

Laredo
884797

TGS → Reg. Mgr.
→ Smithers

Schroeter, Tom EM:EX

From: Bergen, Wally EM:EX
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2000 11:26 AM
To: Adams, Rick; Anderson, Duane; Beswick, Ed; Booth, Richard; Braidwood, Brian; Carter, Tom; Cheetham, Pat; Clancy, John; Curtis, Ross; EM MB Smithers DL; Errington, John; Finvers, Maija; German, Gerald; Hall, Ted; Harris, Grace; Hermann, Fred; Hesketh, Joan; Hoffman, Al; Jorgensen, Sharon; Lieutard, Denis; McKillop, Greg; McLaren, Graeme; Phelan, Bill; Readshaw, Kerry; Schroeter, Tom; Starks, Terri; Stewart, Gregg; Stewart, Linda; Whale, Andrew
Subject: NW Region Weekly report to January 7, 2000

MINING

Red Mt
Wheaton River Minerals Ltd. announced that its 89% owned subsidiary, North American Metals Corp., has reached agreement with Pricewaterhouse Coors Inc., the interim receiver of Royal Oak Mines Inc., to purchase the Red Mountain gold project. The purchase price is \$413,360. Red Mountain is an advanced gold project located 18 kilometres east of Stewart. The company has indicated that they are investigating milling options in the Stewart area and are also considering moving their mill from Golden Bear, once that project is completed. The project would operate May to October with a projected 5 year span. The project would require EA certification.

Cassiar is moving towards production and is in the process of meeting permitting requirements. The company has been advised of items which need to be addressed and have indicated that they will be resolved.

Laredo
North Pacific Stone (Laredo) are revising their site plans to accommodate concerns identified by Federal agencies. NPS met with DFO and Environment Canada prior to Xmas and apparently identified solutions to many of the outstanding concerns. The company is revising their proposal to reflect these discussions and plan to submit shortly for permitting.

Endako has been on reduced production for the last 5 days due to a breakdown of their crusher. They anticipate completing repairs this evening and being back into full production.

Reg
International Skyline has indicated some difficulties in their restructuring process. The company maintains that they will proceed with reclamation at Johnny Mountain this summer. This will be monitored to ensure that activity starts.

FIRST NATION

Further Gitksan discussions were held on December 16 and 17 seeking to arrive at a consultation agreement. The Gitksan have requested information regarding a broad range of topics in relation to the ministry and responses are being coordinated with John Clancy. The Gitksan are interested in being briefed regarding the ministry consultation guidelines and this is being scheduled.

LAND USE PLANNING

The Cassiar Iskut/Stikine LRMP is progressing towards consensus from the table. The last round of meetings identified recommendations for substantial areas, although there are several areas with high mineral potential that have not been resolved. Also, there are concerns regarding the % area of land that is being identified for protection. An approximation indicates that up to 28% of the LRMP area (depending on currently unresolved areas) is proposed for protection.

EXPLORATION

Silvertip has commenced underground drilling on January 5 as a part of their deposit definition program.

OTHER

RockTalk in Smithers is scheduled for February 28 to March 1 in Smithers. Speakers are being identified and a field trip to Huckleberry is planned. For more info contact Paul Wojdak.

TOS → Roy. M. 11
- Smithers

Schroeter, Tom EM:EX

From: Bergen, Wally EM:EX
Sent: Friday, November 26, 1999 2:24 PM
To: Adams, Rick; Anderson, Duane; Beswick, Ed; Booth, Richard; Braidwood, Brian; Carter, Tom; Castillo, Talitha; Cheetham, Pat; Clancy, John; Curtis, Ross; EM MB Smithers DL; Errington, John; Finvers, Maija; German, Gerald; Hall, Ted; Hermann, Fred; Hesketh, Joan; Hoffman, Al; Jorgensen, Sharon; Lieutard, Denis; McKillop, Greg; McLaren, Graeme; Phelan, Bill; Readshaw, Kerry; Schroeter, Tom; Starkes, Terri; Stewart, Gregg; Stewart, Linda; Whale, Andrew
Subject: NW Region Weekly Report to November 26, 1999

MINING

North Pacific Stone and the Laredo project on Aristazabal Island was the subject of a meeting of the NWMDRC held on November 23. The proponents outlined work completed regarding a wide range of topics, including TEM mapping, a 30 hole Winkie drill deposit definition program and various site configurations for quarry phasing and reclamation, camp location and access road. The proponent had specific concerns regarding CEAA triggers in relation to their proposed camp location and also in relation to Navigable Waters triggers for a bridge crossing. The proponent was seriously considering modifying the quarry site footprint to eliminate the areas which would trigger CEAA or NW's. They indicated that they were very pleased with the assistance of the agencies and their staff and anticipated submitting applications in the new year.

