



Indian and Northern  
Affairs Canada

Affaires indiennes  
et du Nord Canada

Environment & Conservation  
Box 1500  
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2R3

December 15, 2008

MVEIRB File Number: EA0809-002

Alistair MacDonald  
Environmental Assessment Officer  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
P.O. BOX 938  
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2N7

BY EMAIL: [amacdonald@mveirb.nt.ca](mailto:amacdonald@mveirb.nt.ca)

**Re: Canadian Zinc Prairie Creek Mine - Environmental Assessment  
Information Request Number: IR0809-002-01**

Dear Mr. MacDonald:

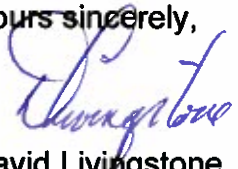
Please find attached Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's (INAC) response to IR #0809-002-01.

INAC has previously provided documents to MVEIRB concerning the regulatory processes in the 1990s. The Review Board's Note to File of November 24, 2008 lists all of these documents. The Review Board has chosen not to post some of these documents to the public registry on the basis that they are not directly relevant to the Request for Ruling. INAC has no objections to the Review Board's choice of relevant documents; we do wish to ensure, however, that all parties are aware of all the documents INAC has previously provided to the Review Board. We also note that one of the documents listed in the November 24 Note to File is described incorrectly: "Facsimile from San Andreas Resources Corporation to Environment Canada, September 29, 1993" should read "Facsimile from San Andreas Resources Corporation to Environment & Conservation **[INAC]**, September 29, 1993" (correction bolded).

INAC would like to take this opportunity to request an extension to the deadline for submissions for the Request for Ruling due to the volume of information that may be provided in response to the latest Information Requests and due to the intervening holiday season. An extension of the deadline to Monday, January 12, 2009 would be sufficient.

If you have any questions about this submission, please contact Krystal Thompson at 669-2595 or via email at [thompsonkr@inac-ainc.gc.ca](mailto:thompsonkr@inac-ainc.gc.ca).

Yours sincerely,



David Livingstone  
Director, Renewable Resources and Environment

cc. INAC EA Working Group

**IR Number:** IR0809-002-01  
**Source:** Review Board  
**To:** Indian and Northern Affairs Canada  
**DAR Section:** n/a  
**Terms of Reference Section:** n/a

**Request:**

Provide for the Review Board's public record the following:

Any documents in your department's possession or readily accessible by your organization, not including those listed in Appendix 1, that may be of assistance to the Review Board in ruling on the appropriate scope of development for the Prairie Creek Mine EA. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada should spend special effort to locate documents listed in Appendix 2, given the department's lead role in previous environmental impact assessment and permitting in relation to the Prairie Creek Mine.

This request is not limited to submission of the documents listed in Appendix 2; the Review Board recognizes this is not an exhaustive list.

The Review Board is particularly interested in any documents that speak to the historic scope of development for the Prairie Creek Mine – both in relation to on-site infrastructure/nature of the proposed mining development and the structure and use of the winter road – as described in:

- environmental impact assessment or baseline studies or reports,
- Land Use Permits or Water License applications and supporting materials,
- Any other correspondence related to these applications, and
- Land Use Permits and Water Licenses themselves, including extensions or any authorizations made by other government departments or regulators.

In any case where Indian and Northern Affairs Canada was the actual regulatory authority for an application, and the relevant documents cannot be found, the Review Board would like reasons provided. Where only part of a document or submission can be located, this should be identified for the record.

The timeline for these documents, as far as the Review Board knows, goes back to approximately 1979 for any formal applications, and to 1975 for any environmental baseline studies.

