

1        few elements of concern in that material, and  
2        again, they are at very low concentrations but they  
3        are just slightly elevated, is cadmium, molybdenum  
4        and nickel, and all other trace metals are at very  
5        low concentrations.

6                We used this data and experience that we have  
7        from other diamond mine sites in the North to  
8        estimate what we call source concentrations or the  
9        concentrations in the water that would percolate  
10       through the margins of these piles and appear at  
11       the bottom at seepage.

12               Concentrations, again, for most metals were  
13       well below any thresholds of concern, and only a  
14       few were above thresholds where -- sorry, only a  
15       few are at levels where -- sorry. Most of them are  
16       still very low compared to most metal mines. In  
17       fact, they are all well below those levels.

18               We took the source concentrations from the  
19       site from each of the mine components and to Pete's  
20       water and load balance, and put all of those into a  
21       mixing model that lets us calculate what the  
22       concentrates in the discharge water from the site  
23       would be. And, again, out of that, this is now the  
24       concentrations of water -- of metals in the water  
25       that will be discharged from the facility. And all  
26       of these concentrations are very low compared to

1 most mines. They are low compared to other diamond  
2 mines, and they are low compared to other metal  
3 mines, but some of them are slightly above  
4 receiving water criteria.

5 So from that work, we predicted that the  
6 impacts of the discharge on the receiving  
7 environment would be very low, and that was all  
8 presented in the NIRB hearing.

9 And the next part of my talk I'm going to  
10 introduce some work that is new since the impact  
11 review process. As part of the water license  
12 application, Tahera was asked to derive discharge  
13 limits for the property that will go into the water  
14 license.

15 VICE-CHAIRMAN: If I can, please take  
16 a minute to check and see if there is anybody still  
17 on the phone.

18 DAVE OSMOND: Yeah, we are here.

19 VICE-CHAIRMAN: Can you please state  
20 your names.

21 DAVE OSMOND: Dave Osmond.

22 VICE-CHAIRMAN: Just you only, Jim  
23 (sic).

24 DAVE OSMOND: And Shelly Howsen is  
25 here as well.

26 VICE-CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you.

1 Carry on.

2 KELLY SEXSMITH: Okay. So I will just  
3 start again with this slide. The next part of my  
4 talk focuses on how we estimated the discharge  
5 criteria that will go in the water license for the  
6 mine.

7 And these are the concentrations of the  
8 elements that Tahera will be allowed to discharge  
9 from the facility, so they are a very important set  
10 of numbers to Tahera, and I want to go through a  
11 few of the steps that we used to come up with those  
12 numbers so that you understand them.

13 In deriving the limits, we did a thing called  
14 dilution modelling to estimate the assimilative  
15 capacity of the receiving environment, that is how  
16 much discharge -- what concentrations would our  
17 discharge concentrations end up at in the receiving  
18 environment, and I will explain that a little  
19 further shortly.

20 We also came up with aquatic thresholds which  
21 are concentrations in the receiving environment  
22 that ensure protection of chronic health of the  
23 organisms living there. We also considered the  
24 background concentrations that are already present  
25 in Carat Lake and used those three things to  
26 calculate a provisional discharge criteria for the

1 site. It is just a simple mathematical formula,  
2 not important.

3 Those provisional limits were then compared  
4 to the predicted concentrations that I presented  
5 earlier to see if we could meet them, and to other  
6 diamond mine licenses in the north to see how they  
7 stood in comparison to those other licenses, and  
8 that was the basic process that I'm going to go  
9 through step by step now.

10 An important concept in this work is the  
11 concept of dilution, so I want to spend a minute on  
12 this. If you were -- or a lot of us are needing a  
13 cup of coffee right now. If you take a sugar in  
14 your coffee and you put a teaspoon of sugar in one  
15 cup of coffee, most of us would taste the sweetness  
16 in that cup of coffee. If we took that same  
17 teaspoon of sugar and you had to share it with the  
18 entire Tahera team, into ten cups of coffee,  
19 chances are the concentration of the sweetness that  
20 you would taste would be very low, if even  
21 detectable. And what that would be is a 1 in 10  
22 dilution of the sugar that you would normally taste  
23 in a cup of coffee. So that's what we call a  
24 ten-times dilution.

