

P.O. Box 119 GJOA HAVEN, NU X0B 1J0

TEL: (867) 360-6338 FAX: (867) 360-6369

NWB1LUP0008/Part G/Item 1

Via regular mail and email Motion Number 2003-10-12

January 7, 2004

Wayne Grudzinski Superintendent Loss Control/Acting Manager Lupin Operations, NU 9818 International Airport Edmonton, AB T5J 2T2

Email: wayne.grudzinski@kinross.com

Subject: Approval of Tailings Containment Area Management Report for the Lupin Mine,

Nunavut

Dear Mr. Grudzinski:

On March 15, 2001, the Nunavut Water Board ("NWB") received the report entitled, <u>Tailings Containment Area Management Report for the Lupin Mine</u> ("Report") from Echo Bay Mines Limited ("the Licensee"), which was pursuant to Part G, Item 1 of License NWB1LUP0008 ("License"). Subsequent to the Reports submission, the NWB distributed the Report for review by interested parties. No comments regarding the content of the Report were submitted to the NWB. Due to several reasons, the NWB was not able to examine and approve the Report until recently. The NWB expresses its apologies for that delay.

The NWB hereby approves the Report. The NWB, however, requests that an update be submitted because of the duration of time that has elapsed since the Reports March 2001 submission, as well as the recent changes in operational status at Lupin Mine to a Care and Maintenance scenario. This update will be required to be filed under Lupin's 2003 Annual Report, due March 31, 2004, pursuant to Part B, Item 5 of the License. The NWB requests that the following conditions be addressed in the update:

- 1. That the Licensee ensure that all components listed under Part G, Item 1 of the License be addressed in the update, particularly in regard to any changes that may have occurred to the Tailings Containment Area ("TCA") since March 2001.
- 2. That the Licensee provide details as to how the change in Lupin's operational status to one of Care and Maintenance may affect any of the components listed in Part G, Item 1.
- 3. That the Licensee ensures that a summary of any progressive reclamation activities carried out on the TCA since March 2001 be presented in the update.

- 4. That the Licensee includes a summary of any research or studies conducted on the TCA since March 2001.
- 5. That the Licensee ensure that information on the existing capacity of the TCA, as well as any details as to how it will be expanded should mining resume at Lupin, are provided in the update.

Should you have any questions on this matter, do not hesitate to contact Dionne Filiatrault, NWB Senior Technical Advisor, Patrick Duxbury, NWB Mine Reclamation Coordinator, or myself.

Yours truly,

Original signed by:

Philippe diPizzo Chief Administrative Officer

Cc: Lupin Distribution List

Technical Distribution List – NWB1LUP0008

NTI	Carson Gillis	cgillis@polarnet.ca	(867) 983-2723
NTI	Stefan Lopatka	slopatka@polarnet.ca	(867) 983-2723
NTI	George Hakongak	naikak@polarnet.ca	(867) 983-2723
Kit-IA, Lands	Jack Kaniak	jkaniak@polarnet.ca	(867) 982-3311
Kit-IA, Lands	Geoff Clark	geoffc@polarnet.ca	` '
Kit-HTO	Agnes Egotak	agnes@polarnet.ca	(867) 982-4047
NWMB	Josee Galipeau	igalipeau@nwmb.com	(867) 979-7785
	1		,
NIRB	Gladys Joudrey	gjoudrey@nirb.nunavut.ca	
NIRB	Stephanie Briscoe	sbriscoe@nirb.nunavut.ca	
	~ · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
NPC	Brian Aglukark	aglukark@npc.nunavut.ca	
		<u></u>	
DIAND-Iqaluit	C. Bodykevich	bodykevichc@inac-ainc.gc.ca	
DIAND-Iqaluit	Elizabeth Sherlock	sherlocke@inac-ainc.gc.ca	(867) 975-4560
DIAND-Iqaluit	Robert Eno	enor@inac-ainc.gc.ca	(867) 975-4585
			(001) 710 1000
DFO-Iqaluit	Stephanie Critch	critchs@dfo-mpo.gc.ca	(867) 979-8039
21019	atopiumo emen	<u> </u>	(007) 777 0005
EC-YK	Mike Fournier	mike.fournier@ec.gc.ca	(867) 873-8185
EC Iqaluit	Colette Meloche	Colette.meloche@ec.gc.ca	(867) 975-4645
20 14	2010000 111010 0110		(007) 770 1010
DSD	Gordon MacKay	gmackay@gov.nu.ca	(867) 975-5981
_ ~_		<u>g</u>	(001) 110 0101
Kit-Health	Robert Phillips	rphillips@gov.nu.ca	(867) 983-4088
THE HOUSE	rtooert rinnips	<u>rpmmps e govinarea</u>	(007) 702 1000
CG&T	Doug Sitland	dsitland@gov.nu.ca	(867) 979-5811
CG&T-Kitikmeot	Bruce Rines	brines@gov.nu.ca	(001) 515 5011
CCCT IMMINOU	21000 Times	<u>crimes e go rinaiea</u>	
NWB	Dave Hohnstein	tech2@nwb.nunavut.ca	
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