



Environment Canada Environnement Canada

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Via Email

**RE: NWB2TMP – Kennecott Canada Exploration Inc. –
 Thirty Mile Project – New Type ‘B’**

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*.

Kennecott Canada Exploration Inc. (KLCE) has applied for a multi-year water licence for water use and waste disposal associated with exploratory drilling and camp operations in their Thirty Mile Project. The water licence sought by the proponent has a time frame of August 2005 to August 2007. The purpose of the Thirty Miles Project is to carry out diamond mineral exploration on Crown Land mineral claims within latitudes of 63° 48'N to 64° 08'N and longitudes of 96° 30'W to 97° 01'W. The project is in an early exploration stage having wide-spaced till sampling and airborne geophysical analyses completed to date. Planned activities for the 2005 season include the establishment of a temporary camp, and the practice of additional geophysical analyses, sampling, and drilling activities.

The temporary camp will be established on the western shore of Pitz Lake (coordinates: 63° 59' 30"N, 96° 47'W). This site is 50 km southwest of the Hamlet of Baker Lake, NU. The camp will accommodate a maximum of 20 people and will be equipped with a spill response kit.

KLCE has submitted a spill contingency plan which provides a chain of command to follow in the event of a fuel spill, necessary clean-up procedures for fuel spills on land, water, snow, and ice, a listing of spill kit contents, hazardous substance MSDS information sheets, and an anticipated product inventory. All drilling sites will have a spill response kit throughout drilling operations.



The fuel products and their corresponding volumes are as follows:

GASOLINE: 10 x 55 gallon drums

DIESEL: 30 x 55 gallon drums

JET-B: 400 x 55 gallon drums

The proponent anticipates that 1,000 L of fresh water will be consumed on a daily basis from Kirwan Lake for domestic purposes. When conducting diamond drilling operations, approximately 2,000 L will be taken from nearby lakes and streams on a daily basis.

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

GENERAL

- The proponent shall not deposit, nor permit the deposit of any fuel, drill cuttings, chemicals, 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.

CAMPS

- The proponent shall not store materials on the surface ice of lakes or streams, except that which is for immediate use.
- EC recommends the use of an approved incinerator for the disposal of combustible camp wastes.
- Any sumps, including those created for the disposal of drill cuttings, 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.

FUEL STORAGE/SPILL CONTINGENCY/HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- 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, shall be used when refueling equipment on site.



MIGRATORY BIRDS

- EC recommends that all activities be conducted outside the migratory bird breeding season, which extends from approximately 1 June to 15 July. These dates are approximate, and if active nests (i.e., nests containing eggs or young) are encountered outside of these dates, the proponent should avoid the area until nesting is complete (i.e., the young have left the nest). Paragraph 6(a) of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* states that no one shall disturb or destroy the nests of migratory birds.

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 if you have any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 975-4631 or by email via david.abernethy@ec.gc.ca.

Regards,

David W. Abernethy
Environmental Assessment Technician