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9545-1-1-LUP-R

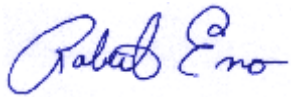
Dionne Filiatrault
Senior Technical Advisor
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Dear Ms. Filiatrault

Re: Lupin Mine 2003 Annual Geotechnical Inspection

1. Thank you for providing INAC with an opportunity to review this report.
2. The report appears to be relatively comprehensive and well-grounded. There is no point in re-iterating the recommendations contained in the report, therefore my overall opinion is that the proponent should conscientiously adhere to the recommendations – routine and otherwise – included in the report; and in particular, the recommendation to closely monitor the thermistors in the perimeter dams as outlined on page 5.
3. I note that several other ancillary recommendations were made with respect to “other dikes” and would like to highlight these to ensure that they are not overlooked:
 - a. BGC has recommended that an assessment of the upstream slopes for tailings dump ponds # 1 and 2, needs to be undertaken.
 - b. BGC has recommended that the upstream side of the upper sewage containment pond dike be rehabilitated for future use.
4. If, in the opinion of the inspecting engineer, these recommendations are significant, then Lupin Mine should make every effort to enact them. The following statement should not be taken as a criticism; only an observation: it would be helpful if the engineer were to offer a prognosis of the consequences of not following his recommendations.

5. I note that on page 3, paragraph 1, last line indicates that *“There were no design reports or drawings available for review by BGC so only surficial observations of the dikes could be undertaken”*. This leaves a few unanswered questions in my mind, with respect to the integrity of the dams; namely:
 - a. Are these design reports or drawings available?
 - b. Given this lack of information, is the engineer comfortable with the accuracy of his inspection report and recommendations? In other words was he handicapped because he was unable to view these reports?
6. The above issue may be significant in terms of the final abandonment and closure of the mine site.
7. Pending answers to the above questions, I am satisfied with the content of the report. Thank you again for providing us with an opportunity to review this document.



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