25 So dilution is sort of the opposite of  
26 concentration. More diluted water has lower

1 concentrations. So high dilutions have low  
2 concentrations, that's a pretty important concept  
3 in the next few slides.

4 We used a couple of tools to estimate the  
5 dilution capacity of the receiving environment.  
6 The first one was a box model which predicts  
7 concentrations in the whole Lake C3 and Carat Lake,  
8 and in pink on this graph here we were showing the  
9 dilutions in Carat Lake, and in blue we are showing  
10 the dilutions in Lake C3. The whole lake dilutions  
11 we have predicted for a number of scenarios of  
12 ratios of discharge flows to receiving water flows.  
13 With a typical discharge flow from our site into a  
14 typical receiving water flow for an average flow  
15 year, the dilutions in Lake C3 would be on the  
16 order of 50, so concentrations would be  
17 one-fiftyith of that value, of the value that we  
18 have in our discharge. The dilutions in Carat Lake  
19 would be on the order of 58.

20 Under a low-flow year, and I'm showing these  
21 in two little dips there, we modeled a couple of  
22 low-flow years. Under low-flow years, dilutions  
23 would be about 41 in Lake C3 and about 53 in Carat  
24 Lake. And another point with this is you will see  
25 Carat Lake doesn't respond very quickly to some of  
26 these other scenarios, and that's because Carat

1 Lake has quite a large volume compared to the flows  
2 going through it, so there is a -- it is quite  
3 robust to differences in the discharge flows.

4 The third scenario we looked at was the  
5 release of the contingency case where we would be  
6 letting two years worth of water out in one  
7 discharge open water season, and in that case we  
8 could have minimum dilutions of 27 in Lake C3 and  
9 49 in Carat Lake, so a little bit less dilution  
10 under that condition.

11 We also looked -- used a second tool to look  
12 at how these dilutions were distributed in space  
13 and time in Lake C3 in a little more detail,  
14 because that's where our discharge will be going  
15 out into, and there is a couple of features on here  
16 that we should point out. This is a picture of  
17 Lake C3 with the processed kimberlite containment  
18 area would be down here, and Stream C3 coming in at  
19 this point in the system.

20 The Jericho River catchment is up this way,  
21 and the Jericho River comes out at this point and  
22 moves through the system and out at this point.

23 So what this is showing is dilutions again.  
24 So close to the mouth of Stream C3 we have the  
25 lowest dilutions. We have a reference point here  
26 which is 180 metres from the shore of -- the mouth

1 of Stream C3, and we have dilutions at that point  
2 of as low as 20, and this is the lowest that we see  
3 under typical discharge conditions. And the point  
4 in time in which we see that is just prior to ice  
5 breakup. We have been discharging for a couple of  
6 weeks in this model scenario, and that's the  
7 dilution we get under that condition at the edge of  
8 what we are calling our mixing zone.

9 The Jericho River comes in with very high  
10 dilutions because it has no effluent in it, and it  
11 runs through the system prior to ice breakup.  
12 Later on in the summer, in the open water season,  
13 this is another snapshot at that later time, wind  
14 mixing begins to dominate the dilution process, and  
15 we see much higher dilutions on the order of 45 to  
16 50 at that time.

17 So I am going to talk about this reference  
18 point here which is the 180 metres from the mouth  
19 of Stream C3, and there is a second reference point  
20 up here which is the outlet of Lake C3, and I'm  
21 going to show those in the next graph.

22 This graph shows the changes in dilution over  
23 time over the entire open water season at those two  
24 points. The blue is showing that location close to  
25 the mouth of Stream C3, and the red is showing the  
26 dilutions at the outlet of Lake C3. And what I

1 want to show here is that prior to ice breakup,  
2 which is right in around here, is when we see the  
3 lowest dilutions in the system, and they only  
4 persist for about a week.

