

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

MACKENZIE VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPACT AND REVIEW BOARD  
  
PRAIRIE CREEK MINE  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT COMMUNITY MEETING

Mackenzie Valley Review Board Staff:

Richard Edjericon	Chairperson
Richard Mercredi	Member
Danny Bayha	Member
Peter Bannon	Member
Rachel Crapeau	Member
James Wah-Shee	Member
Darryl Bohnet	Member
Percy Hardisty	Member

HELD AT:

Nahanni Butte, NT  
June 22nd, 2011  
Day 1 of 3

APPEARANCES

1  
2 Martin Haefele ) MVEIRB staff  
3 Chuck Hubert )  
4 Paul Mercredi )  
5 Jessica Simpson )  
6 John Donihee ) Board counsel  
7  
8 David Harpley ) For Canadian Zinc  
9 Alan Taylor ) Corporation  
10 Chris Reeves )  
11 Wilbert Antoine )  
12  
13 Teresa Joudrie ) AANDC  
14  
15 Michael Suitor ) Parks Canada  
16  
17 Chief Fred Tesou ) Naha Dehe Dene Band  
18 Peter Redvers )  
19 Lorraine Vital )  
20 Jayne Konisenta )  
21 Caroline Lafontaine )  
22  
23  
24  
25

1	TABLE OF CONTENTS	
2		Page No.
3		
4	Chairperson's Opening Comments	4
5		
6	Presentation by Canadian Zinc Corporation	11
7	Question Period	56
8		
9	Presentation by AANDC	63
10	Question Period	73
11		
12	Presentation by Parks Canada	77
13	Question Period	86
14		
15	Presentation by Naha Dehe Dene Band	109
16	Question Period	128
17		
18	Closing Comments by Canadian Zinc Corporation	147
19		
20	Chairperson's Closing Comments	153
21		
22	Reporter's Certificate	156
23		
24		
25		

1 --- Upon commencing at 10:15 a.m.

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Good morning. We'll --  
4 we'll start this morning, but before we start I just want  
5 to say that we're very happy to be in your community,  
6 Chief, and I want to get the Chief from this community to  
7 do welcoming remarks, so I'm going to turn it over to the  
8 Chief. And if you could just state your name.

9 Okay. I guess I'm told that we've got to  
10 speak close to the mic. What I'll do is I'll turn it  
11 over to the Chief, but then he will get opening prayer,  
12 then the Chief will do your welcoming comments, so I'll  
13 turn it over to the Chief.

14 CHIEF FRED TESOU: Yeah, Mahsi. Jayne  
15 Konisenta will do the opening prayer for us here and we  
16 will get the -- we'll deal with opening prayer.

17

18 (OPENING PRAYER)

19

20 CHIEF FRED TESOU: Good morning. Good  
21 morning, everybody. My name is Fred Tesou. I'm the  
22 Chief of Nahanni Butte. On behalf of the Chief and  
23 Council I'd like to welcome everybody to -- to Nahanni  
24 Butte.

25 Well, I know everybody's waiting for the

1 coffee, but it's making right now, and it will be there  
2 very soon. Yeah, I -- once again I'd like to welcome  
3 everybody to my -- my small community and -- and...

4 This is really important issues about --  
5 about what we're going to be talking about, so once  
6 again, welcome to Nahanni Butte.

7

8 CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING COMMENTS:

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Mahsi, Chief.  
10 And also, Mahsi, Jayne, for your -- doing your opening  
11 prayer. I'm going to go ahead and start the opening  
12 comments for the Chairman.

13 First of all I want to say good morning.  
14 I would like to begin this hearing to let you know my  
15 name is Richard Edgericon. I'm the Chair for the  
16 Mackenzie Valley Impact Review Board.

17 Before I do that I want to do an  
18 introduction of the -- my Board members and my staff.  
19 And maybe what we could do is we could go around the  
20 table, and when you speak we ask you to mention your name  
21 and who you represent just so that it's on public record.

22 So I want to go to my far right. I'm  
23 going to go to my Board member.

24 MR. PETER BANNON: Peter Bannon, Board  
25 member.

1                   MR. DANNY BAYHA:    Danny Bayha, Board  
2 member from Deline, thank you.

3                   MR. RICHARD MERCREDI:   Richard Mercredi,  
4 Board member, Fort Smith.

5                   MS. RACHEL CRAPEAU:   Rachel Crapeau,  
6 Board member from the Dettah.

7                   MR. PERCY HARDISTY:   Percy Hardisty,  
8 Board member from Fort Simpson.

9                   MR. JAMES WAH-SHEE:   James Wah-Shee,  
10 Board member from Tlicho area.

11                  MR. DARRYL BOHNET:    Good morning. My  
12 name is Darryl Bohnet, and I'm a Board member from  
13 Yellowknife.

14                  THE CHAIRPERSON:    Thank you. I'm going  
15 to go to our -- our staff in the back.

16                  MR. PAUL MERCREDI:   Paul Mercredi, EA  
17 Officer from Yellowknife.

18                  MR. CHUCK HUBERT:    Chuck Hubert, Review  
19 Board, Yellowknife.

20                  MR. MARTIN HAEFELE:   And I'm Martin  
21 Haefelee, also with the Review Board in Yellowknife.

22                  MR. JOHN DONIHEE:    My name is John  
23 Donihee, I'm Board counsel.

24                  THE CHAIRPERSON:    Thank you. I'm going  
25 to go to Nahanni Butte First Nation introduction to

1     yourself, Chief, and Bor -- Band Council or staff that  
2     may be with you.

3                     CHIEF FRED TESOU:     My name is Fred Tesou,  
4     Chief of Nahanni Butte.

5                     MS. JAYNE KONISENTE:     Jayne Konisenta,  
6     Nahanni Butte councillor.

7

8                                     (BRIEF PAUSE)

9

10                    MS. LORRAINE VITAL:     Lorraine Vital,  
11     councillor.

12                    THE CHAIRPERSON:     Thank you. Thank you.  
13     I'm going to go over to Canadian Zinc, introduction.

14                    MR. ALAN TAYLOR:     Good morning. My  
15     name's Alan Taylor, I'm with Canadian Zinc.

16                    MR. DAVID HARPLEY:     David Harpley,  
17     Canadian Zinc.

18                    MR. CHRIS REEVES:     Chris Reeves, Canadian  
19     Zinc.

20                    THE CHAIRPERSON:     Thank you. Okay.  
21     We'll -- we'll continue on. I just wanted to -- Canadian  
22     Zinc, for the record we've been -- has made an  
23     application for a water licence and a land -- land use  
24     permit to operate Prairie Creek Mine.

25                    In addition, two (2) land use permits have

1 been submitted to operate and concentrate transfer  
2 facilities halfway along the winter road access, and  
3 another transfer facility near the Liard Highway.

4 The proposed Prairie Creek Mine project  
5 was referred to for environmental assessment by Indian  
6 and Northern Affairs Canada on its own behalf and based  
7 on additional requests from Nahanni Butte Dene Band in  
8 August of 2008.

9 We have received one (1) of the first  
10 stages of the environmental assessment, the community  
11 hearing. Today the Board wishes to hear the views and  
12 options that members of the community in Nahanni Butte  
13 may have regarding this proposal development.

14 This community hearing is informal and is  
15 intended to be distinct from the more formal hearings  
16 later this week in Fort Simpson. Presentation from  
17 parties will be held -- will be non-technical and the  
18 majority of the time will be given to the community  
19 members to ask questions.

20 Over the course of the day we will ask  
21 that you do not -- best to help the Review Board to  
22 understand your views about the proposed development  
23 potential environmental, social, economic, and cultural  
24 impacts, and your views of potential significance of  
25 these impacts.



1 producing an official transcript of this hearing. This  
2 transcript will be available through our website and the  
3 public registry for this environmental assessment.

4 The community will be informal and will  
5 proceed as follows, Canadian Zinc Corporation will give  
6 their presentation first. After they have given the  
7 presentation, community members and the Review Board have  
8 the opportunity to ask questions.

9 Nahanni Butte Dene Band, INAC and Parks  
10 Canada will also be -- make brief presentations.  
11 Community members and -- and the Review Board will have  
12 the opportunity to ask questions of each of these three  
13 (3) presen -- presentations.

14 There will be no questions between the  
15 developer and the parties during this community hearing.  
16 The remaining time this afternoon will be for community  
17 members to ask further questions through the developer  
18 and the parties that are present.

19 Community members here today are welcome  
20 to speak, make a statement, or ask questions. Please  
21 identify yourself to one (1) of our staff so they can --  
22 can help you. Questions can be asked with a microphone  
23 so that everyone here and the transcript -- transcribers  
24 can properly record it.

25 We have simultaneous translations into the

1 Dene languages on your -- on your headsets. You can hear  
2 English on Channel 1, and the Dene languages on Channel  
3 2. I ask that you speak slowly and clearly for the  
4 interpreters.

5 So let's begin today with the presentation  
6 from Cana -- Canadian Zinc Corporation. So we'll --  
7 we'll turn it over to Canadian Zinc Corporation.

8 Even though in my opening comments I also  
9 made a note that we're going to move the Nahanni Butte  
10 Dene Band presentation to 1:00 this afternoon, so it  
11 gives us time to -- we'll continue on with the other  
12 presenters.

13 Okay. So I'm going to turn it over to  
14 Canadian Zinc. And then I ask that everybody that speak  
15 will speak through the Chair. And maybe what we could do  
16 is make sure that you mention your name so it's clear for  
17 our transcriber to understand. And -- so I'll turn it  
18 over to Canadian Zinc. Mahsi.

19

20 PRESENTATION BY CANADIAN ZINC CORPORATION:

21 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Yeah, if I could ask  
22 Mr. Chairperson if I could stand up and do the  
23 presentation, I'll make sure that I'm heard.

24

25 (BRIEF PAUSE)

1                   THE CHAIRPERSON:   Maybe while they're  
2   getting set up there I also want to acknowledge our  
3   transcriber, Wendy Warnock.  She's our transcriber in the  
4   back, and our translators in the back.  We'll mention --  
5   we'll recognize you guys a little bit later.  But if you  
6   guys wave -- if we're going too fast just let me know and  
7   then we'll slow those guys down.  Okay.  Mahsi.

8

9                                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

10

11   CONTINUED BY MR. ALAN TAYLOR:

12                   MR. ALAN TAYLOR:   Hello.  Hello.  Okay.  
13   Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.  My name's Alan  
14   Taylor.  I've been with Canadian Zinc for almost fifteen  
15   (15) years at Prairie Creek.  I'm the Chief Operating  
16   Officer based out of Vancouver, but spend a lot of time  
17   up here.

18                   Firstly, I'd like to thank Chief, and  
19   Council, and the Community for hosting this event.  And  
20   we've been in touch with them for a long time now with  
21   regards to this project and we certainly appreciate their  
22   accommodation here.

23                   The Prairie Creek Mine, it's a very unique  
24   application in the environmental assessment process  
25   mainly for one (1) major reason, and that's because the

1 infrastructure is already present.

2                   It was fully permitted back in 1982 and  
3 was three (3) months away from production before it went  
4 bankrupt, but it is Canadian Zinc's thought along this  
5 lines that the presence of this infrastructure here  
6 already should expedite this permitting process somewhat  
7 because, basically, the environmental footprint of the  
8 facilities and the transportation corridor is already  
9 there.

10                   So as I said, what you see before you, the  
11 mo -- most part of this infrastructure was put in in  
12 1980, but it goes back before then. The original  
13 discovery in 1928 was followed shortly through the '50s  
14 and '60s by development throughout the property until  
15 they -- until they found the main mineralization in this  
16 hillside.

17                   The 1960s camp is right here. But it --  
18 it was interesting that underground development took  
19 place 5 kilometres to the south of this site in 1965. So  
20 one (1) of the challenges everyone has with this project  
21 is what was there before.

22                   And while we don't have any measured  
23 database as to what the situation, the water quality was  
24 and -- and things like that before the infrastructure was  
25 developed, we can look back and sort of look at

1 comparisons.

2                   And one (1) -- I being a geologist, one  
3 (1) of the -- one (1) of the ways we explore for  
4 mineralization is we -- besides sampling of rocks and  
5 soils is we sample waters. And in this particular case  
6 this -- this -- this Prairie Creek showing was discovered  
7 by an outcrop on the side of the -- on the side of the  
8 creek.

9                   However, we know that there's anomalous  
10 waters -- or met -- metals in the waters downstream of  
11 Prairie Creek. And in the recent mineral, energy and  
12 resource assessment by Parks Canada, when they were  
13 expanding the park, over -- hundreds of water samples  
14 were taken in the region.

15                   And of these hundreds of samples there was  
16 a definite significant percentage that were anomalous in  
17 metals. And this included Prairie Creek but, overall,  
18 from the mirror study, there were over 12 percent of the  
19 entire region of the expanded park that had higher and  
20 moderate indications of mineral potential.

21                   So what I'm emphasizing here is that if we  
22 look back before any development here, most likely the  
23 natural setting was metals -- anomalous metals coming out  
24 of the ground in a natural state downstream of this site.

25                   And we've put groundwater holes throughout

1 the site here and some of our groundwater holes in --  
2 this is Harrison Creek up here, and Prairie Creek down  
3 here, they show signs of significant anomalous metals,  
4 including zinc, lead, silver. And that would be  
5 emanating from the exposures of mineralization on this  
6 hillside and that needs to be accounted for.

7 Here we seen an aerial of -- of the site  
8 and you can appreciate the sort of restricted nature with  
9 the topography. Here's the airstrip. This is Prairie  
10 Creek running north to south and this is Harrison Creek  
11 coming in the side here. The mineralization lies in here  
12 and was naturally producing leach -- leached metals into  
13 the system downstream.

14 The site -- what we propose with the site  
15 basically is very similar to what you see. We're going  
16 to enhance some facilities, upgrade some facilities,  
17 they're -- they are thirty (30) years old, but in  
18 addition to that, we're going to enhance the mitigation  
19 of any possible environmental impact through a number of  
20 ways.

21 And one (1) -- and the key line of inquiry  
22 here, of course, is water quality. And we're proposing  
23 to convert this -- it was originally a tailings pond  
24 facility, but never produced, never had any tails in it.

25 And we -- we are now going to convert this

1 into a water storage pond to store our mine water and  
2 recycle for our process water through the mill and retain  
3 waters before being treated and released.

4 And most -- most proposed operations do  
5 not have this facility available to them because it  
6 wouldn't be built yet. And even though there's some  
7 structural challenges with this facility, it can be  
8 mitigated and -- and the structural integrity can be --  
9 can be reapplied.

10 So what have we done since inheriting the  
11 Canadian -- or the -- the Cadillac Mine, which had the  
12 waters coming out from the portals for thirty (30) odd  
13 years, not being treated?

14 Well, we -- when we came on we started to  
15 -- to treat the mine water because before it wasn't being  
16 treated. We moved forty (40) tonnes of cyanide that was  
17 stored on site since 1981 and we took all -- removed all  
18 the PCB waste, and upgraded the site, and reorganized the  
19 inventory of materials there.

20 The road needed repairs and we have since  
21 re -- rebuilt that road with a suitable armour to protect  
22 it for years to come. And when Cadillac went in there I  
23 don't believe they had much dialogue with the Community,  
24 but it was our intent from day one (1) to have as much  
25 dialogue with this Community as we can to further educate

1    them on what we're doing, for training, and for future  
2    purposes here.

3                   So what have we accomplished? Well, we  
4    have more than doubled the defined mineral resource that  
5    was known at Cadillac since then. We have a -- at least  
6    a fourteen (14) year mine life and proba -- we have  
7    indications of more than double that.

8                   The mine water is now treated. Cyanide  
9    and PCBs removed, road banks armoured, and we maintain  
10   good relations with our First Nations. In addition to  
11   that we have taken on regional initiatives for training,  
12   education and employment throughout the fifteen (15) --  
13   fifteen (15) years that I've been involved and that's  
14   through -- recently through Aurora College and Mine  
15   Training Society.

16                  But what's it all about? It's about  
17   what's in the ground and that's what attracted us.  
18   Initially that's what attracted the Hunt Brothers. And  
19   what's on surface we -- we deal with today, but from a  
20   mining perspective it's what's in the ground that  
21   matters.

22                  And this is the lower level portal, which  
23   is presently emanating the waters and has been for the  
24   last thirty (30) years, naturally flowing out from the  
25   mine site in the warmer season. And this is where we

1     treat the waters.

2                     But underground -- it's kind of a dark  
3     slide, I know, but this is what it's all about.  Ninety  
4     percent of our resource lies in a high grade, what we  
5     call a vein-type structure.  And what that vein  
6     represents is a crack in the rock, a fault zone.  And  
7     it's -- it's -- it's -- it's received high grade  
8     mineralization from a -- a long distance through fault  
9     zones.  But what that fault does also is conduct water  
10    through it.  And that's where the metals go through  
11    naturally, ever since this has been formed.

12                    For our proposed mining operations we  
13    proposed them as very similar to what Cadillac had  
14    proposed with a few enhancements, 100 percent underground  
15    operation.  And this would be from the existing portals  
16    and we'd have to create a new portal here to go further  
17    at depth into the mine.

18                    Our development plans, originally Cadillac  
19    was -- was to put tailings on the surface in that  
20    facility we saw, but we recognize the legacy issues of  
21    tailings ponds upon closure, the long-term issues it has,  
22    and we were looking at innovative ways to reduce that  
23    risk.

24                    And so we're now proposing that all our  
25    flotation tails that come out of the mill, the waste

1 flotation tails will be placed back underground into the  
2 voids that we have mined out. And not many mines have  
3 that opportunity because in our case we are -- we're  
4 taking out a significant portion as concentrate and we  
5 have that ability to have that room underground.

6 It is at an expense because you have to  
7 mix cement with it. You have to bring the cement in,  
8 make it -- a cement plant on site, but we feel that it's  
9 merited in the location we are.

10 We're also proposing water recycle and  
11 treatment, and my colleague Dave will talk about that a  
12 bit later. We'll produce two (2) types of mineral  
13 concentrate, a zinc and a lead, and it basically comes  
14 out in 4 tonne bags. And because we're proposing paste  
15 backfill, we feel we have a low-risk closure plan here.

16 And along with that we bring our First  
17 Nations Communities and such along as best we can here to  
18 get involved and participate. So briefly, I'm sure a lot  
19 of you have been there, and I would encourage you to --  
20 to go there because it's the only way to understand the  
21 property.

22 We have a 3,000-foot airstrip that we  
23 access now because we haven't reopened that winter road,  
24 even though we do have a winter road permit at this time.  
25 And so we're limited in -- in what equipment and -- and

1 such we can bring at -- at this time. And of course, the  
 2 mine facilities which are all bermed by an armoured  
 3 riprap engineered facility and has protected the site for  
 4 more than thirty (30) years with very little maintenance.  
 5 And in that time that we've been there and our  
 6 predecessors, San Andreas, there has been significant  
 7 flood events and we have suffered no effects at the site.

8  
 9                   What -- our energy support for the site,  
 10 unfortunately, has to be diesel at this time. We've  
 11 looked at alternative energy sources such as wind and  
 12 solar, and -- and water, but they're just not reliable  
 13 enough for our needs at this time even though we don't  
 14 require a lot of power.

15                   And this tank farm facility, once again,  
 16 is fully engineered, it's -- it's fully bermed and clay-  
 17 lined, and we have a tank engineer inspect these tanks  
 18 every year, and we're presently only using the -- the  
 19 painted one (1). But this has a capacity for around 8  
 20 million litres of diesel and that's enough to run the  
 21 mine on for one (1) year.

22                   One (1) of our -- the mitigative -- or the  
 23 -- the safety protocols that Cadillac installed was an  
 24 installation of a catchment pond. And this catchment  
 25 pond is the last pond in the site where all the surface

1 waters report to and has a -- has an ability to close off  
2 any -- any drainage there in case there's a spill on site  
3 and have clean-up on -- on site and prevent decanting  
4 into the environment.

5 Our total geological resources in the  
6 order right now are defined in the order of 12 million  
7 tonnes. Our application, and what we're basing our  
8 feasibility on, is based on half that, 5 million tonnes.

9 That 5 million tonnes is capable of a  
10 fourteen (14) year mine life at 1,000 tonnes per day.  
11 And we have indications of double that through drilling.  
12 And at this time we're further exploring outside that  
13 resource to find additional resources, and we contemplate  
14 locating further resources to make the mine even more  
15 long lived.

