



EMAB Meeting Summary - July 7-8, 2021

Meeting held in-person and by teleconference/videoconference.

Introduction of Dylan Price, new Environmental Specialist at EMAB.

Action Item Follow-up:

- Chair wasn't able to speak to LKDFN leadership regarding letter of support for Diavik's Frame Lake fish habitat enhancement project. Will try this afternoon
- Diavik Post-closure monitoring qualifications for community members – EMAB has a role in making recommendations on this under section 4.2(g) of the Environmental Agreement. Prepare letter to Diavik requesting information about its plans.

Air Quality and Yellow Haze

- Arcadis Consulting presents detailed proposal on how to monitor yellow haze at Diavik.
- Need to figure out how to know when yellow haze is present, to correlate with data on air quality

Finance

- Board reviewed revised policy for Aboriginal Parties to make proposals to do community updates directly. Board must approve proposal; after approval EMAB will advance 90% of approved amount.

TK Monitoring for Closure

- TG member described monthly meetings with Diavik on closure issues, including TK Monitoring.
- Need to ensure community members have required certifications to work on projects.
- Board members to report back on how their community wants to develop TK Monitoring plans.

TK Monitoring in WMP

- EMAB has submitted comments on WMP, including use of TK. Item is no longer relevant.

Review of ICRP 4.1 Reasonse for Decision

- ES summarizes WLWB Reasons for Decision on ICRP Version 4.1

Draft Conflict of Interest Policy

- Lawyer provided 4 options for COI policy:
 - Option 1 – no change to existing policy. Not recommended; employer conflict is recognized in law so shouldn't be ignored.
 - Option 2 – Prohibit board member participation where member's employer has an interest in decision. Not recommended – too restrictive on board member participation
 - Option 3 – Prohibit employer conflicts but Board can consent to allow member with conflict to participate in discussion. Option recommended by lawyer
 - Option 4 – Exempt employer conflicts from policy. Not recommended – too much opportunity for conflict
- Discussion tabled until later in meeting



2017-19 AEMP Re-evaluation Report Review

- Diavik and Golder present the report
 - Report mostly points to Diavik causing a nutrient enrichment effect in Lac de Gras
 - Weak evidence of toxicological effect on fish
- NSC presents review of report
 - Generally a good report; lots of work was done, and many of EMAB's previous recommendations were addressed
 - Some results need to be re-assessed due to change in methods or problems with samples
 - Some issues with fish data, notably lake trout mercury (note previous NSC Lake Trout Mercury data report)

Updated Draft Closure Cost Estimate Guidelines

- GNWT Lands and ENR updated the Board
- Original guidelines were from 2017; these update section on refunds, including post-closure monitoring and maintenance costs
- When proponent requests a refund of holdback, a percentage may be held back depending on the amount of uncertainty about performance of the reclamation. This could be anywhere from 0% to 100% depending on the component and the uncertainty about performance.
- Comments due by July 30
- EMAB will contract Slater Environmental to review and comment.

Next Meeting

- Scheduled for Sep 7-9'21