



Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

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 Date: Sept. 26, 2003 Pages: 3 including this page  
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 Re: Meeting to clarify deficiency - Snowfield Development Corp (EA-03-006)

NOTES:

Please see attachment.

Sherry

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## **Meeting Notes**

Sept. 23, 2003

**Re: Snowfields Developments Ltd. EA**

### **Attendees:**

Robert Pattersen, President, Snowfield Development Corp.

Mike Beauregard, Project Engineer, Snowfield Development Corp.

Steve Moore, EBA Engineering Consultants Ltd.

Sherry Sian, EAO, MVEIRB

Alan Ehrlich, SEAO, MVEIRB

### **Summary of Meeting:**

Representatives of Snowfields met with Review Board staff to discuss Board procedures. The following subjects were discussed:

Robert asked about procedures for handling of confidential information- How can sites be verified or activities managed appropriately without actual locations? Alan responded that there were ways for an independent tribunal to handle confidential matters while still demonstrating transparency.

Mike pointed out sites of past development that are not on the Gartner Lee draft map, and named other sources of information that appear to have not been consulted.

Robert expressed his willingness to avoid disturbing archaeological sites.

Sherry discussed the timing of the Gartner Lee report relative to Snowfield's DAR (and possible revisions). Sherry and Alan expressed the need for the DAR to meet the Terms of Reference, and suggested that Snowfields may wish to re-read the Terms of Reference to ensure compliance, particularly for the cumulative effect portion of the DAR. Snowfields may also comment on the Gartner Lee study later in the process, and consider it when revising the cumulative effects section of the DAR. Snowfields may wish to re-do the entire DAR, or build on the existing material. However, given the anticipated release date, the study will be available to use as much or as little as the developer chooses. It was reinforced that predictions should be supported with a clear rationale.

Snowfields asked if there has been any further decision on whether it would have separate hearings from the other developments in the area. Staff responded that given the deficiency, the development could likely not proceed to hearings with the others. At this point, there is a preference to deal with this development separately because it is larger and on land. Snowfield stated that timing was important to it, as missing an exploration season would be economically devastating to the company.

Regarding bulk sampling, it was reinforced that this would be relatively small by industry standards. It would involve trenching of 500t of material and reclamation of the trench. Sherry noted that the referral did not include bulk sampling and should be viewed as a future development in keeping with the first response to deficiency statement.

Mike noted that most archaeological sites in the area appear to be on the shoreline. Roger asked if other current demands on the Board would affect the timelines of the EA. Alan replied that it should not.

Robert stated that Steve Moore is the new contact for the developer, and was asked to provide that request in writing.