

## AGENDA ITEM

May 18, 2001

**TITLE:** Canadian Zinc - Drilling, Decline and Pilot Plant EA

**ISSUE:** Separating the drilling from the decline development and pilot plant and having two EAs. Reissuing separate draft work plans and terms of references for the two EAs.

**BACKGROUND:** The three developments had been combined into one EA and a draft Work Plan and Terms of Reference were issued on May 4.

The only comments received so far have been from CZN. They are requesting that the three developments be assessed separately on their own merits in three EA processes.

CZN is also urging that the drilling EA be fast-tracked given that very little additional information has been requested beyond what is already available in their project description.

CZN's request to split the drilling into a separate EA appears to be reasonable as there is no direct linkage to the other two developments.

The argument for splitting the decline and pilot plant is weaker, however, as there does appear to be a linkage. Rock from the decline may be processed in the pilot plant. John Donihee has commented that he believes these two developments should be assessed together.

**ACTION/  
DECISION:**

Discuss the issue and either

1) Motion to have the Review Board staff split the drilling from the other two EAs and have two EA processes. This would require reissuing draft work plans and terms of reference for the two EAs.

OR

2) Motion to keep the three developments in a single EA process. Review Board staff to proceed with finalizing the current draft work plan and terms of reference.