Nahanni National Park of Canada
P.O. Box 348
Fort Simpson, NT
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June 10, 2009

Alistair MacDonald
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Box 938, 5102 – 50th Ave.
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 2N7

Re: Prairie Creek Mine - MVEIRB EA08090-002

Dear Mr. MacDonald,

In response to your letter of May 11, 2009, Parks Canada is pleased to provide the following comments with respect to the terms of reference and work plan for the environmental assessment for Canadian Zinc Corporation's proposed Prairie Creek Mine (EA08090-002).

On June 9, 2009 the Government tabled legislation to expand Nahanni National Park Reserve of Canada shown in the attached map. The Bill provides for the issuance of permits, licences and leases in the expanded portion of Nahanni National Park Reserve of Canada for a mining access road and associated facilities leading to the Prairie Creek Area. We hope this information provides greater clarity for section 3.3.3 of the terms of reference.

We note the attention given to the ecological integrity of Nahanni National Park Reserve of Canada in the terms of reference. Parks Canada is committed to assisting with the review by providing information as needed on the meaning of ecological integrity in this context.

We have two recommendations for additions to the terms of reference. First, the terms of reference do not mention the effect of seismic activity on mine workings and the potential environmental effects that may result on water flow and quality. This could be included in section 3.3.2 (8) (b) and section 3.5. Second, we recommend section 3.5 include a section on procedures and monitoring in the event that the mine was subject to an unforeseen early closure or hiatus.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Parks Canada looks forward to continued involvement in this environmental assessment process.

Sincerely,

Chuck Blyth
Superintendent, Nahanni National Park of Canada

c.c. Ed Coulthard, Superintendent Southwest Northwest Territories Field Unit

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