



Giant Mine Environmental Assessment IR Response

Round One: YKDFN Information Request - Yellowknives Dene First Nation #26

May 31, 2011

INFORMATION REQUEST RESPONSE

EA No: 0809-001

YKDFN Information Request No: YKDFN #26

Date Received:

February 28, 2011

Linkage to Other IRs

Date of this Response:

May 31, 2011

Request

Preamble:

It was indicated that the project collaborated with other federal departments including as follows:

- Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP)
- Environment Canada
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
- Health Canada

It was stated that input from the federal groups were utilised to provide advice on various items of the remediation project including site assessment, risk assessment and the evaluation of remedial option/risk management for the site. It was further indicated that collaboration with federal groups has proven to be important in the selection of remediation options for site components such as Baker Creek. Given this input, it seems that the current remediation plan has the effective endorsement from the other responsible ministries and the degree of technical review to be provided during the forthcoming EA processes will be substantially reduced compared to other similar projects.

Question:

It is requested that a summary of the collaboration process and how the technical issues of the federal groups were addressed are provided. At minimum information should be provided on the following remediation items:

- Foreshore historical tailings remediation;
- Baker Creek remediation options selection;
- Open pits remediation;
- Proposed outfall and diffuser system

Reference to DAR (relevant DAR Sections):

Reference to the EA Terms of Reference





Giant Mine Environmental Assessment IR Response

Round One: YKDFN Information Request - Yellowknives Dene First Nation #26

May 31, 2011

Response

The Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP) is a cost-shared program that helps federal custodians to address contaminated sites for which they are responsible. FCSAP also provides a conduit for federal custodians to access support from the science-based expert support departments, namely Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Health Canada. These three departments provide federal custodians with scientifically sound, nationally consistent advice on the risks posed by contaminated sites, both on- and off-site.

In the specific case of the Giant Mine Remediation Project (Remediation Project), Environment Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada have provided letters to the Project Team, with copies sent to the Review Board, describing their involvement to date on the Remediation Project. These departments have provided a range of expert support services to the Remediation Project. Health Canada's involvement to date has primarily been the review of the human health and ecological risk assessment and their comments have been previously provided to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's Public Registry.