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<b>ORIGINAL DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT NAME OR PERMIT #</b>	<b>POTENTIALLY MISSING INFORMATION</b>	<b>INAC'S RESPONSE</b>
	<b>PRE-MVRMA ERA MATERIAL</b>		
1980	INAC LUP N80D248 (Mineral Exploration and Development)	-Any application materials or associated environmental impact assessment materials. In particular, the Review Board does not have a full copy of the work done by Ker, Priestman & Associates or other consultants on environmental impact assessment. Some portions of these studies are included as RFR documents #3, 4, 6 7 and 23 (see Appendix 1), but no complete set of materials has come forward. No correspondence related to the file is on the public record either. Permit sought and received from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC).	The INAC file for this permit has been destroyed, as per departmental policies concerning retention and destruction of records. However, INAC does have copies of the following documents and expects to provide copies of the following documents to the Review Board by December 17, 2008 (INAC is having these documents commercially copied): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Environmental Evaluation for Cadillac Explorations Prairie Creek Project, Ker, Preistman and Associates (1980)</li> <li>o Summary Document: Water Quality and Aquatic Biology, Beak Consultants (1982).</li> </ul>
1980	INAC LUP N1980F249 (Winter Access Route)	-Any application materials, correspondence or associated environmental impact assessment reports beyond that provided in Ker, Priestman & Associates (May 1980 – rfr#5). Permit sought and received from INAC.	The number cited for this Land Use Permit is incorrect; it should be LUP N80F249. INAC is providing electronic copies of the following documents as part of this IR response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Application for LUP N80F249 (March 5, 1980)</li> <li>o Inspection Report for Cadillac Mine Winter Road (September 8, 1980)</li> </ul>
1982-1983	INAC LUP1980F249 (Winter Access Route extensions)	-It is apparent that the Winter Access Route land use permit was extended in 1982 and 1983, but the Review Board has no information related to applications or any other correspondence on file. INAC permit.	INAC is providing electronic copies of the following documents as part of this IR response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Letter from Golder Engineering Ltd to INAC, August 13, 1980, concerning amendment to LUP N80F249</li> <li>o Letter from Brodie Hicks Engineering Ltd to INAC, January 16, 1981, concerning amendments to LUP N80F249 and LUP N80D248</li> <li>o Letter from Cadillac Explorations Limited to INAC, January 22, 1981, concerning permit amendment</li> <li>o Letter from INAC to Cadillac Explorations Limited, January 26, 1981, concerning amendment to LUP N80F249</li> <li>o Letter from INAC to Cadillac Explorations Limited, June 2,</li> </ul>

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			<p>1981, concerning expiry of LUP N80F249</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Letter from Cadillac Explorations Limited to INAC, June 9, 1981, requesting extension of LUP N80F249</li> <li>○ Letter from INAC to Cadillac Explorations Limited, June 30, 1981, granting extension of LUP N80F249</li> <li>○ Letter from INAC to Cadillac Explorations Limited, May 3, 1982, concerning expiry of LUP N80F249</li> <li>○ Letter from Cadillac Explorations Limited to INAC, May 20, 1982, requesting extension of LUP N80F249</li> <li>○ Letter from INAC to Cadillac Explorations Limited, June 1, 1982, granting extension of LUP N80F249</li> </ul>
1982	NWT Water Board Water License N3L3-9032	-The issued license is rfr#8 for this file. No supporting materials, correspondence or applications have been provided for the Review Board.	<p>The number cited for this Water Licence is incorrect; it should be N3L3-0932. INAC is providing electronic copies of the following documents as part of this IR response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Letter from Ker, Priestman and Associates on behalf of Cadillac Explorations Limited, July 30, 1980, enclosing Water Licence Application</li> <li>○ Memo from INAC to Environmental Review Committee Members, December 29, 1980, enclosing the following comments on the Prairie Creek Environmental Evaluation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Comments from Parks Canada, December 10, 1980</li> <li>○ Comments from INAC (internal memo), December 18, 1980 [page 4 of this memo appears to be missing; INAC is attempting to locate a copy]</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>INAC expects to provide copies of the following documents to the Review Board by December 17, 2008 (INAC is having these documents commercially copied):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Environmental Evaluation for Cadillac Explorations Prairie Creek Project, Ker, Preistman and Associates (1980) [same as document noted above in relation to LUP N80D248]</li> <li>○ Summary Document: Water Quality and Aquatic Biology,</li> </ul>