16 Significant metal in the ground, 60  
17 million ounces of silver, and billions of pounds of zinc  
18 and lead. So our -- our underground plan would be to  
19 utilize the present levels and extract what we can from  
20 them and they're pretty well ready to go now. There's  
21 about 5 kilometres of tunnel. But in addition, we'd need  
22 to drive deeper on -- into the -- into the ore body to  
23 further feed the mill and develop underground.

24 Our proposed mining and milling, I won't  
25 get into the -- a lot of detail, but basically we can run

1 underground at about 1,300 tonnes per day mining. And  
2 we're proposing to mill at one thousand (1,000).

3 Now you might ask why we lose that three  
4 hundred (300), well, we're -- we're also proposing to  
5 install what's called a dense media separation plant at  
6 the front end of our mill. And basically we have very  
7 heavy minerals, the lead and the zinc, which are a lot  
8 heavier than the -- the host rock, and they readily  
9 separate through -- through a gravity technique in the  
10 mill, it's very simple.

11 And we can get rid of in the order of 300  
12 tonnes of waste before it goes into the mill and that is  
13 a big plus because what that does is we can enhance the  
14 amount of metal that goes into the mill without actually  
15 expanding the mill.

16 And that has a -- has a -- huge knock-on  
17 effects with economy of scale here, and it also saves on  
18 energy since we don't have to process a lot of waste and  
19 we don't have -- we don't have that much flotation tails  
20 generated either.

21 And we'll be producing zinc and lead  
22 concentrates to be transported to railhead at Fort  
23 Nelson, British Columbia, a distance of about 500  
24 kilometres, via a winter road.

25 And a winter road was originally part of

1 the permit of Cadillac, and we've -- we've gone to that  
 2 route of winter road for a number of reasons, 1) it has  
 3 the least impact from the environmental perspective, 2)  
 4 it has a very low capital cost compared to an all season  
 5 road, and 3) it's a -- we're -- we're limited as to how  
 6 much volume we can actually mine here. So the necess --  
 7 it's not necessary to have an all seas -- all-season road  
 8 at this time.

9 Our mill inside is 90 percent complete.  
 10 If you were to build this mill this ye -- this day and  
 11 age from scratch it would be in the order of a \$100  
 12 million, but it's sitting on site doing nothing right  
 13 now.

14 And even though it's thirty (30) years  
 15 old, the basic process remains the same in the mill as it  
 16 was then. All we'd have to do is upgrade some facilities  
 17 to bring them up to code.

18 This is a schematic of the mill showing  
 19 some of the enhancements we would add onto the mill. And  
 20 the main one (1) is the power plant. We'd be replacing  
 21 all our diesel generators by new more fuel-efficient  
 22 generators in order to minimize the amount of diesel we  
 23 need to support that site.

24 We'd be adding a dense media plant on the  
 25 side of the mill, a paste plant for the paste backfill,

1 and on the out -- outboard side of the mill a bagging  
2 plant and some concentrate storage facilities. But the  
3 main guts of the mill remains very similar to what -- to  
4 what it is when installed.

5 This is an example of one (1) of the  
6 generators we'd be replacing the old generators with.  
7 They'd take up a quarter of the space in -- in the mill.

8 And also we incinerate all our garbage and  
9 have since day 1 at the site. We've never had a wildlife  
10 issue in so doing, but we would need to replace our  
11 existing incinerator with a new incinerator.

12 So as I spoke to you before about our  
13 ability to paste backfill here is dictated by how much  
14 void space there is available to us. And we ship out  
15 approximately 26 percent as concentrate and this is per  
16 tonne of rock mined.

17 And in our DMS reject, 24 percent is  
18 rejected and 50 percent comes out as float waste tails.  
19 And we can put all that 50 percent back underground  
20 because we have this space available to us.

21 And, in addition, we have underground  
22 development that's -- that's not included in that pie  
23 chart. So we do have the space to do it and the  
24 technology of paste backfill has been around for twenty  
25 (20) odd years, and it -- it -- it can be done. And

1 might I add, at an expense, but we feel that expense is  
2 more than merited. So I'm going to ask my colleague Dave  
3 Harpley to take over from here.

4

5 (BRIEF PAUSE)

6

7 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: Good morning. I'm  
8 going to run through the -- the waste management side of  
9 the -- the project and also the environmental issues that  
10 are related to project and to the road.

11 Carrying on from what -- where Alan left  
12 off, as he said, all the float tailings will go  
13 underground. And, in addition, a portion of the -- the  
14 DMS reject -- reject rock. Not all of that DMS rock can  
15 fit underground at this time, or we're not sure that it  
16 can. So the excess, if there is any excess, will go to  
17 the waste rock pile. The waste rock pile is primarily  
18 for development rock that will come out of the -- the  
19 access ways to get to the -- the -- the minerals  
20 underground.

21 The cornerstone of the -- the Water  
22 Management Plan is to convert the large pond on site,  
23 which was intended for tailings disposal, into a water  
24 storage pond. This will allow us to recycle water to the  
25 mill as the feed source for the mill.

1                   So this is kind of a conceptual view of  
2 what the waste rock pile will look like. It is in a  
3 tributary to Harrison Creek. It is not in a location  
4 where there's normally a -- a creek flowing, so it's a  
5 good location from that perspective, and here is the  
6 waste here.

7                   It would have a seepage collection pond at  
8 the toe in this location and the seepage would be fed  
9 into the water management system to be treated. This  
10 location is also convenient in that it would be fairly  
11 easy to cap the area after the mine closes and blend it  
12 into the landscape.

13                  So this is what we think the mine will  
14 look like in production. We have the -- the pond revised  
15 here. It has a separated dike in the middle and it has  
16 two (2) cells in the water storage pond, and then there's  
17 some additional buildings here.

18                  This is a large shed to store  
19 concentrates, some sheds to store reagents, an additional  
20 accommodation complex, and the additions to the mill that  
21 Alan was describing.

22                  So this is a simplified view. It may not  
23 look simplified, but this is essentially our Water  
24 Management Plan. And -- whoops. Basically what happens  
25 is water from stockpiles from the waste rock pile here

1 and from the mine, and also from the sewage treatment  
2 plant will all feed into one (1) cell of the water  
3 storage pond.

4 And water that comes out of the mill feeds  
5 into the other cell of the water storage pond. And the  
6 two (2) of them stay separate. Both cells feed water  
7 back to the mill. Both cells also feed water to the  
8 water treatment plant. And from there the water is  
9 discharged via the catchment pond, which also collects  
10 runoff from the site and discharges to Prairie Creek.

11 When Cadillac built the pond, the large  
12 pond, this area of the back slope was unstable. So part  
13 of the revision of this pond includes placement of  
14 material here to stabilize it both in the floor of the  
15 pond and along the back slope. In addition, material  
16 will be excavated from above here to reduce the load on  
17 the slope and also we will have a minimum water level in  
18 the pond, which acts as an additional support for the  
19 slope. And -- and this is what our engineers tell us is  
20 required to ensure the slope is stable in normal  
21 conditions and during an earthquake if we have one.

22 So the water story is essentially, we  
23 recycle and reuse as much mill water as we can. But  
24 we're only able to recycle a proportion of it, and we're  
25 -- and we also can't recycle all of the mine water that

1 flows into the mine. So we have to treat and discharge,  
2 we can't use and dispose of all the water on site. We  
3 will have two (2) water treatment plants.

4 One (1) will be for mine water, and one  
5 (1) will be for water that comes out of the mill. The  
6 reason we have two (2) is the metals in the water and  
7 their chemistry is different so they behave differently  
8 to treatment. We went through a lengthy process to  
9 determine what was the correct approach to treat these  
10 two (2) different waters, and our engineers basically  
11 came up with the two (2) processes that we have described  
12 in our submission.

13 Mine water is based on lime treatment.  
14 This is a fairly simple but very reliable process that's  
15 used virtually everywhere in the world, including Canada  
16 and the US, and generates very good quality water after  
17 treatment.

18 The process water will be a little  
19 different. We first have to make the water acidic to  
20 change the chemistry of the water, and then we add  
21 sulfide, which precipitates the metals, and then we add  
22 lime to remove the acid, to bring the water back up to  
23 just above neutral for discharge.

24 That is the primary treatment of the  
25 water. In addition to the primary treatment there is a

1 secondary treatment step. This involves removing the  
2 sediment from the water because when you treat it in the  
3 primary step you generate the sediment, that is the  
4 metals that we need to precipitate. So the secondary  
5 step involves a big, what we call a clarifier. And this  
6 is big -- basically a big tank, which allows the sediment  
7 to settle.

8 One (1) of the difficulties in doing the  
9 water treatment testing is that while we can fairly  
10 accurately simulate the effect of the primary treatment  
11 in the laboratory, it is very difficult to simulate the  
12 secondary treatment in the laboratory because you need  
13 large vessels.

14 What the engineers tell us is that the --  
15 the results we get out of the treatment are conservative  
16 because we should get better treatment in a mine scale  
17 proper plant.

18 The discharge from the site -- we're  
19 proposing to use, essentially, a pipe that is buried  
20 below the channel of Prairie Creek. We selected this  
21 option for two (2) main reasons, one (1) is that the pipe  
22 is not exposed to damage from floods, and the second  
23 reason is it allows mixing of the discharge with creek  
24 water very efficiently.

25 And this is important because we need to

1 get the mixing done as fast as possible to minimize metal  
 2 concentrations in the creek. All of this will be subject  
 3 to very diligent monitoring. And we have made the commi  
 4 -- commitment to the Community that they will be involved  
 5 in the monitoring. We have said to them that we will  
 6 have a member from the Community on every shift, and it's  
 7 our desire to train people and have them as basically  
 8 environmental managers, officers, on site. So they will  
 9 do other things in addition to monitoring. There will be  
 10 a hands-on approach.

11 We're very conscious of the possibility of  
 12 spills occurring, both along the site and along the road.  
 13 As far as the site goes we're fortunate that we have a  
 14 number of very high dikes and berms, and also the  
 15 catchment pond that will allow us to basically contain  
 16 very quickly and effectively if we have a spill on site.

17 The discharge will have a gate on it so  
 18 that if there is a significant spill we can close the  
 19 gate and stop the discharge until we can rectify the  
 20 problem. This shows you where the pipe will be as  
 21 discussed. This is the catchment pond here. This is  
 22 Prairie Creek. So the pipe will come out of the pond  
 23 through the dike towards the bottom of the dike and  
 24 buried underneath the creek here.

25 You will notice that the pipe does not

1 extend all the way across the creek. This is because we  
2 want to maintain a zone where if for some reason fish  
3 don't like the water that's coming out of the trench  
4 here, they can go around, so we're not stopping the  
5 movement of fish.

6 In design, this is a cross section, so the  
7 creek is flowing kind of this way. Here is the dike and  
8 the trench extends under the dike. The trench has lots  
9 of little slots in it so that we get an even distribution  
10 of discharge of the water up through these course  
11 boulders and into the bed of the creek over this whole  
12 section here.

13 As Alan mentioned, the water quality in  
14 the creek downstream was likely mineralized before any of  
15 the mine infrastructure was built. The difficulty we  
16 have is that there's no way of knowing exactly what that  
17 water quality was because when we came to the project the  
18 mine was essentially built already, and there was not a  
19 good database of water quality.

20 One (1) thing we do know though, is that  
21 from our studies and other people's studies, that despite  
22 there being approximately twenty-five (25) years of  
23 discharge of mine water to the creek, there is  
24 surprisingly little in the way of impact downstream.  
25 What we've done is we've simulated the discharge water

1 quality and we've done an extensive amount of testing to  
2 see how that water quality compares to concentrations  
3 that might be toxic to fish and other things that live in  
4 the water.

5                   And these tests actually use real fish and  
6 other aquatic organisms. It's called toxicity testing.  
7 So we've done several test rounds of this to make sure  
8 that what we discharge will not be acutely toxic to fish.  
9 In other words, it won't kill fish.

10                   We've also re -- researched what kind of  
11 concentrations in the creek we would consider to be  
12 protective of all of the things that live in the water.  
13 And I'll discuss that in a minute.

14                   But one (1) thing we do know is that  
15 further downstream in Prairie Creek, and particularly in  
16 the South Nahanni River, we don't believe there is any  
17 significant risk for impacts.

18                   There's one (1) kind of big disagreement  
19 at this point as far as the project goes and it has to do  
20 with the discharge and the concentrations we think are  
21 necessary to meet in the creek. In all of the lit --  
22 literature review that we've done, the indications to us,  
23 and recommendations from our consultants, are that using  
24 zinc, this concentration here at this level is protective  
25 of everything living in the creek.

1                   These are concentrations here, starting  
2 with zero at the bottom and then increasing. The top  
3 concentration is 0.04 milligrams per litre. By way of  
4 reference, drinking water guideline is five (5). So in -  
5 - in terms of this chart that number would be way above  
6 the ceiling here. But aquatic organisms are more  
7 sensitive than we are. So this is what we think is the  
8 safe level. And down at the bottom here, this black  
9 diamond is what we estimate to be background.

10                   Now some government departments want the  
11 discharge so that the water quality in the creek stays in  
12 this narrow range here at the bottom, or here, I should  
13 say. This green would be -- this green triangle would be  
14 the top of the range. This orange diamond is what we  
15 think our discharge would be, the highest concentration  
16 we estimate will be in our discharge. So for zinc we can  
17 be in this range that the government considers is the  
18 right place to be.

19                   This one (1) is lead. Again, this is  
20 where we think the safe level is. Here's background,  
21 almost at the bottom of the chart at zero, and the range  
22 is here. And our predicted concentration is right on the  
23 same -- the top of the range, the background range here.  
24 So we're very close, but it's very tight.

25                   Now we come to a metal like antimony.

1 Again, here's our safe level, here's background, but  
2 you'll notice for this one, background and the green  
3 triangle are almost on top of one another right down here  
4 at the bottom. And here is our predicted high right  
5 here. So for antimony we can't stay in the background  
6 range. It just happens that there is antimony in the  
7 minerals, it does come out into the water a little bit,  
8 and it's not in any significant concentration upstream of  
9 the creek. We actually know that it is downstream, but  
10 it's not in the creek upstream.

11 So for this metal we can't stay within the  
12 background range. However, we're still a long way from  
13 what we consider to be a level where there might be cause  
14 for concern. And this level also has a safety factor  
15 associated with it. So this is really where we're having  
16 a disagreement with government as to what the discharge  
17 needs to be.

18 Mercury is always a concern if it's  
19 present because it has the potential to accumulate in  
20 fish and other organisms. We do know that the background  
21 concentration in the creek is low. It is so low that in  
22 normal testing we can't detect it. So we're having to  
23 consider doing, and in fact have just started doing,  
24 special sampling and using very low detection limits.

25 Although there is mercury in the minerals

1 underground, the vast majority of that mercury stays in  
2 the minerals in the concentrate, so will leave the site  
3 when the concentrates are taken out. The mine water also  
4 has very little mercury in it. It is also not detectable  
5 at present. The mill water does have a little bit of  
6 mercury in it, not much, but it is detectable, but most  
7 of that is sediment that is not dissolved.

8                   So we don't think that the mine will lead  
9 to a significant discharge of mercury and accumulation.  
10 And on this similar chart here, here's our background and  
11 here is the upper range of the background and the safe  
12 objective is up there.

13                   However, there is some question marks  
14 associated with the data upon which these numbers are  
15 based. So right now we're comfortably in the range, in  
16 the safe range, but there are some question marks with  
17 the data, so we have to do some further checking. And  
18 with mercury you can't just rely on water quality, you  
19 have to look at the process of potential accumulation in  
20 fish tissue.

21                   You will hear other presentations later  
22 today. In their presentation Parks Canada will say that  
23 the project as proposed may not mitigate potential  
24 significant adverse impacts to Prairie Creek. In the  
25 public hearing in Fort Simpson we will indicate that

1 Parks Canada has, in our opinion, made numerous incorrect  
2 assumptions in their review of water quality. And, as a  
3 result, their conclusion is not correct.

4 INAC has concluded that the project as  
5 proposed presents a high level of risk for significant  
6 adverse impacts to water. This conclusion is based on a  
7 number of assumptions. In Fort Simpson we will indicate  
8 that only one (1) assumption is valid, in our opinion.  
9 That is the approach to setting water quality objectives.  
10 That's what I've been discussing just now.

11 As discussed, INAC wants the project to  
12 meet background water quality, whereas Canadian Zinc  
13 believes that objectives that protect aquatic life are  
14 appropriate. Both -- we believe both approaches are  
15 acceptable, and which one is used is a matter of opinion.  
16 Therefore, we disagree with INAC's conclusion.

17 So basically what we're saying is our  
18 discharge, in our opinion, will not have significant  
19 impacts. There may be some changes to the natural  
20 background, but we don't believe they're substantial  
21 changes, and certainly will not significantly affect the  
22 aquatic life that lives in the creek. And it's not for  
23 every metal. As I showed you, some of the metals we can  
24 stay in the background range, just that there are others  
25 where we can't.

1                   The mine will hire two hundred and twenty  
2   (220) people full-time on a shift rotation so that at any  
3   one (1) time there will be approximately a hundred and  
4   ten (110) people on site. We propose to have two (2)  
5   shifts for the mine and for the mill operation, so that  
6   will be two (2) twelve (12) hour shifts. And then there  
7   will be one (1) administration shift which will likely be  
8   a ten (10) hour shift.

9                   The rotation we've selected is three (3)  
10   weeks on and three (3) weeks off. This is a rotation  
11   that our workers historically have indicated to us is the  
12   best rotation for them because it allows them time to  
13   really have time off when they're not on -- at -- at  
14   work. Two (2) weeks is too short, four (4) weeks is too  
15   long. In addition to that manpower, there will be a  
16   significant manpower involved in moving out the  
17   concentrates in the winter and moving in the supplies.

18                  The shift change will be done mostly by  
19   air using the existing airstrip, but of course, the  
20   concentrates going out will have to be done by road.  
21   This is our winter road. Here we are at the mine, in our  
22   area inside the Park, and the road connects through here.

23                  The existing road is the solid line here  
24   that goes out to Lindberg Landing. What we've proposed  
25   is a number of realignments, one (1) here, which we call

1 the Polje realignment. There's some changes that we want  
2 to make in the Silent Hills right here, and there's two  
3 (2) realignments here that were advocated by the  
4 Community so that the road moves out of wetland areas,  
5 this one (1) and this one (1).

6 This particular realignment has an added  
7 benefit in that it brings the road closer to the  
8 Community, not into the Community, but close enough that  
9 the transfer facility here means that the Community can  
10 be involved in the operation of this facility. And, more  
11 importantly, the control of the road in terms of access  
12 control.

13 So the alignments of the wetlands I  
14 mentioned, the -- the Polje realignment was selected at  
15 the suggestion of Parks Canada because the existing road  
16 bisects the Poljes and there was an interest in moving it  
17 so it was away from the -- the main karst features. So  
18 after some extensive investigation, because it's very  
19 difficult terrain to -- to get through because of the  
20 incised nature and -- and the karst features, we did find  
21 an alignment that will work from a transport perspective.

22 In addition to that we've been working  
23 hard to improve the road in other areas, specifically to  
24 remove the grade, that is the slope of the road, and also  
25 to remove some of the tight bends. And there's two (2)

1 reasons for that.

2                   One (1) is it makes the road easier to  
3 drive, so the transportation process is more efficient.  
4 But probably more importantly it makes the road so much  
5 more safer, less risk of accidents, and less risk of  
6 spills.

7                   We're also proposing to have bridges over  
8 some of the creek crossings, partly to minimize damage at  
9 those crossings, but also because the nature of the  
10 creeks in those locations, one (1) of them is very  
11 incised and it involves going down into the creek and out  
12 again, which is -- itself poses some risk. And another  
13 location, it's a fairly substantial creek, Polje Creek,  
14 which may not freeze completely in terms of stability to  
15 drive over.

16                   We're also looking at other places along  
17 the road to improve the safety and we're thinking about  
18 using curbs and runaway lanes, anything we can do to make  
19 the road safer and minimize risks we're looking to do.

20                   We will be having speed limits on the  
21 road. When the road is operational we will have a proper  
22 road safety supervisor, somebody who knows winter roads  
23 and the terrain, and we will have them specifically  
24 consider the types of vehicles and the cargos, and  
25 specify speed limits, which will be posted along the

1 different sections of the road. And all of this will be  
2 monitored and policed.

