



Our Reference: Continuity Nbr.: VA101-01/8-A.01 V5-0408

April 14, 2005

Mr. Chris Carr Ministry of Energy and Mines Mining Operations Branch P.O. Box 9320 Stn Prov Govt Victoria, B.C. V8W 9N3

Dear Chris,

MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINES

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REC'D MAY 0 2 2005

Mount Polley Mine Tailings Storage Facility Re: Design of the Tailings Storage Facility to Ultimate Elevation

The following are responses to your questions concerning the Design of the Tailings Storage Facility to Ultimate Elevation at Mount Polley Mine, (Ref. No. VA101-1/8-1).

1. With respect to till core construction during cold weather conditions there is no mention of the need to scarify the frozen surface prior to placing the next lift.

The till core surface during construction is typically irregular and rough from tire rutting, sequencing of fill placement, and protruding cobbles and gravel. All ice, snow and loose frozen fill materials must be removed from compacted fill surfaces prior to placing subsequent lifts but scarifying the frozen surface prior to placing the next lift is not required and does not present a stability concern.

2. Glaciolacustrine deposit is noted in GW96-1A on cross-sections 9 and 10. The material is described as firm. What are the characteristics and extent of this deposit and could it have an influence on dam stability locally?

The glaciolacustrine deposit encountered in GW96-1A and shown on cross-sections 9 and 10 consists of glaciolacustrine layers (silt, some clay) with lesser fine-grained glaciofluvial layers (sand). The material was described as firm based on an SPT N value of 6. The glaciolacustrine unit encountered within the TSF basin is a continuous unit near the Main Embankment, but is only present as thin, discontinuous layers within the glacial till unit to the northeast near the Perimeter Embankment. This was investigated during development of the original borrow area during the initial Stage 1 construction program which involved excavating approximately 50 testpits and drilling approximately 22 hollow and solid stem auger holes on a 50 m grid pattern. The location of the original borrow area is illustrated on Drawing 1627.001. The borrow area was also inspected during Stage 2 construction. These investigations confirm that the glaciolacustrine deposit encountered in GW96-1A is a discontinuous unit and will not adversely affect the dam stability.









We trust that this meets your requirements at present. Please call me at the office if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

KNIGHT, PIESQLD LTD. 15/05 Line 00 Les Galbraith P. Eng.

Senior Engineer

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Ken Brouwer, P.Eng. Managing Director

Encl: Drawing 1627.001 Rev 0

Geological Investigations - Location Plan

cc: Ron Martel, Mount Polley Mining Corporation

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