



A TETRA TECH COMPANY

September 30, 2011

ISSUED FOR USE  
EBA FILE: W14101068.037

Minto Explorations Ltd  
Suite 900-999 West Hastings Street  
Vancouver, BC V6C 2W2

**Attention:** Mr. John Knapp, General Manager

**Subject:** Main Waste Dump – 2011 Annual Review, Minto Mine, YT

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

As requested, this letter presents a report by EBA Engineering Consultants Ltd. (EBA) resulting from a site visit completed to examine the current condition of the Main Waste Dump (MWD) at Minto Mine, YT. The intent of the site visit was to provide a geotechnical engineering report on the condition of the dump, in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the existing Quartz Mining Licence QML-0001.

EBA's last inspection of this site was in September 2010. This inspection is summarized in EBA's letter report "Main Waste Dump – 2010 Annual Review, Minto Mine, YT" dated February 11, 2011. EBA has used this background information to assist in assessing the recent performance of the site.

## 2.0 OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Chad Cowan, P.Eng., of EBA's Whitehorse office completed a site visit on August 25, 2011. Specific details are presented below, and are also noted on Figure 1 attached to this letter. Photographs were taken of the MWD during the visit. Selected photos are attached while the remainder are available for review in the EBA files, if desired.

### 2.1 Observations

Observations noted during the site visit are as follows:

- Reclamation of the MWD has started. The upper three benches were being contoured to allow for the placement of overburden reclamation material.
- As noted in the previous observation reports there was one area of slumping identified along southeast perimeter slope of the Main Waste Dump (Photo 4). The minor slumping in this area is still present and appears to have not increased in size. It is also thought that this slumping is attributed to two erosion channels present at the location.
- At the toe of the southern portion of the MWD the drainage ditch has been blocked allowing for ponding of surface runoff.

## 2.2 Recommendations

As noted in the previous EBA observation reports, it is believed that the southeast slumped area is related to erosion channels. This area should be regraded to promote surface water flow away from the area. Furthermore, the area should be monitored on a regular basis by mine personnel to determine whether there is any additional movement. EBA should be notified should conditions change.

The area of ponded water at the toe of the southern portion of the MWD should be re-ditched to allow drainage of this area into the Area 1 Open Pit.

## 3.0 MONITORING INSTRUMENTATION DATA

Two inclinometers (MDI-1 and MDI-2) were installed in February 2010 to provide a means of monitoring the foundation conditions at the southern toe of the Main Waste Dump and the stability of the southwest slope of the Area 1 Open Pit. The instrument locations are shown in Figure 1.

The profiles for the two slope inclinometers MDI-1 and MDI-2 are presented in Figures SI-1 and SI-2, respectively and both indicate some movement towards the Area 1 Open Pit. The MDI-1 profile indicates that there's some movement near the surface within the ROCK fill and SAND TILL fill that site representatives have confirmed was the results of a large 777 Cat haul truck driving over the instrument location in May 2010. The MDI-2 profile indicates that the observed movement of the ROCK fill towards the Area 1 Open Pit has been the result of the removal of the ROCK fill that was placed between the instrument location and the Area 1 Open Pit. EBA will continue to monitor these movements.

## 4.0 LIMITATIONS OF REPORT

This report and its contents are intended for the sole use of Minto Explorations Ltd. and their agents. EBA, A Tetra Tech Company, does not accept any responsibility for the accuracy of any of the data, the analysis, or the recommendations contained or referenced in the report when the report is used or relied upon by any Party other than Minto Explorations Ltd., or for any Project other than the proposed development at the subject site. Any such unauthorized use of this report is at the sole risk of the user. Use of this report is subject to the terms and conditions stated in EBA's General Conditions that are provided in Appendix A of this report.

## 5.0 CLOSURE

We trust this report meets your present requirements. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact the undersigned at your convenience.

