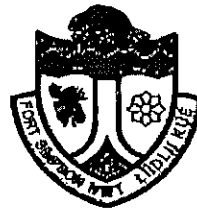


Village of Fort Simpson



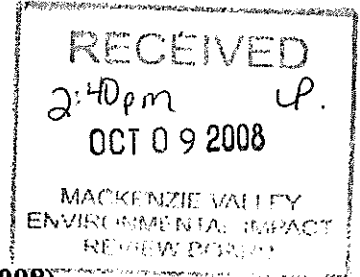
Post Office Box 438
Fort Simpson, N.W.T.
X0E 0N0

Telephone (867) 695-2253
Fax (867) 695-2005

October 7, 2008

Alistair MacDonald
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Yellowknife, NT.

Please Quote
File no.



VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Mr. MacDonald,

Re: Canadian Zinc Corporation, Prairie Creek Mine – EA0809-002 (2008)

I would first of all like to thank-you for hosting the scoping sessions in Fort Simpson last week with respect to the a/n project and look forward to the determination by your board as soon as possible. In response to your request for information as to the depth of examination this project will have to undergo before getting the required permits, I wish to offer the following.

The Village of Fort Simpson is the largest community in the region that will be directly affected by the development of the Canadian Zinc Prairie Creek mine.

Much like all the other communities in the region, Fort Simpson depends mainly on government jobs with a small quantity of private and industrial opportunities. Their low population hampers the economies of all communities and, combined with finite employment opportunities, the sustainability of most are tenuous at best.

The prospect of such a development proposed by Canadian Zinc is truly exciting and promising for all the communities in the region. Unfortunately the lengthy regulatory process that seems to befall any proposed project, which could account for the apparent lack of interest during the recent scoping sessions, may have subdued this excitement. The potential creation of 220 long-term jobs in the region will have profound, positive effects in all the communities, Fort Simpson in particular.

The location on which Fort Simpson was built has, since time immemorial been used as a trading centre for the region, a characteristic it still maintains today. A business community stands ready to embrace any type of development in the area knowing well enough that many business opportunities that arise from the development will have a positive impact. Additionally many aboriginal residents have recently positioned

themselves to become leaders in the business community and stand ready to conduct commerce with any proposed development.

With respect to the questions asked during your scoping session recently held in the community we will attempt to provide answers pertinent to the questions themselves.

1. What biophysical, socio-economic and cultural issues should be considered during the environmental assessment and why?

The Village of Fort Simpson is prepared for any increase in population that may occur as the result of mine employees and families moving into the community. The Village cannot be anything less than excited about the potential of new ratepayers, customers and residents that will enhance the economic well-being of the entire community and it is for this reason alone we support the development. Nor are we concerned over residents leaving the employment they already have to take jobs with the mine as it has been our experience thus far that these people continue to reside here while not at the mine site and people brought in to replace them add to our population base.

Presently there are approximately 6 residents of Fort Simpson working at the Prairie Creek mine, which would make the mine the seventh largest employer in the community. Additionally Canadian Zinc has already forged relationships with several resident businesses and maintains an office within the community as well as sponsoring several events that would otherwise not occur. For all these current benefits, the Village is appreciative of and thankful to include Canadian Zinc as a good corporate citizen. To this end we do not feel any issues need examination on this point other than a commitment from Canadian Zinc to continue with more of the same.

2. What physical works and activities should be considered during this environmental assessment (in other words, what is the scope for the proposed development)?

Since inception of the MVEIRB, one would assume over the course of time and many previous hearings, a template would be arrived at that would apply to most developments. Canadian Zinc is seeking four permits; one land, one water and two additional permits to cover the ore transfer sites along the winter road that services the mine. The Village of Fort Simpson recommends your typical permits be granted with enforcement of conditions and monitoring be left to the experts within INAC, Environment Canada and Fisheries & Oceans to ensure compliance. As with many other developments it is in the developer's best interest to comply with conditions and beyond the average citizen to know if they are or not; which is why we have these other agencies in the first place.

Canadian Zinc gave a sound presentation on what they have done thus far and what they plan to do in the future with little to no questions being posed. When the meetings concluded no concerns were raised that would lead us to believe a full-blown assessment is warranted. The items listed by Canadian Zinc seem appropriate for further examination and determination of conditions but all seem logical and are understood necessities.

3. What are the appropriate time periods and distances from the development for consideration of potential impacts?

The Village of Fort Simpson urges the MVEIRB to conduct what assessments it feels fit of this proposed development in a timely manner and to render any decision as soon as possible. This decision should be before next spring as the development is already lost for this winter season and such a time frame would satisfy the many logistics that will have to be co-coordinated by the proponent so that two years are not lost.

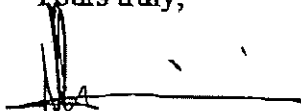
In light of the apparent local support for and lack of local concern or opposition to the development, we also challenge the MVEIRB to challenge other Government agencies and organizations that may intervene; in order to learn as to on what basis derived from local consultation, do they form their position. We maintain that the MVEIRB should be responsible to the people of the region in which the proposed development may occur and not the many you will hear from that neither live here or even visited. In light of the same support for the project you have already heard during your scoping sessions, regulatory approval should occur quickly much like other developments that had support from affected communities such as Tamerlane Resources and the Deh Cho Bridge.

4. What evidence from previous studies, management plans or environmental assessments should be moved onto the public record for this environmental assessment and why?

We know of several prior assessments conducted for operations at the Prairie Creek mine and feel the Board should review them, identify issues already addressed in hope of avoiding redundant studies. It is felt the conclusions reached in these earlier assessments and studies will avoid some issues being studied once more and cut down on the number of times the same questions will be asked and answered.

In closing we wish your board much success in reaching a quick decision that is good for the environment, the proponent and the region.

Yours truly,



Duncan Canvin
Mayor – Village of Fort Simpson