



Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

Affaires indiennes
et du Nord Canada

Environment & Conservation
Box 1500
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2R3

March 18, 2011

MVEIRB File Number: EA0809-002

Chuck Hubert
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
P.O. BOX 938
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2N7
BY EMAIL: chubert@reviewboard.ca

Dear Mr. Hubert:

Re: Canadian Zinc Prairie Creek Mine Environmental Assessment – Request for Focused Technical Sessions

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) respectfully requests the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Board) host a focused technical session regarding Canadian Zinc Corporation's responses to the second round of Information Requests (IRs).

INAC appreciates the developer's efforts in responding to the parties' IRs in a timely manner and is in the process of its critical review of these responses. A large volume of new material and information has been submitted by the proponent. As such, this presents challenges in conducting an effective and efficient review, as many responses to the IRs are contained across multiple appendices and significant cross referencing is required.

During the October 2010 technical session held by MVEIRB, it was identified that additional information on water quality and its effects on Prairie Creek was required to complete an environmental assessment of this project. The information contained in the second round IR responses target these gaps. However some information, such as iterative toxicity identification evaluation results, is still being collected and INAC is not aware of a proposed submission date.

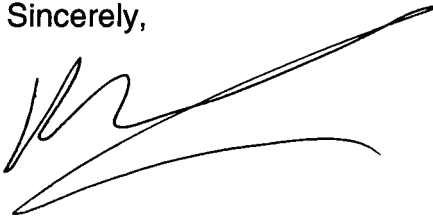
INAC strongly recommends that a focused one-day technical session on water is warranted, as it would provide a fair opportunity for all parties to discuss outstanding concerns and receive further clarity on the new information provided by the

proponent. Overall, this would benefit technical report submissions and may resolve issues prior to a public hearing setting. INAC technical staff would be available for such a session during the week of April 11, 2011. Technical reports could follow in mid-May.

INAC recognizes that the aforementioned approach would inherently result in changes to the timelines set for this project in advance of a public hearing. However, a focused technical session would provide increased clarity to the Review Board through focused technical submissions and public hearing presentations, which in turn would facilitate an efficient and effective decision-making process by the Board.

INAC looks forward to the Review Board's decision on this matter. If you have any questions about this request, please contact Krystal Thompson at 669-2595 or via email at krystal.thompson@ainc-inac.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Lange', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Marc Lange
For Teresa Joudrie
Director, Renewable Resources and Environment