

190515 2BE-MPP1719 NWB Request Applicant to Response to Comments-OLAE

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Tue, May 28, 2019 at 9:36 AM

Hi Ida/Derek.

Thank you for forwarding comments the NWB received from ECCC and CIRNAC regarding our Mel Project renewal application. Please see follow-up resolutions listed below specific to each group.

ECCC Comments and Recommendations

1. The attached copy of the Mel Project Spill Contingency Plan has been updated to include ECCC's recommended changes to the Contacts List phone numbers.

CIRNAC Comments and Recommendations

1. Regarding drilling water use. Only diamond drilling requires water for drilling activities – RC drilling does not require any water. Every diamond drill is different, and ground conditions for every drill hole can be quite variable, which is why many drill manufacturers do not typically include the amount of water required for drilling in their specifications sheets/brochure. The 2018 NWB Annual Report submitted by North Arrow Feb. 22, 2019 reported water use levels from drilling in 2018, which showed the daily average use (during drilling) to be well under the authorized 50 m³/day. North Arrow does not envision a situation that would see water use rise to exceed the daily maximum amount permitted.

As for the type of drill used. North Arrow contracted Boart Longyear for drilling services, and a Boart Longyear Fly 55 Diamond Drill was used in 2018. This type of drill is of similar size and capability to that proposed (Discovery 1 Diamond Drill).

2. The Mel Project Spill Contingency and Abandonment and Restoration Plans were submitted through the NPC portal as part of North Arrow's initial application. It was North Arrow's understanding that related documents and plans would be forwarded to the various authorizing agencies (i.e. CIRNAC, NWB, QIA). Updated copies of these Plans are attached to this email, for reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any additional comments or questions regarding this submission.
Cheers,
Mike