



Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

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October 30, 2009

To: Chuck Hubert
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
200-5102 50th Avenue
Yellowknife NT X1A 2N7
chubert@reviewboard.ca

Re: Draft Work Plan for the Environmental Assessment of the Fortune Minerals Ltd. NICO Project

Dear Mr. Hubert:

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) thanks the Review Board for compiling a complete work plan document. In response to your request of October 16, 2009, INAC is providing the following comments for your consideration.

Work Plan Task: Developer's Response to Information Requests

As per guidance provided in section 4.3(3), information requests can be directed at any party to the EA. Consequently, this task should be renamed "*Responses to Information Requests*".

Work Plan Task: Preparation of Technical Meetings

INAC suggests that if the intent of this task is for parties to "submit their questions/comments to the developer, or to other parties, by the way of the Review Board", and that if, as is explained in 4.3(4), the Review Board "may" hold this meeting, then the task be renamed to "*Preparation for technical meetings, if required*".

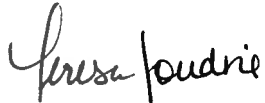
Work Plan Task: Technical Meetings and Undertakings

As per guidance provided in Section 4.3(4), this task should be renamed to "*Technical Meetings and Undertakings, if required*".

Finally, INAC suggests that the Review Board maintain an efficient process for the tasks within its control, but that the work plan remain flexible, particularly if one aspect of the work plan falls behind schedule for reasons the Review Board can not control.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Erica Bonhomme at 867-669-2893 / Erica.Bonhomme@inac.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Teresa Joudrie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

Teresa Joudrie
Director, Renewable Resources and Environment