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February 11, 2022

File: MV2021L2-0004 and MV2021D0005

Alexandra Sorckoff
Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Biologist
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Suite 301, 5204 50th Ave
Yellowknife, NT, X1A 1E2

Sent via email

Dear Alexandra Sorckoff:

**Re: Information Request on Exfiltration Trench Pipe Lengths
Canadian Zinc Corporation – Water Licence Renewal Application MV2021L2-0004 and New
Type A Land Use Permit Application MV2021D0005
Prairie Creek Mine – Mining and Mineral Exploration**

Thank you for participating in the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) proceeding pertaining to Canadian Zinc Corporation's (CZN) Type A Water Licence Renewal Application MV2021L2-0004 and new Type A Land Use Permit Application MV2021D0005 for mineral exploration, and mining and milling at Prairie Creek Mine, NT. Board staff have reviewed the evidence on the record and are requesting further information from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) regarding CZN's proposed exfiltration trench pipe length scenarios (summer/winter) of 2 m/1.5 m, 4.8 m/4.8 m, and 8 m/6 m.

In DFO's written intervention dated October 22, 2021, DFO recommendation #3 requested that CZN complete the following:

DFO recommends that CanZinc undertake a velocity modelling and impact analysis from the exfiltration trench operations to flow and fish passage within Prairie Creek with the Request for Review.¹

On Day 2 of the Public Hearing on December 14, 2021, this recommendation was reiterated by DFO.²

On Day 3 of the Public Hearing on December 15, 2021, CZN acknowledged the comments from DFO on the importance of flow velocity and the potential implications on the exfiltration trench pipe lengths.³ As a result of this discussion, Undertaking #12 (as follows) was issued to CZN:

¹ See Public Registry for [CZN Type A Proceeding - DFO Intervention - Oct22_21](#)

² See Public Registry for [CZN - Public Hearing - Transcripts - Day 2 - Jan5_22](#) page 112

³ See Public Registry for [CZN - Public Hearing - Transcripts - Day 3 - Jan5_22](#) page 116

CZN will provide an assessment of flow velocities associated with the exfiltration trench in Prairie Creek for different lengths of the exfiltration trench pipe and the associated Effluent Quality Criteria.⁴

On January 14, 2022, CZN submitted their response to Undertaking #12, which included the assessment results of the flow velocities for each exfiltration trench pipe length scenario.⁵

Board staff recognize that DFO's Request for Review process is separate from the Board's proceeding. Decisions arising from that process; however, will have implications on the design and construction of the exfiltration trench, including the pipe length. Board staff note that the design of the exfiltration trench including the pipe lengths has implications on the Effluent Quality Criteria (EQC) currently under review in the Boards process.

Information Request #1:

With the information provided in CZN's response to Undertaking #12, DFO to indicate whether it is recommended that any of the exfiltration trench pipe length scenarios of 2 m/1.5 m, 4.8 m/4.8 m, and 8 m/6 m (summer/winter) be eliminated from further consideration because of potential negative impacts to fish passage.

Responses to this Information Request should be submitted to the Board by **March 2, 2022**.

Please contact [Andy Wheeler](#) at (867) 766-7467 with any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Yours sincerely,



Andy Wheeler
Regulatory Specialist

BCC to: Canadian Zinc Corporation Distribution List

⁴ See Public Registry for [CZN - Public Hearing Undertakings - CZN - Dec17 21](#)

⁵ See Public Registry for [CZN - PH Undertaking Responses - CZN - Revised - Jan31 22](#)