



# Giant Mine Environmental Assessment

## IR Response

Round One: Information Request - City of Yellowknife #01

May 31, 2011

### INFORMATION REQUEST RESPONSE

**EA No: 0809-001**

**Information Request No: City YK #1**

**Date Received**

February 28, 2011

**Linkage to Other IRs**

YKDFN IR #17

**Date of this Response**

May 31, 2011

**Request**

***Preamble:***

The DAR discusses the remediation standards of the site and emphasizes that it will be remediated to the industrial standard. The Review Board determined that industrial soil remediation was acceptable as it was an improvement to existing soil quality and would not adversely effect the environment. Throughout the process the City has continued to emphasize the need to remediate the Giant Mine Townsite to the residential standard. This is the traditional use of the land since the mine was established and the City already has an overcapacity of industrial zoned land in the City. In addition to developed and undeveloped industrial zoned lands within the municipal boundaries, further industrial lands will be added as a result of the Con Mine Remediation. The City has negotiated with Newmont Mining to remediate a portion of those lands to the Residential Standard. Given the socioeconomic and environmental legacy of Giant Mine on the City and region, the City requests fuller analysis on an acceptable remediation standard for portions of the site be provided. From the City's reports and findings there is more than 50 years worth of industrial land in the City based on the two mines and existing industrial parks, and this is not reflected in the DAR's socioeconomic analysis.

***Question***

1. Please review municipal documents and provide an analysis of the economic, land use, and growth characteristics of Yellowknife to determine whether there is an overcapacity of industrial land available in the City.
2. Please address the economic and market viability of site redevelopment and reinvestment of the Giant Mine Townsite based on soil remediation to the industrial standard.
3. Please identify the land area of the site and the portion which the City has requested be remediated to the residential standard.





# Giant Mine Environmental Assessment

## IR Response

Round One: Information Request - City of Yellowknife #01

May 31, 2011

4. Please have the GNWT explain the intentions of site remediation standards for the site, in particular the Giant Mine Townsite given the original use of this area and the Community's interest in encouraging viable redevelopment.
5. Please provide the cost breakdown differentiating the variation in costs for the remediation work of the Giant Mine Townsite for the residential versus the industrial standard.

### Reference to DAR (relevant DAR Sections):

S.1.2.1 Purpose and Objectives

S.2.3.3 Page 2-5 Soil Remediation Standards

### Summary

The discussion of remediation criteria for soils is outside the scope of the Environmental Assessment, EA0809-001. However, the Giant Mine Remediation Project Team (Project Team) will continue to work with interested parties to minimize impacts on the continued use of the marina and townsite.

### Response 1

The economic feasibility of a possible future development by the City of Yellowknife is not part of the remediation activities within the Giant Mine Remediation Project (Remediation Project). Completing a study on the economic, land use and growth characteristics of a municipality does not fall under Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC's) mandate for contaminated sites.

### Response 2

The Remediation Plan was developed to assure adherence to the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) industrial standards for arsenic. Queries on the economic and market viability of site redevelopment and reinvestment of the Giant Mine Townsite based on soil remediation to the industrial standard is not part of the Remediation Project and studies to support this type of analysis will not be undertaken by the Project Team.

### Response 3

The Project Team is unaware of any previous request regarding the land area of the site and the portion which the City of Yellowknife wants be remediated to residential standards prior to this Information Request. The Remediation Project scope includes remediation to the GNWT's industrial standards. As part of ongoing community consultation, the Project Team will continue to gather feedback from interested parties on the implementation of the remediation plan, including soil criteria.





# Giant Mine Environmental Assessment

## IR Response

Round One: Information Request - City of Yellowknife #01

May 31, 2011

### Response 4

The Remediation Plan was developed to assure adherence to the GNWT's industrial standards for arsenic. Queries on the rationale for the development of the standard by the GNWT are not within the activities of the Remediation Project and should be asked directly to GNWT via other avenues.

### Response 5

The Remediation Project is based on remediation of soil to the GNWT industrial standards, as per the GNWT's determination. Therefore, a cost analysis of remediating to the two standards (residential and industrial) was not required.