3                   This is a concept of one (1) of the bridge  
4 crossings, this is Sundog Creek, and the road is actually  
5 in the back here, the existing road. It goes down into  
6 this box canyon and then out again. So this bridge would  
7 span the gap and avoid having to do that.

8                   This is the Polje realignment and here is  
9 the existing road and it bisects the Poljes here. And  
10 there are also sinkholes in this area of the road. So  
11 the new realignment will come further to the south. It  
12 will cross Polje Creek here with a span and then will  
13 reconnect up with the old road up here.

14                   This is the Silent Hills area. We were  
15 considering realigning the road to come up the slope  
16 gradually. We found that this slope here is actually  
17 unstable, so we're not able to do this realignment.  
18 However, we are looking at these switchbacks in here and  
19 looking to modify those in terms of broadening the  
20 switchback, the distance between them, reducing the  
21 number of them, and opening them out so they're not so  
22 tight. Again, all for safety.

23                   This is another realignment, taking the  
24 road out of the wetlands. Here's the old road in the  
25 wetlands. This road would run along the -- the slope,

1 the toe of the slope of Silent Hills.

2 And then this is the realignment going out  
3 to the Liard River. We come down here along the toe of  
4 the slope of the Nahanni range, the front range, and we  
5 cross the -- the Liard River down here and we tie into an  
6 existing logging road that the Community has used and  
7 then we connect into the Community's access road and then  
8 out to the Liard Highway.

9 The transfer facility would be roughly in  
10 this location. So the road will not go into the  
11 Community. In fact, we specifically will want  
12 contractors not to go into the Community, and that will  
13 be part of the terms of the contracts with contractors  
14 that are involved in the road operation because we don't  
15 want the Community disrupted and we don't want the  
16 negative consequences of having them access the  
17 Community.

18 So this is what the crossing location  
19 looks like. I'm not sure if I've got this name right. I  
20 wasn't sure if it's Tache or Tanche (phonetic), but it's  
21 -- it's one (1) of the two (2) and you can tell me after  
22 which one. But here's the existing logging road and here  
23 is the -- the -- the proposed realignment here. And the  
24 old road was up there at Lindberg Landing. So the  
25 premise of the road construction is basically because of

1 the volume of material we have to move out, the tonnage  
2 of the concentrate, we have to start fairly early in the  
3 winter.

4 So our proposal is to start building the  
5 mine from the west end, which is higher elevation, colder  
6 earlier. What helps is that the first 38/39 kilometres  
7 is basically an all-season road, or at least it was  
8 considered an all-season road when Cadillac built the  
9 mine and it was permitted as an all-season road over that  
10 stretch.

11 These days we can't drive it all seasons  
12 because there are creek crossings and we would have to  
13 have crossing structures and currently we don't have  
14 them. So our proposal is we hope to start early in the  
15 winter from -- from the western end. And once we get off  
16 the -- the gravel section after approximately kilometre  
17 39, then we get into more typical winter road  
18 construction.

19 The first part of the construction would  
20 involve low pressure vehicles to move off snow. There'll  
21 be a period where the ground is exposed to freezing  
22 temperatures to freeze up, and then the next step is the  
23 placement of what I'm told is basically a slush. It's a  
24 mixture of snow and water. And what this does is it  
25 produces a layer of frozen ice, mix -- snow mixture, and

1 is form -- you get a harder surface to traffic on quicker  
2 than by just allowing the ground to freeze by itself.

3 In all of the construction, and in  
4 particular in the new realignments, we're going to be on  
5 the lookout for artifacts, cultural resources, anything  
6 out of the ordinary, and we'll have a -- a reporting  
7 system so we can figure out what we've discovered and  
8 deal with it appropriately.

9 Water sources that we will need for the  
10 road, we don't expect we'll need an awful lot of water,  
11 but we will need some. At this point in time we know we  
12 can get water at the mine, and we know we can get water  
13 at Mosquito Lake because we've done a little bit of work  
14 at this point to indicate that the lake is deep enough.

15 We will need to do more work. We will  
16 need to do a proper survey of the lake and provide that  
17 information to Fisheries and Oceans to get their approval  
18 before we take water out of the lake, but we're confident  
19 that it will be possible.

20 We will also look for other water sources,  
21 primarily from lakes. And again, we need to collect more  
22 information at the time and get approval for extraction  
23 for those before we use them. But if we have to rely on  
24 the mine and Mosquito Lake, we can do that. It's just  
25 that we will have to travel greater distances to get the

1 water.

2                   An important part of the construction will  
3 be to protect streams and particuls -- particularly  
4 stream banks. So we will be paying attention to measures  
5 that we can implement to protect stream banks from damage  
6 from the trucks.

7                   In places we may have permafrost, we  
8 expect there will be places on the new alignments where  
9 there -- there could be some permafrost. And we -- we  
10 will need to place some granular material to insulate the  
11 permafrost so we don't get thaw and soil movement and  
12 instability. Most of that granular material we spect --  
13 we expect will come from the construction of the  
14 realignments because there will be some locations where  
15 we have to do side hill cuts because we're going across  
16 sloping terrain.

17                   There are also some other locations where  
18 we know we can get granular material. Along Sundog  
19 Creek, for example, there are lots of places where there  
20 is coarse talus material from the slopes right next to  
21 the road. So we can get that granular material that's  
22 outside the flood plain and above the high watermark, and  
23 it's readily available. As I mentioned, the construction  
24 and the operation of the road will be closely inspected  
25 and monitored.

1                   So the schedule that we have come up with  
2   at this point, and it's always subject to weather, is  
3   that we would hope to open the road from the west and --  
4   December 1st. And at that time we would start to move  
5   concentrates from the mine to a midway point that we call  
6   a Tetcela transfer facility. So we don't cross Tetcela  
7   River because it will take longer for that area to  
8   freeze. It's too early to cross in the beginning of  
9   December, but we think we can get to a few kilometres  
10  before Tetcela River starting December 1st.

11                  So then we will start to move the  
12  concentrate to the storage facility. Then the work on  
13  opening the rest of the road will then continue, but it  
14  will continue mostly from the east and we'll be working  
15  on the ice bridge and working on building the road from  
16  the other side of the ice bridge west towards the mine.

17                  And the intention is to have the rest of  
18  the road open by the middle of January. Then at that  
19  time contractor vehicles will come in and collect the  
20  concentrates that we've temporarily stored at the Tetcela  
21  transfer facility, and then the mine trucks will start  
22  moving concentrates from the mine all the way out to the  
23  Liard Highway without stopping. And when -- when they've  
24  dropped their concentrates, the mine trucks will pick up  
25  supplies. They will also pick up some fuel and they will

1 go back into the mine.

2                   And we expect that that operation will be  
3 completed by the end of March. We would hope that it  
4 would be completed before the end of March because you  
5 never know what weather is going to do. We accept that  
6 if we get a warming season, or, you know, warming trend,  
7 we may actually have to suspend operations periodically,  
8 and we may have to suspend operations early because  
9 there's always normally a condition in a land use permit  
10 that you cannot cause rutting to the ground.

11                   So we've built conservatism into our  
12 transport strategy and it is why we have to start moving  
13 concentrate fairly early in the winter to the halfway  
14 point to maintain that conservatism in case the weather  
15 doesn't cooperate over the whole season.

16                   I've mentioned speed limits for road  
17 management. We -- we also plan to have constant radio  
18 contact. In this day and age with telecommunications, we  
19 think there's no reason why we can't have a tracking  
20 system and radio contact with all vehicles so that we can  
21 always contact them at anytime during the journey. And -  
22 - and they similarly can contact base if there's a  
23 trouble or if they need help.

24                   And they can also talk to one another. So  
25 they can warn one another when they're approaching and

1 plan for crossing locations because for most -- for the  
2 most part, this will be a single lane road. So there'll  
3 be some planning required for trucks passing one another  
4 safely.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Maybe I can inter --  
6 interject here for a second because the timeline -- we're  
7 already behind schedule a bit here, so is it possible  
8 that I could get you to do a wrap up in about ten (10)  
9 minutes on this one here?

10 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: Yep.

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you.

12

13 CONTINUED BY MR. DAVID HARPLEY:

14 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: We've been through a  
15 fairly length -- lengthy process of considering how we  
16 might respond to spills, both the risk of spills and how  
17 we might respond to them. And we plan to adopt a number  
18 of strategies to minimize the risks, and firstly to avoid  
19 them happening in the first place. And -- but if they do  
20 occur, to be ready to respond with people, with  
21 materials, and make sure there's a complete cleanup.

22 As I mentioned, we expect to engage the  
23 Nahanni community in operating a checkpoint on the road.  
24 We can't stop people using the road because it'll be a  
25 public road, but we hope to deter people that shouldn't

1 be on the road and make them aware that it's a high-  
2 traffic road and there is risk involved. So we will have  
3 signs and we will have a checkpoint.

4 I'll skip that. We've been over it. This  
5 is kind of what one (1) of the transfer facilities looks  
6 like. It'll be a structure here, and the concentrates in  
7 bags.

8 We've looked at wildlife in the area, and  
9 based on some historical data, we know roughly where the  
10 wildlife are and, also, there may be caribou in this  
11 location. We basically have planned the road operation  
12 to expect animals to be present and to respond  
13 appropriately if they are present. We've assessed the  
14 risks and the residual effects that need to be planned  
15 for. And then we've provided for mitigation.

16 We have a management, a monitoring plan, a  
17 number of other plans in addition to the things that I've  
18 mentioned before in terms of speed limits and so on. And  
19 then we have some other strategies for the mine to  
20 minimize impacts on wildlife, the same ones that we have  
21 in place currently and, touch wood, we've had no problems  
22 to date.

23 We've planned very carefully for closure.  
24 That whole backfill strategy I talked about is primarily  
25 for safe closure of the mine because, as Alan mentioned,

1 the mine exists and it discharges water, and if we don't  
2 look after it and close it properly, somebody else is  
3 going to have to. So our plan is developed to fix that  
4 problem. And we will cover the waste rock pile and  
5 restore everything so it's back to the natural state.

6 This is what it looked like before the  
7 mine. This is what it looks like now. And we expect  
8 when everything is done it'll go back to looking like  
9 this after everything is closed. Wilbert...?

10

11 (BRIEF PAUSE)

12

13 MR. WILBERT ANTOINE: Good morning.

14

15 (INTERPRETED FROM SOUTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

16

17 MR. WILBERT ANTOINE: Good morning. My  
18 name's Wil -- Wilbert Antoine. I live in Fort Simpson.  
19 I've worked for Canadian Zinc for years. I understand a  
20 little bit Slavey, so now I switch back to Sla...

21

22 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

23

24 MR. WILBERT ANTOINE: My name is Wilbert  
25 Antoine, manager for Northen Development Canadian Zinc.

1 On the question of economic benefits we are doing  
2 priority hiring for the Community. You know, it's pretty  
3 well straightforward, all the -- the points. If you have  
4 any questions, you know, there'll be questions later on.

5 The priority hiring for the Community just  
6 means that, you know, Nahanni Butte will get priority,  
7 you know, as -- as long as the -- the -- you have all the  
8 -- all the equal opportunities and equal set of -- as  
9 long as every -- everybody's on the same page and Nahanni  
10 Butte gets the job. I guess that's the -- the most  
11 simply put.

12 And we'll set -- and we'll set aside non-  
13 competitive contracts. That just basically means that  
14 Nahanni Butte will get specific contract just  
15 specifically for Nahanni Butte. Whatever Nahanni Butte  
16 points at, they can get those contracts without  
17 competition to any of the other Dehcho or the Northern or  
18 any other companies that are available out there.  
19 Priority owned contracts pretty well means the same  
20 thing, so it's pretty well straightforward.

21 Annual revenue. We -- you know, that --  
22 as long as there's all the contracts, the set-aside  
23 contracts, the hiring, everything is -- annual revenue  
24 will be flowing into Nahanni Butte from the project.

25 Percentage of pro -- projects profits is

1 through the -- the IBAs. There'll be -- through the IBA  
2 with Nahanni Butte there'll be quite a substantial profit  
3 flow going into the community.

4 Education funds. I guess that's one (1)  
5 that we are all very proud of. You know, when we -- we  
6 did the IBA with Nahanni we made sure that there was a  
7 lot of opportunity for educating the -- the youth through  
8 apprenticeships, training, mine training society, all  
9 that kind of stuff, and further education. There's quite  
10 a substantial fund available for that, you know, so -- so  
11 that there'll be a lot of opportunity for the -- for the  
12 Community members, the young -- the young folks. That's  
13 who we're really looking after, you know, looking forward  
14 for.

15 The anchor tenant in the Band office, we  
16 have agreed that upon completion of the -- the new Band  
17 office we will be anchoring one (1) of the -- one (1) of  
18 the rooms will be one (1) of the -- the most important --  
19 not the most important, I guess, but a very substantial  
20 tenant that will be making sure that the -- the Band  
21 office facility is being paid for.

22 Ongoing annual community events. Over the  
23 past three (3) years I've been involved with Canadian  
24 Zinc, and even -- probably even longer. You know, Alan  
25 said he had fifteen (15) years of moving the bo -- for --

1 the project forward. We have committed to doing a lot of  
2 things like the -- the Winterfest for the kids. We -- we  
3 have I think a three (3) day program that we put on  
4 through their social program right here in this gym.  
5 we've had floor hockey and, you know, everyone has a real  
6 good time.

7                   And I think some of us older people, as we  
8 run back and forth chasing the kids, we lose a little bit  
9 of weight, but that's a good thing, I guess. And not --  
10 not only that, but you see the -- the scoreboard, you  
11 know, we donated stuff like that, you know, all the  
12 tables and chairs for the new gym. The Community wanted  
13 stuff like that, community events, barbecues and stuff  
14 like that. You know, that's not going to stop just  
15 because we got a permit. You know, that's going to be an  
16 ongoing thing. So that brings us to that end.

17                   On the social issues programs, I think,  
18 like all other diamond mines, where I've worked for six  
19 (6) years, a lot of our people, a lot of the people in  
20 the Tlicho communities being new to these kinds of  
21 benefits and everything else were very in need of money  
22 management, that kind of thing, so, you know, we're going  
23 to provide that through in-house training and stuff like  
24 that.

25                   And health awareness. A lot of the -- the

1 issues of health, we're going to be having the health --  
 2 health awareness community or coordinating family  
 3 assistance, one (1) of the plans that we have in the  
 4 works is Employee Family Assistance Programs. I think  
 5 that is pretty well standard throughout all mining and  
 6 all industry-related programs, you know, mining  
 7 companies. I think even the government has that, you  
 8 know, so I'm sure that the -- the folks I see not local  
 9 to the area are very well aware of those kinds of  
 10 programs.

11 Ongoing community event sponsorship, as I  
 12 said at the end of the last slide is pretty well  
 13 straightforward, you know, we're not -- you know, we're  
 14 going to be continuing everything that we've ever done  
 15 and probably even more as the events continue to roll --  
 16 roll by.

17 The Chief and Council will say, Hey, this  
 18 program is coming up, you know, and we'll come to the  
 19 table and we'll be introducing new stuff, youth  
 20 workshops. Youth has always been a very, very important  
 21 part of all the communities. I have attended a lot of  
 22 leadership meetings and functions throughout the Dehcho  
 23 and throughout the north over the past three (3) years  
 24 and I know that every time we have a -- a large gathering  
 25 like this the youth is always very, very important

1 because they are our future, just as we were the future,  
2 like myself just about forty (40) years ago when I  
3 started in mining, you know, I was just footloose and  
4 fancy free, and devil may care sort of an attitude.

5 But once you get onto a path then you  
6 follow your dreams and here we are. You know, we have  
7 the -- the Board, we have Canadian Zinc, we have Chief  
8 and Council, we all have dreams, we all were youth at one  
9 (1) time and so we have to really look after our youth.

10 Traditional harvesting opportunities.  
11 With the coming of fall -- fall harvest and all that kind  
12 of stuff we -- the -- the plan is to make sure that  
13 anyone who requests the time off during the fall  
14 harvesting, in particular, you know, which is a very,  
15 very important part of the traditions and the culture  
16 throughout the north.

17 I know because, you know, I'm a -- I do  
18 recreational fishing, recreational harvesting, and when  
19 you -- you get a moose, we all know here in the north  
20 that it lasts maybe about two (2) or three (3) days and  
21 everybody gets a part of the feast. And, you know, when  
22 you come to the -- to a -- the family cookout where  
23 you're successful you take a -- everybody takes home a  
24 little chunk of meat and -- so that they have a day or  
25 two (2) of fine -- fine food.

1                   So that pretty well brings us to the end.  
2   And January the 20th, 2011, was a very, very historic day  
3   in Nahanni Butte. Canadian Zinc and Nahanni Butte and we  
4   had government people here, we signed a very historic  
5   document, the Impact Benefit for Nahanni Butte and  
6   Canadian Zinc.

7                   And I think, you know, the Chief and  
8   Council were very proud of that. We were very proud, and  
9   -- and government was very proud of what we have done --  
10   done. And one (1) of the things that I personally told  
11   Minister Bob McLeod was that in the Dehcho when you look  
12   around there's very, very little industry, and it took  
13   one (1) of the smallest communities in Dehcho to lead the  
14   way. And I think that speaks very, very loudly and very  
15   significantly for Nahanni Butte.

16                  So like the sign says, mahsi Cho.

17                  THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you  
18   for the presentation. And looking at the clock here,  
19   it's quarter to 12:00. We started a few minutes late  
20   this morning. And I wanted to try to keep everybody on  
21   track in terms of the presentation. And I'm trying to  
22   encourage again everybody to maintain the timeline we  
23   have so that we can try to keep the -- to the agenda.

24                  So what I'm going to do is we're going to  
25   continue on, and we'll -- rather than take a full hour

1 for lunch, I think we'll take a half hour to make up the  
2 time we lost and so that we could continue on with the  
3 agenda, like I said earlier.

4 So I'm going to go to the Nahanni Butte  
5 Dene Band, if they have any questions or concerns in  
6 regards to the presentation made. And, for the record,  
7 if you could just state your name.

8

9 QUESTION PERIOD:

10 CHIEF FRED TESOU: Chief Fred Tesou.  
11 It's -- the question is -- is about discharge, any other  
12 company that you know of that uses this system?

13 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: Dave Harpley. Fred,  
14 I think most mines in Canada discharge water. They have  
15 different ways of doing it, but most of them do.  
16 Certainly the -- the diamond mines do. In terms of the -  
17 - if you're referring to the pipeline method, the -- the  
18 buried trench method, we're not aware -- other mines  
19 specifically using that approach.

20 There are examples of other industries  
21 that use a similar approach for discharge with some  
22 differences, but the -- the essential mechanism from a  
23 technical perspective is fairly similar.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Any further questions  
25 for Nahanni Butte Band?

1                   CHIEF FRED TESOU:    If the system don't  
2   work do you have any other -- like a backup -- backup  
3   plan on...

4                   MR. DAVID HARPLEY:   The -- the trench  
5   system will actually consist of two (2) pipes, not one  
6   (1).   The -- probably the biggest environmental issue  
7   with putting in the system is just that it's the  
8   construction, the disturbance of the bed, and then the  
9   recreation of the bed to what it was before we started.

10                  So we figured if you're going to disturb  
11   the area we might as well put in two (2) pipes.   So  
12   basically we will use one (1) for operation, and then the  
13   second one (1) is either being maintained or it's  
14   available as a backup, and we could switch to the other  
15   pipe if we need to.

16                  But each one of these pipes will contain a  
17   kind of mini pipe within it.   And what this is is it's  
18   basically a clear-out pipe.   We can -- we can put  
19   compressed air in the small pipe and move any debris that  
20   might be blocking the pipe or accumulating.

21                  But these pipes will also have screens on  
22   the opening, so we won't just let the discharge flow into  
23   them without control.   The screens will filter out any  
24   material before it gets into the pipe and potentially  
25   cause a blockage.



1 do discharge in winter. The old tailings pond will be  
2 the water storage pond. So it will still function in  
3 winter, it will still receive water, and it will still  
4 send water to the treatment plant, so there'll be a  
5 discharge.

6 In -- in mid-winter, like February/March  
7 time, we've already said that we won't be discharging  
8 treated water from the mill, it will just be the mine  
9 water. The creek, although it will be frozen on surface,  
10 and there'll be snow, there's still water underneath and  
11 that's another advantage of the -- the pipe that's  
12 buried.

