



TOS → Cinola

887914

**ENERGY & MINERALS DIVISION
MINISTRY OF EMPLOYMENT & INVESTMENT**

**3793 Alfred Avenue
Smithers, B.C.
V0J 2N0**

**Telephone: (604) 847-7391
Fax: (604)847-7603**

Facsimile Transmission Note

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: Bob Lane, Mike Cathro, Robert Pinsent, Paul Wilton

FAX NO:

FROM: Paul Wojdak

DATE: February 27

TRANSMITTING 3 pages (Including cover sheet)

ORIGINALS TO BE MAILED: Yes No x

MESSAGE:

Fellow Regional Geologists:

Attached is my letter response to Mark Rebagliati regarding my Mine and Exploration Review. Please treat it as confidential within your office and preferably just between you and your manager.

I have sent it to you because the problems and issues are very pertinent to our recent discussion about editing and publishing Exploration in B.C. I hope that regional managers and Fred Hermann will be sufficiently impressed with potential heartaches that they will lend financial and support staff support toward publication of a "new" Exploration in B.C. (or whatever it might be called).

Perhaps his encounter with "Ragbag" accounts for his change in attitude aimed at regaining control of Exploration in B.C. , as per my E-mail of yesterday.

Paul
Paul Wojdak



February 26, 1979

Mark Rebagliati
 Hunter Dickinson Group
 1020 - 800 W. Pender Street
 Vancouver, B.C.
 V6C 2V6

Re: Harmony write-up in Northwest Region *Mine and Exploration Review 1996*

Dear Mark:

Apparently you are upset about the following sentence on the Specogna deposit of the Harmony project:

"The mineralized zone contains 6 ppm mercury, an important environmental concern influencing potential development."

I telephoned you on February 21 or 24 and left a message on your voice mail after having been told by the receptionist that you were away from your desk. However, I am pleased to have spoken with Brian Bower in your office and with Ron Smyth of the B.C. Geological Survey, and thereby learn indirectly of your concerns. Ron Smyth must have been perplexed as to why you called him as he has no supervisory responsibility for regional geologists and his only contact with us is a monthly conference call. I hope Ron explained our current reporting structure to you.

First, let me explain the context and source of my information. I visited the Harmony project on June 19, accompanying Colin Burge and Ian Morrison of Inmet Mining Corporation on a tour led by Robin Tolbert. Robin stated the mercury content of the Specogna deposit to be 6 ppm, decreasing with depth, during his overview in the field office. I assumed everything that Robin said was non-confidential because a similar presentation (and data review) was conducted by about twelve other companies. Also, elevated mercury content was well publicized during the foray into the mine development review process by City Resources (Canada) Limited. Brian Bower has informed me that 6 ppm mercury is approximately correct but is an unsubstantiated number. I ought to have referenced Robin Tolbert, as I did in a preceding statement or preferably, have contacted the Hunter Dickinson office to ask for comment on the write-up. I apologized to Brian on the telephone for not doing so and do so now in writing.

CONFIDENTIAL
 Pers. Comm.

reference

Second, this is the first year that rigorous scientific editing has not been carried out on my Mine and Exploration Review, due to budget reduction. The article was subjected to a hurried in-office peer review and approval by the Acting Regional Manager, but it is probable that closer editing would have led to a reference inquiry for the 6 ppm figure. I review sections of my write-up with companies where I judge there to be uncertainty in technical accuracy or confidentiality of data. This year for example, the Red Mountain, Kutcho, White Bull, Flag and Sail properties were vetted by the respective companies. I offer to review all Hunter Dickinson Group project descriptions in next year's summary but I must stress that there is no promise to suppress information without good reason. Elevated mercury levels at Specogna is not confidential.

expert?

Third, I consider comment on important technical issues related to mines and advanced projects to be a ~~key~~ part of the summary. For example the 1994 and 1995 reports on Telkwa Coal include reference to ARD potential of wallrock and sulphur content of coal, pertinent to marketability. The 1996 report includes the following description of Eskay Creek on page 5:

"In addition to precious metals, the [21B] deposit is enriched in deleterious elements; mercury, antimony and arsenic. Mercury correlates closely with gold and a prime requirement of grade control is to maintain mercury content of ore shipments to less than 1200 ppm by ore blending."

I quote the entire section because of some comments that Brian Bower, Tom Schroeter and Ron Smyth made to me that you feel I singled out the Specogna deposit for its mercury content without mention of Eskay Creek's mercury level. A head-in-the-sand attitude about environmental or other issues related to mine development is not productive, the issues must be identified and discussed in order to be resolved.

Finally, if you wish to discuss mercury in the Specogna deposit, or any other subject that concerns me, please call me at 250-847-7391.

Yours truly,



Paul Wojdak, P. Geo.
Regional Geologist

cc. Fred Hermann (Director, ROHS), Ron Smyth (Chief Geologist, GSB), Wallace Bergen (Regional Manager, ROHS), Tom Schroeter (Senior Regional Geologist, GSB), Brian Bower (Hunter Dickinson Group), Bob Dickinson (President and Chief Financial Officer, Hunter Dickinson Group)