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Dionne Filatreault, Executive Director
Phyllis Beaulieu, Manager of Licensing
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU
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(867) 360-6338

Re: 2BB-BOS0712 – Submission of the 2008 Annual Geotechnical Inspection Report and an update on the status of the Water and Ore/Waste Rock Management Plan and the Landfarm Operation and Maintenance Plan

Dear Ms. Filatreault and Ms. Beaulieu,

Please find enclosed two copies of Hope Bay Mining Ltd.'s (HBML) 2008 - *Annual Geotechnical Inspection Report* prepared in March 2009 by SRK Consulting. This report is being submitted as part of the annual requirement described under Part D Items 10 and 20 of Boston Water License 2BB-BOS0712. A digital copy of this report will be forwarded to you under separate cover.

In addition to the geotechnical inspection report mentioned above, HBML would like to take this opportunity to update the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) on two other plans associated with the Boston Water Licence and discuss how HBML will approach the implementation of associated recommendations.

HBML had SRK conducted additional geochemical evaluation of the ore stockpiles on the Boston pad in 2008 / 2009 and is currently in the process of doing an update of the *Water and Ore / Waste Rock Management Plan* required under Part E, Item 8 of the 2BB-BOS0712 Water Licence. The site evaluation associated with the updating of the plan has taken time because of the need to complete a suite of ABA/ML tests. This update of the plan will include recommendations for the ongoing management of the Boston bulk sample ore.

HBML is currently evaluating the Boston Landfarm. Test work will be conducted once the ground thaws in 2009. HBML had intended to have this fieldwork conducted in 2008

but was unable to get the consultants scheduled before the onset of winter last September. The Landfarm site evaluation will provide the basis for an update of the *Landfarm Operation and Maintenance Plan* required under Part E, Item 7 of the 2BB-BOS0712 Water Licence. This will include the plans for the closure and remediation of the current Landfarm and future plans for the management of hydrocarbon contaminated soil at the Boston facility.

Once all three of these documents have been submitted to the NWB and HBML has received the NWB's comments, HBML will have our consulting engineers develop a work plan for the company to address the geotechnical, ore storage and landfarm issues associated with the Boston site. Given the nature of the Boston site foot print this combined approach is the most reasonable way to proceed. HBML's intent is to develop the work plan in 2009 for implementation in 2010. This schedule is based on the need to finish the management plans, allow the NWB time for review and then to mobilize the appropriate equipment over the winter of 2009/2010 for construction during the summer of 2010.

HBML is aware that the need to revise the *Water and Ore / Waste Rock Management Plan* and the *Landfarm Operation and Maintenance Plan* was commented on the NWB in the 2007 renewal of the 2BB-BOS0712 Water Licence and that there are outstanding geotechnical recommendations from past geotechnical inspections extending from the period prior to HBML's tenure on the site. In undertaking these revisions, HBML has moved slowly because we wanted to have new site evaluations undertaken so that the company was confident in the plans being presented to the NWB. This letter is designed to begin to address those issues by providing the NWB with a status update and a plan for how HBML will proceed going forward.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding this report, please do not hesitate to contact me at Chris.Hanks@Newmont.com.

Sincerely,

Chris Hanks
Director Environmental and Social Responsibility
Hope Bay Mining Ltd. an affiliate of
Newmont Mining Corporation

Via e-mail and Canada Post Xpresspost