

March 28, 2012 Via E-mail to: Nicole Spencer: <a href="mailto:nspencer@reviewboard.ca">nspencer@reviewboard.ca</a>

Ms. Nicole Spencer, Environmental Assessment Officer Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board 200 Scotia Centre 5102-50th Ave Box 938, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

Dear Ms. Spencer:

Re: Response to Information Requests (IR's)
Tyhee NWT Corp. - Yellowknife Gold Project [2008]
EA0809-003

Further to our letter dated October 19, 2011 within which we provided our response to the following MVEIRB's information requests:

### Part 2 - Other Issues:

IR 1-2-1	Existing Water Quality
IR 1-2-2	Existing Surface and Subsurface Water Flow
IR 1-2-3	Water Balance
IR 1-2-4	Existing Permafrost
IR 1-2-5	Traffic Volumes (would follow with Part 1 IR Responses)
IR 1-2-6	Ammonia
IR 1-2-7	Wildlife Monitoring
IR 1-2-8	Removing Vegetation

In our letter dated October 19, 2011 we had mentioned that we hoped to respond to the MVEIRB's Part 1 – Key Line of Inquiry Issues Information requests in November 2011, however; due to internal issues and the Feasibility Study that was underway potential operational changes were identified that would both enhance the project's economics but also, in Tyhee NWT Corp's view improve overall environmental effects from the YGP, therefore; we held off on providing our Part 1 IR responses until this time.

You may recall that the MVEIRB Board members and staff were on site for a tour on September 23, 2011 during which the board and staff were given a site tour to familiarize themselves with the project and where and how the project would interact with the surrounding environment. Tyhee NWT Corp felt the Board's site tour was a valuable exercise for both parties and we appreciated the Board taking the time to take such a tour.

During the Board's site tour we presented a summary of what the project was and how the Feasibility Study that was and remains underway, had identified minor modifications to some project components that would both enhance project economics and reduce perceived environmental effects from the YGP. When asked if these changes would affect the overall EA schedule, the Board's response was NO, and they would prefer to carry out the EA of the YGP based on the most current operating scenario. Tyhee NWT Corp very much appreciated this decision and support from the Board members and Board staff. The modifications to the project operating scenario can be seen on the attached Figure and summarized as follows:

- Nicholas Lake, originally planned to provide approximately 25% of the YGP mill feed has, after some investigations by the Feasibility Study Team been removed from the current mine plan, a decision primarily related to the higher concentrations of Arsenic in the Nicholas Lake ore, which would needlessly complicate the submittal since Ormsby is the main focus of our actions. Removing Nicholas Lake ore from the overall YGP mill throughput significantly reduces or eliminates potential environmental effects associated with Arsenic.
- The proposed Winter Lake Tailings Containment Area (TCA) would, through the Feasibility Study be reexamined and redesigned to better handle the tailings that are expected from the YGP. The TCA has been divided into three cells, two of which (North and South Cells) would be the recipient areas for the more benign floatation tails and the central cell would be the recipient of the Cyanide Leached Tailings which would be deposited sub-aqueously.
- Waste Rock from the Ormsby Open Pit, originally proposed for disposal in the Ormsby Valley West of the Open Pit has, after review by the Feasibility Study Team been revised to place waste rock on the North and South edges of the Tailing Containment Area. This would include covering Round Lake and a small portion on the southern end of the Historic Discovery Mine Tailings Cap as well as an area between Winter Lake and Narrow Lake. Drainage will be directed to either sediment controls structures or into the TCA depending on expected water quality and quantity.

The Feasibility Study Team is continuing its work and there may be other minor changes to the project components, however; the points made above are seen to the changes that both enhance project economics and also improve interactions and reduce potential environmental effects from the YGP.

With the above in mind, Tyhee NWT Corp is pleased to provide our responses to the following:

## Part 1 – Key Line of Inquiry Issues

R 1-1-1	Estimation of Tailings Containment Area Concentrations
R 1-1-2	Cyanide Attenuation
R 1-1-3	Effluent Treatment Options
R 1-1-4	Water Quality Monitoring and Adaptive Management
R 1-1-5	Water Quality Issues Related to Existing Impacts from Discovery Mine
	(Cumulative Effects)
R 1-1-6	Water Balance, and

### Part 2 - Other Issues:

### IR 1-2-5 Traffic Volumes

You will recall that during our discussion on February 10, 2012 prior to Tyhee NWT Corp submitting its update letter related to the submission of the Part 1 IR's and Part 2 IR 1-2-5, I mentioned that the responses you will receive may require refinements after further test results and additional engineering inputs are available from the Feasibility Study Team and that Tyhee NWT Corp was filing the current responses based on the information base available at this time. I recall that we agreed that this submission and the information that they contain may result in Tyhee NWT Corp receiving additional IR's associated with the Key Line of Inquiry Issues after other third parties have reviewed the DAR and the MVERIB issues further IR to Tyhee NWT Corp.

Tyhee NWT Corp supports the above and would welcome any further IR's from the MVEIRB and third party reviewers, however; this strategy, which I recall was acceptable to the MVEIRB would move Tyhee NWT Corp's Environmental Assessment forward and within the timelines set out in the current or a revised work plan.

Tyhee NWT Corp appreciates the MVEIRB's support in moving the Yellowknife Gold Project's Environmental Assessment forward and we look forward to continued dialogue and receipt of additional IR's in the days ahead.

