

Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board

FINAL Minutes – November 2, 2016

11:00 am – 11:30 am

Conference Call, Yellowknife, NT

Present:

Napoleon Mackenzie, *Chair*

Jack Kaniak, *Director* (by phone)

Arnold Enge, *Director* (by phone)

Charlie Catholique, *Vice-Chair* (by phone)

Sean Richardson, *Director* (by phone)

Yellowknives Dene First Nation

Kitikmeot Inuit Association

North Slave Metis Alliance

Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation

Tlicho Government

Absent:

Gord MacDonald, *Director*

Julian Kanigan, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Diavik Diamond Mine

Government of the Northwest Territories

Staff:

John McCullum, *Executive Director*

Allison Rodvang, *Environmental Specialist*

Guests:

Leanne Zrum and Megan Cooley, North-South Consultants (by phone)

On November 2, 2016 EMAB had a conference call to follow up discussion at the October Board meeting on the 2015 AEMP annual report. Leanne Zrum and Megan Cooley from North-South Consultants (N-S) were present to answer any questions about the review.

1. 2015 AEMP Annual Report review

Action: Board Members requested to have the folders in Dropbox shared to make access easier.

ED asked if there were any questions on N-S's review.

Q: Can we ask Diavik to comment on the effect of in-lake construction on MF3 and perhaps how the AEMP analysis needs to change to account for loadings that are not coming from the end of pipe?

A: N-S asked Diavik in recommendations in line 23 to address this.

Q: Does N-S suspect the other source of nitrogen in Lac de Gras is EKATI mine?

A: Currently, reporting in the AEMP does not integrate information. Diavik will likely not discuss cumulative effects until the next re-design has been approved in 2017. Best to leave it to Diavik to say where nitrogen is coming from.

Comment that regulators should be keeping on top of cumulative effects from mining. EMAB could comment on this in our annual report.

Q: Should we include a recommendation for Diavik to discuss why there were low dissolved oxygen levels at MF1-1 and MF1-5?

A: N-S tried to capture this in recommendation by asking if Diavik could comment on whether the low dissolved oxygen levels are mine-related. This is likely due to stratification in Lac de Gras in winter.

Q: Why is recommendation to discuss results for individual sites only for Near-Field?

A: Diavik currently only averages the Near-Field sites due to their proximity but this can cause some data to be masked.

Motion: *EMAB accept N-S Report and forward comments and recommendations on the 2015 AEMP report to the Wek'èzhii Land and Water Board.*

Moved: Arnold Enge

Second: Sean Richardson.

Motion carried.

2. Possible postponement of Closure Workshop

ED noted that Lutsel K'e AGM is now scheduled for the same dates as the workshop. This will make it difficult to get input from Lutsel K'e. Direction requested from Board on whether to proceed on the current dates (Nov 22-24)

Charlie is not available for the Nov 22-24 workshop dates. He would like his alternate (Terri Enzoe) to attend, and recommends James Marlowe.

Sean has recently had meetings scheduled in the Tlicho region for those dates, so it would be difficult to get community members to the EMAB workshop for those dates. He would prefer January.

Arnold noted that he is not available for the Nov 22-24 dates. He is available after Jan 16.

Napoleon is available for any dates.

Charlie will not be available Jan 10 – 25.

Agreed to postpone workshop.

Action: ED to find new dates in January/February for closure workshop

Meeting ended at 11:30 am.