13 It will st -- it will be discharging water  
14 in an ice-free environment. The quantity of the water  
15 being discharged will be a lot less in winter. Part of  
16 our water management approach is, you know, we store as  
17 much as we can in the big pond and -- and -- over the  
18 wintertime, and then we treat as much as we can in the  
19 summertime.

20 So there'll be a small amount of discharge  
21 in wintertime of primarily mine water, but there still  
22 will be some.

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you.  
24 Nahanni Butte Band, any further comments or questions, or  
25 Community members? If there is, we'd appreciate it if

1 you could come up to the mic and, again, state your name  
2 if you're going to speak.

3

4 (BRIEF PAUSE)

5

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Any more  
7 comments or questions, Chief?

8 CHIEF FRED TESOU: Not right now, maybe  
9 later on.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Mahsi Cho.  
11 Okay, I'm going to go to my Board members if there's any  
12 comments or questions to the proponent on their  
13 presentation. I'm going to go to my far right, Board  
14 member, Peter Bannon?

15 MR. PETER BANNON: No.

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. No questions.  
17 Board member, Danny Bayha?

18 MR. DANNY BAYHA: No.

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Board member, Richard  
20 Mercredi...?

21 MR. RICHARD MERCREDI: No.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Board member, Rachel  
23 Crapeau?

24 MS. RACHEL CRAPEAU: No.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Board member, Percy

1 Hardisty?

2 MR. PERCY HARDISTY: No.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Board member, James

4 Wah-Shee?

5 MR. JAMES WAH-SHEE: No.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Board member, Darryl

7 Bohnet.

8 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: No, I don't have any  
9 questions. I understand we're going to have the same  
10 presentation again tomorrow, maybe a little more -- more  
11 in-depth and -- and I'll hold until then, thanks.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you very  
13 much. We'll stop there. We'll take a half hour lunch  
14 break from -- and we'll ask everybody to come back at  
15 12:30. We'll start -- Mahsi.

16

17 --- Upon recessing at 11:54 a.m.

18 --- Upon resuming at 12:35 p.m.

19

20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, we -- the next  
21 part of the agenda we have is INAC that's going to do a  
22 presentation. While they get set up here I just want to  
23 let people know that after INAC we have Parks Canada, and  
24 then questions from the Community to the developer and  
25 parties.

1                   And I would just like to encourage the  
2   Community members to come up and speak. The Board is  
3   here to listen to your issues and concerns, so we  
4   encourage you to do that. And I know sometimes we might  
5   be shy or that kind of thing, but I always think about  
6   how the Elders used to tell us, that, you know, when  
7   you're going to speak, speak from your heart. So,  
8   anyway, we encourage that.

9                   While we're just getting set up here,  
10   yesterday was Aboriginal Day. I just want to say Happy  
11   Aboriginal Day to everybody here in the Community. So  
12   we're almost ready to go. So I want to turn over the mic  
13   to INAC. I think we're ready to go, so.

14

15                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

16

17                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, I think  
18   everybody's -- if we could ask you to come in and sit  
19   down, and we'll start. And I want to go ahead and turn  
20   it over to Indian and Northern Affairs. Again, when we -  
21   - after the presentation is done I'm going to ask the  
22   Nahanni Butte Dene Band if they have any comments or  
23   questions to the presenter. And then I'm going to go  
24   back to our board members. And we'll continue on next to  
25   Parks doing the same thing as well.

1                   So, with that, I want to turn it over to  
2   INAC. But before we turn it over to INAC, to the  
3   presenters and people speaking, again, if you could state  
4   your name and who you represent. Also, I think we got to  
5   watch out for our translators in the back. And if we're  
6   going a little bit too fast just wave at us. And we'll -  
7   - we encourage the presenters to slow down a bit.

8                   So, with that, I'm going to turn it over  
9   to INAC.

10

11   PRESENTATION BY AANDC:

12                   MS. TERESA JOUDRIE: Thank you. Good  
13   afternoon, Mr. Chair, Board members, Chief, counsel,  
14   ladies and gentlemen. My name is Teresa Jourdrie, and  
15   I'm the director of Renewable Resources and Environment  
16   with what is now called Aboriginal Affairs and Northern  
17   Development Canada.

18                   Before I get started I would actually like  
19   to thank the Community for having us and we really  
20   appreciate the opportunity to be here to express our  
21   concerns with the file and -- and to open a dialogue with  
22   the Can. Zinc, as well as thank whoever arranged for the  
23   lovely lunch. That was bang on, so thank you so much.

24                   As I mentioned, I appreciate the  
25   opportunity to present here in the community of Nahanni

1 Butte, and what I'd like to do is summarize our technical  
2 report on the Prairie Creek mine project as currently  
3 presented by Canadian Zinc Corporation.

4                   We have some handouts of our presentation  
5 and we also have a glossary of terms and acronyms for  
6 those of you who wish to refer to that. And they are at  
7 the -- the side table over there. As the Department of  
8 Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, our goal is  
9 to -- is to support sustainable development activities in  
10 the Northwest Territories that respect the values and  
11 interests of the communities and are carried out in an  
12 environmentally sound manner.

13                   From our technical review of the  
14 information provided by the developer we have three (3)  
15 main areas of concern. These include water quality,  
16 water management and storage, tailings management and  
17 storage. These three (3) issues for us are intertwined  
18 with respect to the potential for impacts to the aquatic  
19 environment.

20                   Aboriginal Affairs and Northern  
21 Development Canada also has concerns with respect to plo  
22 -- post closure of the mine as well as the proposed  
23 access road to the mine. The department has legislative  
24 responsibilities for land and water management within the  
25 NWT. One (1) of these responsibilities is to provide

1 technical advice to resource management boards to assist  
2 in their decision making processes.

3 Our recommendations within our technical  
4 report are made with the intention of assisting the Board  
5 in its decision-making process. If insufficient  
6 information is available to make a determination of  
7 significance, AANDC attempted to clarify for the review  
8 board and the other parties why we were unable to reach  
9 such a determination and to present a possible path  
10 forward to resolve any outstanding issues. And it's  
11 within that context that I'm going to make my  
12 presentation.

13 The first topic I'm going to discuss is  
14 water quality. Canadian Zinc will have to discharge  
15 effluent into Prairie Creek during the operation of the  
16 Prairie Creek mine. Prairie Creek is a tributary of the  
17 South Nahanni River and the mine is approximately 7  
18 kilometres upstre -- upstream of the Nahanni National  
19 Park Reserve boundary.

20 The developer has agreed that site  
21 specific water quality objectives, or SSWQO, for Prairie  
22 Creek are required and necessary. What is a site  
23 specific water quality objective? Well, it's the  
24 standard of water quality to be met at a defined location  
25 downstream of the development.

1                   We are of the opinion that these site  
2 specific water quality objectives must be developed in  
3 such a manner that they consider the natural variability  
4 of Prairie Creek, and, as a starting point, the true  
5 reference condition or the background condition of  
6 Prairie Creek. Once that reference condition has been  
7 established the associated site specific water quality  
8 objectives will be generated that reflect the natural  
9 range of variability that exists. And this is what we  
10 refer to as the reference condition approach.

11                   This philosophy is consistent with the  
12 intent of the NWT water stewardship strategy that was  
13 jointly released by the Government of the Northwest  
14 Territories and the department in May of 2010. This  
15 document outlines a strategy for protecting and  
16 preserving northern waters such that they will remain  
17 clean, abundant, and productive for all times. Following  
18 the establishment of these site specific water quality  
19 objectives based on defensible reference conditions,  
20 discussion amongst interested parties is required to  
21 determine the appropriateness and practicality of these  
22 objectives.

23                   We believe that the establishment of  
24 appropriately protective site specific water quality  
25 objectives are imperative to ensuring that potential

1 impacts from the project do not occur. And it's for this  
2 reason that we recommend that the process be completed  
3 prior to the -- to the completion of the environmental  
4 assessment.

5 I'd also like to state that INAC -- or  
6 sorry, AANDC does not expect that all of the parameters  
7 considered for waller -- water quality objectives be at  
8 background levels or the use -- the strict use of the  
9 reference condition approach. If it is practical and  
10 possible to meet background levels for water quality  
11 objectives, then those should be considered. If not, an  
12 explanation as to why they cannot be met and what the  
13 levels would be should be discussed.

14 We would like to see objectives be  
15 established that minimize impacts on the receiving  
16 environment. So this includes any accumulative impacts  
17 or chronic effects on habitat.

18 These objectives need to consider the  
19 ecological values that are important to the Community.  
20 We recommend that all parties to the EA, including the  
21 developer and the Community work together during the EA  
22 to determine what these water quality objectives would  
23 be. We'll be discussing this position further during the  
24 technical session in Fort Simpson.

25 Moving along to water management and

1 storage, which is of concern to us, as it's crucial for  
2 the developer's ability to meet these previously  
3 discussed water quality objectives. Canadian Zinc's  
4 approach to respond to water management issues is to  
5 store more water on site in the water storage pond, or  
6 the WSP, and this -- this space available in the water  
7 storage pond for additional water storage is limited.

8                Depending on the nature, timing and  
9 frequency of potential changes to the discharge plan over  
10 the course of a year, the space in the water storage pond  
11 could be exceeded in a matter of days. We recommend that  
12 the Water Management Plan clearly illustrate what the  
13 available water storage on site is, and that it is  
14 sufficient to still meet the site specific water quality  
15 objectives that we -- would be developed as I've  
16 previously outlined.

17                In addition, and adding to the water  
18 management concerns, are our concerns with tailings  
19 management and the paste backfill plans. Based on  
20 conservative calculations carried out by our consultant,  
21 additional storage of tailings on surface may be required  
22 during and after mine operations.

23                Canadian Zinc's current plan is to store  
24 additional tailings -- tailings in the water storage pond.  
25 Increased tailing storage on the surface in the water

1 storage pond will have critical implications for water  
2 storage, which is explained -- which I've explained is  
3 limited and will affect the ability for Canadian Zinc to  
4 meet its site specific water quality objectives.

5 In addition, further information is  
6 required on how the potential storage of tailings impacts  
7 other surface factors into their closure plan.  
8 Considering what we've -- what I've mentioned on tailings  
9 management, we must be confident -- the department must  
10 be confident that the tailings backfill plans and  
11 temporary storage available during mine operations is  
12 adequate.

13 Now I'm going to talk about the Aquatic  
14 Effects Monitoring Plan or AEMP. Once the site specific  
15 water quality objectives are established and the mine is  
16 in operation, it is imperative that an extensive yet  
17 appropriate AEMP is implemented for the Prairie Creek  
18 Mine to ensure that limits and objectives are doing their  
19 job and providing adequate protection to the aquatic  
20 receiving environment.

21 The Department defines aquatic effects  
22 monitoring as watching closely for changes to the water  
23 environment through observations or measurements, both  
24 traditional, knowledge based, and western science based  
25 observations, provide information on the quality of

1 water, the amount of water, the health of fish and  
2 insects, or organisms that live in that water.

3                   Aboriginal Affairs and Northern  
4 Development Canada is pleased that the developer has  
5 committed to developing an AEMP in accordance with our  
6 guidelines for designing and implementing aquatic effects  
7 monitoring programs for the development projects in the  
8 NWT from 2009. However, we feel that there are some key  
9 components missing. We're also pleased that the  
10 developer has committed to revisit and revise the AEMP  
11 and we look forward to working with the developer in this  
12 regard.

13                   The Department takes the position that a  
14 mine must be planned for closure. A key issue for  
15 consideration during the assessment process is whether a  
16 proposed development can be closed properly. If a mine  
17 cannot be closed properly, then it could -- then it  
18 should probably not be developed.

19                   Our mine site reclamation policy describes  
20 this position in greater detail. Documents provided by  
21 the Canadian Zinc to date provide minimal assessment of  
22 post-closure impacts. We are of the opinion that there  
23 is potential that tailing storage will be required post  
24 surface closure -- or required on surface post-closure.  
25 This possibility has not been addressed or described to

1 date. We recommend that Can. Zinc develop a preliminary  
2 closure and reclamation plan during the regulatory phase  
3 prior to water licence issuance.

4 This plan must be developed in  
5 consultation with regulators, stakeholders, and other  
6 interested parties, and should be developed in accordance  
7 with the mine site reclamation guidelines or -- from 2007  
8 or any subsequent version that's generated.

9 Can. Zinc proposes to use a winter road to  
10 supply the mine as well as remove concentrate. The road  
11 will be constructed over sensitive terrain, and the loads  
12 include hazardous material, such as fuel and sulfuric  
13 acid.

14 We are also of the opinion that permafrost  
15 may be encountered at certain points during the route.  
16 We have concerns with several aspects of the road, inclu  
17 -- during construction and operation, specifically with  
18 land disturbance, permafrost degradation, sediment  
19 inputs, post-closure for the road, and spills. We  
20 recommend that these concerns be addressed and we have  
21 made recommendations in our technical report to address  
22 them.

23 So that's the end of the summary of the  
24 technical report. And I'd like to state that we are of  
25 the opinion that the location of Can. Zinc's proposed

1 Prairie -- Prairie Creek mine presents a unique challenge  
2 for balancing the economic benefits of development  
3 against the need to protect special places and uphold the  
4 NWT's vision for water stewardship.

5               Effluent from the proposed development  
6 will be discharged into Prairie Creek approximately 7  
7 kilometres upstream of Nahanni National Park Reserve.  
8 The Nahanni National Park Reserve has been afforded  
9 special status as a national park -- as a nat -- at  
10 national and international levels as a national park, a  
11 UNESCO World Heritage Site and a Canadian Heritage River.  
12 We believe that the level of protection required for  
13 Prairie Creek must consider and be adequate to protect  
14 the conditions both within the creek and downstream from  
15 it.

16               Based on the information that we have  
17 reviewed to date, we are of the opinion that Prairie  
18 Creek Development as proposed currently poses a high  
19 level of signi -- of risk for significant adverse impacts  
20 to water. This stems from uncertainties related to the  
21 developer's method for developing site specific water  
22 quality objectives, the proposed water balance and water  
23 storage strategy, and tailing storage.

24               We believe that the cumulative impact of  
25 these outstanding issues relate directly to assessing the

1 impacts of the proposed project on the receiving  
2 environment and, therefore, are most appropriately dealt  
3 with during the environmental assessment phase.

4 To this end, we have proposed a path  
5 forward to the Board in an effort to resolve these  
6 outstanding issues prior to the closure of -- of this  
7 process. We are committed to working with all of the  
8 interested parties towards a resolution of these  
9 outstanding issues during this process, and we look  
10 forward to having the Board's decision in this regard.  
11 Thank you.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you  
13 for your presentation. Thank you for keeping it short  
14 compared to fifty-three (53) pages we had initially, so I  
15 want to say thank you for that, mahsi.

16 MS. TERESA JOUDRIE: That's tomorrow.  
17

18 QUESTION PERIOD:

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: That's tomorrow. Okay,  
20 that's good. I mentioned earlier that we're not going to  
21 do any cross-examination. So today what we're going to  
22 do is we're just going to go back to the Nahanni Butte  
23 Band to see if there's any questions for INAC. Chief  
24 Fred Tesou...?  
25

1 (BRIEF PAUSE)

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, none for the  
4 record. I'm going to go to my -- I'm going to go to my  
5 far left. I'm going to go to Board member Darryl Bohnet.  
6 Any questions for INAC on their presentation?

7 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: Yes, thank you, Mr.  
8 Chair. When I look at these recommendations I -- I can't  
9 help but wonder why the presentation is made to this  
10 Board rather than the Land and Water Board where they  
11 have many tools available through the water licensing  
12 process and the land use permits to deal with -- with  
13 things like the road and things like that.

14 So can you elaborate on why your  
15 department is -- is presenting to this degree of detail?  
16 Thank you.

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bohnet,  
18 and I'm going to go back to INAC.

19 MS. TERESA JOUDRIE: Thank you. Teresa  
20 Joudrie. What we've looked at through this process is to  
21 gain enough clarity and enough assurance that if there  
22 are significant impacts that they will be addressed.

23 As we're unable to -- we can't look at one  
24 (1) factor at a time. There -- there are several  
25 outstanding issues, and so we'd like to have clarity

1 around all of those as best as we can before we get into  
2 permitting because that will really determine what, if  
3 any, there -- impacts there are in order to assess  
4 significance.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Ms. Joudrie.  
6 I'm going to go to Mr. Darryl Bohnet, Board member.

7 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: No, that's good.  
8 Thanks.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bohnet.  
10 I'm going to go to Mr. James Wah-Shee, Board member,  
11 questions.

12 MR. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I don't have any  
13 questions, Mr. Chair, thank you.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. I'm going  
15 to go to Board member Percy Hardisty.

16 MR. PERCY HARDISTY: No questions, Mr. --  
17 Mr. Chair.

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you. I'm  
19 going to go to Board member Rachel Crapeau.

20 MS. RACHEL CRAPEAU: No question.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. I'm going  
22 to go to Richard Mercredi, any questions?

23 MR. RICHARD MERCREDI: No questions at  
24 this time.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. I'm going

1 to go to Mr. Danny Bayha, Board member, any questions?

2 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Thank you. I just had  
3 a -- one (1) question, Mr. -- Mr. Chair. Earlier when --  
4 in your presentation you mentioned -- if I can quote you,  
5 it says:

6 "If -- if a mine cannot be closed  
7 properly, maybe it shouldn't be  
8 developed."

9 Can you elaborate a bit on -- on -- or  
10 clarify what "properly" means in -- in your own mind?  
11 Thank you.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bayha.  
13 I'm going to go to INAC to Teresa Joudrie.

14 MS. TERESA JOUDRIE: Thank you. Teresa  
15 Joudrie. I can't get into precise detail on that, it's a  
16 highly technical set of circumstances, but that is why  
17 we're recommending that the mine site reclamation -- or  
18 closure guidelines are followed, so that everything is  
19 done in accordance to minimize any post-closure impacts  
20 that may -- may come about.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Ms. Joudrie.  
22 Mr. Danny Bayha.

23 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Thank you. No further  
24 questions.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. I'm going

1 to go to Board member, Peter Bannon. Mr. Bannon...?

2 MR. PETER BANNON: No questions today,  
3 Mr. Chairman.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you very  
5 much. I want to say thank you to INAC for your  
6 presentation, Ms. Joudrie, and there'll probably be some  
7 more tomorrow, so for now we'll move on. Thank you very  
8 much. There'll probably be some questions maybe  
9 tomorrow. So, Mahsi.

10 Okay. I'm going to go to Parks Canada  
11 next and -- on their presentation. And then after that  
12 we'll go to the Nahanni Butte Band for their  
13 presentation.

14

15 (BRIEF PAUSE)

16

17 PRESENTATION BY PARKS CANADA:

18 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Thank you very much.  
19 My name is Mike Sutor. I am from Parks Canada in Fort  
20 Simpson. I work for Nahanni National Park Reserve, and  
21 I'm here today to present the opinion of Parks Canada on  
22 the proposed Prairie Creek mine presented by Canadian  
23 Zinc Corporation.

24 As many of you are aware, Nahanni National  
25 Park expanded in 2009. It in -- includes the contiguous

1 green area here. During the expansion there was an area  
2 that was left out of side of the expansion, this little  
3 what we call the donut hole, or the enclave within  
4 Nahanni National Park, and that's where the Prairie Creek  
5 mine is situated.

6 Although the --

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Excuse me for a second.  
8 My translator is waving at me, so if you could --

9 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Yeah, okay.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: -- slow down just a  
11 bit. Thank you.

12

13 CONTINUED BY MR. MICHAEL SUITOR:

14 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Although the mine  
15 itself is not situated inside Nahanni National Park, the  
16 road itself will be -- approximately half of it will be  
17 inside the park, and any effluent or releases that occur  
18 at the Prairie Creek mine site will enter Nahanni  
19 National Park after about 7 kilometres. And it will  
20 remain there for some distance.

21 The area is Dehcho First Nations'  
22 territory. Dehcho First Nations, and Nahanni Butte, in  
23 particular, have played a vital role in the expansion of  
24 Nahanni National Park Reserve. They continue to play a  
25 very vital role in the management of Nahanni National



1 have a higher probability that you will have a spill.  
2 Large sections of the road do have this high probability.  
3 The other component of understanding risk is the  
4 consequence of a spill if it were to occur on a piece of  
5 landscape.

6 Here we have a situation where the road  
7 will cross through many sensitive aquatic ecosystems.  
8 It'll go through areas where spill recovery may be very  
9 challenging and where important habitats for things like  
10 bull trout or grayling may occur in proximity to the  
11 road. And if a spill were to occur, the consequence  
12 would be very high.

