

SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION FROM INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

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8.0 CONSULTATION

8.1 INTRODUCTION

Cominco is committed to maintaining an open and constructive dialogue with the public to address environmental concerns related to the project, and advance any necessary protection measures. Consequently, interested parties have been given opportunities to become familiar with the proposed mine project and raise any issues or suggestions that they may have.

Consultation with representatives of government, First Nations and the public on the AEP and a potential mine project has been underway since September, 1994. These discussions included open house public information meetings held in Whitehorse, Watson Lake, Two Mile and Ross River in February, 1995. Consultation also occurred under an environmental assessment carried out under the Environmental Assessment Review Process Guideline Order when federal approvals were required for the AEP in regard to the tote road. This included reviews by the Federal Territory Lands Advisory Committee and the Yukon Territorial Water Board.

The Kudz Ze Kayah Project Overview was submitted to the Responsible Authorities in July, 1995 and is available to the public for review and comment. The Project Overview was formally presented to the Regional Environmental Review Committee (RERC) in August. In September, the RERC and representatives of First Nations, conducted a site visit followed by a meeting in Ross River, to discuss the Project and raise any concerns arising from the site visit. Throughout the Fall of 1995, Cominco continued to meet technical experts within the RERC to discuss relevant aspects of the project. An overview of the consultation schedule is provided below.

8.2 CONSULTATION SCHEDULE AND ISSUES ADDRESSED

Consultation with Ross River Kaska Dena

Cominco has met regularly with the Ross River Kaska Dena throughout the project to provide information on environmental baseline studies, address concerns and questions as they arise, and pursue employment and procurement opportunities. Ross River representatives have participated in consultations with Cominco and government agencies in which technical aspects of environmental baseline studies and project planning were discussed. These meetings have been held in Whitehorse, Ross River, and Vancouver.

Advanced Exploration Project Open-houses - February 13-16, 1995

Cominco held a series of four open-house meetings to facilitate consultation and provide information to the public in regard to the AEP. The meetings were held in the communities of Two Mile, Watson Lake, Ross River and Whitehorse. Representatives of Cominco were present to discuss the project and respond to questions. Storyboards were used to provide

information about Cominco, the project site, the Advanced Exploration Project, the construction of a tote road from the Robert Campbell Highway to the project site, collection of environmental baseline information, proposed environmental management and mitigation measures, and to outline the environmental assessment process and how the public could participate.

Questions and issues discussed followed a consistent theme - concerns over increased access to wildlife resulting from construction of a tote road and the potential for economic opportunities. In regard to wildlife access, the commitment to restrict access along the tote road and to reclaim the road when it is no longer to be used for exploration or mining activities was explained. The question of economic opportunities focused on employment that would arise if a mine project proceeded. It was noted that the decision to proceed with a mine project would depend upon completion of a feasibility study and an environmental assessment and permitting. Other issues unique to each open-house are discussed below.

Open-house - Two Mile, February 13, 1995

The Chief and Council of the Liard First Nation invited representatives of Cominco to meet and discuss the Advanced Exploration Project at Two Mile. Ten people from Liard First Nation attended the open-house. Questions arose concerning heritage studies, the impact of no-hunt zones on aboriginal hunting and exploration staking in other areas where members of the Liard First Nation have cabins. Although heritage studies had not been completed at the time, it was noted that they would be carried out prior to commencement of construction activities. In regard to no-hunt zones, it was explained that the proposal was put forward by the Ross River Kaska Dena and that the no-hunt zone proposal would reflect terms and conditions of First Nations. No response could be given regarding the potential for staking in the areas in question.

Open-house - Watson Lake, February 14, 1995

The open-house at Watson Lake was attended by approximately 50 people, including the Watson Lake Mayor and Council, members of the Watson Lake Chamber of Commerce, and representatives of the Watson Yukon Renewable Resources and DIAND (Water Division). Questions arose concerning the potential for acid rock drainage. A consultant to Cominco discussed the studies on acid rock drainage.

Open-house - Ross River, February 15, 1995

The open-house at Ross River was attended by approximately 40 people, including representatives of DIAND (Lands Division). Chief Norman Sterriah stated that the Ross River Dena Council approved of the way in which environmental concerns were being addressed by Cominco.

Open-house - Whitehorse, February 16, 1995

The open-house in Whitehorse was attended by approximately 150 people, including representatives of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, the Yukon Conservation Society, First Nations, the Whitehorse municipal government, the Government of Canada and the Yukon Territorial Government, and the media. Representatives of Cominco provided information and answered questions, which related to the extent of exploration activities, work required to determine mine feasibility, environmental baseline work, and the regulatory process.

The Federal Territorial Lands Advisory Committee

Cominco presented the AEP to the FTLAC on March 2, 1995. The EARPGO Level I Integrated Screening and Decision Report is attached as Appendix 8.0. The report outlines the parties that were consulted, concerns raised, and recommended mitigation measures that were subsequently implemented.

