



Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

Affaires indiennes
et du Nord Canada

Environment & Conservation
Box 1500
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2R3

August 16, 2010

MVEIRB File Number: EA0809-002
Chuck Hubert
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
P.O. BOX 938
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2N7



BY EMAIL: ~~chubert@reviewboard.ca~~ FAX 766-7074

**Re: Canadian Zinc Prairie Creek Environmental Assessment First Round
Information Request Response**

Dear Mr. Hubert:

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) is providing the following information as a response to the information request (IR) issued to all parties by the Review Board, which states:

Parties are asked to submit a brief description of the type and scope of any non-regulatory agreements between parties and the developer, or between parties, related to this environmental assessment.

Response

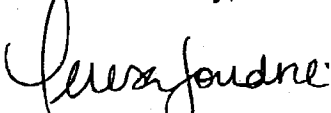
INAC is not party to any non-regulatory agreements with respect to the Canadian Zinc project, and is not currently involved in any discussions about non-regulatory agreements with any party to the environmental assessment. INAC is aware that Canadian Zinc may be proposing the development of a Canadian Zinc – Government - Dehcho First Nations body that could function as an oversight body to help coordinate activities and communication amongst the proponent, Aboriginal groups and government parties for the operation and life of the mine. INAC is not currently involved in discussions about this body.

The Review Board's letter of July 23, 2010 refers to environmental agreements. As the Review Board is aware, environmental agreements are legally binding contracts between two or more parties that may address environmental monitoring and management of major resource development projects. Environmental agreements are not required under legislation and are not intended to overlap with existing

regulatory instruments. INAC strongly prefers that mitigation and monitoring measures be incorporated into regulatory authorizations and licences rather than into environmental agreements, wherever possible, bearing in mind that the scope of the terms and conditions of regulatory instruments is limited by the legislation and regulations establishing those instruments.

If you have any questions about this response, please contact Lorraine Seale at 669-2590 or via email at lorraine.seale@ainc-inac.gc.ca.

Yours sincerely,



Teresa Joudrie
Director, Renewable Resources and Environment

cc. INAC EA Working Group