

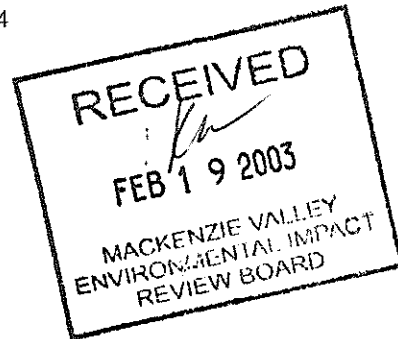
Minister of Indian Affairs  
and Northern Development



Ministre des Affaires  
indiennes et du Nord canadien

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H4

FEB 13 2003



Mr. Gordon Wray  
Alternate Chair  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
PO Box 938  
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2N7

Dear Mr. Wray:

This is in response to your letter of December 24, 2002, informing me of the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's (the Board) progress toward completing the Canadian Zinc Corporation's (CZN) Environmental Assessment.

I am pleased that the Board has considered and assessed the reasons put forward by the various Ministries in returning the report for further consideration and has developed a workplan to address the deficiencies which were identified. I note that the Board had the choice to refer the development to an Environmental Impact Review or reject the proposal, following its assessment that the CZN's response to its information request was inadequate to address the potential for significant adverse impacts. I appreciate that the Board has instead given the developer further opportunity to respond to the issues in an attempt to resolve outstanding concerns.

Thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely,

Robert D. Nault, PC, MP