



Tl̓icho Government

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February 24, 2012

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
200 Scotia Centre
Box 938, 5102-50th Ave
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

Attn: Ms. Shannon Hayden, EAO

Re: Fortune Minerals Ltd. NICO Project - EA0809-004 [2009]

Dear Ms. Hayden:

We strongly agree with AANDC that there remain several issues coming out of the technical sessions where additional information needs to be provided by the developer.

We feel that a second round of Information Requests will provide us with the opportunity to review the undertakings, and to prepare questions on a number of critical issues. These critical issues have not been meaningfully examined in such a way that a comprehensive understanding of the full impacts of the proposed mine are understood. Without understanding potential impacts, suitable mitigations cannot be determined and evaluated. It is common practice for the Review Board to hold another round of Information Requests, to drill into key issues that emerged in the technical sessions. We refer specifically to Tamerlane and Prairie Creek processes, both of which included two rounds of IRs, as well as a second round of focused technical sessions.

We believe there are significant gaps that require further dialogue and understanding. These include:

- Boreal caribou
- Water treatment through reverse osmosis (new values for metals and contaminants, and changes in the receiving environment, as well as new process details)
- Geochemistry and possibility for acid rock drainage
- Seasonal sampling values

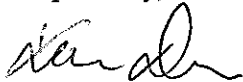
- Ecological risk assessment, including the food chain exposures
- Cumulative effects assessment
- Closure concepts, including the CDF cover and the wetland treatment system

Upon review of the undertakings of the developers, and the new information that emerges from commitments, we intend to pose additional information requests in areas of key concern to the Tłıchq Government. We anticipate that other parties will need to also review the data and continue the dialogue. We believe that another round of IRs will assist in the following ways:

1. This process will add to the quality of the information base available for the Review Board to make its decision on this file, but it will actually expedite the process, and reduce post-report of EA process time through a proper and comprehensive examination of all the relevant issues.
2. The participants in other EAs have also found it extremely useful to have another round of IRs. Typically, the IRs become very focused, and they then refine the issues that remain at the hearing stage of the assessment.
3. There are significant gaps remaining on some critical issues, such as the viability of wetlands treatment and the impacts on boreal caribou. The Tłıchq Government believes the Review Board will not have the best available knowledge on these topics without a second round of IRs and discussion of these issues.

We look forward to the Board's decision on this file.

Respectfully,



Laura Duncan

Tłıchq Executive Officer