

Sherry Sian

From: Laurie Stephenson [lstephenson@wascomgt.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2003 2:51 PM
To: Sherry Sian
Cc: Mike Vaydik; Kate Hearn; Vern Christensen, Executive Director
Subject: RE: Land Use Permit Application MV2003C0003 Consolidated GoldWin Ventures Inc.

BY FAX to: The Honourable Robert Nault
Minister - INAC

Dear Ms Sian,

I sent an email on Tuesday May 20, 2003 with respects to the above noted Land Use Permit Application asking for an update to your May 8th, 2003 request for "submissions" on our proposed "exploration" program - an exploration program in the Drybones Bay area 45 kilometres south east of Yellowknife, the type of which has been approved by Territorial regulators, in the past 50 to 100 years and as recently as March of 2003. Usually the time to get a permit approved has been within days or a few weeks of application, because it has involved minimal to no disruption of the area, has been of such a short temporary nature and because the beneficial potential - economically socially and culturally for all the citizens of the NWT has been recognised.

I have had no response.

We are trying to arrange our corporate affairs in an efficient way which requires advance planning to deal with the prerequisite of mobilizing an exploration operation in the NWT. Even though this is a 2-3 week exploration program it does need lead time to be arranged effectively. The permitting process has now extended for over 20 weeks approximately 10 times the time required to complete the proposed work with no end in sight!

Over our objection and in spite of common sense that this type of exploration does not need an EA, the MacKenzie Valley Land and Water Board has referred it to your board. Your letter of May 8th, 2003 indicated that people were respond by May 16th, 2003. I asked on Tuesday May 20th, 2003 for details of what response you had received.

I am asking again.

I persist because although it was obvious at the First Nation Meeting I attended, almost 7 weeks ago, that the First Nations were usurping the legal authority of the MVLWB by their frivolous and unmerited "objections" to any exploration program in the area - the scale of which would have no impact on their territorial land claims and in fact if successful would only enhance their aspirations - to wit: the Ekati Mine and the Diavik Mine, we were still forced to delay our exploration program and without some sort of response to our inquiries it frustrates our ability to plan effectively.

I repeat: this is not a major development project nor anything out of the ordinary; the type of program proposed has been approved in the area as recently as March of 2003, by the MVLWB; alternative options existed and still exist that would have satisfied everyone.

The duration of the permitting process is now 10 times that of the actual program. To my knowledge this exceeds by at least 5-6 times the process in any other provincial or territorial jurisdiction in our country, Canada!

We need some timelines! I would like the courtesy of, at least, an acknowledgement of inquiries.

Thank you!

Laurie Stephenson
Consultant
Consolidated Gold Win Ventures Inc.

5/22/2003