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July 23, 2010

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board, 200 Scotia Centre, P.O. Box 938, Yellowknife NT X1A 2N7

Attention: Vern Christensen, Executive Director

(by email: <<u>vchristensen@reviewboard.ca></u>)

Dear Sirs:

Re EA 0809-004 of Fortune Minerals Ltd. proposed NICO Project - Thichô Government Request for Ruling, filed May 28, 2010.

Fortune made a further submission to the Review Board on July 19, after the deadline for such submissions and without permission of the Board. Tłîchô Government could not have responded to that submission in its reply, which had to be filed on July 15.

The Review Board is therefore asked to consider this Tłîchô Government reply to Fortune's latest submission, when considering the materials on file and rendering its decision.

It is respectfully submitted that Fortune's latest submission confirms the substantial uncertainties about the project, and in particular, the hypothetical nature of the roads required for the project. This is shown by the following:

First and most fundamentally, Fortune has consistently said that it is GNWT that would build the all season industrial highway required between Fortune's proposed mine spur road and Highway 3. The GNWT has been silent and never filed a submission in this proceeding. Fortune is not the proper party to make representations to the Review Board about that industrial highway, and the Board should not make decisions in reliance on this submission by Fortune.

Second, this latest letter talks about a proposal for a "realigned winter road," or an "all-land seasonal (extended winter) road route". Whether or not such a "realigned" winter road may be consented to by Tłîchô Government and developed on some basis in the near or distant future, it would not meet Fortune's requirements, which are for an all-weather industrial highway.

Third, in letters of June 9 and 14, Mr. Rinaldi wrote on behalf of Fortune that the Tłîchô Government's map showing Fortune's road proposals was inaccurate, and should not have included any reference to a proposed road to Gameti. Yet in this latest submission

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by Mr. Shryer, Fortune now says the proposed "realigned" winter road would go to Gameti, and would be for the purpose of providing benefits for both Gameti and Whati.

Fourth, at the end of his letter, Mr. Shryer confirms that the GNWT road proposal on which it relies would be developed in **two** phases, starting with an all-land winter road, which would later be "upgraded" to an all-weather road. The letter further confirms that such a road would be subject to negotiations between Tłîchô Government and GNWT. Furthermore there is no discussion of the engineering or financial challenges for such road projects, or the resulting feasibility or likelihood of these road proposals.

Therefore Fortune's latest submission fully confirms and supports the view in the submissions by DIAND and Tłîchô Government, that an effective EA could not be conducted in the present circumstances.

ALL OF WHICH IS RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

Arthur Pape, Counsel for Tłîchô Government

c.c. The Parties