Sincerely,  
EBA, A Tetra Tech Company

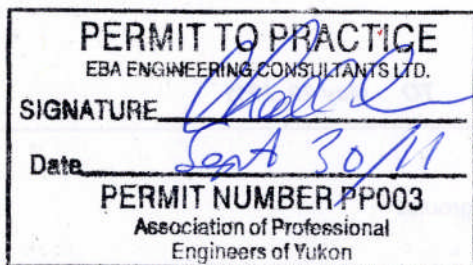


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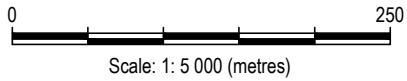
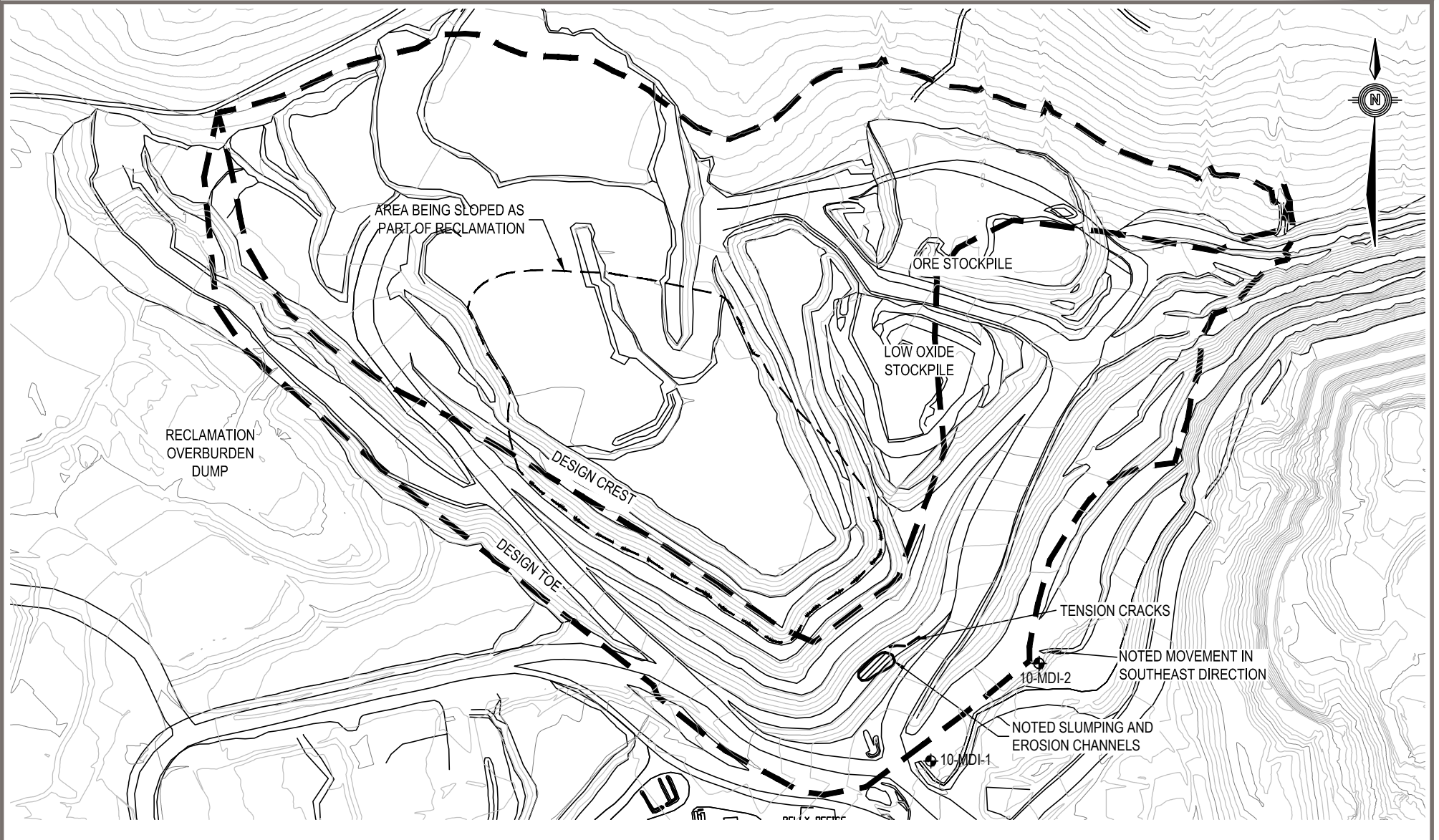
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# FIGURES

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Figure 1	Site Plan Showing Observations and Instrumentation Locations
Figure SI-1	MDI-1 Inclinator Profile
Figure SI-2	MDI-2 Inclinator Profile



STATUS  
ISSUED FOR REVIEW

CLIENT

MINTO EXPLORATIONS LTD.

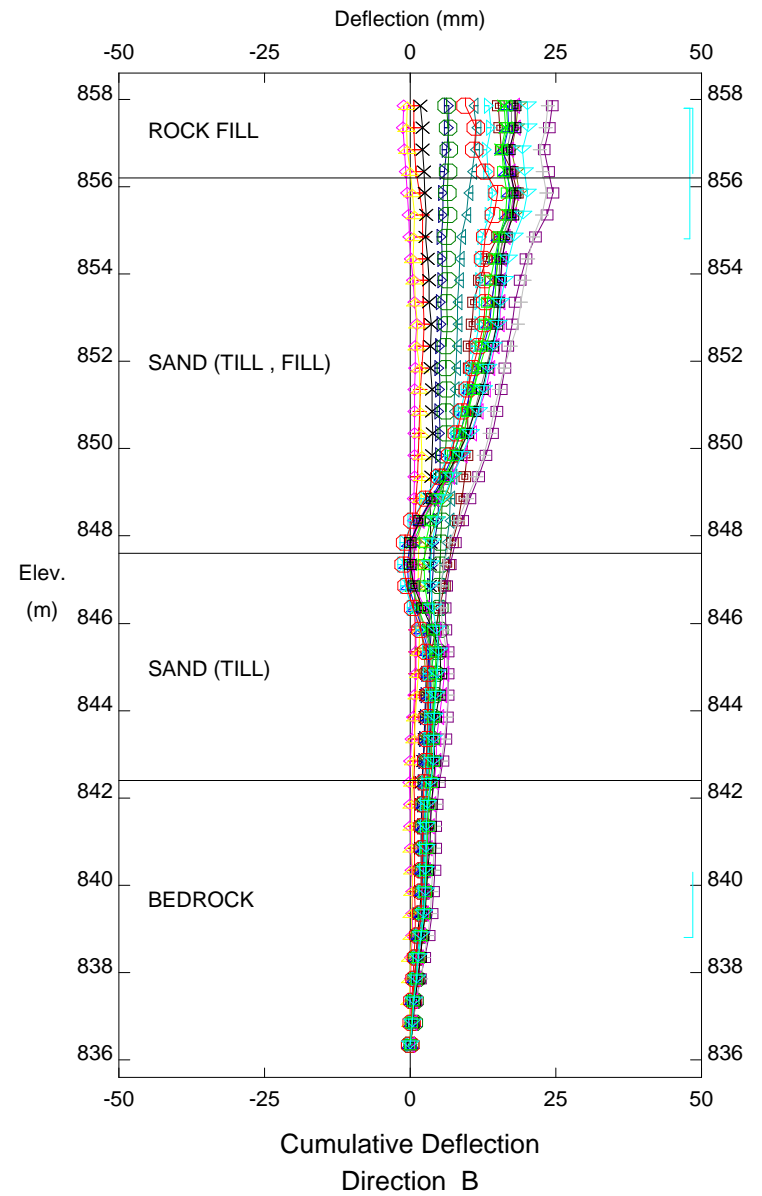
