Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

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

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Your file - Votre référence

Our file - Notro référence

36 April 28, 2001

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: Canadian Zinc Corporation Development Proposal

This is in response to your letter of April 23, 2001, requesting information on what we would like included in a draft work plan and draft terms of reference for the Canadian Zinc Corporation Development proposal.

Your request does not clarify whether the Board has made a decision on whether all three developments will be consolidated into one Environmental Assessment (EA). It is important that this information be known and transmitted to all parties in this project, before a draft work plan and a draft terms of reference can be considered. Our understanding is that the draft work plan and draft terms of reference will include all three proposals by Canadian Zinc, namely the Surface Exploration, the Underground Decline and the Metallurgical Plant Operation developments. If this is not the intent of your request, please let us know.

The Department was unable to complete its review of the project description in the relatively short time frame provided by the Board for a response. We suggest that the Terms of Reference provided by the Board for the previous two Environmental Assessments for the Prairie Creek Mineral Exploration program, both dated November 6, 2000, are generic enough and may be considered as a first draft, at this stage of the project. We will be pleased to review this document and provide you with our departmental comments, after it has been modified to reflect the scope of the present project.

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The Metallurgical Plant Operation component of the development has a number of technical issues that may best be reviewed by a group with expertise in several aspects of the operation. We therefore suggest that the Board gives serious consideration to the formation of such a technical committee in its work plan for this EA. DIAND will be pleased to contribute to such a technical committee if it is formed.

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

Sincerely,

Mary Tapsell

Manager

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Organization:

Louie Azzenii - MUEIRB

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April 30/01

Subject:

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