Affaires autochtones et Développement du Nord Canada

GENERAL

NT257

MVEIRB File Number: EA0809-004

April 19, 2012

Mr. Chuck Hubert
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
PO BOX 938
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2N7

RE: AANDC Meeting with Fortune Minerals – April 18, 2012

Dear Mr. Hubert:

AANDC is appreciative of the Board's decision to include a second round of IRs in the Environmental Assessment for the Fortune NICO project. Several of the items submitted from the February Technical Session are of critical importance to AANDC with regards to evaluating the appropriateness of Water Quality Objectives proposed in the DAR for the Fortune NICO project.

AANDC has reviewed the additional information related to water quality submitted to the Board on April 13th. AANDC representatives met with Fortune Minerals via teleconference on April 18th to discuss this additional information.

During the meeting, a number of items were discussed including:

- Details of the water quality modeling (contribution of sources other than effluent to the predicted water quality);
- Details of the risk assessment (consideration of food webs);
- Mixing zone requirements;
- Distinction between toxicity thresholds and water quality objectives.

The detailed results of this meeting will be summarized and submitted to the Board for posting on the registry. This meeting summary will identify a number of items where additional information will be provided by both parties. Further, there is an understanding that discussions will continue once the additional information has been provided, and prior to the June 15, 2012 submission deadline for Technical Reports.

As such, AANDC does not feel it is necessary to reiterate these requests in a submission to the Board on April 20, 2012.

In the interest of keeping the process open and transparent, all additional information provided by the company as well as meeting summaries will be forwarded to the Board for posting on the Public Registry for this Environmental Assessment.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Mr. Robert Jenkins at 669-2574 or robert.jenkins@aandc.gc.ca.

Yours sincerely,

Teresa Joudrie

Director, Renewable Resources and Environment