Eskay Creek Mine is proceeding with information gathering and presentations in relation to their entrance into the EA process to seek certification for subaqueous disposal of mill tailings into Tom MacKay Lake. On November 25 the mine provided an overview of the proposal to the NWMDRC and outlined their current thinking regarding tailings into Tom Makay and waste rock into Albino Lake, tailings slurry pipelines to Tom MacKay Lake and long term mine planning. The mine has provided public presentations in Telegraph Creek, Dease lake, Iskut and in Smithers. They are also very enthusiastic about a triple walled, insulated slurry pipeline which provides for several types of line monitoring. The slurry line could be a first time application of this technology.

Homestake - Snip provided a summary of reclamation activities to the NWMDRC on November 25. They overviewed all aspects of closure and reclamation work to date, including capping of the tailings pond, equipment and building removal, cement bulkhead closure of portals, and ongoing monitoring of the site. The company will be providing ongoing monitoring reporting and will be identifying contingencies should any of the current remediation not work or meet standards.

A gravel pit south of Burns Lake was shut down on Nov.3th, for operating without a permit. The pit adjoins a MoTH pit and until recently, had not been recognized as a separate pit. Several requests to file a NoW had been sent during the summer, but all phone calls and letters were ignored by the owner. A late fall inspection found the pit active, with several trucks moving material to a commercial building site. After initially threatening court action, the owner has realized that the most expeditious manner to get the operation running again is to comply with the Mines Act. Permitting is now in process for the pit.

RECLAMATION

On November 24 the Premier Water Standards sub-committee met. This is primarily a MELP group and their purpose in meeting was to identify receiving water quality standards in relation to discharge from Premier Mine.

From October 18 to November 10 Silver standard Resources worked at collecting spilled tailings around the perimeter of the Duthie tailings pond site. All tailings that could be found around the perimeter of the area was consolidated within the tailings area and surface ditching was completed around the area to eliminate surface flows into the area. About 500 metres of Henderson creek channel was reestablished to try and ensure the creek does not again flow through the tailings area. 14 inch Big O pipe is on site for collecting subsurface drainage but digging of the collection ditch will not be done until next year.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

TBS → Wojdak

Schroeter, Tom EM:EX

From: Schroeter, Tom EM:EX
Sent: Monday, November 15, 1999 8:09 AM
To: Wojdak, Paul EM:EX
Subject: RE: 1999 Major Projects

Thanks. Tom.

From: Wojdak, Paul EM:EX
Sent: Monday, November 15, 1999 8:07 AM
To: Schroeter, Tom EM:EX
Subject: RE: 1999 Major Projects

Yes, the exploration program should be over by end of November. Program has been expanded and budget seems to be adrift. Am going to try and get firm number in next week or two.
P.

From: Schroeter, Tom EM:EX
Sent: Monday, November 15, 1999 7:32 AM
To: Wojdak, Paul EM:EX
Subject: RE: 1999 Major Projects

Complete the \$ by Dec. 31/99? Tom.

From: Wojdak, Paul EM:EX
Sent: Friday, November 12, 1999 3:43 PM
To: Schroeter, Tom EM:EX
Subject: 1999 Major Projects

Tom,
I have decided to add Laredo (limestone) to my list of majors. North Pacific Stone is doing a Winkie drill program right now. I suspect they will be close to \$100,000.
Paul

Schroeter, Tom EM:EX

TGS -> Reg. Mr
- Smithers

From: Bergen, Wally EM:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 04, 1999 3:46 PM
To: Adams, Rick; Anderson, Duane; Beswick, Ed; Booth, Richard; Braidwood, Brian; Carter, Tom; Castillo, Talitha; Cheetham, Pat; EM MB Smithers DL; Errington, John; Finvers, Maija; German, Gerald; Hall, Ted; Hermann, Fred; Hesketh, Joan; Hoffman, Al; Jorgensen, Sharon; Lieutard, Denis; McKillop, Greg; McLaren, Graeme; Phelan, Bill; Readshaw, Kerry; Schroeter, Tom; Starkes, Terri; Stewart, Gregg; Stewart, Linda; Whale, Andrew
Subject: NW Region Weekly Report to November 4, 1999

Laredo ✓

MINING

North Pacific Stone/Laredo Limestone is proceeding with site investigation and data gathering in preparation of submitting applications for the various permits required to operate a limestone quarry. They are scheduled to present their work to date to the NWMDRC on November 23, with the intention of moving towards submitting permit applications early in 2000.

