

Environmental Protection Operations Directorate  
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Our File: 4780 015

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Sent by email to: [mark\\_cp@wlwb.ca](mailto:mark_cp@wlwb.ca)

Attention: Mark Cliffe-Phillips

**Re: W2009X0002-North Inca Advanced Exploration Site Remediation Water License- INAC CARD-**

The application for the water license and remedial action plan were reviewed by Jody Klassen of Environment Canada.

It is the understanding of Environment Canada that INAC Contaminants and Remediation Directorate (INAC CARD) is seeking a Water License for the activities associated with the remediation at the abandoned North Inca Gold Mine, located on the southern point of the Inca Peninsula on Indin Lake, NT.

Environment Canada is satisfied that the activities identified in the Remedial Action Plan will serve to achieve the goals of reducing risks to the environment, and therefore has no concerns related to this project *provided that the risk management of potential contaminant sources to Indin Lake are carried out as indicated in the RAP*; this includes re-sloping the waste rock pile and removing sources of PHC contamination.

These concerns stem from sediment samples in Indin Lake which indicated higher than background levels of metals and the F3 fraction of Petroleum Hydrocarbon. The RAP states that metal contamination is due to naturally occurring mineralization in the area, but it is possible that metal contamination may also be due to leachate from the waste rock pile. Also, the PHC contamination is referenced in comparison to residential/parkland guidelines for soil, which is acceptable given the current lack of PHC standards for sediments. Given that the sediment is likely stratified, disturbing the sediment may increase risk to benthic and aquatic organisms.

In essence, Environment Canada agrees with the do-nothing approach to sediment management, provided that removal of primary or secondary sources of ongoing contamination is achieved.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (780) 951-8942 or [jody.klassen@ec.gc.ca](mailto:jody.klassen@ec.gc.ca) with any

questions or comments with regards to the foregoing.

Sincerely,



Jody Klassen  
Environmental Protection Operations Directorate

cc: Lisa Perry (Northern Environmental Assessment Coordinator, EPOD)  
Lisa Lowman (Environmental Assessment/ Contaminated Sites Officer)  
Anne Wilson (Water Pollution Specialist, EPOD)