



Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

7th Floor - 4910 50th Avenue • P.O. Box 2130
YELLOWKNIFE, NT X1A 2P6
Phone (867) 669-0506 • FAX (867) 873-6610

December 5, 2008

File: MV2008C0020

Ms. Trish Merrithew-Mercredi
Regional Director General
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
PO Box 1500
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2R3

Fax: (867) 669-2703

Dear Ms. Merrithew-Mercredi:

Aurora Resources Inc. – Wrigley Zinc Property – Mineral Exploration

As per INAC's request dated November 6, 2008, the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (the Board) met on December 4, 2008 to consider the preliminary screening associated with the above noted application. This preliminary screening and the draft Land Use Permit conditions are attached for your reference.

Since the determination of consultation on this file remains outstanding, the Board has determined that pursuant to Section 22.(2)(b) of the Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations, that further study still needs to be conducted for this Land Use Permit application. Specifically, the issue that requires further study is as follows:

- The MVLWB is seeking confirmation that the Government of Canada has undertaken appropriate consultation with the Pehdzeh Ki First Nation respecting the alleged infringements upon their Aboriginal and treaty rights.

When the Board receives confirmation from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada that Crown Consultation is adequate in relation to this proposed development, the Board will re-convene to re-consider the application. In the interim, the Board may still proceed with circulating draft Land Use Permit or Water License Terms and Conditions to reviewers for comment. This letter has been copied to Aurora Resources Inc. to notify them of the Board's decision.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Adlem".

Floyd Adlem
A/Chair

Attachments

Copy: Tom Gerke, Aurora Resources Inc.
Distribution List

PRELIMINARY SCREENING REPORT FORM

<p>PRELIMINARY SCREENER: MVLWB REFERENCE / FILE NUMBER: MV2008C0020 TITLE: Mineral Exploration, Wrigley Zinc Property ORGANIZATION: Aurora Resources Inc. MEETING DATE: December 4, 2008</p>	<p>EIRB REFERENCE NUMBER:</p>
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- Type of Development:**
(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)
- New
 - Amend, EIRB Ref. #
 - Requires permit, license or authorization
 - Does not require permit, license or authorization

Project Summary

Aurora Resources Inc. is proposing to conduct a mineral exploration program at their Wrigley Zinc property which is located 13 km west of Wrigley, NT. The coordinates of the project are: minimum latitude 63° 07'00" and maximum latitude: 63°10'00" by minimum longitude: 123°35'00"; maximum longitude: 123°40'00". Aurora Resources Inc. has applied for a Type A land use permit with a 5-year term. The program will include:

- the set up of a 24-man camp;
- domestic water intake from a nearby unnamed lake;
- the construction of an outhouse and graywater sump located outside the catchment area of the unnamed lake;
- the drilling of approximately 90 holes totalling approximately 20,000 meters of coring;
- the excavation of ~30 trenches 15-30 m in length, backfilling immediately after sampling;
- digging of temporary sumps for drilling water;
- the construction of 5 km of new access trails to the work sites;
- a total land use area of 9 hectares;
- re-contouring of the areas affected by machinery to approximate pre-existing topography;
- saving of any topsoil or organic horizon to spread on each site after re-contouring;
- on-site garbage incineration, and the removal of non-combustibles to the Fort Simpson landfill;
- bucking and scattering brush and tree waste, burning if necessary and by permit only; and
- re-seeding and fertilization areas where soil has been disturbed using mixes.

The following equipment will be used on site:

- 4 diamond drills (NQ/HQ, helicopter portable)
- 4 water supply pumps (low volume, high pressure, 1 inch hoses)
- 1 excavator
- 1 tracked bull-dozer or snow-cat
- 1-2 ATV's
- 1 or 2 pick-up trucks
- 1 helicopter (A-star)

The following fuel will be stored at the camp site:

- seventy 200-litre drums of diesel fuel (14,000 litres)
- five 200-litre drums of gasoline (1,000 litres)
- ten 200-litre drums of aviation fuel (2,000 litres)
- ten 100-lb tanks of propane (1,000 lbs)
- two 50lb welding tanks (100 lbs)

Scope

This permit entitles Aurora Resources Inc. to conduct the following activities:

- a) diamond drilling on the following Mineral Claims: T1, T2, T3;
- b) diamond drilling on the following Canada Mining Leases: 3168, 3169;
- c) the establishment of a camp able to support up to 24 people at 63°07'56"N, 123°37'23"W; and
- d) the storage of fuel to support land vehicles and aircraft.

