.

4 The TSS is total suspended solids. TDS is
5 total dissolved solids. SNP is a standard industry
6 -- I guess in the NWT, they use that as part of
7 their monitoring stations, as opposed to, I guess,
8 practice for the Board is to use the -- like for
9 the Jericho Type B license, it is JER1. All their
10 stations are all SNP numbers.

11 CHAIRMAN: Further questions?

12 DAN JOHNSON: Just a clarification,
13 Mr. Chairman. In any reclaim system, we would
14 always get our potable water from Carat Lake, that
15 system would always stay. So we never flipped our
16 sewage into a lake and then draw our potable water
17 out of the same reclaim basin. We will always draw
18 all our potable water out of Carat Lake, even if we
19 do reclaim some water out of the PKCA.

20 So I think in the context of setting zero
21 faecal coliform limits in the return water is not a
22 requirement because we wouldn't put that into our
23 water purification plant to begin with.

24 CHAIRMAN: Any further questions
25 for Environment Canada?

26 Q DIONNE FILIATRAULT: I guess I would just

1 ask, frame that in the form of a question to
2 Environment Canada. Is that your understanding as
3 well, and is that agreeable to what limits you are
4 proposing or suggesting?

5 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson. No, of
6 course the potable water is coming from a different
7 source, and it is more of an industrial human
8 health risk that was imposed at the Ekati mine,
9 because they do put their treated sewage now into
10 their tailings containment facility, and there has
11 been the concern for their recycled water for
12 worker health in the mill. And certainly there is
13 no potable water connection there.

14 CHAIRMAN: Any further questions
15 from the staff?

16 DIONNE FILIATRAULT: I believe Steve has
17 some questions, Mr. Chairman.

18 Q STEPHEN LINES: Stephen Line, Nunavut
19 Water Board. I just have one question,
20 Mr. Chairman, and it is regarding the use of
21 Ceriodaphnia dubia for the chronic toxicity
22 testing. I might have misheard it during the last
23 intervention, but I believe I heard that it takes
24 21 days to show chronic toxicity test results from
25 using this species. And I understand that this
26 test is to be done before any discharge is released

1 from the PKCA. So I'm wondering if there is any
2 other species that can be used that could provide
3 faster test results?

4 And during Environment Canada's intervention,
5 it was spoken a lot about the Ekati experience, and
6 I am wondering if that's the species that's used at
7 Ekati, and if there is any major problem at that
8 mine with regard to chronic toxicity testing?

9 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson,
10 Environment Canada. Just to clarify, the chronic
11 test should be done with samples from the receiving
12 environment at the end of the discharge, not before
13 discharge. I think the previous intervenors had
14 recommended doing that on an investigative basis
15 with undiluted effluent as a lab test, not as a
16 field monitoring tool.

17 And just with reference to the Ekati site,
18 there will be chronic toxicity testing in their
19 renewal license. There was not that requirement in
20 their first license, which was the first diamond
21 licence in the territories, and it has only had
22 acute toxicity testing in it.

23 Q DIONNE FILIATRAULT: Thank you,
24 Mr. Chairman. I did have two more. One was with
25 respect to the submission that Tahera had made,
26 and in your review, and you did mention flocculent

1 addition options, there was a statement in the
2 documentation in a letter to Bruce Ott, and I refer
3 to Appendix E, and it said that Environment Canada
4 wanted to receive some information prior to the
5 water licensing phase. And I just want to confirm
6 with Environment Canada that any issues that were
7 raised in that letter have been addressed to their
8 full satisfaction?

9 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson. Can you
10 just give me the date of the letter and who it was
11 -- we have had a number of pieces of
12 correspondence. Most of the recent correspondence
13 has been to do with which baseline data were being
14 collected and when they would be available.

15 Q DIONNE FILIATRAULT: Yes, Mr. Chairman. It
16 is 28th of May 2004, to attention Greg Missal
17 Flocculent Addition, from Bruce Ott. One page.

18 A ANNE WILSON: That issue has
19 been sort of lesser concern now. We have had some
20 further studies done and learned that the toxicity
21 of flocculents is very minimal. It is the
22 coagulants that tend to cause problems, and they
23 have a chronic toxicity effect on the cladocerans.

24 Recent work on young trout have shown that
25 the levels at which we would see acute or chronic
26 toxicity are well above anything that you would see

1 in any of the mine supernatant when they were
2 adding coagulants and flocculents. And if you
3 would like that report, I can certainly put it on
4 the record.

5 Q DIONNE FILIATRAULT: Mr. Chairman, just a
6 point of clarification. It probably would be
7 useful for the Board to have that information
8 filed.

9 Second, the final slide that you had shown,
10 and there was a little bit of discussion at the end
11 of how do we define this and how do we define that.
12 I'm wondering if Environment Canada could provide
13 some proposed definitions for the list that they
14 provided, preferably early tomorrow so that then
15 Tahera and the other parties could have an
16 opportunity to review those and provide
17 clarification on potential definitions that might
18 be put into a water license?

19 A ANNE WILSON: That would be fine.
20 Can I just narrow down which ones we would like as
21 to being the definitions discussed for ARD and for
22 seepage, and was that it?

