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Technical Advisor – Mining
Nunavut Water Board
PO Box 119
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Dear Sirs and Mesdames:

Advance Notification of Closure and Decommissioning of the Windy Camp and Patch Lake Drill Maintenance Facility under Water Licence 2BE-HOP0712

In our October 2008 monthly monitoring report (dated December 24, 2008), we advised the NWB of the temporary closure of the Windy Camp effective October 23, 2008. At that time it was anticipated by Hope Bay Mining Ltd. (HBML) that the camp would re-open in 2009.

We have now consolidated our camp facilities at the Doris Camp, and it is our intention to close and decommission the Windy Camp.

Another facility covered by 2BE-HOP0712 Type B Water Licence, the Patch Lake Drill Maintenance Facility is also being partially decommissioned. With the opening of the new Doris Camp and the change in drilling contractors, drill maintenance has been moved from the Patch Lake facility also covered by this water licence, to Doris. There are two segments to this facility – the drill maintenance area formerly used by Major Drilling and the tank farm, which will remain in operation, used to service drilling operations in the central Hope Bay Belt. Effluent from the Patch facility will continue be managed in accordance with Part J Item 1 of the HOP0712 licence. Most of the temporary physical structures and equipment belonging to Major Drilling related to drill maintenance were removed during the winter of 2009 to Roberts Bay for transshipment by barge in 2009.

Please accept this as a notice of change in operating plans or conditions pursuant to Part B(3) of the Water Licence.

Prior to closure and decommissioning of the Windy Camp and the Patch Lake Facility we will provide you with, and seek your approval to, a revision to our Abandonment and Reclamation Plan (under Part I of the Water Licence) as it pertains to the Windy Camp and the Patch Lake Drill Maintenance Facility. It is planned beginning in the summer of 2010 to undertake closure

of both of these facilities. The formal closure and reclamation will take several years including post closure monitoring.

Pending the closure and decommissioning of the Windy Camp and Patch Lake, we will maintain compliance with the conditions for camps, access infrastructures and operations under Part E of the Water Licence.

Sincerely yours,

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