

EA0809-002

September 1, 2011

To: Parties to EA0809-002

Re: EA0809-002 – Prairie Creek Mine:

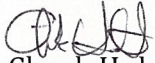
Ruling with Reasons for Decision on Parks Canada Request

Dear parties:

Please find attached the Mackenzie Valley Review Board Ruling with Reasons for Decision on the August 16, 2011 Request from Parks Canada in the Prairie Creek Mine environmental assessment.

Parties are granted additional time to consider the new evidence submitted by Canadian Zinc Corporation (CZN) during the ruling procedure. The Review Board wants parties to have sufficient time to include the new evidence in final submissions. Final submissions from parties are therefore due September 13, 2011 and the final submission is due from CZN on September 16, 2011.

Sincerely,



Chuck Hubert

Environmental Assessment Officer



REASONS FOR DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF: Environmental Assessment EA0809-002, Prairie
Creek Mine, Canadian Zinc Corporation;
AND IN THE MATTER OF: A Request for Ruling by Parks Canada dated
August 16, 2011

BACKGROUND:

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) held public hearings for the Prairie Creek Mine Project from June 22-24, 2011. On July 15, the Review Board set a deadline for final submissions from parties at September 6, 2011 and a final submission from the developer, Canadian Zinc Corporation (CZN), at September 9, 2011.

THE REQUEST FOR RULING:

On August 16, 2011 Parks Canada filed a Request for Ruling (Request) with the Review Board to do the following:

Delay the final submissions deadline and

- a) Require the proponent to provide an evaluation of the potential impacts, significance of impacts and identification of mitigative or remedial measures for water storage pond options.
- b) Require the proponent to provide a surface storage option for tailings after mine closure and an evaluation of the potential impacts, significance of impacts and identification of mitigative or remedial measures of that storage option.
- c) Provide adequate time (one month) and opportunity for all parties to review the information provided in (a) and (b) before final submissions are due.

On August 17, the Review Board determined that sufficient evidence was on the public record to address point b) and accordingly, parties were directed to submit comments on part a) of the Request only with a due date of August 26.

On August 3rd, CZN had submitted a document to the Review Board with information on possible project modifications related to water quality objectives which included the consideration of additional water storage options.

With respect to the Request, CZN responded to the Review Board on August 21, 2011 with a letter that provided information on additional water storage options with the intent of fulfilling part a) of the Request. On August 26, responses to the Request were received from Environment Canada, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada along with further information from CZN in response to the Fisheries and Oceans Canada submission.

REASONS:

The Review Board has considered the responses submitted by CZN and parties on the Request from Parks Canada. CZN has described two water storage options and assessed the impacts of the two water storage options on the environment. In addition, correspondence from CZN included a commitment that, of the two water storage options considered, one of the options will be selected.

The August 21 and 26 submissions from CZN provide a response to the Request. This information, however, needs to be treated as new evidence on the public record. Additional time is needed in order to incorporate the new evidence into final submissions.

In the view of the Review Board, part a) of the Parks Canada Request has been answered. The Board does, however, want parties to have sufficient time to consider this new evidence and include it into their final submissions.

DECISION:

For these reasons, the Review Board finds that the Request has been addressed by Canadian Zinc Corporation, however, additional time is granted to consider this new evidence in final submissions.

The Parks Canada Request is therefore denied and parties are granted an additional week for preparation of final submissions to September 13. Final submission from CZN is September 16.

MACKENZIE VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD:



Richard Edjericon
Chairperson

September 1, 2011