23 Q DIONNE FILIATRAULT: Mr. Chairman, actually
24 I would propose that they all be defined, if
25 possible.

26 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson. I will

1 try and get that to you by the end of tonight, and
2 if not, it will be tomorrow morning.

3 Q DAVE HOHNSTEIN: Thank you, Mr.
4 Chairman, Dave Hohnstein. I just had a couple of
5 clarification questions for some terminology that
6 was used in the submission.

7 Would you be able to provide us with a
8 definition of what carefully monitored is referring
9 to? I believe it was under ammonium monitoring. I
10 think we got clarification on some of the sewage
11 parameters, but there was one -- the ammonia one
12 that we are still wondering about.

13 And also under water chemistry there was
14 reference to monitoring of water chemistry should
15 be done often enough to identify seasonal long-term
16 changes. And I was wondering if you could provide
17 us with what an idea of what enough might refer to,
18 whether it is weekly, monthly, that sort of thing?

19 Thank you.

20 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson. With
21 respect to the ammonia, I think that monitoring
22 carefully is going to entail monitoring on the
23 frequency that is prescribed under the license,
24 ensuring that we know at the same time the
25 temperature and pH of the water so we can determine
26 the toxicity of the ammonia form. And the most

1 important part will be taking the action, if we do
2 see high levels developing over time, to inform the
3 Water Board, inform any of the stakeholders, and
4 get started on contingency planning. So it is
5 doing the routine monitoring and just being mindful
6 with the results.

7 And as far as -- can you just give me a
8 context for the other question as to a parameter
9 and a site?

10 Q DAVE HOHNSTEIN: Sorry, Mr. Chairman.
11 I made this note out of the submission, and I'm not
12 too sure, I would have to go back to review it out
13 of the submission. But it is simply referred to as
14 monitoring of water chemistry being done often
15 enough to identify seasonal long-term changes.

16 So I guess just trying to get an idea of what
17 the frequency might be that Environment Canada
18 would recommend.

19 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson. That's
20 where it would be very helpful for us to have an
21 AEMP in front of us to review, and we can comment
22 on a site-by-site parameter-by-parameter basis.
23 And it is a little difficult just the -- as far as
24 the SNP goes, the frequencies that I saw in the
25 revised document appeared to be acceptable,
26 certainly the scope of the parameters was

1 acceptable. But we haven't seen the full details
2 on an AEMP yet. I'm sorry, the aquatic effects
3 monitoring program. And rather than SNP, I should
4 be saying a surveillance network program, sorry to
5 the translators for that.

6 Q DAVE HOHNSTEIN: Mr. Chairman, just
7 going back to the submission, it was in reference
8 to changes in major ion, nutrient and metal
9 concentrations. So it looks like it is, you know,
10 the sampling regime and, you know, trying to
11 understand how often we might be requesting
12 sampling. And, again, you did mention the AEMP,
13 and I guess we should have preference to that too.

14 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson,
15 Environment Canada. I think that this is where we
16 would like to see the adaptive management come in
17 on the part of the company. If we are seeing a lot
18 of null results in the monitoring, then we wouldn't
19 worry so much about stepping up the intensity or
20 the frequency of the monitoring. If we were seeing
21 changes that can't be explained or that weren't
22 predicted, then we would want to see more frequent
23 monitoring and investigation of it. So it is very
24 difficult to make blanket statements.

25 CHAIRMAN: Do we have any further
26 questions from the staff?

1 DIONNE FILIATRAULT: No, Mr. Chairman, I
2 think we are done.

3 CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Thank you,
4 Anne. Let's take a ten-minute break.

5 (BRIEF ADJOURNMENT)

6 CHAIRMAN: Welcome back.
7 Environment Canada, Anne Wilson, there is one quick
8 question just for clarification apparently, Anne.

9 Q DIONNE FILIATRAULT: Just to clarify for
10 the parties and people that -- over the break,
11 Tahera and Environment Canada actually resolved an
12 issue on one of the discharge parameters. And I
13 believe that it is beneficial, even though Anne was
14 dismissed, to bring her back to the table. It just
15 makes the Board's job that much easier.

16 So if everybody is okay with that?

17 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson,
18 Environment Canada. I would just like to note that
19 the proponent has made a very good suggestion with
20 resolving the concern with seasonally high levels
21 of aluminum in the receiving environment, and that
22 we could have a regulatory limit which covered the
23 dissolved form, as well as the total form, and that
24 would address our concerns with the protection of
25 aquatic life.

26 BILL TILLEMAN: Thank you,

1 Mr. Chairman. Also there is a report that
2 Environment Canada was going to file, and so
3 whatever one what was, if they could get it to the
4 Board before the end of the hearing. So if she
5 could tend to that, then I would appreciate that.
6 And Dionne has one more thing while I get prepared
7 to swear in Mr. Moggy

8 (EXHIBIT TO BE MARKED WHEN RECEIVED)

9 DIONNE FILIATRAULT: It is probably just
10 the terminology that I used. I just want to make
11 clear that actually it is resolved only between
12 Tahera and Environment Canada at this point. It is
13 still subject to discussion by the parties, if they
14 so wish, in their submissions and evidence. It is
15 an option.

