



## Sept 10-11 2019 EMAB Board Meeting Summary

### Action Items

- Prepare letter to Parties requesting support for EMAB continuing after operations finish at Diavik

### Updates on MVEIRB Hearing and Next Steps (PK to pits proposal)

- closing arguments due October 4
  - Staff will prepare a draft for the Board's consideration by Sept 27
- MVEIRB has up to 16 months to complete their review and minister has 5 months to make decision.
- Suggested that EMAB should aim to recommend about 5 measures to MVEIRB
- EMAB's final view is that we do not believe the project will have significant adverse effects based on information provided, but updated modelling must be confirmed by independent experts.

### Update from Inspector

- Diavik will likely have a new inspector soon

### ICRP Engagement Update

- Diavik has engaged with all Parties except KIA
- EMAB Executive Director (ED) was supposed to observe meetings and report back, but has been unable. ED has reviewed notes from the meetings to try to clarify what occurred at the engagements.
  - Notes from meetings show that not all items were discussed.
  - staff to find out more about the WLWB requirements for the engagements

### TK Panel Recommendations Review

- ED has been reviewing all TK Panel recommendations and identifying recommendations that need follow-up.
  - Diavik noted that EMAB is ahead of Diavik and the Panel on this
- EMAB staff will draft letter to Diavik for Board approval, to request Panel Reports that EMAB does not have and to ask follow-up questions about Diavik's response to some TK Panel recommendations.

### Site Specific Risk Based Closure Criteria (SSRBCC Review)

- Arcadis consultants completed the review on behalf of EMAB
- Main concern with Diavik's updated SSRBCC is for the Protection of Aquatic Life (PAL)
  - EMAB will request justification from Diavik on why it did not follow CCME guidance for PAL.

### EAQMP (Air Quality Monitoring)

- Diavik presented on the 2018 EAQMP report, and Arcadis presented its review of the report
- Concern that only one of the two monitors that measure Total Suspended Particulates (TSP, ie. dust and other emissions in the air) was working in 2018
- Diavik has proposed to stop monitoring TSP in future
- TSP models should be updated to include A21 open pit operations; it appears A21 is increasing dustfall.
  - Suggestion to move A154 monitor to A21, now that A154 is only being mined underground
- Concern about dust monitoring during closure



- Don't want Diavik to argue that dust levels after closure don't need to be monitored because they didn't exceed GNWT guidelines during operations.
- Diavik says they would continue dustfall monitoring
- Possibility of an EAQMP workshop; to be discussed at December meeting
  - EMAB to discuss with GNWT and develop proposal
- Convey Arcadis review of 2018 EAQMP and overall assessment of program to Diavik

## **Board Honoraria**

- Board carried motion to increase honoraria from \$375 to \$400 per day

## **Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan (WMMP) Regulations**

- GNWT-ENR presented on the WMMP Regulations under the Wildlife Act
- New regulations came into effect in July 2019
- New WMMP means Diavik's WMP is required by the Wildlife Act
  - Existing WMP can be reviewed by Minister; Minister can require changes
- EMAB can make comments to the Minister on the WMP through WMMP regulations

## **TK-based Closure Criteria**

- Diavik said that the upcoming TK panel will discuss TK criteria for reconnection of pit-lakes to Lac de Gras
- Diavik would like to have communities review the TK criteria that will be developed and would like to work with EMAB to do this
  - Concern that EMAB does not speak for the Parties and cannot make recommendations on behalf of the indigenous organizations; EMAB must maintain its independence
  - This is the first time the Board has heard this idea
- Concern that TK panel says it does not represent community views
- Many concerns and ideas were discussed without resolution. Diavik to request time at EMAB's next meeting (December 2019) to discuss further.

## **AEMP Design Plan Engagement**

The WLWB has required Diavik to engage with Parties on the new AEMP Design Plan.

- Diavik presented on status of engagements
- Consultants for EMAB and Diavik discussed concerns with the AEMP design plan. Main concerns are:
  - Slimy sculpin survival metrics
  - Lake trout study trigger
  - Phytoplankton/eutrophication
  - Plankton and invertebrates
  - Diavik was able to accommodate EMAB's suggestions for slimy sculpin and lake trout
- EMAB can make comments again when revised version of plan (Ver 5.1) is sent for review.

## **MVLWB/MVEIRB Joint Policy on Engagement**

- EMAB decided not to participate in early engagement with MVLWB on this item