

# NOTE TO FILE

## *Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board*

**Subject:** BHP EA. 99-004 Meeting

Additional information request for the BHP development description and initial information on terms of reference

**Date:** September 23, 1999

Louie Azzolini met with Chris Hanks and Tina Markovic for two hours in the p.m. of September 23, 1999.

- BHP asked about the level and amount of detail expected in any additional information submitted as part of the development description.
- BHP provided some background information on previous dealings with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the preparation of previous development (project) descriptions.
- BHP asked about the authority of the government of the northwest territories to ask questions that seemed outside their jurisdictional mandate. (terms of reference and development description input questions).

After the initial discussion we went through Table One, the request for additional descriptive information about the BHP extension. BHP said it would get more information and clarification on #11, 14 and 30. That is, mining approach of one pit at a time, the inclusion of the Leslie pipe, and the waste removal question relating to the Sable and Pigeon pits.

We then discussed general process work plan questions and about the government experts meeting on the terms of reference, and BHP's involvement at the meeting.

We then briefly discussed Table Two. At the end of the meeting four points needing attention and/or clarification were raised, and they are: Mandate for government departments to ask questions (that is, is there a basis for government departments to substantiate opinions that may be outside their

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mandate?), the Leslie pipe and the environmental assessment, any existing methods for quantifying public concern, and future steps including the government meeting to discuss draft terms of reference and BHP's potential involvement.