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August 5, 2009

David W. Abernathy  
Water Resources Regional Coordinator  
Indian and Northern Affairs  
Nunavut Regional Office Operations Directorate  
P.O. Box 100  
Iqaluit, NU  
X0A 0H0

**Re: Water License 2BE-HOP0712 Advance Notification of Closure and Decommissioning of the Windy Lake Camp and Patch Lake Drill Maintenance Facility INAC Review**

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Dear Mr. Abernathy,

In response to your July 17, 2009 letter and technical memorandum reviewing Hope Bay Mining Ltd.'s (HBML) submission of advance notification of the closure and decommissioning of the Windy Lake Camp and the Patch Lake Drill Maintenance Facility submission under the water license 2BE-HOP0712, please find below the implementation timetable addressing the noted deficiencies.

*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."*

**Action:** HBML will continue to comply with all conditions of Part E of the water license as they apply until the closure and decommissioning of the facilities.

*2. It is recommended that the revised Abandonment and Reclamation Plan include a schedule of implementation with anticipated timelines.*

**Action:** HBML will include a schedule of implementation with anticipated timelines within the revised Abandonment and Reclamation Plan. The revised Abandonment and Reclamation Plan will be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and the Nunavut Water Board for review by December 31, 2009.

*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.*

**Action:** HBML has and will continue to follow all applicable license terms and conditions throughout the decommissioning and closure activities associated with the Regional Exploration Project.

Please contact me at [Chris.Hanks@newmont.com](mailto:Chris.Hanks@newmont.com) if you have additional questions or require any further information relating to the contents of this letter.

Sincerely,

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