

TRIP REPORT

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Subject: EA99-004

Date: October 14, 1999

Prepared by: Louie Azzolini

RE: Trip to Lutsel K'e

Development: BHP Mine Extension
Departure Date: October 12, 1999, Louie Azzolini
Return Date: October 12, 1999
Mode of Travel: BHP Air Tindi Charter
Reason: Attend Environmental Agreement Reporting and the BHP information Session on the Three Pipe Extension
Public Notification: No notification provided
Meetings: No meetings attended
Cost: Approximately \$30

Louie Azzolini attended a meeting on October 12, 1999 at the Zoe Lochart community hall. The meeting started at about 1:30 and finished at about 5:00.

The following is a summary of the points discussed at the meeting in the order they were reported.

Traditional Knowledge (TK)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chief Felix Lochart and Brenda Parlee of Lutsel K'e indicated that TK regarding caribou and the environment in general were not included in the environmental monitoring agreements with communities.• Brenda Parlee wondered if a follow-up TK workshop could be held• Chris Hanks of BHP noted that it took a little time for the TK projects to get going but that work was progressing and that with continued collaboration work would progress. He also noted the multi-stakeholder meeting Brenda referred to was a fruitful one but there were difficulties in getting all participants (specifically the Yellowknives Dene) to participate in another workshop.
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From.....

MVEIRB
P.O. Box 938
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7
Phone (867)873-5257
Fax (867) 920-4761

Thanks for BHP's support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community resident thanked BHP for its support the caribou hunt and in helping trappers getting out and for the employment BHP was providing. • George Marlow indicated that BHP really watches what it does and that nobody wants anything to be spoiled out there. He said that every time they get into the trucks they have to walk around them to see if there is any oil or leaks. If they find anything they have to call the mechanic right away. He said the foreman really care about what they do. • Mr. Marlow also indicated that monitoring of the Lac de Gras area should be done by the people of Lutsel K'e by perhaps taking elders up to the site because they know the land and the animals. He concluded by saying BHP was a good place. • Chris Hanks indicated that elders had contributed to studies but not directly to Lac de Gras work.
Community/elder based environmental monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community resident indicated that there should be open communication because the Dene understood the land and were sensitive to changes in the environment - changes that outsiders or scientists may not be familiar with
Independent Monitoring Agency (IMA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community resident asked why there were no community representatives on the IMA. It was suggested that monitoring should be done by the community so that they would know what was happening.
Business Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community resident indicated that the community could benefit from the mine but that Lutsel K'e had to get busy in the development of joint ventures, contracting and training of its people.
Employment Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community resident suggested the need for a local employment office to work with people to help them get prepared for mining opportunities.
Treaty Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liza Enzo indicated that there were other mines and that they were not the same as the Dogrib people. They (the Dogrib) had an Agreement in Principle (AIP) the Dene of Lutsel K'e (Treaty 8) had treaty rights. She indicated she preferred to work under treaty rights. Ms. Enzo also indicated that it was important to listen to the people that used the land - the barren lands - people who knew the area. She said it was "our land" and that the people would be "pitiful" if the land was spoiled, that all life depended on water and that if animals species were lost people would be lonely for them.

Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A community resident said that there were problems with the youth now because there was no employment and that the youth needed to benefit from training and other education. Indicated that trappers cannot make a living trapping anymore - especially young people. Indicated that it was not like the past today and have to look at new things today.
General Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A community Resident indicated that there was a need to know everything that was at the mine so that "we" could all watch out for wildlife (birds and ducks). Basically that there was a need to monitor all things.
Animals at the Mine Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident said that it seemed that non-natives know everything but that as people who live here (in Lutsel K'e) they know the land and its wildlife. Small animals get killed on roads. Small animals are attracted to buildings. Need to monitor those animals. Chris Hanks small animals all animals are respected and have right of way on the roads and that some small are attracted to the mine because they are finding refuge from wolves.
Fall Hunt Donation and Community Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident asked why BHP did not contribute (donate) to the fall hunt and why the IMA did not have community people working closer with the agency. Chris Hanks indicated that the IBA was directed towards things like the fall hunt and that having community monitors work closer with the monitoring agency was a good and that there were funds earmarked for working with communities.
Employees Hired and Communication Between First Nations and Treaty Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident enquired about Henry Basil's contract with BHP. He indicated that Mr. Basil was not always in town and that there were skilled people in Lutsel K'e. He also asked why Treaty 11 people could not meet with "us" (people of Lutsel K'e) as the mine was in Treaty 8 territory. Chris Hanks responded that Mr. Basil was a summer student and was selected from many northern aboriginal and non-aboriginal candidates because he was the most suitable person for the job as he had a good background in science and traditional land uses. Mr. Hanks noted Mr. Basil worked a 2 and 2 work schedule and that is maybe why he might of seen him come and go. As for having First Nations communicate with each other he emphasized how productive that could be for everyone.

IBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pierre Marlow said that “we should” benefit as a result of the three additional kimberlite pipes and that people would have to work together and jointly benefit. Louie Azzolini was asked how IBA’s were currently viewed. • Louie said they were currently treated as private agreements between two parties.
Information on the MVRMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A resident indicated that Louie Azzolini’s previous information session provided certain information but that there was a need for more information. Indicated that BHP has three new pipes then they need to be assessed. The discussion focused on how benefits from the mine could flow to the younger generations and that understanding of what was going on was important.
Economic Development and pipeline from Bear claw to Panda lake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bernadette Lockhart said that it was important that each party understood the other. She asked what purpose the pipeline from Bear claw lake to Panda Lake was for. She also asked if there were opportunities for economic development funding for such things as a hotel or a restaurant. She expressed that there was a need for funding to develop economic opportunities in the community.
Water Shed and Foot Prints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brenda Parlee asked if the Sable pit was in a new water shed and what the “footprint” of the mine would be with the additional kimberlite pipes. • Chris Hanks indicated that the Sable pipe was in the Exeter Water shed and that information regarding footprints would be included in the development description submitted to the Review Board.
Sable Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Felix Lochart asked if the Sable all weather road had anything to do with the GNWT, DoT all weather road proposal and if there were going to be consideration of alternatives as BHP was going to be crossing an esker that is important as a wildlife habitat. He also asked how the road would be reclaimed. • Ms. Markovic indicated the Sable road was not part of the GNWT, DoT road project and that alternatives (e.g., a winter road) were not feasible because of the vehicles used to transport the kimberlite had to meet safety standards and need a particular surface to be safely operated and that because of their weight could fall through water bodies. Regarding the esker, Ms. Markovic indicated the road was passing through a natural break in the esker. As for reclamation she indicated that it could be partially dismantled.

Wildlife Injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A resident asked if any wildlife had been injured during the mines existence. • Chris Hanks and the Rescan consultant Mr. Steve Moore indicated that there had been no injuries caused to caribou as a result of the mine, but that injured caribou had been monitored near the mine.
Caribou Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bernadette Lockhart asked Mr. Steve Moore who employed him, if he was capable of being objective and impartial and that in her experience the caribou in the fall hunt seemed skinny and unhealthy. She indicated she wanted someone else to monitor caribou because she wanted assurance of the results. • Mr. Chris Hanks indicated that BHP would not hide anything from any community and that as professionals the people retained by BHP were fully expected to provide professional objective impartial expertise. With respect to caribou health he noted that there many environmental variables affecting caribou including the recent large forest fires.
Concluding Remarks by Chief Felix Lockhart	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Lochart indicated that monitoring was important to the understanding of human activities and their cumulative long term impact on caribou. He also indicated the importance of a regional based broad reaching and appropriately encompassing study or monitoring area so that the caribou and cumulative impacts could be appropriately monitored and assessed. Chief Lochart also said the community wanted to be involved in cumulative effects monitoring and assessment based on community relevant knowledge. He also said that it was important to have young and elders periodically monitor the site.

AGENDA
BHP Community Consultation
Lutsel K'e
October 12, 1999

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| 1. | Opening Prayer | |
| 2. | Welcome | Chief Felix Lockhart |
| 3. | Introduction | John Bekale |
| 4. | Environmental Agreement | Chris Hanks |
| 5. | MVRMA | L. Azzolini |
| 6. | Future Mine Plans | Tina Markovic |
| 7. | Closing Comments | |