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			<p>Beak Consultants (1982) [same as document noted above in relation to LUP N80D248]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Oil and Toxic Material Contingency Plan (1982)</li> <li>○ Prairie Creek Fisheries and Invertebrate Studies, Beak Consultants (1981)</li> <li>○ NWT Water Board Public Hearing Application for Water License, Fort Simpson (April 21, 1981)</li> <li>○ NWT Water Board Public Hearing Application for Water License, Fort Simpson (May 20, 1981)</li> <li>○ NWT Water Board Public Hearing Application for Water License, Fort Simpson (Feb 23, 1982)</li> <li>○ Geological Report and Ore Tonnage Calculations (1980)</li> <li>○ Tailing Storage and Mine Plant Facilities, Ker Priestman and Associates (1980)</li> <li>○ Photos from the 1980s</li> </ul>
1992	INAC LUP N92C778 – Drilling?	There is no material on the public record for EA0809-002 related to this application.	The INAC file for this permit has been destroyed, as per departmental policies concerning retention and destruction of records.
1995	INAC LUP N95C373 (diamond drilling at Prairie Creek site)	-A copy of N95C373 is included on the public record as rfr#13. Partial correspondence and application material is included in rfr#10 and #12. The record would appear to be incomplete but this is uncertain.	The INAC file for this permit has been destroyed, as per departmental policies concerning retention and destruction of records.
1995-1996	INAC LUP N95F346 (application for an all season road)	- An application for an all-season road was purportedly screened in March 1995 under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act. Partial correspondence related to this application is included as rfr#15, but application materials and the actual permit application to INAC are not on the public record.	The INAC file for this permit application has been destroyed, as per departmental policies concerning retention and destruction of records.
	<b>MVRMA-ERA MATERIAL</b>		
2000-2001	LUP MV2000C0030 (Phase I Mineral Exploration Drilling and Cat Camp)	- Portions of the public record are included as rfr#16. Interested parties may want to provide additional correspondence, studies, etc. they feel relevant to the request for ruling the Review Board will be	All relevant information can be found on the MVLWB public registry. There is no additional information in INAC's files that is not available on the MVLWB record.

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	Clean up)	making in relation to EA0809-002.	
2001	LUP MV2001C0022 (Phase II Surface Exploration Drilling)	- Portions of the public record are included as rfr#18. Interested parties may want to provide additional correspondence, studies, etc. they feel relevant to the request for ruling the Review Board will be making in relation to EA0809-002.	All relevant information can be found on the MVLWB public registry. There is no additional information in INAC's files that is not available on the MVLWB record.
2001 – 2003	LUP MV2001C0023 (Phase II Mineral Exploration – decline development and pilot plant)	- Portions of the public record are included as rfr#19. Interested parties may want to provide additional correspondence, studies, etc. they feel relevant to the request for ruling the Review Board will be making in relation to EA0809-002.	All relevant information can be found on the MVLWB public registry. There is no additional information in INAC's files that is not available on the MVLWB record.
2001-2006	MV2001L2-003 (Type B water license for underground decline and pilot plant)	- Portions of the public record are included as rfr#20, 22-25, 28-30. Interested parties may want to provide additional correspondence, studies, etc. they feel relevant to the request for ruling the Review Board will be making in relation to EA0809-002.	All relevant information can be found on the MVLWB public registry. There is no additional information in INAC's files that is not available on the MVLWB record.
2003-2008	LUP MV2003F0028 (Winter Road Access)	- Portions of the public record are included as rfr#33, 33. Interested parties may want to provide additional correspondence, studies, etc. they feel relevant to the request for ruling the Review Board will be making in relation to EA0809-002.	All relevant information can be found on the MVLWB public registry. There is no additional information in INAC's files that is not available on the MVLWB record.
2004-2006	LUP MV2004C0030, amendment to MV2001C0022	- Portions of the public record are included as rfr#26, 27. Interested parties may want to provide additional correspondence, studies, etc. they feel relevant to the request for ruling the Review Board will be making in relation to EA0809-002.	All relevant information can be found on the MVLWB public registry. There is no additional information in INAC's files that is not available on the MVLWB record.
2007-2008	MV2007L8-0026 (Type B water license to conduct repairs to winter road)	- Portions of the public record are included as rfr#35. Interested parties may want to provide additional correspondence, studies, etc. they feel relevant to the request for ruling the Review Board will be making in relation to EA0809-002.	All relevant information can be found on the MVLWB public registry. There is no additional information in INAC's files that is not available on the MVLWB record.