

Alistair MacDonald

From: McAllister, Andrew [amcallis@NRCan.gc.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2006 10:42 AM
To: dswisher@centurymining.com
Cc: Lamirande, Iannick; Johnstone, Rob; Calvert, Brian; Maclean, Neil; Alistair MacDonald
Subject: Explosives Questionnaire for Pines Point

Hello David,

Based on discussions with the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board and the review of available documents, Natural Resources Canada requires further information on explosives from Tamerlane Ventures Inc. regarding its proposed Pines Point project. This information is required to aid in determining Natural Resources Canada's likely role in the environmental assessment of this project under the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act. A questionnaire is attached, which will help facilitate this determination.

Should you have any questions on Natural Resources Canada's request for further information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Andrew McAllister

Senior Environmental Assessment Officer
Agent principal d'évaluation environnementale

Environmental Assessment, SDIA, Strategic Policy Branch
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<<Pines Point - explosives.pdf>>



July 11, 2006

David Swisher
Senior Project Manager
Tamerlane Ventures Inc.

By email: dswisher@centurymining.com

Re: Pines Point Project Environmental Assessment (EA0607-002)

Dear Mr. Swisher;

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) has brought to Natural Resources Canada's (NRCan) attention Tamerlane Ventures Inc.'s proposed Pines Point Project that has been referred to the MVEIRB for environmental assessment.

Upon review of the Project Description and the supporting documents for your application to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board, Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has determined that additional information is required in order to make a determination whether we are a Responsible Minister under the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA).

This questionnaire is intended to assist project proponents and NRCan in determining whether an Explosives Licence under the *Explosives Act* is required.

NRCan will need more information on the possible use of explosives for the above mentioned project.

Will explosives be used? Yes No

If the answer to the above question is "no", please inform NRCan by faxing back this document to (613) 995-5719 or emailing the undersigned.

If the answer is "yes" please proceed by answering the following questions which would help us render a decision on whether NRCan is likely to be a Responsible Minister under the MVRMA:

Questions from NRCan with respect to explosives for the Project

- Is a magazine required?
- Is a factory (temporary or permanent) to make explosives required at or near the site?



- What is the proposed location of the magazine and/or factory?
- What types of explosives will be used?
- Will you require either an Ammonium Nitrate Fuel Oil (ANFO) Permission or an Explosive Factory Licence? *Note 1*
- If you require an ANFO Permission for the blending of explosives, do you intend to blend for immediate discharge down the borehole?
- Do you intend to blend with powered equipment for interim storage prior to use?
- Is there any storage or sale foreseen?
- Do you intend to subcontract the ANFO production to a manufacturer?

Note 1

An Explosive Factory Licence is for a manufacturing facility for explosives. This facility can be a fixed site for the manufacture of blasting explosives, ammunition or fireworks, etc., or, in the case of bulk explosives, it can be the base of operations with the facilities necessary to clean, decontaminate and repair vehicles that support satellite sites, customer sites, and temporary factories from which trials and demonstrations may be conducted and where the manufacture of the product occurs. It can be a temporary or permanent facility.

Mechanical ANFO Certificates are granted to companies producing ANFO with powered equipment to be discharged directly into a borehole at a specified location, mine or quarry owned by the company to which the certificate is issued. The sale, storage or packaging of mixed product is not allowed. One process vehicle is permitted per certificate.

If the proponent requires an Explosives Factory Licence for the manufacture of explosives, please provide a detailed site plan showing all infrastructures with the proximity in meters to the nearest body of water, public road, railway, populated areas, dwellings or buildings of any sort in the vicinity. Infrastructures should include: explosives and detonator magazines, fuel storage, ANFO storage, maintenance/wash area, process trucks and their parking area, any offices, warehouses, buildings, etc.

Our basic needs for assessing a factory in an environmental assessment are as follows:

- Explosives to be manufactured, typically ANFO and or emulsion / watergel. If the proponent initially specifies ANFO and decides to add emulsion, this does not change environmental impact. Although equipment is different, effluents and other aspects pertaining to the assessment do not change.



- Maximum quantity of explosives at each facility.
- Specified location, with distances to vulnerable features such as dwellings, roads, camps, etc. The proponent needs to demonstrate that safety distances required by ERD have been considered and met. Explosive magazines and ammonium nitrate storage locations must also be specified.
- Fuel and ammonium nitrate storage plans. Storage of ammonium nitrate in conformance with ERD guidelines.
- There will be liquid effluent. What are the disposal plans?
- Evaluation of worst case scenario, i.e. accidental explosion.
- Spill contingency plans.
- Any temporary explosive facilities to be used for starting the project must be included, giving the same information described above. The temporary installations are often required before the other facilities can be put in place and as such are often more problematic for location, containment, etc.

Please refer to the NRCan Explosives Regulatory Division website for information on licensing, etc. <http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/mms/explosif>.

If you have any questions regarding NRCan's request, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at (613) 995-3153 or by email at andrew.mcallister@nrcan.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Andrew McAllister
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer

cc: Rob Johnstone, Minerals and Metals Sector, NRCan
Alistair MacDonald, MVEIRB