

From: Hanna, Bruce
Sent: 08/09/2008 1:40:40 PM
To: Tawanis Testart
CC: jhimmelright@selwynresources.com
BCC:
Subject: Selwyn Environmental Assessment

Hi Tawanis, here is the information I obtained from Justin Himmelright in response to a couple of questions DFO had regarding the draft DAR. If you would like to place this on the public registry it's fine with both Justin and myself.

Have a good day.

Bruce

From: Justin Himmelright [<mailto:jhimmelright@selwynresources.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 23, 2008 10:53 AM
To: Hanna, Bruce
Cc: dreeve@selwynresources.com; Jason Dunning; Pritchard, Jonathan
Subject: RE: Selwyn Developer's Assessment Report

Hi Bruce,

Thanks for the information. In regards to the Fish Screen Guidelines and water off-take guidelines, we will ensure that we are following those for any streams we use where fish presence/absence is uncertain. That being said we are about as certain as one can be that there are no fish in the streams we would be tapping into. These are primarily high elevation alpine streams with seasonal flow and many would have steep reaches in them at lower elevations closer to the valley bottoms.

In terms of separation of cuttings from drill fluids and recycling of drill fluids, that is not physically possible with the technology available on site. The drill cuttings are in the form of very fine rock flour and active separation would probably require some form of pressure filtering. I am not aware of any hard rock exploration drilling programs that employ that kind of technology. We do achieve separation with the use of passive filtering in the sumps and the end result is a small depression filled with material that is similar in texture to wet clay. The idea of disposal of that material back down the drill hole could possibly be applied in limited circumstances where the hole is still accessible during demobilization of the drill. That would be very rare however given that the holes in question are only 2 ¾ " in diameter and tend to collapse in on themselves particularly in the near surface area which is usually collared in overburden material with no structural rigidity. So as the drill pulls back the bit and casing, the hole collapses behind it and there is no evidence of a hole once the drill is gone.

In regards to concerns on wildlife access to these abandoned sumps, we have heard these concerns in the communities as well. As a part of the reclamation of these drill pads we typically cap the sumps with a layer of organic overburden. I think the best evidence of the efficacy of our reclamation methods and the overall risk presented by the residual materials is in the performance record so far on this project. We have drilled literally hundreds of holes on the Yukon side of this Project in the past 3 years. These sites are revisited by Company environmental staff as a part of the reclamation process and to date we have not yet observed any wildlife incidents related to drill pads or sumps.

I hope this helps. I appreciate your interest in our Project and the initiative to contact us directly with your concerns.

Regards,

Justin Himmelright

From: Hanna, Bruce [mailto:Bruce.Hanna@dfo-mpo.gc.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, July 08, 2008 3:30 PM
To: jhimmelright@selwynresources.com
Cc: dreeve@selwynresources.com; Pritchard, Jonathan
Subject: Selwyn Developer's Assessment Report

Hi Justin,

I just finished reading the draft DAR and thought I would send a couple of questions your way now prior to the Information Request phase.

Have you considered separating the drilling mud from the cuttings and reusing it? Not many of the MSDS sheets for the additives have ecological information although most state they are environmentally friendly. While sumps will be located a minimum of 30 metres away from any waterbody/ watercourse there is always the chance of ground water contamination or a heavy rainfall washing material into a creek depending on where it's at. I can imagine there may also be concerns about wildlife accessing the material in the sumps.

With regards to a proper intake screen to prevent the impingement or entrainment of fish I've

attached the DFO Freshwater Intake End of Pipe Fish Screen Guideline to use as a guide.

DFO would also like to ensure that no more than 5% of the instantaneous flow is removed from any watercourse that may be fish bearing. It looks like your water requirements are fairly small so I don't think this will be a problem for you.

Jonathan Pritchard (cc'ed) just started in our office last week and will be helping me with this file.

Have a good night.

Bruce

Please note my email has been changed to Bruce.Hanna@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Bruce Hanna

Habitat Biologist | Biologiste, Habitat

(867) 669-4931 | facsimile/ télécopieur (867) 669-4940

Bruce.Hanna@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Fish Habitat Management, Western Arctic Area | Gestion de l'Habitat du Poisson, Secteur de l'Arctique de l'Ouest

Central and Arctic Region | Région Centrale et de l'Arctique

Fisheries and Oceans Canada | 101-5204 50th Ave, Yellowknife, NT, X1A 1E2

Pêches et Océans Canada | 101-5204 50^e Ave, Yellowknife, T.N.-O, X1A 1E2

Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada