



Environment Environnement
Canada Canada

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Our file: 4703 001

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Via Email at licensing@nwb.nunavut.ca

RE: NWB2MZE – Placer Dome (CLA) Ltd. – Maze Lake Project

On behalf of Environment Canada (EC), I have reviewed the information submitted with the above-mentioned application. The following specialist advice has been provided pursuant to Environment Canada's mandated responsibilities for the enforcement of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, and the *Species at Risk Act*.

Placer Dome (CLA) Ltd. has applied for a new water license application to allow for an exploration project 45 km west of Whale Cove, NU. The project will consist of prospecting, geological mapping, soil and water sampling and diamond drilling across the Maze Lake area. The application documents indicate that only land-based drilling will be conducted. A temporary camp will be created near Maze Lake. The project is a continuation of work that has previously occurred at this location.

Environment Canada recommends that the following conditions be applied throughout all stages of the project:

- Once available, EC recommends that a map indicating the location of the drill holes be submitted.
- The proponent shall not deposit, nor permit the deposit of any fuel, chemicals, drill cuttings, wastes or sediment into any water body. According to the *Fisheries Act*, Section 36(3), the deposition of deleterious substances of any type in water frequented by fish, or in any place under any conditions where the deleterious substance, or any other deleterious substance that results from the deposit of the deleterious substance, may enter any such water, is prohibited.
- The proponent has indicated that drilling additives will be used in association with this project. Environment Canada would like to inform the proponent that the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* has recently listed CaCl as a toxic substance. The proponent shall therefore ensure that if CaCl is used as a drill additive, all sumps containing CaCl are properly constructed and located in such a manner as to ensure that the contents will not enter any water body.
- Land based drilling should not occur within 30 m of the high water mark of any water body. Drilling wastes from land based drilling shall be disposed of in a sump such that the contents do not enter any water body.

- If an artesian flow is encountered, the drill hole shall be immediately plugged and permanently sealed.
- Any sumps created for the disposal of drill cuttings, grey water or camp sewage shall be located above the high water mark of any water body and in such a manner as to prevent the contents from entering any water body frequented by fish. Further, all sumps shall be backfilled upon completion of the field season and contoured to match the surrounding landscape.
- The proponent shall not store materials on the surface ice of lakes or streams, except that which is for immediate use.
- Environment Canada recommends the use of an approved incinerator for the disposal of combustible camp wastes. The proponent shall ensure that all non-combustible and hazardous wastes, including waste oil, receive proper treatment and disposal at an approved facility.
- All fuel caches shall be located above the high water mark of any water body. Further, EC recommends the use of secondary containment, such as self-supporting insta-berms, when storing barreled fuel on location rather than relying on natural depressions.
- Drip pans, or other similar preventative measures, should be used when refuelling equipment on site.

If there are any changes in the proposed project, EC should be notified, as further review may be necessary. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4639 or by email at colette.meloche@ec.gc.ca.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Colette Meloche
Environmental Assessment / Contaminated Sites Specialist

cc: (Paula Pacholek, Northern Environmental Assessment Coordinator, Environment Canada, Yellowknife)