5 As soon as the ice goes off the lake, we have  
6 the wind mixing takes over and conditions quickly  
7 recover to dilutions that are greater than 40 in  
8 the system.

9 At the outlet of Lake C3, in the early part  
10 of the spring when the ice is still on the lake, we  
11 have fairly high dilutions as the Jericho River  
12 goes through the lake. There is a brief period as  
13 soon as the ice goes when things are mixing and  
14 everything mixes together, and we have slightly  
15 lower dilutions on the order of 30, and then those  
16 recover again to 40 to 50 range. So that's under  
17 typical discharge conditions.

18 Just in summary, the box model showed us that  
19 minimum whole lake dilutions would be on the order  
20 of 50 -- in Lake C3 would be on the order of 50  
21 under typical discharge conditions, 41 under  
22 low-flow conditions, and 27 for the contingency  
23 case where we would be releasing stored flows.

24 In Carat Lake, they would be on the order of  
25 50 under typical discharge conditions, 53 for  
26 low-flow conditions and 49 for contingency release



1 of stored flows.

2 Local dilutions in Lake C3 from the second  
3 type of modeling that I showed you indicated that  
4 under typical discharge conditions, dilutions at  
5 the edge of the mixing zone would be greater than  
6 20. And during most of the open water season, this  
7 would be greater than 40. Under the unusual  
8 condition, the contingency release of stored flows,  
9 we could have local dilutions as low as 10 for a  
10 period of less than one week prior to the break up  
11 of ice. This is the case that we conservatively  
12 selected for use in deriving the discharge  
13 concentrations from the site. This is a very  
14 unusual case, and it will only persist for a very  
15 short period of time.

16 Okay. The second part of deriving the  
17 concentrations was coming up with aquatic  
18 thresholds, these are concentrations in the  
19 receiving environment that ensure minimal impacts  
20 to aquatic resources. Tahera's goal is to be below  
21 these values within 200 metres of the mouth of  
22 Stream C3. The basis for the aquatic thresholds  
23 are a set of federal water quality guidelines  
24 prepared by the Canadian Council for Ministers of  
25 the Environment that are called the CCME  
26 guidelines. These are widely applied in all waters

1 of Canada and in a number of different  
2 jurisdictions across the north and south in Canada.  
3 It is a collaboration of all the jurisdictions in  
4 Canada.

5 For a few parameters, we derived what we call  
6 site-specific criteria, and these are for aluminum,  
7 copper, cadmium and nitrite. We also were asked to  
8 derive a site-specific criteria for total dissolved  
9 solids or TDS, and that is a parameter that is not  
10 included in the Canadian Council for Ministers of  
11 the Environment guidelines.

12 The list of parameters that we have derived  
13 guidelines for is comprehensive, and it includes  
14 some parameters that may not require regulation at  
15 this property, but we included them all so that you  
16 could see how they stood with respect to our  
17 discharges.

18 The aquatic thresholds are just shown in this  
19 table. The numbers are all in the reports that we  
20 have provided. The numbers in blue here are the  
21 site-specific objectives that we have derived. Now  
22 a couple of other points about the site-specific  
23 objectives, we worked with an aquatic toxicologist  
24 specialist who is a biologist who understands how  
25 metals impact different organisms in the water to  
26 come up with those. His name is James Elfic

1 (phonetic), and he works with AMEC which is the  
2 company Bruce Ott works for.

3 He took a very conservative approach in  
4 coming up with these numbers, and we are confident  
5 that they are still very protective of the aquatic  
6 ecosystem.

7 The next step was calculating the provisional  
8 limits, and again, it is just a mathematical  
9 formula. We considered the dilution modelling  
10 value, the conservative value of 10, a dilution of  
11 10. So concentrations would be about one-tenth of  
12 that, the aquatic thresholds. And then background  
13 concentrations in the receiving environment which  
14 we took from the baseline studies that have been  
15 done on the property.

