

Environmental Protection Operations Directorate  
Prairie & Northern Region  
5019 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 2310  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7

ECCC File: 5100 000 0014/020 & 5100 000 014/021  
MVLWB File: MV2021L2-0004 & MV2021D0005



October 4, 2021

via email at: kmurray@mvlwb.com

Kim Murray  
Regulatory Specialist  
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board  
7th Floor, 4922 48th Street  
P.O. Box 2130  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P6

Dear Kim Murray:

**RE: MV2021D0005 & MV2021L2-0004 – CanZinc Corporation – Prairie Creek Mine Expansion – Response to Technical Session Information Request #5**

On September 20, 2021, CanZinc Corporation provided responses to Information Requests (IRs) from the Technical Session (August 31 to September 2, 2021) for the Prairie Creek Mine Expansion, including a response to IR#10: Waste Streams. Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has reviewed the information provided and is providing a response to IR#5 issued by the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB).

ECCC's response and specialist advice is provided based on our mandate pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* and the *Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations* under the *Fisheries Act*.

If you need more information, please contact Melissa Pinto at (867) 445-5384 or [Melissa.Pinto@ec.gc.ca](mailto:Melissa.Pinto@ec.gc.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Margaret".

Margaret Fairbairn  
Acting Regional Director, EPOD-PNR

Attachment(s): ECCC Response to IR#5

cc: Jody Small, Acting Head, Environmental Assessment North (NT and NU)

## ECCC Response to Information Request #5

#	Subject	Information Request
5	MDMER - Dilution	ECCC to clarify if CZN's proposed configuration for effluent management would contravene the Metal and Diamond Mine Effluent Regulations (MDMER) Section 6 Prohibition on Diluting Effluent, which states: "The owner or operator of a mine shall not combine effluent with water or any other effluent for the purpose of diluting effluent before it is deposited".
<b>ECCC Response</b>		
<p>The <i>Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations</i> (MDMER) prohibit combining effluents and water for the purpose of dilution. The collection of effluent for water management is not considered dilution.</p> <p>Based on ECCC's review of the details provided in the response to IR#10 and in the Ausenco Water Management Schematic in Attachment 10-1, the design appears to be associated with the management of effluent. Please note that if the water management system is used to combine effluents for the purpose of dilution prior to deposit to the receiving environment, the mine operator would be in violation of section 6 of the MDMER.</p>		