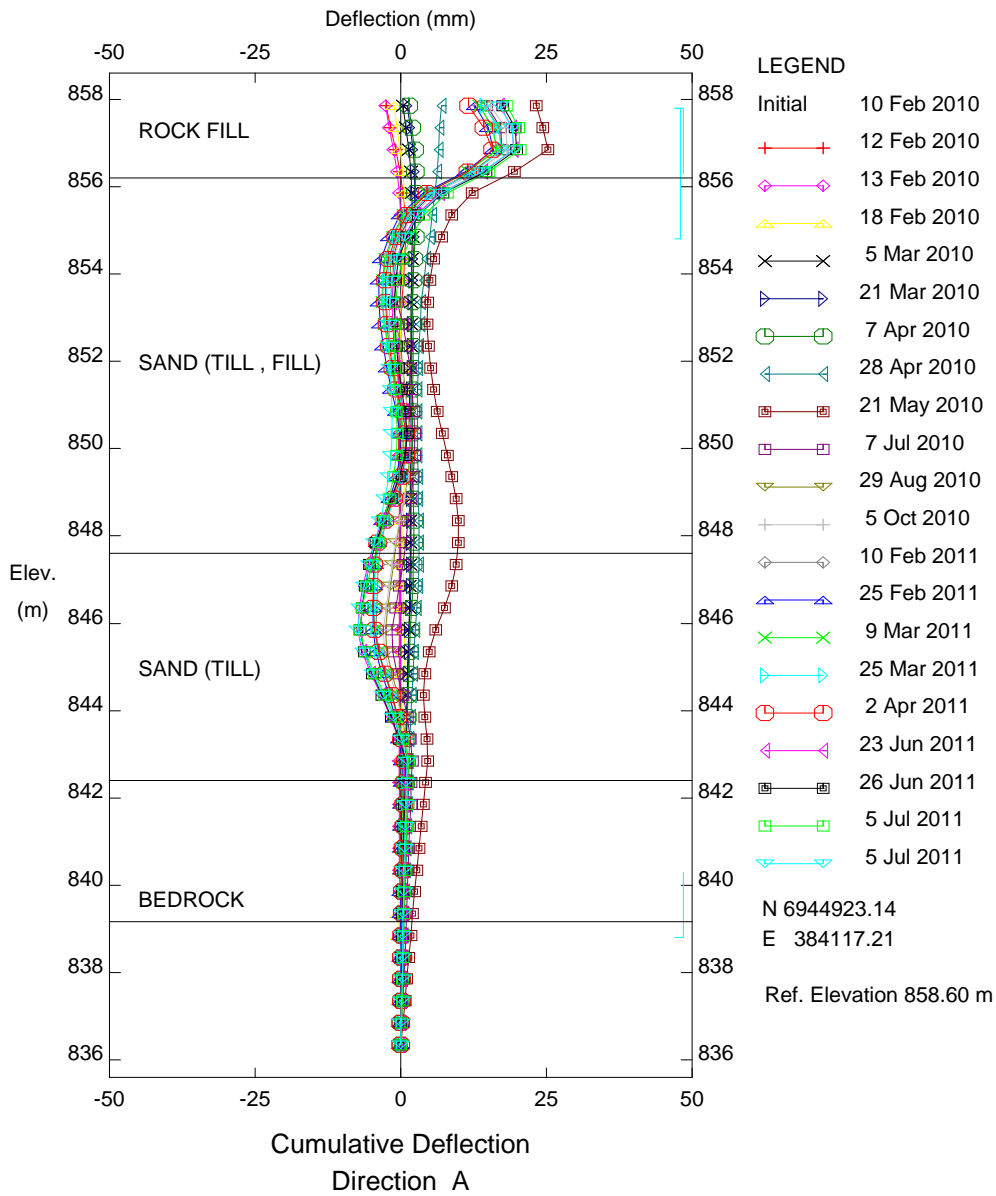