On November 25 Eskay Mine will be meeting with the NWMDRC to present their work from over the summer investigating Tom McKay Lake as a sub-aqueous disposal site for tailings. On the evening of the 24th the mine is having an Open House presentation of the proposal in Smithers as a part of the EA review process.

The Golden Bear mine had a very successful season and is looking forward to developing the Kodiak B zone next year as well as finishing off the Ursa Pit. Kodiak A ore on the Fleece Bowl heap leach pad is undergoing detoxification and is expected to be completed next year. Also at Golden Bear, on October 27 an employee walked away from a fueling situation and then forgot to turn off the fuel nozzle. Approximately 1900 L of diesel fuel was spilled. Due to freezing temperature and frozen ground conditions about 1850 L was recovered. The contaminated soils were picked up and removed to the burn and residual fuel burned.

Cassiar ✓

Cassiar Mines and Metals are progressing with dry mill refurbishing and start-up. The company is about four weeks behind schedule on time but on budget. Concerns now relate to weather. Heat for the building has historically been derived from the running machinery. Company is confident it will be up and running in December.

FIRST NATIONS

Two representatives from Taku River/Tlinget First Nation technical staff visited the Regional office for 2 days last week to get an in-depth overview of ministry processes. They were briefed on matters relating to the NWMDRC, geology, MX Code, permitting, occupational health and safety, reclamation, ARD and land use planning. The representatives indicated that the information was helpful. The briefings are a part of the ongoing discussions regarding Tulsequah Chief.

RECLAMATION

International Skyline Skyline Gold Corp. is proceeding with their reorganization slower than expected. It now appears that the new company being created will have seat on the Vancouver Stock Exchange rather than the Toronto Exchange. This change will not effect current plans to reclaim the Johnny Mountain site next year.

Premier Mine site - Discussions with Geotechnical Section has raised concerns regarding the proposed tailings impoundment design. Conclusion so far is that Boliden have not demonstrated (due to a lack of materials characterization) that a water cover is required for the tailings. The proposed design for a flooded impoundment is unacceptable from a geotechnical perspective. Comments to be forwarded to the company by Geotechnical next week.

Duthie - Remediation work is underway at the Duthie site to clean up "escaped tailings" and move them back within the impoundment area. Weather permitting the drainage control ditching and diversion ditching will be

Schroeter, Tom EM:EX

From: Bergen, Wally EM:EX
Sent: Friday, October 01, 1999 2:53 PM
To: Adams, Rick; Anderson, Duane; Beswick, Ed; Booth, Richard; Braidwood, Brian; Carter, Tom; Castillo, Talitha; Cheetham, Pat; EM MB Smithers DL; Errington, John; Finvers, Maija; German, Gerald; Hall, Ted; Hermann, Fred; Hesketh, Joan; Hoffman, Al; Jorgensen, Sharon; Lunam, Charene; McKillop, Greg; McLaren, Graeme; Phelan, Bill; Schroeter, Tom; Starkes, Terri; Stewart, Gregg; Stewart, Linda; Whale, Andrew
Subject: NW Region Weekly Report to October 1, 1999

MINING

North Pacific Stone / Laredo Limestone is proceeding with data gathering at their site on Aristazabal Island in preparation for submitting applications for permitting. The company has retained Pomeroy and Neil Consulting Inc. to handle environmental/permitting aspects of the project. Their subconsultants will be C.E. Jones & Associates (TEM, Soil Survey, reclamation planning) and Archipelago (Freshwater Aquatics and Marine). Environmental field programs are planned over the first half of October and additional drilling is planned to begin on Monday (October 4). Pomeroy and Neil will be in contact with MEM and B.C. Environment staff regarding field work and permitting information requirements. Information will be conveyed to the NWMDRC as it becomes available.

Eskay Creek Mine has worked over the summer collecting field data regarding their proposal to use Tom Mackay Lake for under water disposal of tailings. Reports summarizing the field work as well as proposed routes from the mine to the lake are being prepared and will be presented shortly. The mine anticipates making a formal presentation to the NWMDRC in early November.

FIRST NATIONS

Paul Wojdak, in conjunction with Dan Ethier, a local geologist/pro prospector, are preparing to give an "Introduction to Prospecting" workshop to the Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en First Nations on October 12 to 15 and October 19 to 22. The course provides an overview of geology, mineral identification, prospecting techniques, permitting and includes a field trip.

On October 27 a delegation of 13 Wet'suwet'en elders and chiefs visited Huckleberry Mine to view the operation and to see the tailings dam first hand. This was the first visit by a delegation of the Wet'suwet'en to the site since the mine opened. The Wet'suwet'en have voiced concerns regarding movement within the tailings dam as it is being constructed. Many of the concerns which the Wet'suwet'en had were answered on site and it was agreed that there should be further opportunities to discuss outstanding concerns.

