

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

EC file: 4704 004 021
NWB file: 2BE-HAK0915

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

Via email: licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org

RE: 120312 2BE-HAK0915 Request for Open Burning - Kitikmeot Region

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*.

Xstrata Zinc is requesting approval from the NWB for the controlled burning of approximately 100 m³ of untreated wood products at the Hackett River Project camp for 2012. Residual wood waste (including wood products such as paper, cardboard and wood) and building wood waste expected to be generated from 2012 camp improvements require disposal and will exceed the operating capacity of the existing incinerator.

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 this project in 2011 (letter dated 4 March 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.

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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Qimugjuk Building 969 P.O. Box 1870
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4 March 2011

EC File: 4704 004 021
NWB File: 2BE-HAK0915

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

Via email: licensingadmin@nunavutwaterboard.org

RE: 2BE-HAK0915 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 their Hackett River Project Hackett camp. The request includes untreated wood products such as paper, cardboard, and wood. This material is either too large for the existing incinerator at the Hackett camp or the volume exceeds the operating capacity of the existing incinerator.

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

- 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 license 2BE-HAK would still apply to the project. 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

Yours truly,



Paula C. Smith

Environmental Assessment Coordinator

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