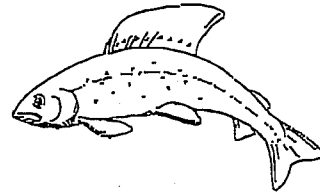




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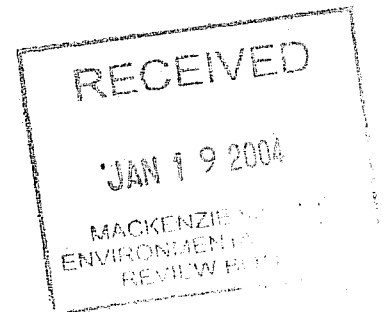
Fish Habitat Management
Suite 101, 5204 - 50th Avenue
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
X1A 1E2

January 19, 2004

FAX

(867) 766-7074

TO/A:
Martin Haefele
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact
Review Board
Box 938
200 Scotia Centre, 5102-50th Ave
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P6



SC02081

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MESSAGE

RE: Paramount Cameron Hills Extension EA - KTFN Information Request 1.2.76 - DFO Response

FROM/DE:

Bruce Hanna
Habitat Biologist
Western Arctic Area

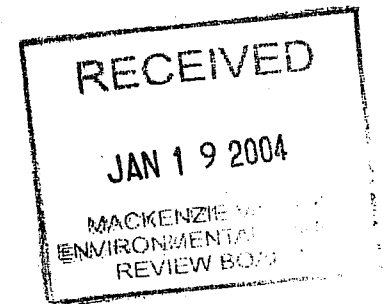
telephone (867) 669-4931
facsimile (867) 669-4940
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et OcéansFish Habitat Management
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Yellowknife, Northwest
Territories
X1A 1E2Your file *Votre référence*Our file *Notre référence*

SC02081

January 19, 2004

MVEIRB
Box 938, 5102-50th Ave
Yellowknife, NWT
X1A 2N7Attention: Martin Haefele**RE: Paramount Cameron Hills Extension EA - KTFN Information Request
1.2.76 - DFO Response**

Dear Mr. Haefele

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Fish Habitat Management – Western Arctic Area (DFO) has received the above mentioned information request. On behalf of DFO, I am providing the following response. In order to put the response in context, I have included the original preamble and request.

Preamble:

Using guidelines established by DFO, Paramount will be withdrawing water from surface water bodies for use in its operations.

Request:

Please provide the MVEIRB with the following information:

- a) Explain how DFO will monitor the impacts on a year-to-year basis to ensure that too much water is not withdrawn from the surface water bodies.
- b) Explain what DFO will do, and under what authority, in the event that too much water is being withdrawn.

DFO Response:

- a) DFO has developed and currently utilizes the *DFO Protocol for Water Withdrawal for Oil and Gas Activities in the NWT*. Due to limited information, the protocol was based on the precautionary principle using requirements on the Alaskan North Slope and recommendations from the Berger Inquiry as a starting point. DFO is requiring companies to submit total water volumes utilized from each source on a year to year basis in

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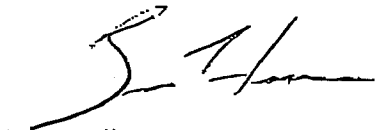
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order to compare with the volume that had been originally requested. The amount actually used is often less than what had been asked for.

DFO is currently in the preliminary stages of a NWT study focusing on the potential impacts to the aquatic community from winter water withdrawal. The results of this study will be used to refine the protocol where appropriate.

- b) If water is withdrawn in excess of the limits outlined in the protocol and impacts to fish and/ or fish habitat are identified, prosecution under section 32 and/or subsection 35(1) of the *Fisheries Act* may be initiated.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (867) 669-4931 or Pete Cott at (867) 777-7520.



Bruce Hanna
Habitat Biologist
Fish Habitat Management
Department of Fisheries and Oceans- Western Arctic Area

Cc: Pete Cott, Area Habitat Biologist-DFO