

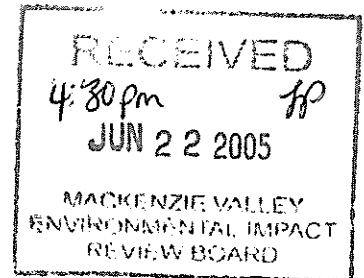


Northwest
Territories Environment and Natural Resources

EA 0405-002

JUN 22 2005

Mr. Martin Haefele
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
PO Box 938
5102 - 50TH AVENUE
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2N7



Dear Mr. Haefele:

Information Requests - Canadian Zinc Corporation EA-0405-02

Please find attached the Government of the Northwest Territories' (GNWT) information requests to the Canadian Zinc Corporation in regards to their proposed Phase Three Surface Drilling Exploration Program at the Prairie Creek Mine. The requested information is required to assist the GNWT in its review of the proposed project.

Please call Mr. Paul Cobban, Environmental Assessment Analyst at (867) 920-6106 with any questions that you may have regarding the above comments and recommendations.

Sincerely,


R. P. Bailey
Deputy Minister

Attachments



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IR Number: GNWT 1
Source: Government of the Northwest Territories
To: Canadian Zinc Corporation
DAR Section: Section 3 – Project Response to Environmental Sensitivity, Areas used by Wildlife
Terms of Reference Section: Section 4.2 Specific Items, C Project Response to Environmental Sensitivity

Preamble:

The Terms of Reference ask CZC to identify how it will modify its Drilling Program in response to environmental sensitivity. In addition CZC is asked to provide project alternatives and mitigation measures for any areas where sensitivity criteria are found. Sensitivity criteria include:

- *areas frequented or used extensively by wildlife such as food sources, travel corridors, den or nesting sites, mineral licks and natality areas for Dall Sheep; and,*
- *vegetation communities that are sensitive to disturbance or have slow recovery rates.*

CZC states that “at the present time, CZC is not aware of specific areas to avoid or what thresholds should be used to determine if and when project activities should be modified to minimize impacts. For these reasons, CZC will engage a qualified biologist...” (p. 28 DAR). This is a first step at obtaining the information requested, however more information is required to assess potential impacts.

Request:

1) *Please provide information on:*

- *areas frequented or used extensively by wildlife including food sources, travel corridors, den or nesting sites, mineral licks and natality areas for Dall Sheep that are in the project area; and,*
- *vegetation communities that are sensitive to disturbance or have slow recovery rates, specifically those areas that have been previously undisturbed.*

2) *Identify how CZC will modify their program in response to these identified areas of environmental sensitivity. Please provide the specific criteria that will trigger the modifications.*

IR Number: GNWT 2
Source: Government of the Northwest Territories
To: Canadian Zinc Corporation
DAR Section: Section 5.3 – Reclamation
Terms of Reference Section: Section 4.2 Specific Items, E3 Reclamation

Preamble:

The Terms of Reference request CZC to “Provide greater detail on the methods that will be employed to re-vegetate sites disturbed by the proposed Drilling Program, as alluded to in Section 2.2.1.2 of the Detailed Project Description. Information regarding a re-vegetation monitoring program and the species constituents of the native seed mix should be provided”. CZC provides general information on pages 34 and 35 of the DAR stating “A seed mix of native vegetation will be selected to quickly re-establish stable conditions and plant cover. An appropriate level of effort will be exerted in all areas where reclamation will be undertaken in order to achieve pre-determined goals.” (p. 34 DAR). However, to assess reclamation success and in turn the potential long-term impacts of the proposed project more detail is required. Examples of re-vegetation efforts elsewhere in northern Canada may prove useful in suggesting appropriate seed mixes, techniques and specific challenges that might be encountered.

Request:

Please provide more detail on the overall goals of the re-vegetation program, the methods that will be employed to re-vegetate sites disturbed by the proposed program, the benefits/disadvantages of particular species, seed mixes, seed analysis, site-specific site preparation techniques.

IR Number: GNWT 3
Source: Government of the Northwest Territories
To: Canadian Zinc Corporation
DAR Section: Section 5.4 – Environmental Monitoring
Terms of Reference Section: Section 4.2 Specific Items, E4 Environmental Monitoring

Preamble:

The Terms of Reference request CZC to “Provide a protocol for short and long-term monitoring that addresses sediment and erosion control measures, stream crossings, reclamation and re-vegetation.” The information provided by CZC on p. 36 of the DAR is a very general discussion of how re-vegetation efforts will be monitored. More detail, however, is required on the proposed monitoring program and how it will insure re-vegetation success to the extent possible.

Request:

Please provide more detail on the short and long-term monitoring strategy that will be put in place to address reclamation and re-vegetation of the project footprint, including adaptive strategies to deal with potential difficulties that may be encountered.