16 CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

17 LICENSEE CONTINUES QUESTIONING ENVIRONMENT CANADA:

18 Q KELLY SEXSMITH: Mr. Chair, with your
19 permission I would like to ask one more question.
20 Anne, could you just clarify for the record what
21 the concentrations that we discussed would be for
22 those two parameters?

23 A ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson,
24 Environment Canada. I will have to bring that to
25 the table tomorrow as I don't have in my head the
26 correct numbers for dissolved aluminum that would

1 be protective. So if I can defer that and bring
2 that to my closing comments or otherwise tomorrow.

3 CHAIRMAN: Okay. Next
4 presentation is done by DFO.

5 BILL TILLEMAN: Thank you,
6 Mr. Chairman. And so as Fisheries and Oceans is
7 getting ready to present, we will mark the next two
8 exhibits as the electronic copy which the Water
9 Board staff now have, and also a hard copy. And so
10 whatever numbers those are, Ms. Filiatrault is
11 already filling them in, 10 and 11. Thank you, Mr.
12 Vice-chair. Let's swear in Mr. Moggy and go from
13 there.

14 EXHIBIT NO. 10:

15 ELECTRONIC COPY OF DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES
16 AND OCEANS' PRESENTATION

17 EXHIBIT NO. 11:

18 HARD COPY OF DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND
19 OCEANS' PRESENTATION

20 BILL TILLEMAN: Please state your name
21 for the record, and spell your last name.

22 DERRIK MOGGY: Derrik Moggy,
23 M-O-G-G-Y.

24 (DERRIK MOGGY SWORN)

25 BILL TILLEMAN: Thank you.

26 PRESENTATION BY DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND OCEANS:

1 DERRIK MOGGY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
2 My name is Derrik Moggy. I'm a habitat biologist
3 with Fisheries and Oceans Canada in Iqaluit.

4 Fisheries and Oceans Canada is pleased to
5 have the opportunity to participate in the Nunavut
6 Water Board process and provide the Board with our
7 comments and recommendations for the Jericho
8 diamond project.

9 Before I start, I would like to provide a
10 brief outline of our presentation. At first, I
11 would like to take a moment to go over the role of
12 Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the regulatory
13 process for the Jericho diamond project.

14 Although we have provided detailed
15 intervention comments that were submitted to the
16 Water Board on November 30th, I would like to
17 present a summary of the outstanding concerns from
18 Fisheries and Oceans. I would also like to present
19 the means to which Tahera and DFO have resolved
20 these issues, or the recommendations that Fisheries
21 and Oceans will be presenting to the Water Board,
22 as a result.

23 In addition, I would like to present an
24 overview of the status of our no net loss plan.
25 And, finally, I would like to follow up with
26 Fisheries and Oceans' concluding statements.

1 The mandate of Fisheries and Oceans Canada is
2 to conserve fish habitat, fish and fish habitat, to
3 ensure sustainable fisheries for Canadians. The
4 Fisheries Act provides the legal basis for this
5 responsibility and its federal legislation
6 established to manage and protect Canada's
7 fisheries resources. It contains specific sections
8 designed to protect fish and fish habitat referred
9 to as the habitat protection provisions of the
10 Fisheries Act.

11 Subsection 35(1) of the Fisheries Act states
12 that no person shall carry out any work or
13 undertaking that results in the harmful alteration,
14 disruption or destruction of fish habitat, commonly
15 referred as HADD. Where it cannot be avoided or
16 mitigated, the minister of Fisheries and Oceans
17 Canada may authorize the HADD of fish habitat
18 pursuant to Subsection 35(2). This provides the
19 means and conditions for allowing development
20 projects to proceed.

21 In accordance with Fisheries and Oceans'
22 policy for the management of fish habitat and its
23 guiding principle of no net loss of productive fish
24 habitat, authorizations are generally issued on the
25 condition that acceptable measures to compensate
26 for any unavoidable habitat losses are developed

1 and implemented by the proponent.

2 When we refer to compensation, we mean the
3 creation or improvement of fish habitat to balance
4 off any losses.

5 In addition to the policy, the habitat
6 conservation and protection guidelines outline the
7 standard approach to habitat conservation and
8 protection through the application of the no net
9 loss principle. The guidelines outlined the
10 hierarchy of preferences to achieve no net loss,
11 and includes the use of redesign, relocate and
12 mitigation to protect fish habitat. Habitat
13 compensation is considered only after all other
14 options have been discounted with adequate
15 rationale.

16 Some of the other relevant sections of the
17 Fisheries Act include the provision of safe fish
18 passage, the authority to ensure water intakes are
19 designed to prevent entrainment and impingement and
20 the prevention of the destruction of fish by means
21 other than fishing. And just to clarify,
22 entrainment occurs when a fish is drawn into a
23 water intake and cannot escape, while impingement
24 occurs when entrapped fish is held in contact with
25 the intake screen and is unable to free itself.

26 The use of explosives in and around fish