

Our file: EA0809-002

June 27, 2011

To: Parties to the Prairie Creek Mine environmental assessment

Re: **EA0809-002 Prairie Creek Mine: Instructions on proposed water quality objectives committee and final written submission approach**

Dear parties:

During the June 23-24 public hearings in Fort Simpson the Review Board heard recommendations from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada and Parks Canada as well as expressions of interest from other parties on the formation of a committee or similar mechanism to evaluate site specific water quality objectives (SSWQO) for the Prairie Creek Mine. Canadian Zinc Corporation also indicated an interest in meeting with parties to discuss differences that have emerged on the development of SSWQO.

The Review Board is unclear on how this proposed initiative would be managed and how it could be completed during the environmental assessment phase without jeopardizing timelines of this proceeding. The Review Board therefore wants to hear from parties on how this proposed committee or initiative would function, with the understanding that any suggested approach would need to be open and inclusive in order to meet fairness requirements.

Any parties interested in participating on this committee must provide their recommendations to the Review Board by Monday July 4<sup>th</sup>. Parties should outline a suggested process in as much detail as possible including proposed timelines. Upon receiving these submissions from parties, the Review Board will issue direction on whether or not to proceed with a further process and if so, how it will function.

The Review Board encourages parties to collaborate in order to set out an efficient approach to addressing the differences that exist on the development of SSWQO's and for the completion of this environmental assessment.



Prior to the hearing, the Review Board received requests from parties for written final submissions or arguments after the responses to undertakings have been concluded on July 8<sup>th</sup>. The Review Board will grant this request and the public registry will remain open until final submissions are received. Directions on the timing for written final submissions will follow the determination by the Review Board on the role of the proposed committee.

If you have any questions, please contact me by phone or email.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CHUBERT", is positioned above the printed name.

Chuck Hubert  
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