All activities will take place within 63°07'00"N by 63°10'00"N and 123°35'00"W by 123°40'00"W.

Land Use Eligibility - Section 18(a)(i) of the Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations

Type of Disposition	Disposition Number(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mineral Claims	T1, T2, T3
<input type="checkbox"/> Prospecting Permit (s)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Leases	
<input type="checkbox"/> Oil and Gas: EL/SDL/PL	
<input type="checkbox"/> Quarry Permit	
<input type="checkbox"/> Timber Permit	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Mining Leases	3168, 3169

Principal Activities (related to scoping)

(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Construction
 - Installation
 - Maintenance
 - Expansion
 - Operation
 - Repair
 - Research
 - Water Intake
 - Other:
- Exploration
 - Industrial
 - Recreation
 - Municipal
 - Quarry
 - Linear / Corridor
 - Sewage
- Decommissioning
 - Abandonment
 - Aerial
 - Harvesting
 - Camp
 - Scientific/
 - Solid Waste

Principal Development Components (related to scoping)

- Access Road
 - construction
 - abandonment/removal
 - modification e.g., widening, straightening
- Automobile, Aircraft or Vessel Movement
- Blasting
- Building
- Burning
- Burying
- Channelling
- Cut and Fill
- Cutting of Trees or Removal of Vegetation
- Dams and Impoundments
 - construction
 - abandonment/removal
 - modification
- Ditch Construction
- Drainage Alteration
- Drilling other than Geoscientific
- Ecological Surveys
- Excavation
- Explosive Storage
- Fuel Storage
- Topsoil, Overburden or Soil
 - fill
 - disposal
 - removal
 - storage
- Waste Management
 - disposal of hazardous waste
 - waste generation
 - sewage
 - disposal of sewage
- Geoscientific Sampling
- Trenching
- Diamond drill
- Borehole core sampling
- Bulk soil sampling
 - gravel
 - hydrological Testing
- Site Restoration
 - fertilization
 - grubbing
 - planting/seeding
 - reforestation
 - scarify
 - spraying
 - recontouring
- Slashing and removal of vegetation
- Soil Testing
- Stream Crossing/Bridging
- Tunnelling/Underground
- Other:

NTS Topographic Map Sheet Numbers

95O/4

Latitude / Longitude and UTM System:

Minimum latitude 63°07'00" by Maximum latitude 63°10'00"
Minimum longitude 123°35'00" by Maximum longitude 123°40'00"

Nearest Community and Water Body:

Wrigley, NT. (13km) and Wrigley River

Land Status (consultation information)

- Free Hold / Private
- Commissioners Land
- Federal Crown Land
- Municipal Land

Transboundary/Transregional Implications

- British Columbia
- Nunavut
- Wek'èezhii
- Alberta
- Wood Buffalo National Park
- Gwich'in
- Saskatchewan
- Inuvialuit Settlement Region
- Sahtu
- Yukon

Type of Transboundary Implication: Impact / Effect Development

Public Concern: _____
(DESCRIBE)

PHYSICAL - CHEMICAL EFFECTS

IMPACT

1) Ground Water

MITIGATION

**LOCATION OF
CONDITION**

- water table alteration
- water quality changes

The groundwater in the area may be impacted through drilling activities, and/or fuel contamination from the construction of the access road and camp. The containment of non-toxic drill wastes into sumps, the removal of any drill waste containing poisonous or persistent chemical additives to an approved disposal facility should mitigate impacts associated with the drilling activities. The following of fuel storage, handling, and spill protocols should mitigate the environmental risk associated with fuel/oil leaks or spills.

s.26(1)(a),(b),(d),
(e),(f),(g),(i),(m),(o).

- infiltration changes
- other:
- N/A

IMPACT

2) Surface Water

MITIGATION

**LOCATION OF
CONDITION**

- flow or level changes
- water quality changes

Environment Canada requested that water intake for camp and drilling activities should be withdrawn "from non-fish bearing waters, or from larger streams or lakes. Withdrawals from fish bearing waters should not result in any noticeable change in water level, or downstream flows". The proponent has agreed to this request.

The surface water in the area may be impacted through drilling activities, and/or fuel contamination from the construction of the access road and camp. The containment of non-toxic drill wastes into sumps, the removal of any drill waste containing poisonous or persistent chemical additives to an approved disposal facility should mitigate impacts associated with the drilling activities. The following of fuel storage, handling, and spill protocols should mitigate the environmental risk associated with fuel/oil leaks or spills.

s.26(1)(a),(b),(d),
(e),(f),(g),(i),(m),(o).

