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August 13, 2008

David Hohnstein
Acting Director of Technical Services
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU
X0E 1J0
(867) 360-6338

Re: 2BE-HOP0712 – Notification of Temporary Water Use for Exploration Drilling

Dear Mr. Hohnstein,

Hope Bay Mining Ltd. (HBML) would like to notify the NWB of temporary water use for exploration drilling under license 2BE-HOP0712. Several exploration drill holes will require the extraction of a relatively small volume of water from two lakes that have not been previously identified as exploration drilling water sources under license 2BE-HOP0712. The water body identified as a water source on the 2007 Drilling Water Source map associated with the water license closest to the location of these drill holes does not actually appear to exist. A fact sheet describing the proposed exploration activities, and maps showing the lakes to be used for water extraction and the locations of the drill holes are attached. A fish habitat assessment of both lakes was conducted by a qualified professional from Rescan. A copy of the Memorandum of this assessment is also attached for reference.

Water will be extracted from the lakes using either a Bambi bucket or a hose and pump system (including a screen based on the Fisheries and Oceans Canada guidelines). Although the Bambi bucket is expected to cause less impact on lake fish, a final decision as to which system to use will be based on cost and availability. No matter which system is used to extract the water, HBML will ensure that all fish habitat described in the attached memorandum is avoided. Furthermore, HBML will not exceed any daily volume limitations set by water license 2BE-HOP0712.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this notification, please contact me at Chris.Hanks@Newmont.com.

Sincerely,

Chris Hanks
Director Environmental and Social Responsibility
Hope Bay Mining Ltd.