If there are any questions concerning our submission please contact me on my cell 780-975-2550. We look forward to working with you to complete this review in a timely manner.

Yours truly,

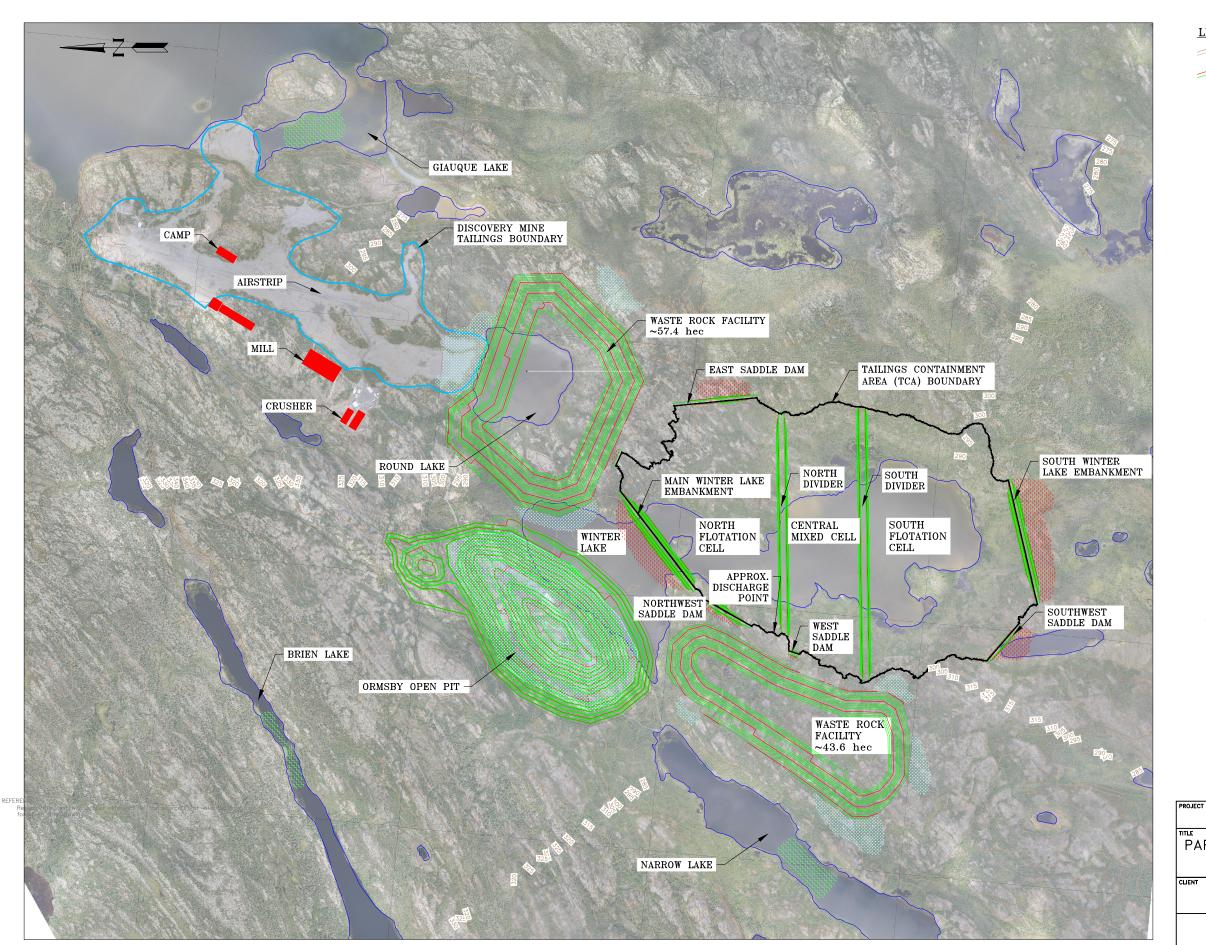
Original signed by "H.R.Wilson"

Hugh R. Wilson

Vice President-Environment and Community Affairs

Attached – Figure 1- site infrastructure, TCA, WRSA.

# FIGURE 1 – REVISED SITE INFRASTRUCTURE.



LEGEND:

EXISTING GROUND SURFACE CONTOUR AND EL, METERS

PROPOSED GROUND SURFACE CONTOUR AND EL, METERS

WASTE ROCK FACILITY AND PIT SUMP POTENTIAL MONITORING AREAS

TAILINGS CONTAINMENT AREA PERIMETER POTENTIAL MONITORING AREAS

LAKE MONITORING AREAS

TAILINGS CONTAINMENT AREA BOUNDARY



DISCOVERY MINE TAILINGS BOUNDARY



EXISTING LAKE BOUNDARIES



PROPOSED BUILDING LOCATION

### NOTES:

- 1. SCALE BAR MEASURES 6.0 cm WHEN PLOTTED AT FULL SIZE (ANSI-D) AND 3.0 cm WHEN PLOTTED AT HALF SIZE (ANSI-B).
- 2. ALL DIMENSIONS UNITS ARE METRIC UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

150 300 METERS 1:7,500 AT FULL SIZE (ANSI-D) 1:15,000 AT HALF SIZE (ANSI-B)

Yellowknife Gold Project

PART I - INFORMATION REQUEST RESPONSES GENERAL FACILITIES LAYOUT

CLIENT

Tyhee NWT Corp.

Knight Piésold

DESIGNED BY 00177.06 DRAWN BY DV101