MAIN WASTE DUMP - 2011 ANNUAL REVIEW  
MINTO MINE, YUKON

SITE PLAN WITH OBSERVATIONS  
AND INSTRUMENTATION LOCATIONS

PROJECT NO. W14101068.037	DWN CB	CKD CPC	REV 0
OFFICE EBA-WHSE	DATE September 8, 2011		

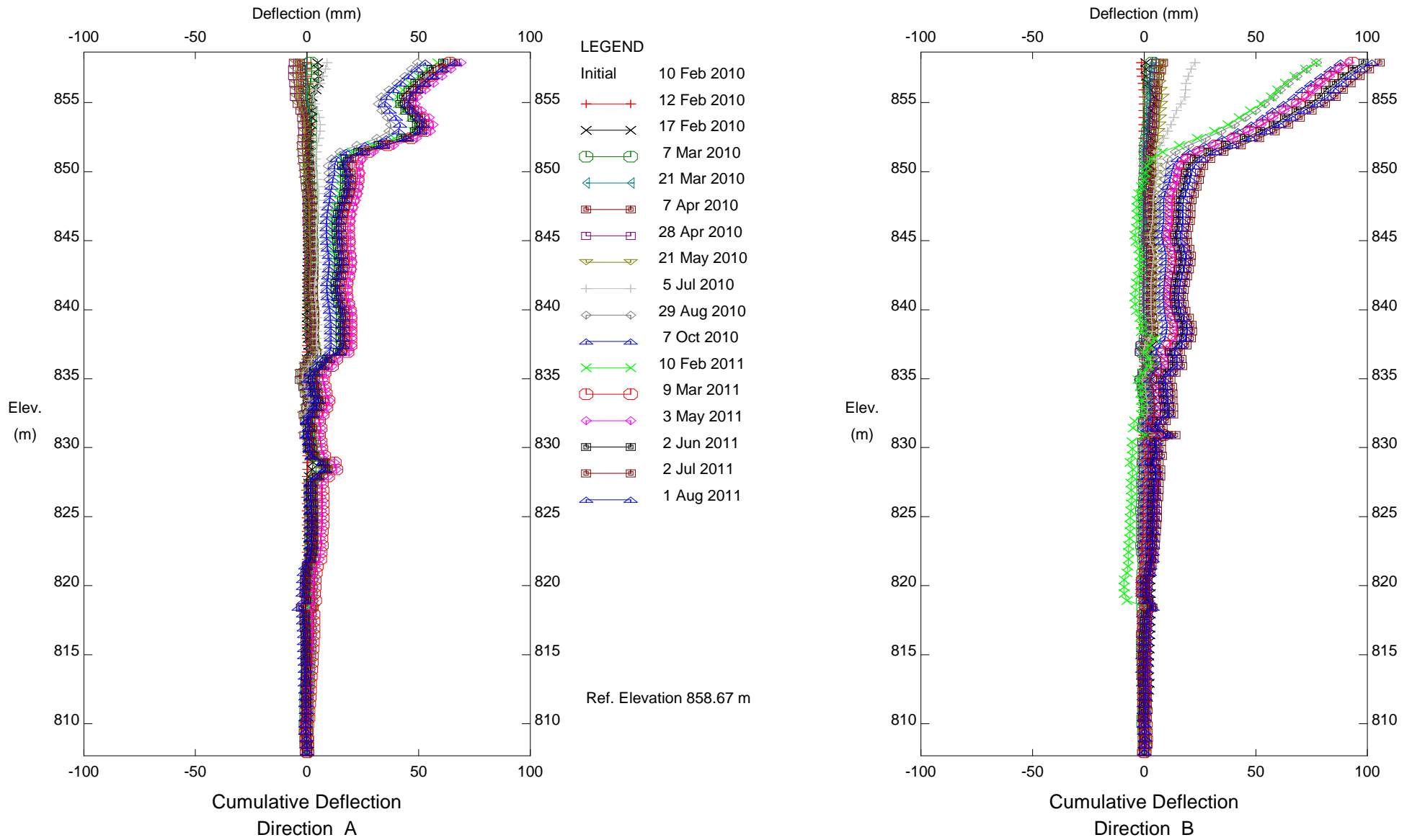
Figure 1



, Inclinometer MDI1  
Main Dump

Figure SI-1





, Inclinator MDI2  
Main Waste Dump

Figure SI-2

# PHOTOGRAPHS

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- Photo 1      Looking along the south west side from the crest of the MWD at the graded slope.
- Photo 2      Graded and levelled surface of MWD.
- Photo 3      Ore and Low Oxide Stockpiles in east portion of MWD.
- Photo 4      Lower benches of the MWD





**Photo 1**

Looking along the south west side from the crest of the MWD at the graded slope. (August 25, 2011)



**Photo 2**

Graded and levelled surface of MWD. (August 25, 2011)





**Photo 3**

Ore and Low Oxide Stockpiles in east portion of MWD. (August 25, 2011)



**Photo 4**

Lower benches of the MWD. (August 25, 2011)

# APPENDIX A

## APPENDIX A GENERAL CONDITIONS

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# GENERAL CONDITIONS

## GEOTECHNICAL REPORT

This report incorporates and is subject to these “General Conditions”.

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### 1.0 USE OF REPORT AND OWNERSHIP

This geotechnical report pertains to a specific site, a specific development and a specific scope of work. It is not applicable to any other sites nor should it be relied upon for types of development other than that to which it refers. Any variation from the site or development would necessitate a supplementary geotechnical assessment.

This report and the recommendations contained in it are intended for the sole use of EBA's Client. EBA does not accept any responsibility for the accuracy of any of the data, the analyses or the recommendations contained or referenced in the report when the report is used or relied upon by any party other than EBA's Client unless otherwise authorized in writing by EBA. Any unauthorized use of the report is at the sole risk of the user.

This report is subject to copyright and shall not be reproduced either wholly or in part without the prior, written permission of EBA. Additional copies of the report, if required, may be obtained upon request.

### 2.0 ALTERNATE REPORT FORMAT

Where EBA submits both electronic file and hard copy versions of reports, drawings and other project-related documents and deliverables (collectively termed EBA's instruments of professional service), only the signed and/or sealed versions shall be considered final and legally binding. The original signed and/or sealed version archived by EBA shall be deemed to be the original for the Project.

Both electronic file and hard copy versions of EBA's instruments of professional service shall not, under any circumstances, no matter who owns or uses them, be altered by any party except EBA. EBA's instruments of professional service will be used only and exactly as submitted by EBA.

Electronic files submitted by EBA have been prepared and submitted using specific software and hardware systems. EBA makes no representation about the compatibility of these files with the Client's current or future software and hardware systems.

