

Subject: Environmental Assessment: Sable, Pigeon, Beartooth Open Pits + R elated Infrastructure

Date: Tue, 27 Apr 1999 07:04:05 +1000

From: "Wittelman, John JP" <Wittelman.John.JP@bhp.com.au>

To: "'kleinh@internorth.com'" <kleinh@internorth.com>,
"'lazzo@internorth.com'" <lazzo@internorth.com>

CC: "Williams, Scott WS" <Williams.Scott.WS@bhp.com.au>,
"Burlingame, Denise DA" <Burlingame.Denise.DA@bhp.com.au>,
"Hanks, Chris CC" <Hanks.Chris.CC@bhp.com.au>,
"'adamsm@inac.gc.ca'" <adamsm@inac.gc.ca>

Heidi and Louie...we obtained from the NWT Water Board public registry a copy of an April 6th letter from David Livingstone to Gordon Wray indicating that DIAND supported referring the above mining activities to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) for an environmental review. This referral resulted from November 1998 applications made by BHP to DIAND for land leases and the NWT Water Board for a type 'B' water licence. Applications for a Fisheries Authorization and a Navigable Waters Protection Act Authorization are pending.

This project is a natural progression of mining at the EKATI Diamond Mine. Throughout the earlier Environmental Assessment Review Process and subsequent licencing, BHP always indicated that should other economically promising kimberlite pipes be found, mining would extend beyond the initial 5 kimberlite pipes. We have reached the stage where new kimberlite pipes will be needed in the near future to ensure we can smoothly continue mining and processing kimberlite. In this we want to work with the MVEIRB to ensure the potential environmental effects are known and show how they can be mitigated. This would then lead to the regulatory phase where the terms and conditions of the mitigation would be defined. With the completion of the Environmental Impact Statement in 1995 wherein many of the potential environmental effects are described, baseline studies for the project, and from environmental effects studies on-going for the last two years, we feel most of the information for the Impact Review Board to make a decision is already available.

In talking to Louie on April 23, we agreed to a meeting at your offices on April 30th at 1:00 p.m. to describe the project, the environmental baseline monitoring carried out to date and planned for this summer, and to outline the socioeconomic accomplishments we have had this past year. At the same time we hope you will familiarize us with the process to be followed in the environmental assessment of this project.

We look forward to meeting with you on Friday.

Regards.

John

Subject: Re: Environmental Assessment: Sable, Pigeon, Beartooth Open Pits + Related Infrastructure

Date: Mon, 26 Apr 1999 16:33:58 -0600

From: Louie Azzolini <lazzo@internorth.com>

Organization: M.V.E.R.W.G

To: "Witteman, John JP" <Witteman.John.JP@bhp.com.au>

BCC: louiea@internorth.com, Heidi Klein <kleinh@internorth.com>

John, there may have been a misunderstanding. Please call to arrange a meeting date with Heidi Klein. The 30 is fully booked out.

Louie Azzolini

> "Witteman, John JP" wrote:

>

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> a copy of an April 6th letter from David Livingstone to Gordon Wray
> indicating that DIAND supported referring the above mining activities
> to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) for
> an environmental review. This referral resulted from November 1998
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> this project.

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> Regards.

>

> John

Luciano Azzolini <lazzo@internorth.com>

Environmental Assessment Officer

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Working Group