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September 6, 2012

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

Dear Ms. Beaulieu,

RE: 2BB-BOS1217 Stickleback Outflow V-notch Weir Removal

Under Part E Item 9 of the Type B Water License 2BB-BOS1217, the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) provides a series of requirements for removal of the V-notch weir that was installed in Stickleback Outflow. Hope Bay Mining Ltd. (HBML) removed the weir on the 9th of August 2012. HBML has prepared this written closure report for the weir.

Part E Item 9 states: *The Licensee shall undertake the following measures during the construction/operation/ removal of the v-notch weir at the outflow of Stickleback Lake, to minimize disturbance to the creek channel and receiving waters:*

a. Timing of weir removal is to be done during the low flow period;
b. Storage of all extraneous sand bags and scrap materials away from the watercourse during the duration of the weir operation;
c. At the end of the flow data collection period, the cross section of the creek channel shall be restored as close as possible to original conditions;
d. Removal of naturally occurring material from the bed or bank of the creek below ordinary high water mark is prohibited;
e. All sites affected by the placement or removal of the weir shall be stabilized and suitable erosion control measures shall be implemented to minimize sediment into the creek;
f. Emplacement of the sandbag material shall be done such that the stream channel is not significantly obstructed during the spring freshet;
g. Materials used shall be clean and contaminant free;
h. The deposition of debris or sediment into any waterbody is prohibited. The materials shall be disposed of above the high water mark in such a fashion that they do not enter water; and
i. Stream flow shall not be altered in any way as a result of the operation.

Weir Removal Information

a. Timing of weir removal is to be done during the low flow period

The water levels generally reach peak levels in late June and decline rapidly through the open water season until freeze-up. The timing of the weir removal coincided with the low flow period. The weir was removed on 9 August 2012.

b. *Storage of all extraneous sand bags and scrap materials away from the watercourse during the duration of the weir operation*

Extraneous sand bags and scrap materials were not stored near the watercourse.

c. *At the end of the flow data collection period, the cross section of the creek channel shall be restored as close as possible to original conditions;*

The creek channel was not changed as a result of the removal of the weir. HBML does not have information on the natural cross section of the channel prior to installation of the weir by BHP, therefore, the existing channel cross section immediately prior to removal of the weir was considered the natural condition.

d. *Removal of naturally occurring material from the bed or bank of the creek below ordinary high water mark is prohibited*

Naturally occurring material from the bed or banks was not removed during removal of the weir. HBML does not have knowledge of the activities that were undertaken by BHP during construction or operation of the weir, however, the channel does not appear to be altered as a result of these activities.

e. *All sites affected by the placement or removal of the weir shall be stabilized and suitable erosion control measures shall be implemented to minimize sediment into the creek*

There did not appear to be any sites affected by the removal of the weir. The weir consisted of a steel plate placed vertically in the channel, and sandbags for support. Removal of these did not result in instability of the banks or substrate. HBML did not install the weir, therefore, no information can be provided on conditions at that time.

f. *Emplacement of the sandbag material shall be done such that the stream channel is not significantly obstructed during the spring freshet;*

HBML did not place the sandbags for the weir; however, the channel did not appear to have been obstructed during spring freshet during the years that HBML has been operating the property.

g. *Materials used shall be clean and contaminant free*

HBML was not operating the property when the weir was installed, therefore, no comment can be made on the cleanliness of the materials used to construct the weir. The weir was installed by BHP in 1996.

h. *The deposition of debris or sediment into any waterbody is prohibited. The materials shall be disposed of above the high water mark in such a fashion that they do not enter water.*

The sandbag material was brittle and many of the bags were breaking when handled. Field crews did the best job possible to remove the bags and sand without disturbing the existing channel. Stickleback Outflow has a very flat cross section and the high water area, and above the high water area, is dominated by willows. No fine material was present in the sandbags and sedimentation is not expected as a result of the weir removal. All other materials were taken to Boston Camp to be staged for future off-site disposal.

i. *Stream flow shall not be altered in any way as a result of the operation*

HBML cannot comment on the stream flow prior to installation of, or during operation of the weir prior to 2008. HBML removed the weir and did not make any alterations to the channel as it existed at the time of removal.

Closure

HBML expects that this information summary meets the requirements of Part E Item 9 for the removal of the V-notch weir from Stickleback Outflow. If you have questions or concerns regarding this report, please do not hesitate to contact Chris Hanks, VP Environmental Affairs (Chris.Hanks@Newmont.com or 720-917-4489) or Angela Holzapfel, Manager of Environmental Compliance (Angela.Holzapfel@Newmont.com or 604-345-3122).

Sincerely,

Angela Holzapfel

Digitally signed by Angela Holzapfel
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Date: 2012.09.06 16:44:06 -06'00'

Angela Holzapfel
Manager of Environmental Compliance
Environment and Social Responsibility