13 What these slides depict right here, some  
14 of the pictures, is one (1) such area. This is an area  
15 where the road comes along just on top of this hill, and  
16 below it is known spawning sites for bull trout. If a  
17 spill were to occur to here, the consequence would be  
18 very high and the impact would be very large.

19 With regard to the wildlife, much of the  
20 information that was presented in the developer's  
21 assessment report was old and of limited utility, from  
22 our perspective. It was approximately thirty (30) years  
23 old.

24 Working -- Parks Canada worked with  
25 Canadian Zinc and other parties this past winter, and we

1 went out and we did a good assessment of wildlife along  
2 the road. What this map depicts is some of the results  
3 of that. You can see the road. Nahanni Butte is located  
4 about here. The road comes up through here, I believe,  
5 and then terminates at the mine site right here.

6                   The dark coloured polygons in this case  
7 would be areas where there's a high probability of  
8 caribou occurring or caribou have occurred throughout the  
9 area. So basically dark orange or any colour, there's  
10 probably caribou in that area.

11                   Many of the mitigations that have been put  
12 forward to date do address some of the impacts. Many of  
13 the impacts were identified by the developer. However,  
14 only some of the impacts have been mitigated to date,  
15 most of those relating directly to direct mortality on  
16 the road. However, many other impacts remain that need  
17 to be addressed.

18                   And with particular respect to caribou,  
19 who are species at risk, listed species on Schedule 1 of  
20 the Species at Risk Act, this is of particular importance  
21 because both Parks Canada as well as the review board  
22 itself has mandate re -- responsibilities during the  
23 environmental assessment process to ensure those impacts  
24 are minimized to the fullest that we can and that those  
25 mitigations are monitored through time to ensure that the

1 caribou are not being impacted.

2                   We've -- Parks Canada has made several  
3 recommendations on managing traffic to help minimize some  
4 of those impacts and has made some recommendations with  
5 regard to monitoring to help ensure that those impacts  
6 are minimized by the development.

7                   With respect to the road, we consider the  
8 road has been developed at this point at a very  
9 conceptual level. The road traverses extreme topography.  
10 It goes through areas that are very mountainous. It goes  
11 through karst landscape, such as depicted here. Large  
12 sinkholes do occur along certain portions of the road.  
13 The road goes through areas where landslides and rock  
14 slides can occur onto the road, where powerful mountain  
15 streams abut against it and can wash out the road itself,  
16 as we have seen from the existing road. So there is need  
17 for careful design considerations to ensure that all of  
18 the impacts that could occur are minimized.

19                   Right now, there's a considerable level of  
20 uncertainty, and one (1) of those uncertainties is where  
21 many of these mitigations may be applied. And if only  
22 one (1) of those was -- if only one (1) of those  
23 uncertainties existed it wouldn't be such a significant  
24 issue. However, because we're at such a conceptual level  
25 and many of the mu -- mitigations are unknown or unknown

1 where they'll be applied, it's uncertain whether some of  
2 those mitigations may conflict.

3                   So, for example, we may put up barriers to  
4 ensure that spills don't occur, but are those barriers in  
5 an important location for caribou? It might block  
6 passage for caribou. We may have to do avalanche control  
7 along the road. However, where will that avalanche  
8 control occur and could that impact other wildlife. And  
9 there's several examples of that.

10                   So basically what this comes down to is  
11 that it becomes very difficult for us to predict what  
12 impacts that will be caused by the road because of the  
13 great amount of uncertainty that there is.

14                   Shifting to the mine site itself and  
15 looking at water quality, when we reviewed the mine site  
16 development and the effluent and site specific water  
17 quality objectives like we heard, Parks Canada reviewed  
18 it to ensure that the water -- the quality of the water  
19 entering the park would be protective of aquatic life and  
20 we'd ensure that water was of a high -- high standard.

21                   And, specifically, if you were to look at  
22 what are the terms of reference and what our scope and  
23 submission had within it, you'd see these two (2) major  
24 terms that we looked at or that we suggested should be a  
25 standard, one (1) being the physical processes, so

1 actually the chemicals that go into the water and what  
2 the chemical composition is of the water, and,  
3 ultimately, what that means for life, so aquatics and  
4 algae.

5                   What this means is ultimately we need to  
6 ensure that the effects of mine effluent on all the  
7 components of life in Prairie Creek, including on fish  
8 and the potential for impacting things like the fishery  
9 at the mouth of the creek, are known and are acceptable  
10 to all parties.

11                   Based on the information provided to date,  
12 we do not believe that Canadian Zinc has adequately  
13 demonstrated that the development will not negatively  
14 impact water quality and, therefore, the health of  
15 Prairie Creek.

16                   Some effluent objectives are outside the  
17 typical water quality ranges in Prairie Creek. And the  
18 predictions show that if the mine release water,  
19 according to the water licence limits proposed, it would  
20 result in poorer water quality than what is found in  
21 Prairie Creek right now.

22                   After we are -- after closure, we are  
23 considering that some of the predictions that INAC has  
24 just demonstrated to us with regard to tailings and  
25 whether tailings would all fit inside the mine, we're not

1 certain whether all those tailings will actually go  
2 inside the voids and no method has been proposed on what  
3 we'll do with those tailings if they remain on the  
4 surface, and there's obvious consequences for that. And,  
5 therefore, we don't know what potential impacts could be.

6                   And while we aren't able to make specific  
7 recommendations on many of those concerns that we just  
8 outlined, we can recommend still that monitoring should  
9 occur within the Park to ensure again that the water that  
10 is entering the Park is of the highest quality, and that  
11 a decision response system should be put in place to  
12 ensure that we can act on any of the changes that might  
13 occur through the life of the mine, as well as after.

14                   However, monitoring alone is not  
15 sufficient and we feel that the existing information does  
16 not provide the confidence that the proposed approach  
17 will approach or mitigate any potentially significant  
18 impacts on the mine site to Prairie Creek's aquatic  
19 ecosystem.

20                   So, in conclusion, cumulatively we see  
21 that there are a number of areas where impacts are  
22 uncertain and -- and could be significant and they could  
23 be adverse, and this ultimately affects the ecological  
24 integrity of Nahanni National Park. With that -- respect  
25 to that, however, we are interested in working with the

1 other parties and with the developer and the communities  
2 to try to come to a conclusion on many of these points.

3 And we thank the Board for hearing the  
4 presentation today. Mahsi cho.

5

6 QUESTION PERIOD:

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you for your  
8 presentation, Mr. Suitor. Before I go to Nahanni Dene --  
9 I'm sorry, Nahanni Butte Dene Band for comments and  
10 questions, I -- I wanted to just make an acknowledgement  
11 of the Nahendeh MLA, Kevin Menicoche. I see him here  
12 somewhere. I just want to acknowledge you, as well.

13 Also former chief for Liidlil Kue First  
14 Nation, Keyna Norweigan. She's here, as well, somewhere.  
15 She's also appointed to the Mackenzie Valley Land and  
16 Water Board so I just want to congratulate her, as well.

17 So -- and if I -- I'm not sure if I see  
18 the former chief here but if he's here I'll acknowledge  
19 him a little bit later, but for now I was going to go to  
20 the Nahanni Butte Dene Band if you've got any comments or  
21 questions or statements for Parks Canada?

22 CHIEF FRED TESOU: That's a correction.  
23 It's Nahanni National Park Reserve is that correction?

24 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Sorry?

25 CHIEF FRED TESOU: That's still as a

1 reserve?

2 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Yes, that's correct.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. So, Chief,  
4 there's no questions for Parks other than that from  
5 Nahanni Butte?

6 No? Okay. None. Thank you. Okay. I'm  
7 going to go to the Board members if there's any comments  
8 or questions for Parks Canada. And I'm going to go to my  
9 right, Peter Bannon, Board member.

10 MR. PETER BANNON: Thank you. I have no  
11 questions at this time.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bannon.  
13 I'm going to go to Mr. Danny Bayha, Board member.

14 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
15 I just had a question.

16 You mentioned earlier that this mine  
17 development is not within the boundaries of -- of the  
18 Nahanni Park but in -- in a presentation there's an  
19 expanded version. That expanded, is that a future park?  
20 Sorry, can you elaborate on that? Thank you.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bayha.  
22 I'm going to go to Parks Canada, Mr. Mike Sutor.

23 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: I'll just flip back  
24 to the slide show and the map. The expansion occurred in  
25 June of 2009. The old park boundary you can just barely

1 see it along here. The new green boundary is the new  
2 National Park Reserve. However, the area, as you can  
3 see, around Prairie Creek is not part of the National  
4 Park. So the par -- the mine itself does not fall within  
5 the Park, just the road, the proposed road that Canadian  
6 Zinc has.

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Suitor.  
8 Mr. Danny Bayha, any questions?

9 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Yes, thank you. Just a  
10 follow-up question. I think -- or not -- not a follow-up  
11 but earlier in the presentations you talk about spills.  
12 You weren't very clear on exactly what you're talking  
13 about as the spills in terms of fuel spills, in terms of  
14 the -- the concentrates when they're travelling. Is that  
15 just a general assumption, any kind of spill would be  
16 very hazardous to the area? Thank you.

17 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Thank you. Mike  
18 Suitor. Yeah, the predominantly -- when we talk about  
19 spills we're talking about spills that would occur along  
20 the road and because half of the road is within the  
21 National Park Reserve, we do have concerns that those  
22 spills could impact the ecological integrity of Nahanni  
23 National Park Reserve.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Suitor.  
25 Mr. Bayha...?

1 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Thank you.

2 MR. RICHARD MERCREDI: No questions at  
3 this time.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you, Mr.  
5 Mercredi. To my left, Rachel Crapeau, any comments or  
6 questions?

7

8 (BRIEF PAUSE)

9

10 MS. RACHEL CRAPEAU: My one (1) question  
11 that I had was you mentioned that the -- the Company  
12 information does not provide confidence in -- in -- for  
13 you to believe that there will be mitigation for the  
14 significant impacts to the Prairie Creek aquatic  
15 ecosystem.

16 Is -- is there a -- a lot of water,  
17 streams, and runoff that -- that you're really  
18 particularly concerned over -- about?

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Rachel  
20 Crapeau. Parks Canada, Mike Suitor.

21 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: I think our concern  
22 is primarily around the -- the effluent that would be  
23 released at the Prairie Creek Mine, which after about 7  
24 kilometres would enter into the Park and remain there for  
25 approximately another 100 or so kilometres.

1                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Thank you.   Ms. Rachel  
2   Crapeau.

3                   MS. RACHEL CRAPEAU:   Can you just show me  
4   on the map behind you which way the water's going to be  
5   going and where the effluent's going to be discharging  
6   into and how it's going to go?

7                   MR. MICHAEL SUITOR:   Certainly.   So  
8   you'll see at the point here this is the Prairie Creek  
9   Mine site, again, outside the Park.   However, in about 7  
10   kilometres it enters the Park and then it flows down into  
11   Deadman's Valley and enters into the South Nahanni River.  
12   From there it continues downstream, exits the Park, and  
13   then comes by Nahanni Butte.

14                  THE CHAIRPERSON:    Thank you.   Rachel  
15   Crapeau.

16                  MS. RACHEL CRAPEAU:   Thank you.   That's  
17   it for today.

18                  THE CHAIRPERSON:    Thank you.   I'm going  
19   to go on to Percy Hardisty.

20                  MR. PERCY HARDISTY:   Mahsi, Mr. Chair.   I  
21   don't particularly have any questions today.   Mahsi.

22                  THE CHAIRPERSON:    Thank you.   Mr. James  
23   Wah-Shee.

24                  MR. JAMES WAH-SHEE:   I just have a -- a  
25   question of clarification.   That little donut there where

1 Prairie Creek Mine site is, does the National Park have  
2 jurisdiction within that donut?

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Wah-  
4 Shee. Mr. -- Mr. Suitor -- Mike Suitor, Parks Canada.

5 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Within the area  
6 outside the National Park, which would be where the mine  
7 site is within the donut hole, Parks Canada does not have  
8 jurisdiction. We just have jurisdiction within the green  
9 highlighted area in there, which is part of the National  
10 Park Reserve.

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Mr. James  
12 Wah-Shee. Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. I'm going to go to  
13 Mr. Darryl Bohnet.

14 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
15 My -- my question I need a little bit of help on the  
16 jurisdiction that Parks Canada has within the Park is  
17 outside Mackenzie Valley Act, right? So how -- how is  
18 Parks Canada going to deal with the -- the road issues  
19 within their jurisdiction?

20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bohnet.  
21 I'm going to go back to Parks Canada, Mike Suitor.

22 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Actually, I believe  
23 the National Park does fall under the Mackenzie Valley  
24 Resource Management Act. However, we are governed by the  
25 Canadian National Parks Act as well. In our regulations

1 we do have a number of regulations that are traditional  
2 of the National Parks that we can use for an assortment  
3 of developments.

4 Obviously mining is not something that's  
5 typical in or adjacent to a National -- or within a  
6 National Park I should say. During the Park ex --  
7 expansion there were two (2) sections that were written  
8 specifically for the Prairie Creek Mine development, or I  
9 should say one (1) section that was written specifically  
10 for the Prairie Creek section, and there are sections  
11 that allow us to deal with a mining road to occur in the  
12 National Park. And that's one (1) of the reasons that  
13 we're here today.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Suitor.  
15 Mr. Bohnet...?

16 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: Yes, I understand  
17 that. The -- the -- I'm -- I'm concerned or -- or have -  
18 - I want to know how it's going to work if within your  
19 jurisdiction within the Park, if the Land and Water Board  
20 issues terms and conditions for that road, will the  
21 Park's terms and conditions mirror those, or will they be  
22 more stringent or more relaxed.

23 I don't know how that's going to work  
24 because the -- the terms and conditions for the road  
25 outside the park I understand, but I don't understand how

1 Parks will deal with their portion within their  
2 jurisdiction, and so I need a little bit of help on that,  
3 please.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, thank you, Mr.  
5 Bohnet. Parks Canada, Mike Suitor?

6 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Parks Canada will  
7 work with all of the regulatory bodies, of which we are  
8 one (1) in this case. There will be slight differences  
9 that will occur within the National Park because of the  
10 Parks Act. However, most of the -- most of the  
11 regulations -- or -- or permit stipulations that will be  
12 placed, we would try to work with the Mackenzie Va --  
13 Valley Land and Water Board to -- to arrive at a  
14 consistent approach.

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Suitor.  
16 Mr. Bohnet...?

17 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: Yes. Thank you.  
18 That's -- that's it.

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you very  
20 much. I think we overlooked one (1) Elder in the back  
21 that may have a question. But I had a -- before we go to  
22 the Elder there, the question that might be, would it be  
23 for Parks Canada or the proponent? In either case, we  
24 can hear it. And then it may be directed to Mike Suitor,  
25 or we may refer it over to Parks -- sorry, Canadian Zinc.



1 but what if the water gets -- and if it's not very good  
2 here and it's going to go right down to the river, to the  
3 Mackenzie River. And then it's going to destroy our fish  
4 and everything that's contained in the water. And there  
5 are people that go hunting up the river, up Nahanni  
6 River, and they always drink water. And now we're afraid  
7 to even scoop water right from the river.

8                   And even now they're starting to work up  
9 on the Prairie Creek mine. And even when there's a lot  
10 of rain you get a lot of water. And we are wondering if  
11 there's a lot of rain will it go over the tailings pond,  
12 like the water would seep over, then it will run into the  
13 waterways.

14                   I don't really want to be -- attend here.  
15 I don't want to be here. I'm not the kind that run all  
16 over the place. I always stay at home. And I always  
17 worried about my husband. I was afraid he was going to  
18 fall or hurt himself. But, now, as I'm thinking, it's  
19 just like I'm rushing thinking that he's at home waiting  
20 for me.

21                   So he told me to state my -- express my  
22 concern is that's the reason why I'm telling you this  
23 today. Even though I say I don't want to come here, but  
24 I'm thinking about the water and the future of our  
25 children. That's the reason why I'm here today.

1                   And I said there is a lot of things --  
2   they're working with the thing. They're always -- if  
3   they're talking about the Park, it would -- and at the  
4   time when my husband was alive he told me to express my  
5   concerns.

6                   And I know people that work at the Park  
7   are there to protect the watershed. I think we can all  
8   work together, the Canadian thing and Park can work  
9   together. It would be really nice if they could come in  
10   hand-in-hand.

11                  Thank you for listening to me that's all  
12   I'm going to say for today.

13

14                                (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

15

16                  THE CHAIRPERSON:   For the record, I just  
17   want to ask the Chief the name of the Elder who spoke.  
18   Chief...?

19                  CHIEF FRED TESOU:   That's Elsie  
20   Marcellais.

21                  THE CHAIRPERSON:   Mahsi, Elsie  
22   Marcellais. Mahsi for that statement. And so that was a  
23   statement for the record and that's not intended for  
24   Parks Canada so we -- I want to say thank you to Mike  
25   Suitor for coming up and doing the presentation. And I'm

1 going to -- sorry?

2 Okay. For that I just want to excuse  
3 Parks Canada.

4

5 (INTERPRETED FROM SOUTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

6

7 ELDER LEON KONISENTA: I'd like to  
8 express my concern also. I been working there for seven  
9 (7) years with Prairie Creek Mine. Even if there is  
10 something wrong I will share all of my -- express my  
11 concerns with them. I have worked with them since 2004  
12 and I'm still helping up to this day. And if they want  
13 to ask me any questions or anything I can help them how  
14 they work, I can show them all this.

15 That is -- that's on my land and I love to  
16 know what's going on my land. So in 1980/'81 and that's  
17 the time when I worked down in Alberta and B -- in  
18 Alberta and BC. And from since then on, since 1994, I  
19 was a chief here. And then they say if you can do other  
20 things to help us so I start, so they're remove me from  
21 my position and I start working for Fort Liard for two  
22 (2) years and then prior to that I worked in BC and  
23 Alberta for over 13 years.

24 I had about -- about fifty (50) years of  
25 work that I had completed in my lifetime and so I know

1 exactly what's going to happen and how the work. And I  
2 know when they're talking about water that is a very  
3 important matter, and it's on my land and I want to know  
4 what's happening in my area. I'm an Elder now and I can  
5 still understand, I'm still able to work, and I know how  
6 the water runs.

7                   And if somebody wants to quest -- ask me  
8 questions, I can share my thoughts with them. And I have  
9 a lot of photos taken from the mine. If they want to  
10 know all this information I can show them this also.  
11 There's a lot of information that was processed onto the  
12 computer as well. I can share that information too.

13                   It would be nice once we start this  
14 process, it'll make things a lot better for us, and this  
15 way we'll know what's happening. Like I say I'm an Elder  
16 and I know how things work and I have worked with the  
17 Park since 1975. I have worked for them till '93. And  
18 at that time is when they moved the office. So I guess  
19 it's a reason why I stepped down and then after two (2)  
20 days later I went to Fort Liard and prior to 1980, that's  
21 when I work in Alberta and BC. I worked for about  
22 fifteen (15) years with the Company.

23                   And then prior to May 2004 I went to --  
24 some forestry guy from Fort Nelson called and asked me if  
25 I wanted to work here. And he said I knew my area well,

1 that's the reason why I start working with them. And  
2 then from then on I've been working with them. So, like  
3 I say, if they want any information I have photographs, I  
4 can share this information.

5 And sometimes when I wander around the  
6 comput -- I wander around the Community so I want to be  
7 aware of things that's happening in my comm -- Community.  
8 So since 1994 I know what's been going on, so I know all  
9 the information. And they said to protect the water, the  
10 road. And I want to know all these things because it's  
11 on my land.

12 I am sixty-five (65) years old today. The  
13 el -- old age pension has given us not very much, so I'd  
14 like to continue working. Thank you.

15

16 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

17

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, well, his name  
19 again?

20 CHIEF FRED TESOU: Leon Konisenta, an  
21 Elder.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Leon  
23 Konisenta. First I want to say happy birthday to you.  
24 You said you're sixty-five (65) today. And I believe  
25 before we continue on to the next, one (1) more speaker

1 here, I think maybe Parks Canada, maybe what we could do  
2 is -- I think the rest are just more or less statements,  
3 so I want to say thank you to Mike Sutor.

4 While we're doing that we'll set up the  
5 Nahanni Butte Dene Band, and we'll take one (1) more  
6 speaker from the back. Then I'll get into the Nahanni  
7 Butte Dene Band presentation. And then, after the  
8 presentation, I continue to encourage the young people  
9 and Elders and everybody from Nahanni Butte to make  
10 comments or statements. Thank you.