- water quantity changes
- Drainage pattern changes
- temperature
- wetland changes / loss
- other:
- N/A

IMPACT

3) Noise

MITIGATION

**LOCATION OF
CONDITION**

- noise in/near water
- noise increase
- other:
- N/A

Increases in noise are associated with the construction of the access road and the drilling activities. This impact is reversible.

IMPACT

4) Land

MITIGATION

**LOCATION OF
CONDITION**

- geologic structure changes
- soil contamination

The soils in the area may be contaminated through drilling activities, and/or fuel contamination from the construction of the access road and camp. The containment of non-toxic drill wastes into sumps, the removal of any drill waste containing poisonous or persistent chemical additives to an approved disposal facility should mitigate impacts associated with the drilling activities. The following of fuel storage, handling, and spill protocols should mitigate the environmental risk associated with fuel/oil leaks or spills.

s.26(1)(a),(b),(d),(e),(f),
(g),(i),(m),(o).

- buffer zone loss

- | | | |
|--|--|-------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> soil compaction & settling | Access trail construction may create rutting conditions. The suspension of overland travel at the first signs of rutting mitigates this impact. | s. 26(1)(f) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> destabilization / erosion | Access trail construction may create potential erosion situations. Mitigation measures include the progressive erosion control conditions and the prohibition of fording of wet streams. | s. 26(1)(f) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> permafrost regime alteration | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> explosives/scarring | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other: | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | | |

IMPACT	MITIGATION	LOCATION OF CONDITION
5) Non Renewable Natural Resources		

- resource depletion
- other:
- N/A

IMPACT	MITIGATION	LOCATION OF CONDITION
6) Air/Climate/ Atmosphere		

- other:

There will be localized emissions from the equipment usage associated with the operation of light and heavy equipment. This impact is expected to be short term and reversible. No mitigation.
- N/A

BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

IMPACT	MITIGATION	LOCATION OF CONDITION
1) Vegetation		

- species composition
- species introduction
- toxin / heavy accumulation
- other: Removal

There may be some removal of trees during this project to allow for access trail construction, helicopter landing areas, camp construction, and drill site preparation. No mitigation.
- N/A

IMPACT	MITIGATION	LOCATION OF CONDITION
2) Wildlife & Fish		

- effects on rare, threatened or endangered species

There is a potential for disturbance and attraction of Species at risk through this land use permit operation. Species at Risk are: Woodland Caribou (Boreal population); Peregrine Falcon (*anatum-tundrius* complex2); Olive-sided Flycatcher; Common Nighthawk; Wolverine (Western Population); Grizzly Bear; Rusty Blackbird; Short-eared Owl. Mitigation includes handling of waste/garbage.
- fish population changes
- waterfowl population changes
- breeding disturbance
- population reduction
- species diversity change
- health changes
- behavioural changes

Woodland Caribou and/or other wildlife may avoid or be attracted to the area due to construction and drilling activity. Mitigation includes handling of waste/garbage.

habitat changes / effects

Environment Canada requested that water intake for camp and drilling activities should be withdrawn "from non-fish bearing waters, or from larger streams or lakes. Withdrawals from fish bearing waters should not result in any noticeable change in water level, or downstream flows". The proponent has agreed to this request.

game species effects

toxins / heavy metals

forestry changes

There may be some removal of trees during this project to allow for access trail construction, helicopter landing areas, camp construction, and drill site preparation. No mitigation.

agricultural changes

other:

N/A

INTERACTING ENVIRONMENT

IMPACT

1) Habitat and Communities

MITIGATION

LOCATION OF CONDITION

predator-prey

Environment Canada states that "Camp waste can attract predators of migratory birds (e.g., foxes and ravens) to an area if not disposed of properly. Mitigated through land use permit conditions.

s.26(1)(c),(i)

wildlife habitat / ecosystem composition changes

reduction / removal of keystone or endangered species

removal of wildlife corridor or buffer zone

other:

N/A

IMPACT

2) Social and Economic

MITIGATION

LOCATION OF CONDITION

planning / zoning changes or conflicts

increase in urban facilities or services use

rental house

airport operations / capacity changes

human health hazard

impair the recreational use of water or aesthetic quality

affect water use for other purposes

affect other land use operations

quality of life changes

public concern

other:

PKFN has voiced concern regarding the absence of an Impacts and Benefits Agreement between the proponents and themselves. This impact

cannot be mitigated within the jurisdiction of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

