

Present:

Gavin More, GNWT
Claudia Haas, NSMA
Eric Christensen, Diavik
Lawrence Goulet, YKDFN

Call-In

Doug Crossley, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Florence Catholique, Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation

Guest (call-in)

Karl Kroeker, North-South Consultants

Minutes:

John McCullum, EMAB

Meeting started at 3:40 p.m.

Welcome from Chair.

Karl Kroeker presents North-South's draft review of the 2007 AEMP report and DDMI's request to change the July and September sampling in the AEMP design document:

- The AEMP study design is much better than the old one and the annual report is also much better than previous reports.
- The main issue seems to be eutrophication, which is going on over about 16% of Lac de Gras. This shows up in many of the different components.
- FF2 should be changed from a reference site to an exposure site and the effect of this change on the study design should be considered by DDMI in its report
 - Also need to assess how much of the effect on FF2 is from Diavik and how much is from the inflow from Lac du Sauvage
- N-S doesn't support DDMI's request to change the sampling program – there isn't even one complete year of data
- Mercury was found in slimy Sculpin and lake Trout – an increase of 140%; if this trend continues they will be above the acceptable guidelines within a year. This needs further investigation – it could be a data problem.
- DDMI did not carry through all the recommendations made by Golder; DDMI should provide a rationale whenever it doesn't carry forward a recommendation
- A number of the low-level effects have uncertainty that will likely be cleared up with another year of sampling.

- We need to get a handle on natural variability in the lake between areas and between seasons – it's premature to change the sampling program so early on.

It was generally agreed that it is premature to change the sampling program.

A concern was raised about the amount of time taken for EMAB to get the data.

Executive Director (ED) walks the Board through the letter to the Wek'èezhìi Land and Water Board re: the 2007 AEMP report and DDMI's request to change the sampling program. The letter was circulated by email earlier today.

The DDMI representative noted that sampling was affected by weather and that the data that were collected shouldn't be discounted. Lac de Gras can be dangerous. He felt the letter suggested DDMI was deficient in its sampling.

Board members agreed they would like to see the original open water sampling done completely while recognizing that conditions may not permit this and that safety should not be jeopardized.

Some discussion on whether EMAB should say it is disappointed that TK studies are not yet included in the AEMP. Agreed to change this to "note" that TK studies are not yet included.

Motion: To approve the draft letter and attachments, as amended, commenting on DDMI's request to change the AEMP sampling program and on the 2007 AEMP report, for submission to the WLWB.

Moved: Claudia Haas

Seconded: Gavin More

Carried unanimously

Motion: to approve Claudia Haas as a signing authority for EMAB

Moved: Florence Catholique

Seconded: Gavin More

Carried unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.