16 And this is a big table full of numbers for  
17 10 o'clock at night. The provisional limits are  
18 shown in bold here, and what we are doing here is  
19 comparing them to the predicted concentrations in  
20 our effluent, and the numbers I want to point out  
21 are the parameters shown in blue, we could meet  
22 those limits, but we would -- they are very close  
23 to what our predicted concentrations are, and that  
24 suggests that it could be challenging to meet those  
25 limits.

26 In the case of uranium, we under our highest

1 predicted source concentration, which is an  
2 upper-bound estimate of what our uranium  
3 concentrations could be, we could exceed what the  
4 provisional limits would be. And so we don't feel  
5 that we could confidently meet that value.

6 Okay. This next slides shows how the  
7 provisional criteria were compared to other diamond  
8 mine licenses in the north, and the other licenses  
9 we are comparing them to are Ekati's original  
10 license and the license that covers most of Ekati's  
11 operations still today, the Diavik mine licence,  
12 and a more recent licence issued for Ekati that  
13 only applies to their sable operations, which are  
14 -- I guess they are not underway yet at this time.  
15 The final one is the Snap Lake project which was  
16 very recently permitted in the Northwest  
17 Territories. So all of these are other diamond  
18 mine licenses.

19 What I want to point out here is that the  
20 values shown in black are below all the other  
21 licenses. So the numbers we derived are below what  
22 other licences have, or they have not been  
23 regulated previously. The values in blue are the  
24 same as the Ekati and Diavik licenses, but above  
25 the license limits proposed for Snap Lake. What  
26 our understanding about the Snap Lake license is

1     that Snap Lake is -- their discharge goes into a  
2     lake that does not have a big river flowing through  
3     it, so they have much lower dilution values than  
4     what we have.

5             The values shown in red, chromium, nickel and  
6     zinc, are above what is present in other licenses,  
7     but in all cases, these are values that are still  
8     fully protective of the environment.

9             So with all of those comparisons in mind, we  
10    come up with our final proposed criteria for  
11    Jericho, and these are them. And what I want to  
12    point out here is -- sorry, I am ahead of myself.

13            Okay, the changes highlighted in blue in this  
14    slide are total dissolved solids, chloride and  
15    copper, we actually adjusted downward from our  
16    provisional limits, and the reason we did that was  
17    that there was no information on the acute toxicity  
18    of total dissolved solids and chloride. And in the  
19    case of copper, this was actually the values that  
20    we proposed in our submission that we sent to the  
21    Water Board in August, but there was some confusion  
22    about what the actual background concentrations  
23    were in Lake C3, and so rather than adjusting these  
24    to the higher number, we felt we should stay with  
25    the number we originally proposed.

26            The values shown in red we increased

1 slightly, and these are aluminum and uranium. And  
2 there are a number of reasons why we increased  
3 those, and I will go through them one by one  
4 because it is quite important. Aluminum, the  
5 provisional limits were considered too restrictive  
6 to ensure that we could consistently comply with  
7 those values. We believe that the uranium at our  
8 site will occur primarily as a particulate, that is  
9 as a silicate mineral. And the toxicity of that  
10 mineral is expected to be much lower than the type  
11 of aluminum that was used in the toxicity testing  
12 that they used to derive limits on aquatic  
13 thresholds.

14 Finally, we have used a very conservative  
15 estimation of dilution which reflects very  
16 short-term conditions, and so we believe that this  
17 slight upward adjustment from 2.2 to 3 in the case  
18 of the grab criteria, and from 1.2 to 1.50 in the  
19 case of the average criteria is still fully  
20 protective of the aquatic ecosystem.

21 In the case of uranium, again we believe that  
22 the provisional limits would be too restrictive,  
23 but the reason we propose increasing them is that  
24 the basis for this threshold is a little different  
25 than all the others. The basis for this threshold  
26 is protection of drinking water supply, and it is

1        derived using very conservative assumptions, which  
2        are that there is regular and ongoing use of that  
3        water over long periods of time over the lifetime  
4        of a worker living at the Jericho mine, and so the  
5        location where that threshold would need to be met  
6        would be at the inlet of the water intake in Carat  
7        Lake. At that location, the dilutions are much  
8        greater than the dilution of ten that we estimated  
9        at the edge of our mixing zone in Lake C3.

