

Environmental Assessment North  
Environmental Protection Operations (EPO)  
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12 April 2012

EC file: 4703 001 114  
4703 001 106  
NWB file: 2BE-GOO1015  
2BE-GEO1015

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

Via email: [licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org](mailto:licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org)

**RE: 120312 2BE-GOO1015 and 2BE-GEO1015 Request for Open Burning**

Environment Canada (EC) has reviewed the information submitted with the above-mentioned request as submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB). The following specialist advice has been provided pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act 1999*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

Sabina Gold & Silver Corp. is requesting approval from the NWB for the controlled burning of approximately 60 m<sup>3</sup> of untreated wood products at the Back River Project George camp and approximately 100 m<sup>3</sup> at the Goose camp in 2012. Wood waste (including wood products such as paper, cardboard and wood) to be burned is primarily from reclamation and restoration activities related to removal of the original camp buildings.

Based on a review of the proposed request, EC has no comments beyond those provided last year to the NWB regarding the same request for these projects in 2011 (letter dated 24 February 2011, as attached). Comments previously submitted on behalf of EC regarding water licenses 2BE-GOO and 2BE-GEO would still apply to these projects. If there are any additional proposed changes to the projects or the open burning request EC should be notified, as further review may be necessary. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4631 or by email at [Paula.C.Smith@ec.gc.ca](mailto:Paula.C.Smith@ec.gc.ca).

Yours truly,



Paula C. Smith  
Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Carey Ogilvie (Head, Environmental Assessment-North, EPO, Yellowknife, NT)  
Allison Dunn (Sr. Environmental Assessment Coordinator, EPO, Iqaluit, NU)  
Dave Fox (Air Issues Specialist, EPO, Yellowknife, NT)  
Ron Bujold (Environmental Assessment Officer, EPO, Yellowknife, NT)

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24 February 2011

EC File: 4703 001 114  
4703 001 106  
NWB File: 2BE-GEO1015  
2BE-GOO1015

Richard Dwyer  
Licensing Administrator  
Nunavut Water Board  
P.O. Box 119  
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1J0

Via email: [licensingadmin@nunavutwaterboard.org](mailto:licensingadmin@nunavutwaterboard.org)

**RE: 2BE-GEO1015 and 2BE-GOO1015 Open Burning Request**

Environment Canada (EC) has reviewed the above-mentioned request submitted to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB). The following specialist advice has been provided pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

Sabina Gold & Silver Corp. is applying to the NWB to allow for controlled open burning of untreated wood waste at both their George and Goose camps. The request includes untreated wood products such as paper, cardboard, and wood. The material is principally from reclamation and restoration activities related to the removal of the original camp buildings.

In principal, EC does not encourage the open burning of wood waste as a means of disposal. However, considering the incinerator capacity constraints at the Hackett camp, EC recommends the proponent heed the following guidance:

- Solid wastes that are conditionally suitable for open burning are paper products, paperboard packaging and untreated wood. Plywood, painted wood or other treated wood should not be disposed of in this manner.  
For reference, below is a link to the Nunavut Municipal Open Burning Policy:  
<http://www.gov.nu.ca/env/Open%20burning.pdf>  
and below is a link to information from EC regarding open burning:  
[http://www.ec.gc.ca/gdd-mw/684B44DD-5780-4F73-BC58-A97E31A19EDC/COM1170\\_Open\\_Burning\\_Brochure\\_e\\_v6\\_for%20web.pdf](http://www.ec.gc.ca/gdd-mw/684B44DD-5780-4F73-BC58-A97E31A19EDC/COM1170_Open_Burning_Brochure_e_v6_for%20web.pdf)
- EC recommends that all non-combustible associated structure waste (i.e., plastics, tar paper, floor coverings, shingles, insulation, wiring, and tents) be thoroughly removed prior to burning
- EC recommends that all residual waste from the burning (i.e. nails and coals) be thoroughly collected, removed from site, and disposed of at a suitable facility.

If there are any changes in the project EC should be notified as further review may be necessary. Comments previously submitted by EC regarding water licenses 2BE-GEO and 2BE-GOO would

still apply to these projects. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4631 or by email at [Paula.C.Smith@ec.gc.ca](mailto:Paula.C.Smith@ec.gc.ca)

Yours truly,



**Paula C. Smith**  
Environmental Assessment Coordinator

cc: Carey Ogilvie (Head, Environmental Assessment-North, EPO, EC, Yellowknife, NT)  
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