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Department of Environment

Ministère de l'Environnement

Feb. 14, 08

Phyllis Beaulieu  
Manager of Licensing  
Nunavut Water Board

**via Email to:** [licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org](mailto:licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org)

**RE: NWB FILE # 2BE-KIY – NEWMONT CANADA LTD. – WATER LICENSE APPLICATION FOR KIYUK LAKE PROJECT**

Dear Ms. Beaulieu:

The Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment (DOE) has reviewed the water license application for the Kiyuk Lake project from Newmont Canada Ltd. for conducting gold exploration about 300 km southwest of Arviat. Based on DOE's mandate under the *Environmental Protection Act*, we have the following comments to make related to spill contingency planning, and abandonment & restoration.

**1. SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN:**

Based on DOE's *Spill Contingency Planning and Reporting Regulations*, and *Contingency Planning and Spill Reporting in Nunavut: a Guide to the New Regulations*, DOE recommends the following:

- A contact number was provided; however, it is unclear if this is a 24-hour number. The name, job title and 24 hour telephone number for the persons responsible for activating the contingency plan should be provided in the spill plan. This ensures the employee discovering the spill can activate a response and provides a 24 hour point of contact for the authority investigating the spill.
- All fuel storage containers should be situated in a manner that allows easy access and removal of containers in the event of leaks or spills. Large fuel caches in excess of 20 drums should be inspected daily.
- DOE monitors the movement of hazardous wastes, from generators, carriers to receivers of the wastes, through the use of a tracking document known as a Waste Manifest. A Waste Manifest must accompany all

movements, and all parties must register with DOE by contacting Robert Eno at (867)975-7748 or [reno@gov.nu.ca](mailto:reno@gov.nu.ca).

- A spill report form should be included in the spill plan, and the applicant is recommended to utilize a newly developed spill report form in the case of spills, and to enter spill information electronically so it is legible to regulators investigating the spills. The new form can be obtained at the SPILL LINE.

## **2. ABANDONMENT & RESTORATION**

To ensure proper restoration of the project site after project closure, DOE recommends sumps should only be used for inert drilling fluids, not any other materials or substances. If hydrocarbon based drill additives such as rod grease is used as proposed in the license application, DOE recommends the use of a filtration system aimed towards reduction of harmful substances to the environment.

DOE thanks NWB for giving us the opportunity to review and provide comments on the water license application for the Kiyuk Lake project. Please contact us if you have any further questions or comments.

Yours sincerely,

***Original signed by***

Helen Yeh  
Environmental Assessment Coordinator  
Department of Environment  
Government of Nunavut