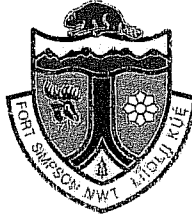


# Village of Fort Simpson



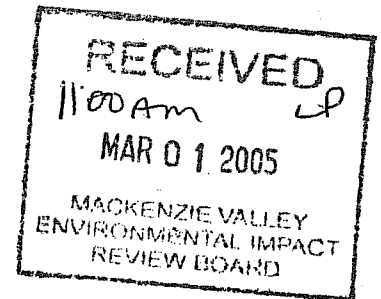
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February 22, 2005

Ms. Mary Tapsell  
Manager, Environmental Assessment  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact review Board  
P.O. Box 938  
5102 – 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Yellowknife, NT  
X1A 2N7

Please Quote  
File no.



Dear Ms. Tapsell:

**Re: Environmental Assessment of Canadian Zinc Corporation's  
proposed Phase 3 Surface Drilling Exploration**

On behalf of the Village of Fort Simpson, I am writing to voice our support for Canadian Zinc Corporation's proposed Phase 3 Surface Exploration Program and to urge the Board to ensure this program is allowed to commence this summer.

More specifically we are very concerned with the length of time it is taking for the company to obtain approval for what can only be referred too as a minor work program.

As the Mayor of Fort Simpson, I toured the company's mine site during the summer of 2004 and I can report firsthand that the company undertakes it's operations in a manner that is highly protective of the environment and of equal importance to us, very responsive to the very real and critical employment needs of the people who reside in this region of the north.

The proposed multi - year program, which is limited to surface drilling only on the company's existing mineral leases and claims, has in our view been planned in the best possible way vis-à-vis minimizing the potential for negative environmental impacts – using the existing mine site facilities as base, the company proposes to employ it's two existing diamond drills to drill on or just off the existing road system and where there is no road system to use a helicopter-portable rig, thereby negating the need to build new roads.

Given the very limited scope of this small exploration program, combined with the fact that the effects of diamond drilling are both well known and easily managed, does the Board not have an expedited review process which it can employ?

Surely the Board does not apply the same lengthy and complex scoping and review process to minor exploration projects that it now applies to full scale development projects - as this would only have the effect of frustrating development and signaling to the industry as a whole that we do not want development.

While I understand the economy is booming in Yellowknife, owing in large part to the continued expansion of diamond mining, the situation is, for your information, quite the opposite here in Fort Simpson and the surrounding communities.

We are in desperate need of development and more specifically the jobs and business opportunities that come with it. We also need a workable regulatory screening, review and approvals process that meets not only our needs with respect to protecting the environmental but which also meets the very real needs of industry.

I note from company officials that the Board has had the company's detailed project description since December, 2004 yet the Board does not plan to commence the scoping process until March of this year.

Why the delay? What is it about this proposed work program that warrants the amount of time being devoted to it?

Thank you for your attention on this matter and we look forward to a positive conclusion to this dilemma.

Sincerely,



Raymond Michaud  
Mayor, Village of Fort Simpson

cc: John F. Kearney  
Chairman, Canadian Zinc Corporation