



Environment Canada
Environnement Canada

Northern Division

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March 8, 2002

Our file: 4703-001

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Gladys Joudrey
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Re: Comments on Assignment, and Renewal for Water License NWB2GEO9702 - Kinross Gold Corporation - Goose Lake Project, Kitikmeot, NU.

On behalf of Environment Canada (EC), I have reviewed the above noted Water License renewal NWB2GEO9702. The following recommendations have been made in regards to Environment Canada mandated responsibilities for the enforcement of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* (CEPA), section 36 of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Canadian Wildlife Act*, and the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*.

Kinross Gold Corporation has requested a license renewal for the George Lake Project. The main activities proposed will be exploration program to determine and expand the total inventory of gold mineralization at the George Lake project area as well as identify possibly new sources. The period of operation will begin February, 2002 and extend until February, 2010. The camp is likely to be utilized by no more than 25 persons.

Comments and Recommendations

Environment Canada has no concerns in reference to change in assignment for the above water license.

The *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* is in the final stages of the assessment of CaCl as a toxic substance. It is recommended for land-based sumps associated with drilling operations, where CaCl is used as an additive, that the measures to close sumps include documenting the impacts of CaCl on vegetation. The proponent must ensure that such sumps are properly constructed and located at a sufficient distance from any waterbody.

The proponent neglected to:

- state that "all spills" are to be documented and reported to the NWT Spill line (867) 920-8130;
- provide a spill contingency plan;
- provide a list of all hazardous materials that may be used during the program;
- provide a detailed description and map of proposed work such as:
 - ⇒ land area to be affected by proposed works;

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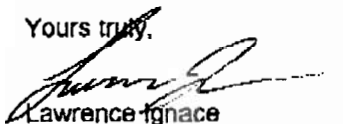
- ⇒ type of equipment to be used;
 - ⇒ how equipment will be transported to site and off site;
 - ⇒ number of holes and the location of holes in relation to water
- include location of fuel storage in relation to water for aircraft, camps and drilling uses.

The following conditions should be applied throughout all phases of the project.

- The proponent shall ensure that any drill cuttings, chemicals, fuel or wastes associated with the proposed project do not enter waters frequented by fish. All sumps, spill basins and fuel caches should be located in such a manner that the contents do not enter a waterbody.
- EC encourages proponents, when storing barreled fuel at a location, to use a secondary containment rather than relying on "natural depressions". Self supporting insta-berms are available from various suppliers within Canada.
- Drilling additives or muds shall not be used in connection with holes drilled through the lake ice unless they are re-circulated or contained such that they do not enter the water, or demonstrated to be non-toxic.
- For "on-ice" drilling, return water released to the lake must be non-toxic, and not result in an increase in total suspended solids in the immediate receiving waters of the lake above the Canadian Council of Ministers for the Environment Guidelines for the Protection of Freshwater Aquatic Life (ie. 10mg/L for lakes with background levels under 100 mg/L, or 10% for those above 100mg/L).
- No disturbance of the bed or banks of any definable watercourse is permitted. Special efforts must be made to avoid bed and bank disturbance during the spring.
- If artesian flow is encountered, drill holes shall be plugged and permanently sealed immediately.
- The permittee shall not erect camps or store material on the surface ice of streams or lakes.
- Environment Canada recommends the use of an approved incinerator.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4639 or by email at lawrence.ignace@ec.gc.ca.

Yours truly,



Lawrence Ignace
Environmental Assessment Specialist

cc: (Paula Pacholek, Northern Environmental Assessment Coordinator, Yellowknife)

FAX MESSAGE

**Environment
Canada**

Prairie and Northern Region
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DATE: March 8, 2002FROM: Lawrence IgnaceTO: Rita BeckerEnvironmental Assessment SpecialistNWB

PHONE: _____

PHONE: (867) 975-4639FAX: 867-360-6369FAX: (867) 975-4645Number of pages including cover: 6Subject: Reviews

Hi,

Please find the attached review letters:

Once again, I apologize for the lateness of these referrals.
However, please forward on to the proponent.

Thanks
Lawrence

Please feel free to contact me if you have further question or concerns.

Your Truly,

Lawrence

Please contact (867) 669-4710 if this facsimile is not complete.