RECLAMATION

Reclamation work is complete at the Sulphurets site (100 kilometers north of Stewart). All buildings have been buried or removed, the portal plugged, ARD rock moved and deposited underwater and any hazardous or salvageable material hauled out for disposal and/or disposition. Periodic water quality monitoring is scheduled to occur. At the same time approximately 40 barrels of various petroleum and mine chemicals were hauled out of the Catear Resources site for disposal.

Discussions are ongoing with International Skyline in relation to reclamation of their Johnny Mountain site (120 kilometers northwest of Stewart). The site is currently underscored for reclamation bonding and the company is in the process of conveying the value of above ground equipment to MEM as security. The company is also in the process of preparing a comprehensive reclamation plan. This is the result of an order which was served on the company to proceed with reclamation.

LAND USE PLANNING

The Tweedsmuir Recreation Area is still in the process of being resolved. Wording regarding an agreement for referrals and consultation regarding MEM work within the Mineral/Wildlife Management Zone was resolve

TOS → Reg. Mgr. Smithers

Schroeter, Tom EM:EX

From: Bergen, Wally EM:EX
Sent: Friday, June 25, 1999 1:26 PM
To: Adams, Rick; Anderson, Duane; Beswick, Ed; Booth, Richard; Braidwood, Brian; Carter, Tom; Castillo, Talitha; Cheetham, Pat; EM MB Smithers DL; Errington, John; Finvers, Maija; German, Gerald; Hall, Ted; Hermann, Fred; Hesketh, Joan; Hoffman, Al; Jorgensen, Sharon; Lunam, Charene; McKillop, Greg; McLaren, Graeme; Phelan, Bill; Ross, Paul; Schroeter, Tom; Starkes, Terri; Stewart, Gregg; Stewart, Linda; Whale, Andrew
Subject: NW Region Weekly Report to June 25, 1999

MINING

Endako mine will be closed from June 30 to August 2, 1999, for annual leave, maintenance and inventory reduction. Approximately 25 people will be on site performing maintenance. This temporary closure was a part of the Job Protection package.

On June 18, 1999, the NWMDRC received a presentation from Eskay Creek mine regarding moving sub-aqueous disposal of mine tailings from Albino Lake to Tom MaKay Lake. The mine has identified sufficient ore reserves to extend the mine life until the end of 2008. With expanded ore reserves and increased milling production it is anticipated that Albino Lake does not have sufficient capacity for the volume of material to be disposed of sub-aqueously. The application to amend the EA certificate will be coordinated by Norm Ringstad and it is anticipated that it will proceed in a timely manner, as did the application for Albino Lake.

Silvertip Mining Corporation has announced that they are putting their application to the EAO for certification for the Silvertip Mine on hold until metal prices improve.

At the NWMDRC meeting held on June 17, 1999, the Committee agreed to recommend to the EAO that the EA certificate for Larado Limestone on Aristazabal Island be extended for 3 years.

Emile Brokx has announced that he is retiring as General Manager for Huckleberry Mine. A replacement has yet to be announced.

Verdstone and Molycor (John Chapman) indicated that Thompson Creek Mining - Endako Mine were not interested in pursuing involvement in the Unity moly proposal on Hudson Bay mountain. Discussions are still underway with imperial Metals to see if they are interested in accepting between 500 and 1000 tons per day of Yorke-Hardy ore to Huckleberry.

EXPLORATION

The Harmony Project by Misty Mountain Gold, part of the Hunter Dickinson Group of companies, is on hold with the project for sale. Testing of alternative methods for gold recovery were not able to identify practical gold recovery processes. Environmental concerns could not be eliminated; ARD from waste rock, mercury would still be issues.

RECLAMATION

On June 17, 1999, the NWMDRC met with representatives from Silver Standard Resources Inc. to discuss ongoing reclamation of the Duthie Mine site on the backside of Hudson Bay Mountain. The company is proposing to install perimeter diversion drainage ditches to direct ground water away from the historic tailings and to seal and cap the tailings to minimize surface water from passing through the tailings. The proposal is in the final stages of evaluation and work on the tailings clean-up may commence late summer.

Noranda Mines is addressing concerns regarding soil and water quality associated with the loading yards for the now closed Bell Copper Mine. The transshipment point from truck to rail was used for several years and there are concerns that sufficient concentrate was spilled to lead to copper drainage into the upper Bulkley River. Noranda has hired Morrow Consultants to replace an earlier consultant, who had not commenced work on the evaluation.