

Telkwa Area

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JCS → Reg Mgr
- Smithers

I N T E R O F F I C E M E M O R A N D U M

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TO: See Below

Subject: Nw Region Weekly Report to December 12/97

MINES

On December 10, Imperial Metals provided an overview to the NWMDRC of their proposed Silvertip property which is the site of the previous Midway property. Silvertip is located 80km west of Watson Lake and 25km south of the Alaska Highway. The company owns 64 claims and 26 fractional claims and proposes underground mining of Ag-Pb-Zn deposits. The company has applied for a 10,000 tonne bulk sample during 1998 and anticipates entering into the EA process as further definition occurs. The company anticipates further presentations to the NWMDRC as their project takes shape.

On December 11 the Tulsequah ML/ARD Committee met in Smithers with the proponent to further clarify and refine the ARD mitigation component of the EA review. The session went well with clarification occurring during the meeting as well as the proponent committing to followup regarding outstanding concerns.

On December 12 the Telkwa Coal Project Committee met in Telkwa to receive an update from the proponent regarding progress in responding to the Project Specifications Report and to provide an update regarding modifications to the proposed mine plan. The proponent has engaged consultants and is working to gather and analyze the information needs identified. As a result of field work during the summer the proponent now proposes a 1.5 million tonnes of coal per year mine over a span of 23 years with a workforce of 211. The "Helps" pit has now been deleted and alternate tailings pond, access road route and coal loading are being evaluated.

At the December 10 NWMDRC meeting there was discussion regarding the priority for receiving comments on mine closure/reclamation plans that are sent out for referral. Generally there are more projects that staff to respond and priorities are being set to address the most critical first. The list of priorities will be reviewed by the committee.

FIRST NATIONS

On December 11 a delegation of Tahltan leaders visited the office. It was indicated that there is agreement in principle with the draft MOU regarding consultation between the Ministry and the Tahltan people and that a few minor concerns need to be resolved. The Tahltan are