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CIDM#506743

March 13, 2012

Richard Edjericon
Chair
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
200 SCOTIA CENTRE
BOX 938, 5102-50TH AVE
YELLOWKNIFE, NT X1A 2N7

Mr. Edjericon:

RE: Giant Mine Mill Conveyor

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), Giant Mine Remediation Project is preparing to dismantle the northern-most section of the mill conveyor on the Giant Mine Site. This work will see the section of the conveyor between the Screen House and the Mill complex being dismantled to remove health and safety concerns. The mill conveyor was constructed in the late 1940s and was in service until the mining operations ceased at site (approx. 1999).

The deteriorating condition of the mill conveyor is a significant hazard to on-site workers, visitors and the environment as the failure of one of more of the support legs could result in an uncontrolled collapse of the structure. An uncontrolled collapse may result in immediate physical harm to any workers within the fall path of the structure. An uncontrolled collapse could also result in significant damage to the adjacent structures to which the conveyor is attached (ie Mill Complex or Screen House). Another safety consideration is that the mill conveyor structure acts as a fire continuation pathway between the C-Complex and the Mill Complex. To address these risks, plans to demolish the mill conveyor starting the week of March 12, 2012, if a permit is issued, with a target completion date of April 30, 2012.

The Giant Mine Remediation Project introduced the need to dismantle the mill conveyor on Day 4, Failure Modes, of the Technical Sessions¹. The Project Team has also met with the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board staff on three occasions to discuss the need for land use permits or water licences to undertake this work. It is the understanding of the Project Team that there are no requirements for a land use permit or water licence to undertake this work.

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Mitigations of Environmental Risks Associated with Dismantling

Appropriate mitigative measures to protect the environment have been and will be undertaken as part of the dismantling project. These measures include the following:

Appropriate mitigative measures to protect the environment have been and will be undertaken as part of the demolition project. The mitigations include the following:

- Completion of a survey to remove any birds or animals living near or on the mill conveyor.
- Double bagging of asbestos materials and disposal in the Northwest Tailings Pond (as shown on the appended map titled *Major Site Features* prepared by SRK Consultants and taken from the Developer's Assessment Report).
- No PCB materials will be encountered.
- Stock piling of steel, rubber and wood on site for future disposal in accordance with the main Type A water licence for the site.

If you have any questions regarding the upcoming work please contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Adrian Paradis
A/Manager
Giant Mine Remediation Project Team

Encl. Recommendation to Proceed with the Site Stabilization Plan at the Giant Mine City of Yellowknife Demolition Permit Application

c.c.: Willard Hagen, Chair, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
Michael Martin, Water Resource Officer, AANDC
Doug Townson, Project Manager, PWGSC
Parties to EA0809-001

ⁱ Giant Mine Remediation Project Environmental Assessment, EA0809-001, Day 4 Failure Modes, pages 229