



Contaminants and Remediation Division  
4914 50<sup>th</sup> St., Box 1500  
Yellowknife NT X1A 2R3

January 10, 2018

Mr. Shin Shiga  
Manager, Lands and Environment  
North Slave Metis Alliance  
32 Melville Drive, Box 2301  
Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2P7

**RE: Bullmoose-Ruth Remediation Project  
Project Update under BMR Engagement Plan  
Part B: Item 12 MV2016L8-004 and Conditions 77&79 MV2016X0013**

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Dear Mr. Shiga,

Further to our recent meetings and our formal project update letter dated July 7, 2017, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) – Contaminants and Remediation Division (CARD), wishes to take this opportunity to formally update the North Slave Metis Alliance on the status of the Bullmoose-Ruth (BMR) Remediation Project.

#### **Remedial Activities to Date (July-November 2017)**

- Remediate PHC impacts at Spectrum Lake shoreline - remove all waste drums and excavate PHC-impacted soils (approximately 192 m<sup>3</sup> or 460 tonnes);
- Remediate PHC impacted soils at Bullmoose site (approximately 7,100 m<sup>3</sup> or 17,000 metric tonnes);
- Remediate PHC impacted soils at all other sites (approximately 30 m<sup>3</sup> or 72 metric tonnes)
- Remediate mine openings at all sites (some remaining work at Bullmoose);
- Construct Ruth Landfill, place non-hazardous debris, co-mingled soils, and tailings (7,300 m<sup>3</sup> or 17,500 metric tonnes) and complete landfill cover;
- Excavate metal-impacted and co-mingled soils and tailings for placement at Bullmoose landfill (4,400 m<sup>3</sup> or 10,500 metric tonnes);
- Prepare landfill at Bullmoose;
- Excavate tailings deposits at Ruth and Beaulieu and re-grade;
- Cap tailings at Bullmoose (Beta Lake);
- Reconstruct Bullmoose Creek;
- Remediate Portal Seep at Bullmoose site (weir installation and commence fence construction);
- Remediate sewage lagoon at Bullmoose site;
- Demolish abandoned buildings at Beaulieu, Spectrum, Chipp, Storm and Joon;
- Place cover on waste rock at Beaulieu;



- Collect hazardous materials at all sites for off-site disposal on 2018 winter road;
- Collect non-hazardous waste at all sites for placement in Bullmoose and Ruth landfills.

### **Changes to Remedial Approaches**

As discussed with NSMA members during the site tours, the Landfarm at Bullmoose site was not constructed due to the significant volume of borrow material and construction effort required. Soils were treated down to site specific target levels using a soil stripping (aeration) approach with a screening plant, with residual volumes above target levels being shipped off site on the 2018 winter road.

Remedial changes at Spectrum mine site included sealing the open shaft with poly-urethane foam as opposed to concrete, and the disposal of bulky, non-hazardous metal (ball mill, pickup truck and generator trailer) off-site as opposed to in the Bullmoose landfill.

### **Project Schedule Update**

The BMR project was originally scheduled as a three (3) year project (2017-2020). With the early start in the Fall of 2016, the winter program of 2017 and the extended Fall program in 2017, the Remediation Contractor has achieved efficiencies in the field that have resulted in overall remediation completion of approximately 90%. These efficiencies allow the Crown to now consider an accelerated schedule that was submitted to the Crown by the Contractor for consideration in November 2017. The proposed schedule would see substantial work completion and demobilization from site completed between January and April 2018 with residual work activity and final demob by air occurring by the fall of 2018. The schedule has the obvious benefit of one less winter road into the Bullmoose-Ruth area but comes with potential risks and as such, the Crown is currently assessing those risks and project controls.

INAC-CARD looks forward to working together with the NSMA as the BMR Project moves ahead in 2018 and further into closure and long term monitoring.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (867) 669-2743.

Yours truly,

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Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada      Affaires autochtones  
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