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NUNAVUT WATER BOARD
NUNAVUT IMALIRIYIN KATIMAYINGI

January 7, 2004

NWB1ULU0008/Part I/Item 1

Via regular mail and email
Motion Number 2003-10-11

Wayne Grudzinski
Superintendent Loss Control/Acting Manager
Lupin Operations, NU
9818 International Airport
Edmonton, AB T5J 2T2
Email: wayne.grudzinski@kinross.com

Subject: NWB Approval of, and Request for Revisions to the Interim Abandonment and Restoration of the Ulu Exploration Project, Nunavut

Dear Mr. Grudzinski:

On April 13th, 2001 an Interim Abandonment and Restoration Plan ("A&R Plan") was submitted to the Nunavut Water Board ("NWB") by Echo Bay Mines Limited ("Licensee"), pursuant to Part I, Item 1 of Water License NWB1ULU0008. Subsequent to the A&R Plan's submission, the NWB distributed it for external review by interested parties. One review submission, dated August 7, 2001 by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada ("INAC"), was received.

The NWB hereby approves the A&R Plan. However, the NWB has been advised that since August 13th, 2003, operations at the Lupin Mine have been suspended indefinitely. Given the changes in operational status at the Lupin Mine, the NWB requests that the A&R Plan for the Ulu Exploration Project be revised to reflect the current Care and Maintenance scenario and then resubmit the A&R Plan to the NWB for approval. In addition to a general revision of the A&R Plan, the Licensee is requested to specifically address the following items in the revised A&R Plan:

1. That a revised implementation schedule, as well as an update of any progressive reclamation activities completed since the initial April 2001 submission be included in the revised A&R Plan.
2. That any modifications to the A&R Plan that have occurred since its submission in April 2001 be clearly identified in the revised version.
3. That the Licensee provides an indication as to how, and how frequently, site inspections will be performed at the Ulu Exploration Project in light of the change in operations at the Lupin Mine.

4. That the updated assessment of the current mine restoration liability using the current version of RECLAIM, or its equivalent as required in Part I, Item 3 of the License, be included in the revised A&R Plan.
5. That, as requested by INAC, monitoring of the airstrip and roads for erosion or ponding after spring melt has subsided, and subsequent inspection prior to freeze up to ensure free flow through the culverts, be incorporated into the A&R Plan under activities Section 2.2 (Long Term Shutdown).

As it appears that operations at Lupin Mine may be heading towards final closure, it is very important that the Licensee is aware of its obligations concerning the restoration of the Ulu Exploration Project site. The NWB will continue to work with the Licensee, as well as the other environmental regulators to ensure that the A&R Plan is correctly implemented.

Should you have any questions on this matter, do not hesitate to contact Dionne Filiatrault, NWB Senior Technical Advisor, Patrick Duxbury, NWB Mine Reclamation Coordinator, or myself.

Yours truly,

Original signed by:

Philippe diPizzo
Chief Administrative Officer

Cc: Lupin Distribution List

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