



Fisheries and Oceans
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Your file *Votre référence*

NWB1LUP0008

Our file *Notre référence*

NU-05-0021

May 9, 2005

Ms. Phyllis Beaulieu
Manager of Licencing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, Nunavut
X0B 1J0

via electronic mail:
licencing@nwb.nunavut.ca

Dear Ms. Beaulieu:

Subject: Process regarding 2005 final Abandonment and Restoration Plan – Lupin Mine

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) received your letter of April 27, 2005 regarding an April 21, 2005 request by Kincross Gold Corporation to split the review of the Lupin Abandonment and Restoration (A&R) plan such that plans for the Tailings Containment Area (TCA) would be reviewed in advance and separately from the remainder of the mine site. A&R plans for the TCA would be reviewed first, while the A&R Plan and subsequent review for the remainder of the mine site would be delayed until the environmental site assessment is completed during the summer of 2005, and details for a potential transfer of the facilities to the Kitikmeot Corporation can be finalized.

Since the A&R plans for the Tailings Containment Area (TCA) are currently more advanced, and progressive reclamation has been underway at the TCA since 1988, DFO does not conceptually foresee any difficulties with advancing the review process for the TCA A&R plan. However, DFO would request that the proponent be asked to ensure that the TCA A&R plan be sufficient to act as a stand alone document, such that it can be reviewed, and proposed activities completed, independent of other A&R plans for the remainder of the mine site.

Further, DFO would request guidance and clarification from the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) as to the procedures that would be followed in reviewing an essentially phased approach to the A&R plan. In determining the procedures to be followed DFO would request that consideration be given on how a phased review process could be undertaken as efficiently as possible given the time and financial resources required to undertake the review.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the review process proposed for the Lupin Gold mine, we look forward to providing comment to the NWB under the habitat protection provisions of the *Fisheries Act* as they relate to this project. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact me at directly by telephone at 867-979-8007 or by fax at 867-979-8039.

Yours sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Tania Gordanier
Habitat Management Biologist

c.c.: Mr. Mike Tansey, Kincross Gold Corporation