### 3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL AND REGULATORY ISSUES

Unless stipulated in the report, EBA has not been retained to investigate, address or consider and has not investigated, addressed or considered any environmental or regulatory issues associated with development on the subject site.

### 4.0 NATURE AND EXACTNESS OF SOIL AND ROCK DESCRIPTIONS

Classification and identification of soils and rocks are based upon commonly accepted systems and methods employed in professional geotechnical practice. This report contains descriptions of the systems and methods used. Where deviations from the system or method prevail, they are specifically mentioned.

Classification and identification of geological units are judgmental in nature as to both type and condition. EBA does not warrant conditions represented herein as exact, but infers accuracy only to the extent that is common in practice.

Where subsurface conditions encountered during development are different from those described in this report, qualified geotechnical personnel should revisit the site and review recommendations in light of the actual conditions encountered.

### 5.0 LOGS OF TESTHOLES

The testhole logs are a compilation of conditions and classification of soils and rocks as obtained from field observations and laboratory testing of selected samples. Soil and rock zones have been interpreted. Change from one geological zone to the other, indicated on the logs as a distinct line, can be, in fact, transitional. The extent of transition is interpretive. Any circumstance which requires precise definition of soil or rock zone transition elevations may require further investigation and review.

### 6.0 STRATIGRAPHIC AND GEOLOGICAL INFORMATION

The stratigraphic and geological information indicated on drawings contained in this report are inferred from logs of test holes and/or soil/rock exposures. Stratigraphy is known only at the locations of the test hole or exposure. Actual geology and stratigraphy between test holes and/or exposures may vary from that shown on these drawings. Natural variations in geological conditions are inherent and are a function of the historic environment. EBA does not represent the conditions illustrated as exact but recognizes that variations will exist. Where knowledge of more precise locations of geological units is necessary, additional investigation and review may be necessary.

## 7.0 PROTECTION OF EXPOSED GROUND

Excavation and construction operations expose geological materials to climatic elements (freeze/thaw, wet/dry) and/or mechanical disturbance which can cause severe deterioration. Unless otherwise specifically indicated in this report, the walls and floors of excavations must be protected from the elements, particularly moisture, desiccation, frost action and construction traffic.

## 8.0 SUPPORT OF ADJACENT GROUND AND STRUCTURES

Unless otherwise specifically advised, support of ground and structures adjacent to the anticipated construction and preservation of adjacent ground and structures from the adverse impact of construction activity is required.

## 9.0 INFLUENCE OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

There is a direct correlation between construction activity and structural performance of adjacent buildings and other installations. The influence of all anticipated construction activities should be considered by the contractor, owner, architect and prime engineer in consultation with a geotechnical engineer when the final design and construction techniques are known.

## 10.0 OBSERVATIONS DURING CONSTRUCTION

Because of the nature of geological deposits, the judgmental nature of geotechnical engineering, as well as the potential of adverse circumstances arising from construction activity, observations during site preparation, excavation and construction should be carried out by a geotechnical engineer. These observations may then serve as the basis for confirmation and/or alteration of geotechnical recommendations or design guidelines presented herein.

## 11.0 DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

Where temporary or permanent drainage systems are installed within or around a structure, the systems which will be installed must protect the structure from loss of ground due to internal erosion and must be designed so as to assure continued performance of the drains. Specific design detail of such systems should be developed or reviewed by the geotechnical engineer. Unless otherwise specified, it is a condition of this report that effective temporary and permanent drainage systems are required and that they must be considered in relation to project purpose and function.

## 12.0 BEARING CAPACITY

Design bearing capacities, loads and allowable stresses quoted in this report relate to a specific soil or rock type and condition. Construction activity and environmental circumstances can materially change the condition of soil or rock. The elevation at which a soil or rock type occurs is variable. It is a requirement of this report that structural elements be founded in and/or upon geological materials of the type and in the condition assumed. Sufficient observations should be made by qualified geotechnical personnel during construction to assure that the soil and/or rock conditions assumed in this report in fact exist at the site.

## 13.0 SAMPLES

EBA will retain all soil and rock samples for 30 days after this report is issued. Further storage or transfer of samples can be made at the Client's expense upon written request, otherwise samples will be discarded.

## 14.0 INFORMATION PROVIDED TO EBA BY OTHERS

During the performance of the work and the preparation of the report, EBA may rely on information provided by persons other than the Client. While EBA endeavours to verify the accuracy of such information when instructed to do so by the Client, EBA accepts no responsibility for the accuracy or the reliability of such information which may affect the report.