



Giant Mine Environmental Assessment

IR Response

Round One: Information Request -Alternatives North #02

May 31, 2011

INFORMATION REQUEST RESPONSE

EA No: 0809-001

Information Request No: AltNrth #02

Date Received

February 28, 2011

Linkage to Other IRs

Date of this Response:

May 31, 2011

Request

The DAR references a number of management plans, designs and strategies as follows:

- Procurement strategy;
- Socio-Economic Benefits Strategy (on pg. 1-18);
- Detailed design for remediation of Baker Creek;
- Revegetation Plan;
- Diffuser and outfall design;
- Environment, Health and Safety Plans for emergency/spill response, dust management, protocols for vegetation surveys;
- Water Management;
- Wildlife Management Plan;
- Archaeological Resource Management protocol;
- Traffic Management Plan; Audit protocol; and
- Improvements to the frozen block method and review or alternative technologies.

Many if not all of these, are essential to the Review Board and all parties understanding the effects of the Development, proposed mitigation measures and the significance of any residual effects. Little if any detail is available on these items in the DAR.

1. Please provide details on the format and content of the above plans, design, studies and protocols.
2. If there are specific targets, criteria or guidelines, and thresholds or triggers for adaptive management, please provide them.
3. If drafts of these are available now, please provide copies or a schedule of when these will be available. Please indicate whether there will be an opportunity for public review and comment.





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Reference to DAR (relevant DAR Sections):

S. 15.3 List of Commitments Table 15.3.1

Summary

The requested Environmental Management Plans have not yet been developed as the design work for the Remediation Project is still underway. It is anticipated that the Plans will be included in the Water Licence, MV2007L1-0031. As such no specific targets or criteria can be provided at this time. The Plans will form part of the overall Environmental Management System (EMS) for the Project, which the Project Team will be developing over the next couple of year. There will be public consultation throughout the development of the EMS.

Response

The Environmental Management Plans for the Remediation Project are anticipated to be included in the Water Licence, MV2007L1-0031. During the development of the management plans, the Project Team plans an extensive public review process for each plan. Draft management plans are beginning to be developed at this time and will be submitted in draft to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) to begin the regulatory process.

The Project Team will utilize existing policies or guidelines cited in Section 1.7.2 of the DAR to develop the management plans and other guidelines including:

- *Guidelines for Designing and Implementing Aquatic Effects and Monitoring Programs for Development Projects in the Northwest Territories*, INAC, June 2009
- *Northern Land Use Guidelines Access; Pits and Quarries*, INAC, January 2010
- *Guidelines for Developing a Waste Management Plan*, MVLWB, March 31, 2011;
- *Water and Effluent Quality Management Policy*, MVLWB, March 31, 2011;
- *Guidelines for Spill Contingency Planning*, INAC, April 2009;

At this time, no specific targets or criteria for the individual management plans have been developed, as design work for the Project is still taking place. Where appropriate, the MVLWB will approve monitoring plans prior to implementation; however, the Project Team will be developing the Environmental Management System (EMS) over the next couple of years and will be consulting the public throughout on its development. The intent of the consultations regarding the EMS and its adaptive management programs shall include:

- developing agreed upon targets and criteria for individual plans;
- developing mitigation measures and strategies;
- providing a coordinated approach to analysis and interpretation of monitoring data; and
- where applicable, facilitate collaboration with First Nations, regulators and others.