10            We will be able to meet those aquatic  
11            thresholds anywhere where we have dilutions of  
12            greater than 25, and in Carat Lake we will have  
13            dilutions of greater than 50 at all times.

14            Finally, uranium is strongly attenuated in  
15            soil. That means it likes to stay with soil and  
16            sediment. And concentrations of uranium are  
17            expected to decrease much more rapidly than as  
18            indicated by the dilution modeling that we did.  
19            This is a difficult process to quantify, but it is  
20            a well-known behavior of uranium in water systems.

21            So, again, for these reasons, we feel that  
22            the uranium criteria are still fully protective of  
23            the receptor in this case, which is workers at the  
24            camp.

25            This last slide I'm just comparing the  
26            proposed discharge criteria that we have put

1 forward here to a couple of key -- the Lupin water  
2 license, which is a recent Nunavut water license,  
3 and then the federal Metal Mine Liquid Effluent  
4 Regulations. And as you can see, all of the  
5 concentrations that we're proposing are much, much  
6 lower than the concentrations set out in the  
7 federal regulations, and all of the criteria that  
8 we are proposing are lower than what is in the  
9 Lupin water license, except for nickel, which is  
10 just marginally above it.

11 In conclusion, we have tried to come up with  
12 a transparent procedure for estimating discharge  
13 criteria that results in protective and fair limits  
14 to use at this site, and that's what we are showing  
15 here. So thanks for your time.

16 GREG MISSAL: Thanks very much,  
17 Kelly. Mr. Chair, I would like to continue on to  
18 our next speaker, if that's all right?

19 VICE-CHAIRMAN: Greg, we just want to  
20 try to find out. It's about 20 after 10 right now,  
21 and we just want to give you enough time, and we  
22 did say 10:30 we were going to wrap up, let the  
23 Elders go home and so forth. Can you tell us  
24 roughly -- you have got two or three more to go,  
25 roughly what are you looking at in time-wise,  
26 please?



1 GREG MISSAL: I think we could  
2 probably wrap this up by 11 for sure.

3 VICE-CHAIRMAN: Then I think we should  
4 stop right now, Mr. Chair. We have got a lot of  
5 tired people here, and you are looking at another  
6 -- you have got people doing translation, you have  
7 got people typing. That has been going for an hour  
8 and a half, if we took a break for five, ten  
9 minutes, give everybody a rest and stretch, it is  
10 still going to come back, it is going to be 11,  
11 11:15 before we are done, and I think perhaps maybe  
12 we should -- what do you think, Greg? Do you think  
13 we should take a break and then come back, or maybe  
14 the staff can answer us too? I know I can -- this  
15 last presentation was quite lengthy and quite  
16 in-depth, and a lot of figures we had to deal with.  
17 Thank you.

18 GREG MISSAL: I think the last  
19 presentation, I think you are right. I think there  
20 was a lot of information there. The next three  
21 shorter presentations are not as complex as this  
22 presentation was that Kelly just gave. Kelly's  
23 presentation is extremely important, but the next  
24 three are probably a little less complex. And I  
25 guess from my perspective, I wouldn't mind being  
26 able to wrap up this evening, but I certainly

1 understand your perspective, and ultimately it is  
2 certainly your decision.

3 VICE-CHAIRMAN: What we are just  
4 talking about here is maybe we will take a break  
5 until 10:30, and come back in roughly five minutes,  
6 about seven minutes, a quick break, do whatever you  
7 have to do, come right back, and we will stop at 11  
8 whether you are done or not.

9 (BRIEF ADJOURNMENT)

10 VICE-CHAIRMAN: If we can come back  
11 into regular session. Greg, do you want to carry  
12 on with your presentation?

