

WORKING WITH THE PEOPLE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



September 9-10, 2020 Meeting Summary

Meeting held in-person and by teleconference/videoconference. Videoconference was for presentations only.

Minutes

- Follow-up on Diavik response to recommendation on sampling yellow haze. How much proof is required?

Finance

- Executive Director Spending Authority increased to \$10,000 to improve efficiency.

Annual Report Text

- Revised annual report text approved

PK to Pits Water Licence Proceeding Workplan

- Agreed that timeline for interventions proposed by WLWB is too short, both for EMAB and communities
- Need to review Post-EA Information Package before agreeing to a timeframe
 - Won't know if a public review is required until package is reviewed
- Send letter to WLWB stating the EMAB doesn't support the workplan schedule, with reasons

Diavik Request for Refund of Security for North Waste Rock Storage Area

- GNWT supports the request, and the amount requested
- More discussion is needed on holdbacks with WLWB; will consult on draft policy when ready
- Some concerns about moisture content of cover; this should be accounted for in the holdback

Review of Comments/Recommendations on Interim Reclamation and Closure Plan Version 4.1

- Wildlife consultant proposed recommendations to clarify Wildlife Closure Criteria and monitoring
- Risk Assessment consultant proposed recommendations on draft closure criteria for drinking water and aquatic health, noting that some Contaminants of Concern were left out.
 - Also noted lack of closure criteria for vegetation contamination; this is a huge gap.
- Noted that EMAB Recommendations Table is based on reports from: closure consultants; risk consultants, and wildlife consultants as well as TK Panel Recommendations, EMAB Closure Workshop Recommendations, staff review and outstanding comments on previous ICRP
- Discussion on Key Issues
 - Mixing Zones
 - Concern about sediments
 - Diavik should make best efforts to reduce size of mixing zones
 - Diavik should try to meet MVLWB Mixing Zone Guidelines
 - Water treatment does not appear to be warranted at this time
 - Revegetation
 - Discussion on revegetating the North and South Waste Rock Piles and Processed Kimberlite Containment Facility
 - Spread revegetation effort out across the whole minesite
 - Diavik should follow U. of Alberta Revegetation Recommendations
 - Diavik will submit a Revegetation Plan in early 2021

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- Contaminated Soil
 - Contaminated soil should be treated to CCME Agricultural Standard.
 - Ekati has done this, so Diavik should be able
 - If tests show it's safe, use treated soil for revegetation
 - No consensus on what to do if treated soil doesn't meet Agricultural Standard
 - Bury or ship offsite
- PKC Closure Concept
 - Cost estimate for security for PKC Closure can't be estimated until there is a viable plan
 - Diavik will submit a PKC Closure Plan in early 2021
- TK Community-Based Monitoring Program
 - Communities have different processes for including TK
 - Diavik wants to ensure right people are at TK Panel discussions on this
 - Role of communities is to review and provide support
- Recommendations approved for submission to WLWB, as amended.

Two-year Budget Recommendation

- Draft recommended budget for 2021-2023 approved for submission to Diavik

Next Meeting

- October 20-21, 2020