



DEH CHO FIRST NATIONS

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Facsimile

Date:

February 17/03

To:

ARAN EHRICH

Organization:

MUEIRB

Fax:

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From:

LAURA PITKANEN

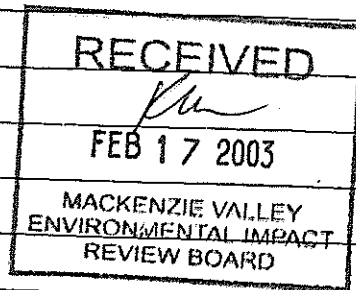
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2

Comments:

Re: CANADIAN ZINC



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February 17, 2003

Alan Ehrlich
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Deh Cho First Nations have serious concerns about the adverse effects of Canadian Zinc operations on water quality and freshwater aquatic life. We need more time to review the recent information of this file and we request a one week extension to comment on the recent water treatment information from Canadian Zinc Corporation.

Deh Cho First Nations continue to be frustrated by the short response timeframes of both Boards. We received the most recent Canadian Zinc information from the MVEIRB on February 4, 2003. The response deadline of February 17, 2003 only provides us with 10 working days in which to assess this highly technical information, consult with Deh Cho communities, and respond to the Board.

As you are already aware, Deh Cho First Nations do not have the human and fiscal resources to assess and provide meaningful, timely responses to all the applications from both the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board and the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board.

We request a written response to our request for an extension, along with an explanation of how the Board determines the response timeframes for stakeholders.

Sincerely,

Laura Pitkanen
Resource Management Coordinator