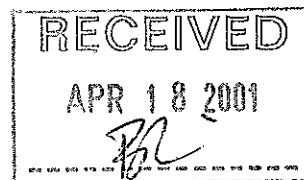




Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Affaires indiennes et du Nord Canada
www.inac.gc.ca www.ainc.gc.ca

Environment & Conservation
P.O. Box 1500
Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2R3



Your file - Votre référence

Our file - Notre référence

April 18, 2001

YEL-N 7392-7-A2-5

Mr. Luciano Azzolini
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Box 938, 200 Scotia Centre
Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2N7

Dear: Louie:

**Re: Notice of Referral to Environmental Assessment (EA)
CNZ Surface Exploration, Underground Decline and Metallurgical Plant Operation
developments (Land Use Permit Applications MV2001C0022, MV2001C0023 and Water
Licence Application MV2001L2-0003)**

I am writing to respond to your letter of April 14, 2001, providing notification under subsection 126(5) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA) that the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Review Board (MVEIRB) intends to undertake an environmental assessment of the three above-mentioned proposed developments.

Please note that DIAND intends to participate in the EA, both as an 'expert advisor' and as an 'intervener'. In our capacity as 'Crown land manager,' DIAND will also be a 'responsible Minister' with respect to the disposition and administration of any lands as noted in section 69 of the MVRMA. In addition, our responsibilities as defined in Part 5 of the Act as the 'federal Minister' requires specific involvement at various stages of the EA.

Should you require further assistance on this EA, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Mary Tapsell
Regional Manager

Canada