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 MACKENZIE VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

Environmental Protection Branch
 Suite 301, 5204 - 50th Avenue
 Yellowknife, NT X1A 1E2

DATE: APRIL 11/03
 TO: MARTIN HAEFELE

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FROM: Wade Romanko
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Number of pages including cover: 2
 Subject: Review Comments and Recommendations

MESSAGE:

Please contact (867) 669-4736 if this facsimile is not complete.

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Environmental Protection Branch
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April 11, 2003

Our File: 4706 001 002

Martin Haefele
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
200 Scotia Centre
PO Box 938
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7
Fax: (867) 766-7074

Re: Terms of Reference and Work Plan for the Environmental Assessment – Northrock Resources Ltd. Summit Creek B-44 Exploratory Well (S02A-004/S02L1-003).

On behalf of Environment Canada, I have reviewed the Terms of Reference and Work Plan for the Environmental Assessment of the Northrock Resources Summit Creek (B-44) exploratory drilling program. Environment Canada's contribution to your request for specialist advice is based primarily on the mandated responsibilities of Section 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, and the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*.

Comments are provided on the following sections:

3 Scope of Assessment:

- The scope of assessment could establish the physical boundaries of the screening (site specific, local, regional), or alternately, the area/boundaries should be identified within the Environmental Impact Statement.

4 Terms of Reference – Development Description C-5 Waste Management, this section should capture the following:

- An engineered sump design, which addresses the building and maintaining of a permanent containment sump construction, should be included in the waste management description. The region is particularly sensitive to surface disturbance, disruption of the permafrost-active layer equilibrium, and related geo-technical problems.
- Construction details specific to fuel storage areas should also to be included in the waste management description.

I can be contacted at (867) 669-4736 (by e-mail at wade.romanko@ec.gc.ca) for any questions or comments with regard to the foregoing.

Yours truly,

Wade Romanko
Environmental Emergencies and Assessment Officer
Environmental Protection Branch - Northern Division



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