11 The Elder in the back that's going to  
12 speak, if you could mention your name first.

13 ELDER ROBERT TALY: My name is Robert  
14 Taly, I'm from Nahanni Butte. I've really listened to  
15 all these comments, and they're pretty -- pretty serious,  
16 but good. We're all getting along good together.

17 I worked about four (4) years ago, or  
18 three (3). I worked for over a year for Canadian Parks  
19 and Wilderness Society, and my boss was Carly Zigler  
20 (phonetic) at the time. My boss was Carly Zigler at the  
21 time, and I worked for Canadian Parks and Wilderness out  
22 of Yellowknife.

23 And we did a bull trout study as well as  
24 ongoing issues with -- with Canadian Parks and Wilderness  
25 to get the park expanded, and I had an issue that I

1 brought up with -- about Canadian Zinc. Since I was on  
2 the bull trout study for approximately three (3) years,  
3 we've had a really good bull trout -- I don't know how to  
4 say it.

5 We -- there was -- the bull trout were  
6 healthy in the Funeral Creek range as well as parts of  
7 the Prairie Creek range. And the Funeral Creek range  
8 there's a road -- Canadian Zinc road goes right -- right  
9 by it, and we've had nothing but good bull trout  
10 populations.

11 And we've seen some runoff from the  
12 mountains and that and culverts. And even our aquatic  
13 life underneath we had to study, which were the ground  
14 feeders. They're fish called ground feeders, and they  
15 were in good shape.

16 I read the report that came back from Neil  
17 (phonetic), who -- I don't remember his last name, but he  
18 was with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans in  
19 Winnipeg. And it seemed like it was a good -- good sign  
20 because the bull trout are -- as Parks and Canadian Zinc  
21 know, they're pretty rare around this area. In fact, I  
22 think they were a new -- kind of new species.

23 Even up at -- around the what's called Cat  
24 Camp just below that we were kind of sceptical about bull  
25 trout, but we found some pretty good populations there as

1 well. And I think Canadian Parks and -- or Can -- Parks  
2 -- Nahanni National Park, Canadian Zinc, as well as you  
3 people from Yellowknife or In -- Indian Affairs, if we  
4 work together we can overcome a lot of things, you know.

5 And after a three (3) year study, you  
6 know, the bull trout are in good shape. There is no bull  
7 trout above Virginia Falls. It's strictly lake trout and  
8 other species. But below the falls there is, as well as  
9 in the Flat River area. I'm more concerned about the  
10 Flat River area than I am about Canadian Zinc because we  
11 went up there to Irvine Creek and we found some -- some  
12 pretty bad signs up there.

13 What I mean by bad signs is, we went right  
14 to the tungsten mine site just below it and we seen a lot  
15 of overturned barrels and stuff like that. So I think  
16 the Department of Fisheries and Oceans addressed that  
17 issue with tungsten mine but we didn't see any of that at  
18 Canadian Zinc. In fact, we stored our fish there to --  
19 to send out to Winnipeg to get processed.

20 So I think in the long run, you know, it's  
21 going to cost a heck of a lot of money to get that out.  
22 If it is stopped, it's going to cost, cost, cost just to  
23 put it back to what it was before the mine came in. And  
24 I know there are detergents now that you can use in order  
25 to process your -- your ore and stuff like that and there

1 is that on the market.

2                   And what I'd like to say now is that we  
3 should all get together and -- and just come down to the  
4 -- to the bottom of all this. It can't take years and  
5 years and years and years. It is very, very important  
6 that environment, like Grandmother just said, is -- is  
7 the most important thing to -- well, to anybody. And --  
8 but if we work together we can overcome our loss. We can  
9 overcome obstacles that we thought we could never do.

10                  So in that case -- and for the Nahanni  
11 Butte younger generation, I say this because a lot of our  
12 kids now are going to Grande Prairie, an outsider  
13 community, and they're getting jobs down there because  
14 there's -- there's -- they're overqualified to work in  
15 Nahanni Butte. I mean, a person with -- who graduated  
16 from Grande Prairie Regional College doesn't want to come  
17 here and cut grass. So, you know -- and I think Canadian  
18 Zinc and Parks Canada can look into the -- the kids  
19 around Nahanni Butte.

20                  So I agree, we have to -- in -- in my work  
21 with Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, I think we've  
22 done well in our studies. There's -- there's a booklet  
23 to prove what we've done and -- and the fish seem to be  
24 all right.

25                  So what I'm stressing right now is we work

1 together on this and come up with a solution rather than  
2 wait for another five (5), ten (10) years. Mahsi cho.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mahsi, Robert Taly.  
4 Mahsi.

5 Okay. There's another Elder in the back.  
6 Chief, you want to do your presentation first or you want  
7 to go with the Elders?

8 Elders? Okay. We'll go with the Elders  
9 in the back again and if you could just state your name.

10 ELDER GEORGE BETSAKA: Hello. My name is  
11 George Betsaka. I've known Prairie Creek for a few  
12 years. We started working on Prairie Creek in the '80s  
13 and what Prairie Creek Mine sits on right now is a gravel  
14 bar, but it's all crushed gravel and -- and it's been  
15 going on to thirty-one (31) years now.

16 And for a mine with a lot of profitable  
17 minerals, I mean, to -- to get minerals to -- into  
18 production in thirty (30) years and that's unbelievable.  
19 You know, you -- you can't hold out all the time. You  
20 know, sure, we all say we need protection. Yeah, but  
21 with new technology, the protection will be protected  
22 with new technology.

23 I've been there from the beginning of --  
24 with Cadillac exploration and then there was San Andreas,  
25 now Canadian Zinc. And it seems like we've been holding

1 out for people that are employed or already are hauling -  
2 - holding out on us because they have a job and we don't.  
3 And there's opportunity in our bark yard. Whereas I know  
4 a few people on the Board, Water Board, and one of them,  
5 he's the one who put forth of nation and Indian  
6 brotherhood. I shook his hand and his name is Mr. Wah-  
7 Shee. He -- he always said that Native people should  
8 make money out of their own land and be self government.

9 This is -- this is time that we work  
10 together and could make it happen. But it's been getting  
11 a little frustrated. Every -- every year there's always  
12 something come up or somebody with different ideas of  
13 stalling for us to make money.

14 If we're going to self government, we --  
15 we're going to -- and then this is going to get into a  
16 politician. When I was negotiating for Dehcho process,  
17 the -- the government insists and will go on with this  
18 plan is that they're going to -- when land claims come  
19 in, they're going to give you a bulk of money. And it's  
20 going to go maybe by the millions but with that money,  
21 you as a community and nation have to make your money  
22 count and make money with that money in order for your  
23 medication, water delivery and whatever government is  
24 doing for you right now. You have to make a go of it.

25 And even now, look at these Water Board

1 people and Parks and other sources that are here to see  
 2 our comments on the -- the future use of resources from -  
 3 - from the land, but right now it's -- it's up in the air  
 4 right now. We're -- we have to make some money from the  
 5 land in order to help the resources that they're going to  
 6 give us to start our self government. If -- if not, you  
 7 know, you're -- the people who have money work on our  
 8 land, our water. And while you -- the -- the people who  
 9 are stalling on issuing the important papers and permit  
 10 and giving us a green light, we're going to be poor and  
 11 you guys will be still getting two weeks paycheque. And  
 12 where are we?

13 I mean, you can say, well, we -- we could  
 14 go finish our school but when we're finishing our school  
 15 what -- what income do we have? And -- and think our --  
 16 in the area are happening in the outside world and it's  
 17 not happening here. So what I'm saying is that if we're  
 18 going to work together as a joint venture with Canadian  
 19 Zinc and Water Board and -- I mean, let's -- let's form  
 20 something that will come out good for the -- both  
 21 parties, all parties.

22 Thank you. Mahsi.

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you,  
 24 George Betsaka. Mahsi for those comments. And the  
 25 Elders that spoke as well, mahsi for your comments.

1 There's nobody else. I'm going to go to the Nahanni  
2 Butte Band to do the presentation, but I think I see a  
3 hand in the back. Maybe if it's okay with the Chief,  
4 then have her state her name. And then, after that,  
5 we'll go to the Chief's presentation. Mahsi.

6 MS. MARIE MATOU: I'm really scared to  
7 speak. My name is Marie Matou. I'm a community health  
8 worker in Nahanni Butte. And what I wanted to bring up  
9 was I work for the government. My husband, he works for  
10 Nahanni Butte Dene Band, and he does a Water Plan  
11 Operation Act. This little guy right here, that's our  
12 son.

13 And my husband, he works for Nahanni Butte  
14 Dene Band. He's got no health benefits or nothing. I'm  
15 the one who has it, and he has nothing with the band.  
16 And they say, you know, this is our generation's future,  
17 and I believe in that. It is my future.

18 And I just wanted to say that I think  
19 about my future and this is my future. And I have too  
20 much to say, but I'm a little bit scared to talk. My  
21 husband used to work for Parks Canada about -- I don't  
22 know, about ten (10) years ago, whatever. About ten (10)  
23 -- no, ten (10) -- yeah, about ten (10) years ago he  
24 worked for Parks Canada. He never got no health benefits  
25 from there or nothing.

1                   He got nothing from that. I just remember  
2   that he got paid back about two thousand dollars  
3   (\$2,000). That was it. What did Parks Canada do for us?  
4   And Parks Canada -- and what -- whatever happened with  
5   the boundary and everything? We should have got brand  
6   new houses, every family from Nahanni Butte. We got  
7   nothing to show for Nahanni Butte for Nahanni National  
8   Park.

9                   Every family should have had a brand new  
10   house. We got nothing from that. That's how I feel  
11   about Nahanni National Park. What did we get? What, are  
12   they going to take away our land claims or hunting rights  
13   or what? How am I going to -- I like fishing. I like  
14   going hunting and -- but how about my kids. Down the  
15   road what are they doing to do?

16                  We're trying to teach them to like go for  
17   a boat ride and go fishing, hunt and that. And how far  
18   are we going to get until someone's going to say, Oh, you  
19   can't hunt here, you can't fish here?

20                  I -- my grandpa, his name is Joseph  
21   Konisenta, and my grandma, she lives in -- I'm sorry.  
22   She lives in long-term care. They fish. They live here.  
23   Like over thirty (30) years we did what we wanted to on  
24   this land. Why all of a sudden people come here and we  
25   have to like come up here and speak for what we want?

1                   You know, that's not right. This is our  
2 land. We should do what with it -- I'm sorry, but it's  
3 true. Why do we have to come here as a community and  
4 come up and say -- oh, we have to fight for our own land.  
5 Thank you.

6                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Mahsi for  
7 your comments and very, very powerful words. And some  
8 statements have been made. That's good. Good to hear  
9 that. And we encourage that the Community come up and  
10 continue to say those words. And, you know, it takes a  
11 lot of courage for people to come and speak, and that's  
12 good to do that, and mahsi for that.

13                   I want to go to Nahanni Butte to do your  
14 presentation. And then there'll be questions from the  
15 Board. And then there'll be also Community comments,  
16 further comments that anybody else might have missed. We  
17 could take them on as well. So I want to go to Chief  
18 from Nahanni Butte.

19                   CHIEF FRED TESOU: Peter Redvers will be  
20 doing that Community presentation.

21

22                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

23

24 PRESENTATION BY NAHA DEHE DENE BAND:

25                   MR. PETER REDVERS: Thank you. Peter

1 Redvers. I've been working as a consultant to the Naha  
2 Dehe Dene Band for about three (3) years now, since the  
3 summer of 2008. And I'm going to be reading through a  
4 prepared presentation that was reviewed and approved only  
5 yesterday by the Chief and Council, and that's why it  
6 wasn't posted earlier, was there was a need to sit down  
7 and go over it with Chief and Council prior to making the  
8 presentation.

9                   So I'm going to just read through that. I  
10 don't have copies for everyone. It was done, as I  
11 mentioned, not approved until yesterday. So I'll just  
12 ask you -- this will be an oral presentation. And in  
13 terms of questions, I may be able to respond to some.  
14 And then Chief Fred Tesou or other councillors may be  
15 able to respond to other ones.

16                   The Naha Dehe Dene Band has been dealing  
17 with the Prairie Creek mine since it was first developed  
18 in the 1970s and early 1980s. It sounds like back into  
19 the 1960s as well. For three (3) decades the Naha Dehe  
20 Dene Band has been concerned about potential  
21 environmental impacts from mine development and operation  
22 while trying to gain benefits, economic benefits, from  
23 the mine's operations.

24                   In 2008, as the mine was moving from the  
25 development to operational phase, the Naha Dehe Dene Band

1 recommended an environmental assessment of the mine that  
2 was recommended to what was then Indian and Northern  
3 Affairs Canada.

4 And the Community then established a three  
5 (3) path approach to dealing with mine issues. The first  
6 was the preparation of a traditional knowledge assessment  
7 of the mine and mine impacts. The second was engagement  
8 or participation in this environmental assessment  
9 process. And the third was negotiation of an impact  
10 benefit agreement, which actually began with a  
11 negotiation of a memorandum of understanding in the fall  
12 of 2008.

13 The intent at that time was to establish a  
14 reasonable balance between protecting the environment and  
15 also getting benefits from the mine, all rooted in the  
16 band's assertion that mine operations will primarily  
17 affect the Naha Dehe traditional land use area.

18 With respect to the traditional knowledge  
19 assessment, a confidential TK, or traditional knowledge,  
20 assessment, of the Prairie Creek mine was completed in  
21 April, 2009, and provided to Indian and Northern Affairs  
22 Canada. This assessment provided an overview of the  
23 history of the Naha Dehe Got'ine and their traditional  
24 land use area and cultural activities in the Naha Dehe or  
25 Nahanni River Valley and the surrounding area.

1                   The assessment or the study described  
2   specific traditional values and interests in the area  
3   potentially impacted by the Prairie Creek mine and  
4   identified preliminary concerns from a cultural  
5   perspective about the operation of the mine and winter  
6   haul operation. And certainly quite a number of the  
7   Elders were involved in that process. It was about a six  
8   (6) to eight (8) month study.

9                   More detailed work regarding the potential  
10   impact of the mine on traditional values was carried out  
11   in 2009, and what is called an addendum or an addition to  
12   the TK assessment was prepared and submitted to your  
13   board as a component of the environmental assessment  
14   process, and it is -- certainly there's a copy of it  
15   available with your board.

16                  This addendum or addition identified the  
17   following main environmental concerns at that time:  
18   possible contamination of the water and fish in Prairie  
19   Creek for mine operations, possible contamination of  
20   wetlands and waterways around the mine site along -- and  
21   along the winter haul road corridor from spills,  
22   contribution to cumul -- cumulative contamination of the  
23   Nahanni River through Prairie Creek, disturbance to  
24   wildlife, particularly Boreal caribou moose and Dall  
25   sheep around the mine site and along the winter haul road

1 corridor, damage to cultural resources in the traditional  
2 mountain passes from winter haul road operations, and  
3 overhunting and other disturbances to wildlife from  
4 public access to over wintering habitat and animals along  
5 the winter haul road corridor.

6                   So those concerns then were brought  
7 forward into the environmental assessment and Nahanni's  
8 involvement in the environmental assessment. So the Naha  
9 Dehe Dene Band has continued to carry these environmental  
10 concerns along with a number of socio-economic concerns  
11 forward throughout the environmental assessment process  
12 through active participation.

13                   Earlier this month the Band submitted a  
14 technical report to the Board, which contained a set of  
15 recommendations, two (2) of which were subsequently  
16 modified, and those modifications or changes are on  
17 record.

18                   A few of these recommendations are already  
19 being met through commitments from Canadian Zinc  
20 Corporation. Other recommendations were submitted before  
21 the Naha Dehe Dene Band had the opportunity to see the  
22 final technical recommendations being made by other  
23 Intervenors, and particularly responsible departments.

24                   Having seen those recommendations that  
25 have gone in from other parties, it is now clear that

1 most of the outstanding Naha Dehe Dene Band concerns can  
2 be met through implementation of many of the technical  
3 recommendations made by these departments to the Board.

4               This presentation will therefore list some  
5 of the specific Nahanni -- Naha Dehe recommendations and  
6 then identify and comment on a -- on whether those  
7 recommendations are being met through existing  
8 commitments or will be met through implementation of  
9 departmental recommendations.

10              The first recommendation that was made in  
11 early June was that the Board require Canadian Zinc  
12 Corporation to enhance its water treatment plant such  
13 that it could meet more strict water quality guidelines,  
14 what are called effluent quality criteria, or EQCs.

15              However, the second part of that  
16 recommendation was that if there is a reasonable and  
17 justifiable reason for not enhancing or improving the  
18 water treatment plan to meet the most protective water  
19 quality objectives, the Band recommends that the registry  
20 remain open on this environmental assessment until there  
21 is consensus between Canadian Zinc Corporation,  
22 responsible authorities, and the Band regarding the water  
23 quality management system -- system and the criteria  
24 utilized so that minimal changes to water quality and the  
25 aquatic environment can be assured.

1                   And the recommendation noted that Nahanni  
2   --the Naha Dehe Dene Band would accept a consensually  
3   agreed upon water quality management system. And that  
4   was consistent with, I think, what we've been hearing  
5   today, which is that it would be much easier for the  
6   Community if there was at this point in time some  
7   agreement between the different parties as to what kind  
8   of criteria needs to be in place.

9                   It's very difficult when the Community is  
10   in a difficult situation where there are some differing  
11   views or opinions, particularly because it is highly  
12   technical. However, at this point the Naha Dehe Dene  
13   Band now understands that improving the efficiency of the  
14   water treatment plant is not feasible, so that the  
15   recommendation on water quality will need to be met  
16   through the implementation of the departmental  
17   recommendations.

18                  But to be clear, on particularly the  
19   recommendation relating to water quality criteria, the  
20   Naha Dehe Dene Band has determined that it will accept  
21   water quality criteria that strike a reasonable balance  
22   between the criteria proposed by Canadian Zinc  
23   Corporation and the criteria proposed by responsible  
24   government departments where those criteria differ.

25                  So in -- in -- I guess, in essence,

1 consistent with some of the comments you heard, the Band  
2 is asking the parties work together to come up with  
3 reasonable consensus on what would be acceptable, and is  
4 not prejudging or prescribing what those would be.

5               The second recommendation was with respect  
6 to post-closure impacts. The Band recommends that the  
7 public registry remain open until there is consensus,  
8 again, between Canadian Zinc, responsible authorities,  
9 and the Band, on the long term efficiency, stability,  
10 and/or the impact of the tailing disposal system such  
11 that there is assurance that no significant long term,  
12 what's called, bioaccumulation, or buildup, and  
13 bioconcentration, which would be buildup in fish and  
14 other aquatic life. That there be no significant buildup  
15 of contaminants in the downstream environment. And that  
16 there would also be consensus reached, and it wasn't  
17 discussed today, in relation to post -- post-closure  
18 monitoring and the time frame for that monitoring.

19               And the second part of that was that the  
20 Canadian Zinc be required to post a bond significant  
21 enough to carry out post-closure monitoring and any  
22 mitigation required regarding water quality impacts.

23               In this case, for this recommendation it  
24 is highly likely that the recommendation would be met by  
25 the implementation of current departmental

1 recommendations before the Board.

2                   There still needs to be some clarity on  
3 the issue of bonding, but that will likely be addressed,  
4 or addressed through the Land and Water Board, which is  
5 not your role.

6                   The third recommendation relating to  
7 spills along the haul road, and the Band had recommended  
8 that there be more stringent spill prevention and  
9 response plans developed, particularly for the first 54  
10 kilometres of the road. The -- the -- Parks was  
11 identifying that as the particularly steep area. And  
12 that that be done before approval, or probably more  
13 reasonably, the -- the commencement of mine operations.

14                   Also recommends that Canadian Zinc  
15 clarify, and finalize the road alignment plan for the  
16 silent hill areas. And I believe that was spoken to  
17 earlier. Recommends that the spill contingency plan  
18 address the potential for spill events, or spills that  
19 occur during adverse road or weather conditions. That it  
20 be clear in the spill contingency plan that Canadian Zinc  
21 will hold overall responsibility for spills response,  
22 whether the spills occurred from the action of Canadian  
23 Zinc or its subcontractors.