N/A

IMPACT

3) **Cultural and Heritage**

MITIGATION

**LOCATION OF
CONDITION**

- effects to historic property
- increased economic pressure on historic properties
- change to or loss of historic resources
- change to or loss of archaeological resources
- increased pressure on archaeological sites
- change to or loss of aesthetically important site
- effects to aboriginal lifestyle
- other:
- N/A

The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Center states that there is a potential for the activities associated with this land use permit to impact unrecorded archaeological resources. The integrity and protection of any potential archaeological deposits are mitigated through LUP conditions.

s. 26(1)(j)

NOTES:

Consultation

- Pursuant to Section 27 Subsections (a) and (b) of the **Deh Cho First Nations (DCFN)** Interim Measures Agreement, the MVLWB determined that written notice was given to the DCFN and that a reasonable period of time was allowed for DCFN to make representations with respect to the application.
- Pursuant to Schedule 4.1 of the **Northwest Territory Métis Nation (NWTMN)** Interim Measures Agreement, the MVLWB determined that written notice was given to the NWTMN and that a reasonable period of time was allowed for NWTMN to make representations with respect to the application.

PRELIMINARY SCREENER / REFERRING BODY INFORMATION

Original DISTRIBUTION LIST by Fax

DEHCHO REGION

FIRST NATIONS

Chief	TthedzehK'edeli First Nation (JMR)		867-809-2002 or 809-2071
Chief Darcy E. Moses	Pehdzeh Ki First Nation (Wrigley)	23	867-581-3229
Chief Keyna Norwegian	Liidlil Kue First Nation (Ft Simpson)	25	867-695-2665
Interim Grand Chief Jerry Antoine	Deh Cho First Nations	35	867-695-2038
Chief Fred Tesou	Nahanni Butte First Nation	36	867-602-2910
Chief Steven Kotchea	Acho Dene Koe First Nation (Fort Liard)	37	867-770-4144
Chief Dolphus Jumbo	Sambaa K'e Dene Band (Trout Lake)	38	867-206-2828
President Vern Jones	Northwest Territory Métis Nation	45	867-872-2772

COMMUNITIES

Mayor Duncan Canvin	Village of Fort Simpson	17	867-695-2005
Mayor Morris McLeod	Hamlet of Fort Liard	39	867-770-4004

ABORIGINAL ORGANIZATIONS

President Marie Lafferty	Fort Simpson Métis Local #52		867-695-2040
Camilla Zoe-Chocolate	Dene Nation	40	920-2254
Michael Nadli	Deh Cho Land Use Planning Committee	41	867-699-3166
President Ernie McLeod	Fort Liard Métis Local #67	42	867-770-3266
Frank Kotchea	Nahendeh Land & Environmental Services	43	867-770-4573

GOVERNMENT

Lorraine Seale	Environment and Conservation - INAC		669-2701
Darnell McCurdy	South Mackenzie District Office	57	669-2720
Angela Norris	Mineral & Petroleum Resources Directorate	59	669-2705
Julie Jackson	Policy & Planning Directorate – INAC		669-2736
Janice Murphy	Intergovernmental Affairs – INAC		MurphyJ@inac-ainc.gc.ca
Tom Andrews	GNWT - PWNHC	60	873-0205
Glen Mackay	GNWT – PWNHC	60	873-0205
Dave Jones	GNWT - MACA	62	920-6156
Gavin More	GNWT - ENR		Gavin_more@gov.nt.ca 873-4021
Rhonda Batchelor	GNWT - DOT		Rhonda_Batchleor@gov.nt.ca 920-2565
Duane Fleming	GNWT - Health	65	669-7517
Kris Johnson	GNWT – ITI		873-0645
Josephine Simms	WCB	67	873-4596
Mike Fournier	Environment Canada	66	873-8185
	DFO	68	669-4940

OTHERS

<i>Mandell Pinder, Barrister & Solicitors</i>	<i>(Ka'a'gee Tu First Nation)</i>		604-681-0959
Alan Harris	Beaver Enterprises Ltd. Partnership	43	867-770-4573
Rick Phanuef	Dev. Corp Mgr Sambaa K'e(Trout Lake)	44	867-874-4505
Peter Redvers	Research Cons. Sambaa K'e		867-920-4540 predvers@ssimicro.com
	Nahanni National Park Reserve	46	867-695-2446
Katherine Cumming	Parks Canada	47	204-983-0031
Administration	CPAWS		nwtadmin@cpaws.org
Vern Christensen	MVEIRB	50	766-7074

