



Nunavut Regional Office
Water Resources Division
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

File # 9545-2-1.2BE.HOPA
CIDMS #342896

July 17, 2009

Via Email

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

Chris Hanks
Director, Environment and Social Responsibility
Hope Bay Mining Ltd.
North Vancouver, BC
V7P 3S1

Dear Ms. Beaulieu and Mr. Hanks,

**Subject Water License #2BE-H0P0712, Hope Bay Mining Ltd., Hope
Bay Regional Exploration Project, Kitikmeot Region,
Submission of Advance Notification of Closure and
Decommissioning of the Windy Lake Camp and Patch Lake
Drill Maintenance Facility**

Please be advised that on behalf of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, I have completed a review of the above referenced Hope Bay Mining Ltd. submission to the Nunavut Water Board.

A Technical Review Memorandum (attached) is provided to the Board for consideration.

Should you have any questions regarding this submission, feel free to contact me at 867-975-4555 or David.Abernethy@inac-ainc.gc.ca.

Regards,
David W. Abernethy

Cc. Ian Rumbolt, Acting Manager of Water Resources
 Kevin Buck, Manager of Water Resources
 Peter Kusugak, Manager of Field Operations

Technical Review Memorandum

Date: July 17/09

To: Phyllis Beaulieu, Nunavut Water Board
Chris Hanks, Hope Bay Mining Ltd.

Cc: Ian Rumbolt, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Kevin Buck, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Peter Kusugak, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

From: David Abernethy, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

Re: **Water License #2BE-HOP0712 Part I (1) – Hope Bay Mining Ltd.
– Hope Bay Regional Exploration Project – Advanced
Notification of Closure and Decommissioning of the Windy
Lake Camp and Patch Lake Drill Maintenance Facility**

A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

On July 7/09 the Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) distributed Hope Bay Mining Ltd.'s (HBML) May 26/09 notice of closure and decommissioning of the Windy Lake Camp and Patch Lake Drill Maintenance Facility.

B. RESULTS OF REVIEW

1. HBML has notified the NWB that they have consolidated their camp facilities at the Doris Camp which are regulated through water license #2AM-DOH0712. They now intend to close and decommission their Windy Camp and partially decommission their Patch Lake Drill Maintenance Facility. This work is planned to begin in the summer of 2010 following the approval of a revised Abandonment and Reclamation (A&R) Plan as it pertains to the Windy Camp and Patch Lake Drill Maintenance Facility.
2. According to HBML's notice, two (2) segments of the Patch Lake Drill Maintenance Facility will remain in operation, the maintenance area and the fuel tank farm. It is stated that "most of the temporary physical structures and equipment related to drilling maintenance were removed during the winter of 2009 to Roberts Bay for transshipment by barge in 2009."

C. COMMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS

The following comments / recommendations are provided to the Board for consideration,

1. INAC has no objections to HBML's intention of closing and decommissioning their Windy Lake Camp and partially decommissioning their Patch Lake Drill Maintenance Facility. It is noted that "pending the closure and decommissioning of the Windy Camp and Patch Lake Facility, compliance will be maintained with the conditions for camps, access infrastructures, and operations under Part E of the Water License."
2. It is recommended that the revised Abandonment and Reclamation Plan include a schedule of implementation with anticipated timelines.
3. HBML must continue to follow all applicable license terms and conditions throughout all decommissioning and closure activities associated with their Hope Bay Regional Exploration Project.