24                   That Nahanni, or the Naha Dehe Dene Band,  
25 be consulted and play a meaningful role in spill

1 contingency planning and response. And finally, that  
2 Canadian Zinc table a mine economic feasibility report  
3 with regulators prior to final approval to assure there's  
4 enough profitability such that the issue of profit versus  
5 cost can be reasonably balanced without affecting mine  
6 sustainability.

7                   Again, the -- the major elements of this  
8 recommendation will be met through implementation of the  
9 departmental technical recommendations relating to road  
10 construction and operation, as well as spills contingency  
11 planning. And I should add, along with the commitments  
12 that Canadian Zinc has already made with respect to  
13 spills response planning.

14                   Any Nahanni concerns about safety versus  
15 cost will also be adequately addressed through  
16 implementation of the recommendations relating to road  
17 construction, operation, and spills response planning.  
18 And the bonding will be addressed, and will have to be  
19 addressed at the Board.

20                   And we note that Canadian Zinc has  
21 recently engaged SNC-Lavalin to complete a feasibility  
22 study on the Prairie Creek mine, and that's expected to  
23 be completed by the end of 2011, and that would certainly  
24 satisfy that issue or that concern.

25                   Recommendation 4 relating to -- re -- I'll

1 maybe read it:

2 "The Naha Dehe Dene Band recommends  
3 that as a component of its previous  
4 recommendation regarding the water  
5 quality management system -- system,  
6 particular attention be paid to  
7 reducing the presence of mercury and  
8 other elements of the mine effluent  
9 known to biocumulate or bioconcentrate  
10 or build up such that these levels --  
11 the levels of these elements do not  
12 exceed existing levels in Prairie Creek  
13 at all times."

14 First of all, there was a decision to  
15 modify the recommendation. And rather than reading, such  
16 that the levels of these elements do not exceed existing  
17 levels in Prairie Creek at all times, the recommendation  
18 has been modified to read:

19 "...such that these levels do not  
20 exceed levels that can cause short or  
21 long-term harm to the aquatic  
22 environment."

23 And again, the appropriate levels can be  
24 determined through implementation of departmental  
25 recommendations, including the setting of balanced water

1 quality criteria noted in recommendation 1. And that's  
2 again taking into account the need to find some balance  
3 between Canadian Zinc's position on water quality  
4 criteria and the responsible department's position on  
5 that criteria.

6 Recommendation 5 was that the draft  
7 wildlife management plan to be expanded to become more  
8 proactive, to include science and TK based monitoring and  
9 not just incident and sighting documentation, and that  
10 this redrafting be carried out by Canadian Zinc in  
11 cooperation with the Naha Dehe Dene Band, Parks,  
12 government, and if they choose to or the -- the GNWT.

13 And the final plan should be reviewed and  
14 approved by the proposed technical advisory committee  
15 required to any required regulatory approvals. I believe  
16 Parks may have some authority over that issue.

17 Again, this recommendation will be met  
18 through implementation of departmental recommendations.  
19 The only addition I guess that needs to be clarified is  
20 that the band ask that the approach taken to wildlife  
21 management suggested by Parks Canada should be applied or  
22 implemented to animal populations to the east of the park  
23 boundary so that you have a consistent wildlife  
24 management plan for the entire haul road as well as the  
25 mine operation rather than having differing plans similar

1 to the -- to the road issue.

2                   The sixth recommendation, there was a  
3 concern about cultural materials. And the band had  
4 recommended that the Government of the Northwest  
5 Territories, that's through the Prince of Wales Northern  
6 Heritage Centre, continue to oversee the archeological  
7 assessment work and that the required archeological  
8 impact assessment that was proposed by the GNWT be  
9 carried out as planned this summer with direct Naha Dehe  
10 involvement.

11                  And the Band further recommends that any  
12 cut and fill activities associated with access road  
13 construction in or around the sites of main concern, and  
14 those were mainly the mountain passes, be monitored by an  
15 archeolog -- archeological technician and/or informed  
16 Nahanni Band members to ensure protection of potential  
17 heritage resources.

18                  This matter will be partially addressed  
19 through the requirement of the GNWT for Canadian Zinc to  
20 complete a archeological impact assessment, and that's on  
21 the new road alignments, by the way, not the entire road.

22                  And the issue of site monitoring at  
23 mountain passes or in other sensitive areas during road  
24 construction could simply be addressed through a  
25 commitment by Canadian Zinc. And I believe I heard that

1 today, but we'll touch base with the -- there will be  
2 environmental monitors and that they could be employed or  
3 utilized for that purpose. I'm not going to put words in  
4 your mouth but we can discuss that, but certainly it  
5 seems to be an issue that can be resolved.

6                   The seventh recommendation was that the  
7 Band recommend that -- and I'll make it easier for the --  
8 for the interpreters. The Naha Dehe Dene Band had  
9 originally wanted to be able to restrict access to the  
10 winter haul road, and that was supported by Canadian  
11 Zinc. It was certainly in both party's interests to  
12 limit or restrict access. It took a while, but it was  
13 concluded, certainly through statements and responses by  
14 Indian and Northern Affairs, that restricting access  
15 would not be possible.

16                   So the second option is that a Naha Dehe  
17 Dene Band staffed checkpoint be established near the  
18 entry point to the road during winter operations, and I'm  
19 not going to go through them but that there be a number  
20 of strict rules that would make it clear that use of that  
21 road is at the person's own -- own risk and that there  
22 might be limits set on parking and et cetera, a number of  
23 issues.

24                   And again, with that, that particular  
25 recommendation will be addressed through a current

1 commitment by Canadian Zinc to establish a Naha Dehe  
2 operated checkpoint as well as through discussions with  
3 the proposed Prairie Creek technical advisory committee  
4 to finalize road restrictions and warnings. So that  
5 would be a useful role or one (1) of the roles for the  
6 advisory committee, and I'll speak to that shortly, to be  
7 able to assist in setting some of those limitations.

8                   The eighth recommendation, set of  
9 recommendations actually, came out of a human resource  
10 and community economic development survey that the Band  
11 conducted, where it went out and interviewed a fairly  
12 wide cross-section of community members on their  
13 interests in the mine, work, training, et cetera, as well  
14 as their concerns at that time, and that was again a  
15 report that was given and presented or submitted to the  
16 Board and is on the registry.

17                   It became clear when there was sort of  
18 individual surveying carried out that there are mixed  
19 opinions in this community. There's certainly a desire,  
20 and I -- I think that's not a mixed opinion. I believe,  
21 from the work I've done and -- that there is -- is a  
22 absolute interest in ensuring that the environment is  
23 protected to the best that can be done.

24                   But out of the socio -- or the human  
25 resource community economic development survey it was

1 clear that members wanted -- the recommendations that  
2 came out of that were that there be support by Canadian  
3 Zinc and/or government agencies to fund training  
4 priorities for Band members; to assist the Band and  
5 individual members in getting access to capital partners  
6 and expertise in order to take advantage of business  
7 opportunities; to help support and fund better  
8 counselling and healing programs to address any substance  
9 abuse issues that might arise; to support and fund money  
10 management programs, I believe that Canadian Zinc spoke  
11 to that this morning; to support culture and the language  
12 programs and to ensure that community members are allowed  
13 time off for the fall hunt if they choose or ask for  
14 that.

15                   And it was also from that survey that  
16 there was support -- came out that there was support from  
17 the community for a three (3) week in, three (3) week out  
18 shift option even though that certainly contradicted what  
19 the GNWT was calling for.

20                   So it was important to go ask the members  
21 what they were comfortable with, and there was comfort  
22 with the three (3) weeks in, three (3) weeks out, but  
23 that be assessed after perhaps a year of operation.

24                   With respect to that set of  
25 recommendations that came out of the human resource

1 community economic survey, it was clear that in terms of  
2 how those were being addressed, clearly the environmental  
3 issues are being addressed through the Band's  
4 intervention and the environmental assessment process.

5 Most of the socioeconomic concerns are  
6 being addressed through the impact benefit agreement  
7 signed this past January between Naha -- Naha Dehe Dene  
8 Band and Canadian Zinc Corporation. However, the band  
9 will still need ongoing support from government agencies  
10 to ensure that it has the capacity to fully implement and  
11 benefit from -- benefit from the IBA. There's capacity  
12 building issues that need to be addressed with support  
13 from a variety of agencies.

14 The Naha Dehe Dene Band is aware that the  
15 GNWT is calling for a socioeconomic agreement between  
16 Canadian Zinc and the GNWT, but as this would be a  
17 territorial agreement it would not override the IBA with  
18 the Naha Dehe Dene Band.

19 So it -- it -- really, I guess, Nahanni  
20 won't -- won't speak to or comment on that. It's  
21 satisfied with the socioeconomic conditions and clauses  
22 in the IBA.

23 And then the final recommendation was that  
24 the Naha Dehe Dene Band recommends that Canadian Zinc  
25 and/or INAC, or Aboriginal Affairs Northern Development

1 now, and/or Parks Canada provide the funding necessary  
2 for the Band's full participation in the proposed Prairie  
3 Creek technical advisory committee.

4                   And there is support for this committee.  
5 It's being supported by Canadian Zinc, obviously, Parks  
6 Canada. Environment Canada also supports the role of  
7 this committee, and assisting in the design of monitoring  
8 programs. But funding for the Naha Dehe Dene Band  
9 participation has yet to be addressed, and so that's an  
10 iss -- issue that remains under discussion.

11                   So those were essentially the -- the  
12 concerns raised through the TK assessment, and the status  
13 of them. The third path the TK assessment, environment  
14 assessment, was the IBA negotiations or impact benefit  
15 negotiations.

16                   There was a memorandum of understanding  
17 signed in the fall, and the date is wrong, it was the  
18 fall of 2008. And the MOU led to the negotiation of an  
19 impact benefit agreement that was signed off, as I  
20 mentioned, in January 2011.

21                   This IBA acknowledges the Naha Dehe Dene  
22 Band rights and interest in the mine impact area,  
23 provides a range of direct and potential benefits to the  
24 Band, and those were identified earlier today, and does  
25 not restrict the Band from continuing to participate in

1 the EA process to protect environmental interests.

2                   So in conclusion, at this point in time  
3 the Naha Dehe Dene Band can make the following comment:  
4 It's original goal, three (3) years ago now, summer of  
5 2008, when it established these paths was to try and find  
6 a reasonable balance between protecting the environment  
7 and getting benefits from the mine, again all rooted in  
8 the assertion that the mine operations will primarily  
9 affect the Naha Dehe traditional land use area.

10                  So with respect to the socioeconomic  
11 impacts and benefits, the Band is confident that it's  
12 socioeconomic interests will be adequately addressed  
13 through the full implementation of the IBA it currently  
14 has with Canadian Zinc, as long as implementation support  
15 is provided by the appropriate government agencies, and  
16 the Naha Dehe Dene Band will be seeking that in the near  
17 future.

18                  With respect to the environmental  
19 protection, if the recommendations made by the Band and  
20 government departments are carried out, particularly with  
21 respect to water quality management, spill contingency  
22 planning, and wildlife management planning, the Naha Dehe  
23 Dene Band feels that its short and long-term  
24 environmental interests will be protected.

25                  And I think what you've heard today, or

1 certainly what I've heard today in -- in my role from --  
2 from the membership that spoke is that there is a need  
3 for these parties to really get together and hammer out  
4 some of these issues that are -- where there is some  
5 disagreement, and do it with due haste so that the -- the  
6 next steps, decisions, can -- can be made. Ka (phonetic)  
7 mahsi.

8

9 QUESTION PERIOD:

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Peter  
11 Redvers, Nahanni Butte Dene Band presentation. What I'm  
12 going to do is I'm going to go to the Board members to  
13 ask questions to your presentation.

14 I'm going to go to my far left. I'm going  
15 to go back to Darryl Bohnet, Board member. Does he have  
16 any questions for Peter Redvers on his presentation?

17 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: No, thank you very  
18 much.

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you.  
20 Board member James Wah-Shee...?

21 MR. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I have no questions,  
22 thank you.

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.  
24 Board member Percy Hardisty...?

25 MR. PERCY HARDISTY: Mahsi, Mr. Chair.

1 No questions.

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

3 Board member Rachel Chapeau...?

4 MS. RACHEL CHAPEAU: Thank you. No  
5 questions. I will be reading more on the  
6 recommendations. I'll -- written out, for example,  
7 recommendation 2 -- 1 to 2, I'll be paying attention to  
8 those. Thank you.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

10 Richard Mercredi...?

11 MR. RICHARD MERCREDI: Thank you, Mr.  
12 Chairman. No questions this time.

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

14 Board member Danny Bayha...?

15 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
16 I just had one (1) question. In -- in your hopes that --  
17 that you mentioned, or in your -- in your presentation  
18 you mentioned that you wanted: I would like to see some  
19 sort of consensus, team building, or team kind of  
20 exercise, to hammer out some of the different issues, and  
21 hopefully reach some sort of an agreement between all the  
22 parties before.

23 Wasn't sure what your thoughts were there  
24 on whether it's before permitting, or before mine  
25 operation, and if you could maybe elaborate on that, what

1 -- what your expectation, or the Band's expectation is,  
2 of that agreement between the different parties and  
3 different organizations that would help see that  
4 environment is protected while still development happens?

5 So could you maybe just give us a picture  
6 of that? Thank you.

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bayha.  
8 I'm going to go to Peter Redvers, Nahanni Butte Dene  
9 Band.

10 MR. PETER REDVERS: Well, I -- I think  
11 the first step would be perhaps to put a process in place  
12 to do that.

13 That would maybe -- maybe be the first  
14 step, is that there could be an agreement on a process  
15 with some time lines to -- to speak to and resolve some  
16 of these issues. That would certainly help.

17 Some of the -- as you heard from the  
18 presentation, there are differing views on some key  
19 issues, and it's very technical, it's very complicated,  
20 and you've got essentially experts disagreeing.

21 So it's -- it's very difficult to try and  
22 really read into that what is accurate and what is not.  
23 But I -- I -- probably the simplest, if time, and I think  
24 time is an issue, would be to, as a first step -- I'm not  
25 sure who would do that or who would play the lead on it,

1   it's -- I don't think it's the Naha Dehe Dene Band's role  
2   to do that -- would be to -- for the parties to simply  
3   establish and agree on a process with some timelines to  
4   resolve some of the outstanding issues.

5                   That's all I could suggest at this point.  
6   Perhaps that might be discussed in more detail at the  
7   technical hearings tomorrow and Friday, once the --  
8   there's a little more understanding of the depth of the -  
9   - some of the issues that -- in -- that need to be  
10  resolved.

11                   MR. DANNY BAYHA:   Thank you, Mr. Redvers.  
12  I guess the final question, suppose that at the end of  
13  the day that all the recommendations the Band had was not  
14  be able to be achieved by the time the mine is permitted  
15  and -- and went ahead.

16                   Would the -- the Band still -- would they  
17  -- they would see themselves being involved in this  
18  process, so they can get moving it along so that some of  
19  the recommendations can be realized, or -- or is that --  
20  what -- would that change the position of the -- the  
21  Band?   Thank you.

22                   THE CHAIRPERSON:   Thank you, Mr. Bayha.  
23                   Peter Redvers...?

24                   MR. PETER REDVERS:   It's certainly in the  
25  --the Band's interest to get these issues resolved, and

1 so as noted that, if there was a role to play for -- for  
2 the Naha Dene Band to be part of that process and move  
3 that along, if that would help, and it is agreed upon, I  
4 -- that would be up to Chief and counsel to determine at  
5 that moment.

6 But certainly it's -- from what I hear  
7 through discussions and also through some of the  
8 presentation, there is a desire to -- to resolve some of  
9 these issues sooner rather than later, and if the Band  
10 can play a role in doing that then certainly there would  
11 be some interest in doing that.

12 I'm not sure who that would be, but the --  
13 there is a role, or may be a role to play.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Redvers.  
15 Danny Bayha...?

16 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Thank you. That'll be  
17 all.

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bayha.  
19 Mr. Peter Bannon...?

20 MR. PETER BANNON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
21 I -- I don't have any questions now but I'm trying to  
22 formulate one for tomorrow. You will be making a  
23 presentation tomorrow? Thank you.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you,  
25 Mr. Redvers for your presentation on the Nahanni Butte

1 Dene Band.

2                   What we'll do is we'll take a fifteen (15)  
3 minute break, but prior to taking a break what I'll do is  
4 that after we come back is that I'm going to continue to  
5 take questions from the Community. Either from the  
6 Community the questions can be posed towards the  
7 developer or any parties that made presentation here  
8 today. So maybe while we're talking a break if maybe,  
9 Chief, anybody from your Community that want to come up  
10 and express their issues, concerns, or statements, that  
11 would be good.

12                   So we'll take a fifteen (15) minute break.  
13 Thank you.

14

15 --- Upon recessing at 2:25 p.m.

16 --- Upon resuming at 2:53 p.m.

17

18                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. If I could get  
19 everybody's attention we could start. Actually this is  
20 the first time I've been to a meeting like this where the  
21 cell phones don't go off. It's really good.

22                   So if I could get everybody to come and  
23 sit down and we could start. Just before we broke we had  
24 the Nahanni Butte Dene Band do their presentation and  
25 then we took our fifteen (15) minute break.



1 Elder here.

2 ELDER ROBERT VITAL: Yeah, my name is  
3 Robert Vital and I was just thinking things over again  
4 during the break. Again, I stress that our -- our youth  
5 really have to play a big part in -- in -- in everything.

6 And again I want to stress we have to get  
7 -- get along. This has been ongoing like George -- my  
8 friend George said, and it's just got to the point where,  
9 you know, we don't -- we don't know really what's going  
10 on, even the Band, you know. It's just ongoing, ongoing.

11 I've been to quite a few places in my life  
12 and back when I lived in Alberta I -- I went to a lot of  
13 major, big, big Bands down there. My -- my partner was a  
14 member of the big -- a big reserve.

15 And we had, you know, we had things -- we  
16 had -- we had -- especially in the oil and gas field, we  
17 had agreements done in two (2) or three (3) years, you  
18 know, rather than ten (10) or twenty (20) years.

19 And the Bands down there -- for instance,  
20 you can look right now at the Lubicon Band in Alberta,  
21 and look -- and they're smaller than us. And you can  
22 imagine what they're doing right now. They're -- they're  
23 negotiating. They're -- they're getting along with the  
24 companies that are working with them.

25 And I want to stress again, our younger

1 people are leaving our community, like I said before.  
2 These people are -- these young people are -- are  
3 computer wise, you know, and they -- like I said, they  
4 have to go to Grand Prairie for their school.

5                   And then when they graduate, they have no  
6 -- they have no choice but to go to people down south or  
7 wherever, wherever they're -- they can get work, which  
8 they're qualified for. And like I said before, they  
9 cannot come back to Nahanni Butte and cut grass, you  
10 know, because -- and well, it's kind of comical for me.

11                   Anyways, I'd like to say that I -- I have  
12 been -- again, I have been on a bull trout study with  
13 Canadian Parks and Wilderness, as well as Department of  
14 Fisheries and Oceans, and we have -- we have -- found no  
15 fault in Prairie Creek, or Funeral Creek, and again the  
16 road -- the road goes long up Funeral Creek.

17                   And even under the coverage we found fish,  
18 you know, and so -- and then again once they -- they did  
19 a cleanup, I was on that cleanup at cat camp. We burned  
20 all the fuel. We burned the whole works, as well as  
21 Grainger River. It was burned. I wasn't there, but my  
22 brother was there, and -- and it was burned. So that  
23 shows me, you know, Canadian Zinc is really interested in  
24 working with the environment.

25                   So I just want to stress again that we

1 have to get along and get things done. Thank you very  
2 much.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you  
4 for your statement. I'm going to go to the gentleman in  
5 the back here. Again, state your name.

6 MR. CLAYTON KONISENTE: Yeah, hello. My  
7 name's Clayton Konisenta from Nahanni Butte. This  
8 question is for INAC.

9 I have a paper here. It says, "INAC  
10 Technical Report." I know that none of you have it, but  
11 it's on page 19. It says in there:

12 "An Aboriginal subsistence fishery  
13 exists at the mouth of Prairie Creek."

14 I'd like to know where they got that from  
15 and -- and what do they mean by that, because that's new  
16 to me, and I'm from the community.

17 And as a young person, I go up the river,  
18 and the only fishing we do that -- that I know of is at a  
19 place called White Sprays, and this is new to me. I'd  
20 just like to know what they're talking about right there,  
21 at the mouth of Prairie Creek. Thank you.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Clayton.  
23 I'm going to go to INAC, Teresa Joudrie, if she can come  
24 up and respond to that question?