The main focus of the AEP assessment was on potential environmental impacts associated with construction of the tote road access to the project site from the Robert Campbell Highway. The primary concern centred on the potential for increased access to and hunting pressures on the Finlayson caribou herd and local moose population. As noted earlier in this submission, it was determined that access concerns could be mitigated by restricting access along the tote road through a staffed security station and gate.

Consultation with Liard First Nation

On June 16, 1995, Cominco officials met with the Chief and Council and consultants for the Liard First Nation. During the meeting, an update was presented on the status of the project.

The Regional Environmental Review Committee

Consultation with the Regional Environmental Review Committee (RERC) officially began in July, 1995 with the submission of the Kudz Ze Kayah Project Overview (the Project Overview), which signalled the start of the environmental assessment of the mine project under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA). However, several RERC member agencies have been consulted on the project since the project began and as part of the FTLAC.

The Project Overview was presented to the RERC on August 2, 1995. RERC members and other interested parties participated in a site tour that was held on September 13, 1995. Following the site visit, an RERC meeting was held in Ross River to provide an overview of the project and an update on 1995 exploration and baseline work, discuss the environmental review process and the development of the initial environmental evaluation guidelines.

Several meetings were held throughout the late Summer and Fall of 1995 to discuss technical aspects of the environmental baseline and project components with members of the RERC. These meetings included presentations and discussions on components of the project, which included environment and wildlife baseline studies, tailings site selection, acid rock drainage studies, waste rock and tailings management, water management, reclamation and closure, and cumulative effects. The purpose of the meetings was to provide RERC members and representatives of Ross River with information on Cominco's approach to these issues and gain feedback and direction.

Table 8-1 provides a listing of consultation as of the date of this submission.

Future Consultation

Consultation will continue with representatives of the Yukon and federal governments, Yukon First Nations people affected by the mine project, and other stakeholders through meetings with the RERC and public open houses. This will include presentations to government agencies, and public meetings which will likely be held in Whitehorse, Ross River and Watson Lake in the Winter of 1996. It is anticipated that a hearing of the Yukon Territorial Water Board will be held in the Fall of 1996 pursuant to an application for a Type A Water License.

**TABLE 8-1
KUDZ ZE KAYAH PROJECT
CONSULTATION SUMMARY**

Date of Meeting	Participants	Purpose of Meeting	Place
1994 September 14	Liard First Nation (Liard FN)	discuss exploration work canvas views & concerns on mine development	Two Mile
September 15	Ross River Kaska Dena (RRKD)	discuss exploration work canvas views & concerns on mine development	Whitehorse
November 24-25	YTG-Renewable Resources, DFO, DIAND	project briefing, identify issues and concerns, seek information on permitting	Whitehorse
1995 January 11	Ross River Dena Council (RRDC)	no-hunt zones heritage review of winter trail tote road security	Ross River
February 13	Liard First Nation	provide overview of AEP and environmental baseline studies	Two-Mile
February 14	public	provide overview of AEP and environmental baseline studies	Watson Lake
February 15	Ross River Kaska Dena (RRKD), public	provide overview of AEP and environmental baseline studies	Ross River
February 16	public	provide overview of AEP and environmental baseline studies	Whitehorse
March 2	FTLAC, Ta'an Kwach'an FN Carcross/Tagish FN RRDC Harlan's Tours	provide overview of AEP and environmental baseline studies	Whitehorse
June 16	Liard FN, Chief and Council	project update and status	Two Mile
August 2	RERC	present mine project overview	Whitehorse
August 8	YTG - Renewable Resources YTG(RR) RRKD	wildlife studies	Whitehorse

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CONSULTATION SUMMARY**

September 13	RERC, RRDC, Liard FN	KZK site visit	Kudz Ze Kayah
September 14	RERC, RRKD, public	RERC meeting to discuss EA process, overview of project and environmental baseline studies, IEE guidelines, and receive comments and concerns	Ross River
September 19	RERC-KZK Project Sub-Group, RRDC	discuss tailings impoundment options, ARD studies, and IEE guidelines	Whitehorse
September 20	RRDC	update on environmental baseline studies, tailings dam facilities, airstrip	Ross River
October 25	RERC-KZK project Sub-Group	tailings and waste rock management, dam design, water management, IEE guidelines and cumulative impact assessment	Whitehorse
November 27	DIAND-Assessment YTG(RR) RRKD	discussion of wildlife concerns re: no-hunt zones, transportation	Whitehorse
November 28	RERC-KZK Project Sub-Group, RRDC	water balance/water quality model, reclamation and closure, cumulative effects, socio-economic studies	Whitehorse

SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION FROM WATER LICENCE APPLICATION



**Yukon
Territory
Water Board**

**Office des eaux
du Territoire
du Yukon**

Application QZ97-023
Cominco Ltd.
Kudz Ze Kayah Project

Exhibit 1.4.7a)

Application Report Section 8

CONSULTATION



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QZ97-026

EXHIBIT 1.4

7a)



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