13 GREG MISSAL: Thank you very much,  
14 Mr. Chair. We will work through this, and  
15 certainly if we get to 11 o'clock and we are not  
16 finished we will just stop there for this evening,  
17 but thanks for the opportunity to get a little more  
18 of this in tonight. I think it will be helpful to  
19 our time line tomorrow.

20 I will just ask Rick Pattenden to present his  
21 portion of the presentation.

22 RICK PATTENDEN: Mr. Chair, Board  
23 members, my name is Rick Pattenden. I'm with  
24 Mainstream Aquatic, and I have been assisting  
25 Tahera on the Jericho project in regard to fish and  
26 aquatic issues since 1995.

1           On my talk, I will focus on fish and fish  
2   habitat, and I will restrict my discussion to  
3   issues that remain following the NIRB hearings,  
4   specifically issues that have been raised by  
5   Fisheries and Oceans Canada, DFO. My talk will  
6   look at the steps taken to resolve those issues. I  
7   will follow that with an overview of the fish  
8   habitat no net loss plan that's been developed for  
9   DFO, and I will finish with a quick summary of my  
10 presentation.

11           So to briefly go through the DFO issues that  
12 have been raised, the first deals with the water  
13 intake and causeway into Carat Lake. The second  
14 deals with mine pit blast zone and its potential  
15 effect on fish and fish eggs. The third is the  
16 Stream C1 diversion and water flow in the lower  
17 section of Stream C1. The fourth is the formation  
18 of the PKCA and what that will do to Long Lake and  
19 its fish. And the last is the PKCA discharge and  
20 its influence on Stream C3.

21           The first issue raised by DFO on water intake  
22 and causeway, their specific concerns on the first  
23 was the causeway location may affect fish habitat  
24 in Carat Lake. The next concern was the causeway  
25 may alter shoreline processes, and the third is  
26 water intake may impact fish fry and fish eggs.

1           The issue has been resolved by first  
2       relocating the causeway away from sensitive fish  
3       habitat. Tahera has agreed to monitor potential  
4       sedimentation near the causeway, and finally they  
5       have redesigned the water intake to meet DFO  
6       criteria or guidelines.

7           The next slide shows some of the adjustments  
8       made by Tahera. The first you will see this  
9       represents the causeway. We have got lake C3,  
10      Stream C1 and the mine pit, and of course Carat  
11      Lake to the north.

12          The first step taken by Tahera is simply to  
13      move the causeway to the west, further away from  
14      Stream C1, which has been known as sensitive fish  
15      habitat. And it also illustrates the location of  
16      the sediment deposition and monitoring sites that  
17      will be used.

18          This presents a schematic design of the  
19      revised water intake. We can see the end of the  
20      causeway, the water intake well extending down into  
21      the causeway. Originally Tahera had proposed  
22      putting a perforated pipe at the base of the well  
23      as their intake source. They have now decided not  
24      to perforate the well and extend an intake pipe out  
25      into Carat Lake off the end of the causeway, and to  
26      screen the end of the intake pipe which meets DFO

1 requirements.

2 The next issue is the mine pit blast zone.  
3 The specific concern was in regards to blasting may  
4 harm fish and fish eggs in Stream C1 and Carat  
5 Lake. The issue has been resolved by restricting  
6 blasting in locations closest to water bodies  
7 during summer, and it is specific to summer because  
8 blasting effects are specific only to fish eggs,  
9 not fish. And I will show you that on the  
10 following slide.

11 And the next point is the blast zone is going  
12 to shift away from the water body as the mine pit  
13 deepens.

14 This figure is a little noisy. It represents  
15 the blast zone during the further years of  
16 operation, years one and two. We have the Carat  
17 Lake shoreline, we have got Stream C1 going through  
18 the proposed mine pit location. And this yellow  
19 section is the fish-bearing portion of Stream C1  
20 that we have established by baseline studies. We  
21 haven't found fish further upstream.

22 The red circles represent the perimeters of  
23 the blast effect. The outer circle represents  
24 something called the peak particle velocity impact  
25 perimeter or PPV, and that is a criteria or a  
26 threshold used by DFO to protect fish eggs. So if