25 MS. TERESA JOUDRIE: Hi, Teresa Joudrie

1 for INAC. Thank you for the question. We received that  
2 information through the confidential TK study that was  
3 provided to us by the -- by the Band. So that's the  
4 basis for which we made that statement.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Teresa. I'm  
6 going to go back to Clayton. Do you have further  
7 questions, and comments?

8 MR. CLAYTON KONISENTA: No.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Mahsi, Clayton,  
10 thank you very much. Anybody else from Nahanni Butte  
11 Dene Band that want to make comments, statements?  
12 Gentleman in the back, please state your name.

13 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Good afternoon.  
14 It's Burton Campbell, Nahanni Butte. Yeah, the -- I  
15 have a few questions to Canadian Zinc.

16 Your tailings, like -- like, it's waste.  
17 Can you take that tailings down south with you?

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Clayton --  
19 oh, sorry, Burton Campbell. Mahsi. I want to go to  
20 Nahanni Butte -- sorry, Canadian Zinc.

21 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Yeah, this is Alan  
22 Taylor, Canadian Zinc. Unfortunately, the volume of  
23 waste tails that is produced by the proposed operation is  
24 too large to contemplate hauling down to somewhere else.  
25 And when you place them underground they -- they become

1 relatively benign underground as -- as waste material.  
2 And that's our proposal. It's just too expensive  
3 otherwise to contemplate shipping.

4                   Yeah. And in -- in addition it's not just  
5 a economic thing. We're -- we're looking at it from the  
6 environmental closure point of view in that the waste  
7 tails would be put into the voids and they would be  
8 sealing up basically the -- a lot of the groundwater  
9 movement. Thanks.

10                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Alan Taylor,  
11 Canadian Zinc.

12                   Burton Campbell, Nahanni Butte Dene Band,  
13 further questions?

14                   MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Yes. So what are  
15 you saying, twenty (20) years we'll be -- or maybe fifty  
16 (50) years we'll be stuck with this then?

17                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. I don't know if,  
18 Alan, you had -- understand that question?

19                   Maybe, Burton, can you re-phrase your  
20 question.

21                   MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Maybe I'll put it  
22 little more terms. Are you going to put the tailings in  
23 the rock or underground? Are you going to seal it and  
24 it's going to be there? Is it going to be hard to come  
25 out or -- or are we going to be stuck with two cells on

1 top?

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you,  
3 Burton. I'm going to go to Alan Taylor, Canadian Zinc.

4 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Thank you, Mr.  
5 Chairman. The -- the paste tails will be placed  
6 underground in the voids that we mine out. And it  
7 doesn't matter the longevity of the mine, if it's a ten  
8 (10) year or twenty (20) year operation, those -- those  
9 voids will continually be opened up and will be  
10 continually to be replaced as the mine progresses. And  
11 they will be sealed up upon -- upon closure, and that's  
12 what I referred to the sealing up of the hydrology system  
13 underground.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Alan Taylor,  
15 Canadian Zinc.

16 Burton Campbell, any further questions?

17 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Yes, you know, like  
18 the -- everybody goes with the prices -- with the stocks  
19 on lead and zinc. What if it crashes tomorrow, what are  
20 you -- what is your plans to -- for cleanup?

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you. I'm  
22 going to go to Alan Taylor, Canadian Zinc.

23 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: In the life of any  
24 mine, any mine is dependent upon the commo -- commodity  
25 prices and those commodity prices are subject to global

1 economics. And in the life of any mine there is a  
2 possibility that there might be a temporary shutdown but  
3 that would only be a temporary, and upon full closure  
4 everything would be backfilled and closed.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Alan Taylor,  
6 Canadian Zinc.

7 I want to go back to Burton. Any further  
8 comments or questions?

9 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Yes. I guess  
10 that's between the Nahanni Band and the -- the IBA. Is  
11 that the IBA just only on the mine itself? What if you  
12 find other materials around the site, like your little  
13 donut shape?

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, I want to go to  
15 Alan Taylor because this is a -- I just want to say that  
16 the IBAs are in agreements between the community and the  
17 proponent or the developer here in this case, and I think  
18 those are private deals. So I guess maybe I'll put it  
19 back to Alan Taylor, that would be your -- in your court,  
20 I guess.

21 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Thank you, Mr.  
22 Chairman. You know, while the I -- IBAs are confident in  
23 -- in part, this one that we have signed with Nahanni  
24 Butte directly relates to the facility of Prairie Creek,  
25 not any other mines if that's the point of the question.

1 I'm not sure exactly if that was it.

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Alan Taylor.  
3 Burton Campbell...?

4 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Okay. That  
5 answered my question. Okay, the other question is: I  
6 was hearing this morning that a thousand (1,000) or  
7 thirteen hundred (1,300) tonnes that you're going to do  
8 in a day and that's going to go south. Now are you  
9 saying if the pro -- the profits, are they going to go,  
10 you know, towards the mine or towards the community?

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Maybe -- I don't  
12 know if the -- Alan Taylor, we'll probably need  
13 clarification on it. Can you rephrase your question  
14 again, Clayton -- I'm sorry, Burton?

15 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Yeah, well, they're  
16 saying a thousand to thirteen hundred (1,300) a tonne  
17 you're going to haul, now that profit you're saying, is  
18 that going to go towards the Community or the mine or...?

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you. I  
20 guess maybe I'll turn it over to Alan Taylor. It sounds  
21 like a question that you guys probably worked out with  
22 the Community. Thank you.

23 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: The product that we  
24 generate in the form of concentrates, that will be the  
25 only material that is sold to the market, and that will

1 determine the economics of the mine. And as the  
2 operation proceeds, the Community will benefit from the  
3 operation. As the revenues come in, the Community will  
4 benefit through this IBA, which right now I -- I can't go  
5 into a lot of detail but they will benefit.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you, Alan  
7 Taylor and Canadian Zinc. Burton Campbell, you got  
8 anymore questions?

9 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Yes, one more.  
10 Monitoring of the water, is that going to continue after  
11 close? Are you going to -- are you going to continue,  
12 like -- you know, like, in next fifty (50) years, sixty  
13 (60) years are you going to continue that water  
14 monitoring?

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you.  
16 Alan Taylor, Canadian Zinc...?

17 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: It's David Harpley.  
18 Burton, we will be monitoring the water until such time  
19 as we can confirm that our assumptions for the closure  
20 are correct. The whole purpose of the backfill is to  
21 seal the underground so that we don't have a long-term  
22 collection and treatment issue with the mine water as we  
23 currently do today. That's why we specifically do want  
24 to backfill the tailings.

25 Our work to this point indicates that

1   there won't be significant loss of metals from the  
2   backfill after closure but that will be subject to  
3   monitoring to confirm that before we basically leave the  
4   site and consider it stable in the long term.

5                   THE CHAIRPERSON:   Thank you.  Any further  
6   questions, Burton Campbell?

7                   MR. BURTON CAMPBELL:   Yes, I got one (1)  
8   more.  I just want to state to them:  Can you promise  
9   that the water will be safe next forty (40) years, sixty  
10   (60) years?  Thank you.

11                  THE CHAIRPERSON:   Okay.  Thank you,  
12   Burton Campbell, for your final question.  I'm going to  
13   go to Canadian Zinc.

14                  MR. DAVID HARPLEY:   Dave Harpley.  
15   "Promise" has a number of connotations but I -- I'm going  
16   to put it this way:  I -- I very much doubt that  
17   government would allow us to retrieve our bond for the  
18   project until we have demonstrated that it's satisfactory  
19   -- satisfactorily closed and stable.  So that is the way  
20   of the government ensuring that the Company keeps its  
21   promise for suitable closure.

22                  THE CHAIRPERSON:   Thank you, David  
23   Harpley, Canadian Zinc.  Any further comments from the  
24   Nahanni Butte Dene Band, comments, questions?

25

1 (BRIEF PAUSE)

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. I don't know if  
4 I see any hands up but I think everybody had an  
5 opportunity probably to make comments from Nahanni Butte  
6 Dene Band in regards to this public hearing here today.

7 Chief, you have any questions?

8 CHIEF FRED TESOU: This -- this mine has  
9 been -- I think this was -- this mine has been going on  
10 for I don't know how many years, ten (10) years, fifteen  
11 (15) years. I think we got to start working together  
12 here to push this mine going 'cause it's lot of  
13 opportunities for jobs, education. There's lot of  
14 opportunity for the North here.

15 So we need to be working together as --  
16 you know, as one, like all of us here inside this gym  
17 here. So it'd be good if we push this mine into  
18 production 'cause there's lot -- like I said, there's lot  
19 of opportunities for jobs, education. There's -- there's  
20 opportunity for the North. Thank you.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you very  
22 much, Chief. That's all from Nahanni Butte Dene Band.  
23 Mahsi. And I want to say thank you to your members and  
24 your leadership for making comments.

25 I'm going to go on to continue on with the

1 agenda of the day. Since there's nobody else in the  
2 community making comments and questions of the developer  
3 or parties, I'm going to ask that Canadian Zinc be given  
4 the opportunity to make closing statements. We could do  
5 that now.

6

7 (BRIEF PAUSE)

8

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: I had one (1) request  
10 here before you do your closing comments, Mr. Taylor. I  
11 think we have one (1) more person from Nahanni Butte that  
12 want to make a comment or a statement. Just introduce  
13 yourself.

14 MS. ANNA TETSEL: Hi, my name is Anna,  
15 Anna Tetsel (phonetic). And I'd just like to say that --  
16 okay. I'd just like to say that we're -- it sounds like  
17 we're getting kind of off the topic. The ma -- our main  
18 concern is the water. And I stand behind my mom, Elsie  
19 Marcellais, that our water should be protected. Thank  
20 you.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you  
22 for you statement. And I just want to let you know that  
23 the Review Board is here to listen to everybody's issues  
24 and concerns from this community, including your mom, and  
25 I want to thank her for that. And once we're done here,

1 we're going to go to Fort Simpson tomorrow. And Friday  
2 we're going to be doing the same thing over there, as  
3 well.

4 Then after we're done, then the Board will  
5 meet probably in a month or two (2), it depends how long  
6 it takes to get everything done. Then we'll make a  
7 decision. So everything that's been said here today will  
8 be noted in part of our decision, as well, including your  
9 mom's statement, so mahsi for that.

10 So with that, I'm going to go to Alan  
11 Taylor, for Canadian Zinc, to do your closing remarks.

12

13 CLOSING COMMENTS BY CANADIAN ZINC CORPORATION:

14 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Thank you, Mr.  
15 Chairman. Canadian Zinc owns the Prairie Creek mine  
16 site. This is a unique situation, as I said earlier in  
17 our presentation, but I cannot emphasise it more in that  
18 this proposed operation, most of the facilities are there  
19 already. The mine site is established.

20 It was fully permitted in 1980/'82, but  
21 those permits have since lapsed. There was due diligence  
22 done at the time through water licensing and such, and  
23 that we have collected a lot of database historically  
24 from that perspective.

25 The waters at Prairie Creek did not start

1 when the mine started. They flowed for many, many years  
2 prior to the -- to the mine every being discovered, which  
3 was 1928. The -- the waters from the vicinity of  
4 Harrison Creek, which is directly opposed to the  
5 underground ore body, have been receiving metals and  
6 anomalous elements for many years.

7                   While this hasn't been documented to any  
8 great extent prior to any infrastructure being developed  
9 onsite, this is something that we need to account for.  
10 The water quality up -- upstream of Prairie Creek is  
11 different to that of downstream from a natural  
12 perspective.

13                   I have heard much from the community today  
14 and much over the last many years from the community, and  
15 I hear a recurring theme of -- of, Let's move this along.  
16 But certainly water quality is a key management issue  
17 here, and we aim to be the best at managing that quality.  
18 And certainly with the assistance of all the government  
19 agencies and the bands, that is our goal.

20                   There is much to work out still, but this  
21 is an environmental assessment, and the Review Board must  
22 decide whether or not the project is likely to cause  
23 significant adverse impacts or significant public  
24 concern. And based on this, the Review Board will decide  
25 whether the development should be approved, and if so,

1 with what mitigation measures. Let's all keep that in  
2 mind.

3 I've heard a number of -- of requests for  
4 details such as further finalization, or towards  
5 finalization of -- of spill contingency plans, human  
6 resource plans, road plans, and even the feasibility.  
7 But all the -- besides the feasibility part, all these  
8 details are part of the regulatory process and they will  
9 be sorted out at that time.

10 We have been through a number of EAs with  
11 our prior exploration and we think we have a good record  
12 on that. But certainly compliance to the levels of -- of  
13 water quality is a key issue here.

14 Our work with the -- the community is key.  
15 I -- when I started with Canadian Zinc I -- I maintain  
16 that I was a cornerstone of the -- of the -- of the  
17 Corporation to move ahead Prairie Creek was to keep the  
18 communities involved, and Nahanni being the closest one  
19 (1), that is our goal.

20 In addition to that, life has got a little  
21 bit more complicated for us over the course of the last  
22 ten (10) years with the expansion of Nahanni National  
23 Park Reserve. However, in retrospect, we -- we did see  
24 that expansion coming, that there was a study that was  
25 put in for us for four (4) years and we worked closely

1 with Parks Canada, and we actually signed a memorandum of  
2 understanding to work collabor -- collaboratively  
3 together to suit our -- our different needs. And  
4 certainly they are somewhat different and it's an  
5 education for both of us.

6 And we endeavour to further that in the  
7 near future as an ongoing process and an example of that  
8 is our technical advisory committee, which we formed at  
9 the initiation when the Prime Minister announced the  
10 expansion of the Park. And we certainly invite Nahanni  
11 Butte and always have a seat at the table for them for  
12 this.

13 Some comments were made from one (1) of  
14 our Elders that they were concerned about the water,  
15 actually, from more than one (1) Elder. And certainly, I  
16 can't reiterate more, and I can't emphasize that more, we  
17 are too. The tailings pond, the facility there, it will  
18 be -- it will -- it has been looked at from a structural  
19 perspective and we don't contemplate using it as a  
20 tailings pond. And it has -- it has endured for over  
21 thirty (30) years with very little maintenance and it is  
22 -- it is a very sound structure.

23 So Canadian Zinc scientific and technical  
24 studies place particular emphasis on assessing water  
25 quality at the mine including mine and process water

1 discharge and potential downstream effects on water and  
2 aquatic ec -- ecosystems.

3               The Prairie Creek Mine will utilize the  
4 water which flows naturally into and collects in the mine  
5 as a source of process water for the mill. This water  
6 has been coming out from the mine for over thirty (30)  
7 years.

8               The existing large pond originally  
9 designed for tailing storage will now be converted into a  
10 water storage pond. Used process water and excess mine  
11 water will be treated and discharged into the Prairie  
12 Creek River using a specially designed double piped  
13 exfiltration trench in the base of Prairie -- in the bed  
14 of Prairie Creek.

15              However, the treatment and discharge  
16 schedule will be varied seasonally depending on the flow  
17 of the water in the river. The Prairie Creek and the  
18 Mackenzie Mountains are very dynamic systems and they  
19 have very variable rates of flow of water and -- and  
20 receiving of waters and we have to take that into account  
21 in order not to affect the ecosystem. Discharge will be  
22 low during periods of low river flow in order to minimize  
23 the potential for effects on the river and its downstream  
24 environment.

25              Canadian Zinc developed site specific

1 water quality objectives of the highest standards to  
2 ensure protection of all aquatic life. Canadian Zinc  
3 also formulated management plans and operating procedures  
4 that will ensure that mine operations achieve these  
5 desired water quality objectives.

6 And in comment to Mr. Redvers'  
7 presentation, Canadian Zinc does not foresee any problems  
8 in resolving any of these Nahanni Butte Dene Band factors  
9 that he brought up today. I'm sure that we can come to a  
10 consensus on that.

11 However, there -- there appears to be a  
12 differing of opinion on site specific water quality  
13 objectives, but we still -- we feel that there is a  
14 satisfactory resolution to be had here.

15 And with that in mind, in the spirit of  
16 cooperation, Canadian Zinc is interested in furthering a  
17 discussion with the government agencies on a  
18 collaborative approach to resolving the water quality  
19 management issues.

20 However, we are interested in progressing  
21 in a timely fashion here. We -- we are already in a --  
22 in an extended EA here entering to -- into our fourth  
23 year, and we -- we would not want to halt the time lines  
24 associated with this already extended EA process.

25 So with that in mind, I'd like to

1 certainly thank chief and council and the community for  
2 hosting this event, and the Board for organizing it. And  
3 let's move forward on this constructively, and we'll see  
4 a successful mine in the near future. Thank you very  
5 much.

6

7 CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING COMMENTS:

8 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you,  
9 Alan Taylor.

10 Moving on with the agenda, we're wrapping  
11 up now, going to the closing remarks of the Chairman.

12 I just want to take this opportunity,  
13 first of all, and to say thank you to Chief Tesou and  
14 your leadership and Elders in your community for hosting  
15 this hearing in your community.

16 I also want to thank the -- all the cooks  
17 that were able to make a meal for us here today. I want  
18 to say mahsi to them.

19 And we also appreciate all the  
20 participants from your community in regards to your  
21 heartfelt comments, especially to the Elder that was here  
22 spoken, and -- and all the elders here,

23 and speakers. Mahsi for your time, and  
24 your comments here.

25 The next step from here is -- like I

1 mentioned earlier, is that we get two (2) days of  
2 technical hearings in Fort Simpson. And this is where we  
3 have an opportunity to also, you know, raise further  
4 questions or cross-examine, so we'll probably be doing  
5 that.

6 But tomorrow I'm thinking, you know, we  
7 already have the presentation made by Canadian Zinc, and  
8 I'm going to ask maybe if we could look at that, but if  
9 you could do a summary tomorrow, and so that -- because  
10 we already heard it today, and I think the proponents and  
11 the presenters here also heard it, and so I want to ask  
12 that maybe you guys could take a look at that for me.

13 And also there's -- I just want to  
14 acknowledge again Kevin Menicoche here, mahsi, the  
15 Nahendeh MLA for this region.

16 And I want to thank the Review Board  
17 staff, Martin Haefele of our -- our senior manager here,  
18 and John Donahee, our legal counsel. John -- Chuck  
19 Hubert, who helped organize the coordination of this  
20 event in this community. Jessica Simpson and Paul  
21 Mercredi. There's my staff in the back here.

22 Also I just want to acknowledge that we  
23 also have a sister Board, which is the Mackenzie Valley  
24 Land and Water Board, that issue permits and licence, and  
25 so I want to just acknowledge Kathy Richter (phonetic).

1 She's in the back here, as well. So if you could just  
2 wave.

3 Our newest Board member that's been  
4 appointed about two months ago is Keyna Norweigan.  
5 Again, she's in the back. We also have Jennifer Potten.  
6 She's on the staff of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water  
7 Board so she's here somewhere.

8 Again, I want to thank the translators,  
9 Celine Batsaka, mahsi. Mahsi for helping. The other  
10 translator we have is Mary Jane Cazon. Again, mahsi for  
11 your help.

12 And the sound is provided by Trevor  
13 Bourque. He's -- he's over there. He's the one that  
14 made everything possible here, and the sound. Again,  
15 transcripts are Wendy Warnock. Mahsi for taking  
16 everything that's been here today, and the transcripts  
17 will be posted in the next few days after we conclude our  
18 meetings, and it'll be put on the public registry.

19 And again, the food. Bernice Konisenta,  
20 she's here somewhere, mahsi for that, and also to  
21 Canadian Zinc, David Har -- Harpley, Alan Taylor, INAC.

22 We have now AANDC, Tracy (sic) Joudrie.  
23 Mahsi for your presentation. Parks Canada, Mike Suitor.  
24 And I hope I didn't forget anybody else here, and if I  
25 did, I apologize. But I want to thank all my Board

1 members that are here. Mahsi for taking the time. And  
2 again, I want to thank the Chief for hosting this, to  
3 come to your community, mahsi.

4 With that, I'm going to ask for a closing  
5 prayer. Maybe the Chief or an Elder from your community  
6 could come up to do a closing prayer. Okay.

7

8 (CLOSING PRAYER)

9

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. This  
11 official public hearing is officially adjourned for  
12 today. Mahsi.

13

14 --- Upon adjourning at 3:27 p.m.

15

16

17 Certified Correct

18

19

20

21 \_\_\_\_\_  
Wendy Warnock, Ms.

22

23

24

25