



Province of
British Columbia

Ministry of
Energy, Mines and
Petroleum Resources

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004476

MEMORANDUM

To: Ralph McGinn
Chief Inspector of Mines

1223
WRS - cc Peto
Date: 1600a December 21, 1988

Our File: 20105-20/bearcub
Liquor
VAP Please do
Review report
RM

Re: Bearcub Feldspar Project (Brenda Mines Ltd.)

A review conducted on the analyses of samples taken at the Bearcub property near Lumby indicates several samples with thorium and uranium levels in excess of 0.05%, some by as much as a factor of 5 (see attached table from Appendix 2-J, R. Allan 1985).


These samples were taken and analyzed during the 1985 exploration season, which pre-dates the passing of the current **Exploration Regulation - Uranium and Thorium**. However, this is not the first property which has provided such information. You will recall that, at the Cominco Aley property, a very similar situation existed. It was decided by the (then) acting Assistant Deputy Minister, following discussions with our Branch and company representatives, that, if Cominco wished to proceed with further exploration or development of that property, it would be designated under the **Exploration Regulation**.

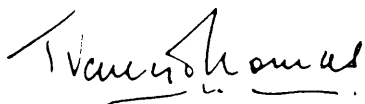
It is recommended, therefore, that those claims on the Bearcub property on which the reported uranium and/or thorium values are in excess of 0.05% be considered for designation if the proponent (Brenda) wishes to proceed with further exploration and/or development on the property. However, a meeting with the proponent to discuss further exploration data requirements is recommended prior to designating the sites. Ray Crook, Manager, Development Approvals, should assume responsibility for coordinating further communication with the proponent. In addition, both Geological Survey Branch staff and the District Inspector should conduct a site investigation and verify the distribution and values of radioactive materials.

With respect to further exploration if the sites are to be designated, the proponent should be advised of the requirements of the **Exploration Regulation - Uranium and Thorium**, and the need to submit a special Notice of Work (Schedule B). According to the Bearcub prospectus, the development would annually produce 50 to 100 thousand tonnes of feldspar, with silica and mica by-products, but no uranium. Thus, the federal **Uranium and Thorium Mining Regulations** would not apply to this project. On the other hand, the Province currently has no mining regulations which could be applied to this project. I suggest that either the proponent delineate and exclude from further exploration or development those parts of the Bearcub

property where uranium/thorium presence may exceed 0.05%, or the Province establish mining regulations using the federal regulations as initial guidelines. Drafting of these provincial regulations should await the results of further discussions with the proponent, and a clearer indication of the extent of radioactive materials. Meanwhile, further mine review should be handled under the MDRP, and the federal mining regulations should be used as an interim guide to the information requirements to be satisfied in a Stage I submission. In addition, the AECB should be contacted to determine whether or not it should be a major participant in the future review of this project.

In summary, then, considerable public concern has been expressed as a result of the lifting of the Uranium Moratorium in 1987. Due to the public and political sensitivity which may result if the property is designated, I recommend that the MDSC maintain full control and responsibility for this project, with the exception of further exploration approvals, which can be handled by District staff, based on the Province's **Exploration Regulation**. In other words, review of the mine development should not be regionalized.

By copy of this letter and the accompanying Bearcub appendix material, I am requesting that the Geological Survey Branch review the material and provide you with its perspective. Vic Preto is already somewhat aware of the status of the Bearcub project. 



T. Vaughan-Thomas, P. Eng.
 Manager
 Health and Safety Standards

TVT/NR:djt

Attachment: Summary of samples collected at the
 Bearcub property, J.R. Allen, 1985

cc: Bruce McRae
 Ray Crook
 Ron Smyth (including 6 volumes of appendices)
 Ed Sadar

From J.F. ALLAN, 1985
APPENDIX 2

B - SAMPLES COLLECTED DURING THE PROPERTY EXAMINATION

Sample Number	Assay Number	Radio. cps (Urtec 135)	Analysis (ppm)																	
			Be	Sn	Nb	Zr	U	Th	La	Ce	Y	Rb	Sr	Ba	Li	Sb	Ta	Ca	W	F
1	1519	170	NOT ANALYZED				200	560	315	660	1400	NOT ANALYZED								
2	1520	245	1.4	<5	<5	1026	110	281	125	265	1055	120	75	80	129	<2	3	<5	3	340
3	1521	220	NOT ANALYZED				190	796	465	965	2195	NOT ANALYZED								
4	1522 *	120	0.9	<5	23	58	1	64	36	69	47	215	170	420	128	<2	7	<5	4	420
5	1523 *	110	1.8	<5	10	77	1	39	<5	<5	57	250	175	390	131	<2	3	<5	4	260
6	1524	750	NOT ANALYZED				74	2119	1235	3200	3370	NOT ANALYZED								
7	1525	1150	0.5	<5	<5	3490	130	2869	1235	3200	7460	70	175	210	62	<2	3	<5	4	210

*Non-radioactive white pegmatite

WHOLE ROCK ANALYSIS

Assay Number	Analysis (%)											Y (ppm)
	Al ₂ O ₃	CaO	Fe ₂ O ₃	K ₂ O	LOI	MgO	MnO	Na ₂ O	P ₂ O ₅	SiO ₂	TiO ₂	
1519	NOT ANALYZED											
1520	6.20	0.30	1.60	2.40	0.35	0.10	0.13	1.20	0.08	87.00	<0.05	1055
1521	NOT ANALYZED											
1522 *	14.20	1.00	1.30	5.20	0.60	0.30	0.04	3.40	0.04	74.00	0.10	47
1523 *	15.30	0.85	1.20	6.50	0.55	0.25	0.12	3.30	0.03	71.50	0.10	57
1524	NOT ANALYZED											
1525	3.80	0.20	0.15	1.80	0.35	0.15	0.02	1.00	0.45	88.00	0.10	7460

*Non-radioactive white pegmatite