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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI
OFFICE DES EAUX DU NUNAVUT

File: 2BB-BOS0712/TR/H1

January 6, 2010

Chris Hanks
Director, Environment and Social Responsibility
Hope Bay Mining Ltd.
889 Harbourside Drive
North Vancouver BC V7P 3S1

E-mail: chris.hanks@newmont.com

Subject: Submission of the “Spill Contingency Plan – Hope Bay, Nunavut, Canada” under Water Licence 2BB-BOS0712, Part H, Item 1

Dear Mr. Hanks,

The Nunavut Water Board (NWB) received the above-cited Spill Contingency Plan (SCP or Plan), submitted as an appendix of the Hope Bay Emergency Response Plan, and in accordance with Part H, Item 4 of Licence 2BB-BOS0712, on October 13, 2009. The document was distributed for review with a comment deadline of January 4, 2010. Comments¹ were received from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), Environment Canada (EC) and Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment (GN-DOE). These submissions are available at the Nunavut Water Board's FTP site at the following address:

[ftp://nunavutwaterboard.org/1%20PRUC/2%20MINING%20AND%20MILLING/2B/2BB%20-%20Bulk%20Sampling/2BB-BOS0712/3%20TECH/8%20SPILL%20CP%20\(H\)/](ftp://nunavutwaterboard.org/1%20PRUC/2%20MINING%20AND%20MILLING/2B/2BB%20-%20Bulk%20Sampling/2BB-BOS0712/3%20TECH/8%20SPILL%20CP%20(H)/)

The NWB reviewed the previous plan, submitted on September 24, 2007 and provided an approval on March 8, 2008. The approval contained a number of items that were to be corrected or added to the plan and provided within sixty (60) days of the date of the letter in the form of an addendum. These items were not completely addressed in the revised SCP and the Licensee is to reference the approval letter and update the Plan as necessary. In addition, the following items were noted through comments of the parties and internal review and should be provided as an update with the 2009 Annual Report submission or prior to, in a stand-alone submission, as an addendum to the Plan:

1. Please note, further to the items identified in the approval letter, MSDS's are not required to be included with the submission to the NWB, however workplace legislation requires that up-to-date data sheets are maintained at the work site and the Plan should reference these accordingly; also,

¹ Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, December 14, 2009, Environment Canada, December 15, 2009, Government of Nunavut, Dept. of Environment, January 5, 2010

- the emergency pager number for Environment Canada is no longer in use and should not be included in the Plan
2. Contact information for Environment Canada, Inspector should be revised to Ph. (867) 975-4644 and Fax (867) 975-4594
 3. Contact information for Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Inspector should be revised to indicated the Field Operations Manager at Ph. (867) 975-4694 or email at Peter.Kusugak@inac-ainc.gc.ca
 4. Contact information for the NWB (Fig.14 page 6 and 36; Fig.15 page 7 and 49) should be separate from that of the Government of Nunavut. The Executive Director can be reached at Ph. (867) 360-6338 and Fax (867) 360-6369
 5. Contact information for the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment, Environmental Protection is to be included
 6. Bullet 5 of the approval letter should be incorporated into item 6.5, where reference is made to exceeding the quantities listed in Table 6, Schedule B. The concerns of Environment Canada should be included to require reporting of spills where a water body or wildlife sensitive areas are directly affected; and
 7. Appendix C should include, in addition to the Spill Report Form, include the instruction sheet for filing of an electronic Spill Report Form

As there was no formal requirement to submit or have approved an Emergency Response Plan under the Licence 2BB-BOS0712, the NWB has the following comments on the Plan:

1. The Table of Contents page could use page numbers to assist in locating information within the document; and
2. The document indicates an issue date of August 2008, a print date of September 2008 and a review date of August 2009 however, there is no indication that this recently submitted document was reviewed or revised

In accepting this recent submission, the NWB confirms that the SCP, dated September 2009 supersedes the previous plan submitted September 24, 2007. Should you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (780) 443-4406 or the Manager of Licensing at licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org or (867) 360-6338.

Yours truly,

Original signed by:

David Hohnstein, C.E.T.
Director Technical Services

Cc: Kitikmeot Dist.