

APPENDIX J

Terms of Reference

Technical Advisory committee

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DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE - TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

An existing Parks Canada/CZN/Dehcho Technical Committee currently meets approximately every 4 months to discuss issues of mutual interest. CZN proposes that this committee be replaced by a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for mine operations and include local Band representation. Meetings will be held in locations proximal to the project and communities.

This document is a draft terms of reference for the TAC.

Location and Frequency of Meetings

We propose that 3 meetings be held each year. A winter meeting (January) would be held in Nahanni Butte. Travel to the community will be possible by road and ice bridge. The Mine access road will also be open and in operation, affording an opportunity for TAC meeting attendees to observe activities. A spring meeting (May) would be held in Fort Simpson, and a summer meeting (August) held at the Mine site which would include a site tour and inspection.

Committee Composition and Attendance

CZN proposes that the meetings be co-chaired by representatives from CZN and Parks Canada. This is meant to be a procedural function. These representatives will also be responsible for meeting arrangements, circulation of agendas and meeting minutes. The Nahanni Butte Dene Band and Lidlii Kue First Nation will be asked to nominate a representative for meeting attendance. However, the meetings will be open to other Bands and the general public.

The meetings will also be open to regulatory representatives. Regulators will be encouraged to attend the Fort Simpson meeting as this would be the main annual meeting at which monitoring data would be reviewed and discussed.

Scope of the Committee

The intention is for the meetings to be an appropriate forum to review operations, consider monitoring data, and decide on any need for adaptive changes. Band members and the public can ask questions and raise concerns. Regulators can do the same, and also be available to answer questions from the Bands and public.

The TAC is not intended to replace established regulatory systems and responsibilities. Rather, it is intended as a forum to discuss results and issues, and consider operational changes. It is also a forum for community members to see environmental management and regulatory processes at work, and to allow individuals to make comments.

The formation of a TAC is partly based on the recognition that there are multiple interests in the region, including CZN's interest in the Mine, Parks Canada's interest in the NNPR, and NBDB and LKFN interest in their traditional lands. The TAC provides an opportunity for all parties to meet and discuss issues of mutual interest, given that there is a shared management approach to the region's natural resources.

For the most part, Mine staff will be responsible for collecting and reporting monitoring data, and for undertaking studies directly related to the Mine operation. From time to time, the TAC may decide that additional monitoring or studies are warranted. At that time, consideration will be given to responsibilities and cost sharing depending on the nature, scope and focus of the work. If the decision is made that an external party (e.g. a consultant) should be hired to undertake the work, the TAC will consider candidates and agree on a selection that is acceptable to all parties.