LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES 10TH ASSEMBLY, 7TH SESSION

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TABLED ON JUNE 16, 1986

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TABLED ON
JUN 161986

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

RESULTING FROM THE RAYROCK WORKSHOP

HELD IN YELLOWKNIFE, APRIL 29th and 30th, 1986

HONOURABLE RED PEDERSEN
MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES SCIENCE
INSTITUTE

JUNE 16,1986.

Northwest Territories Minister of Renewable Resources

8521 E - KUL

Honourable David Crombie, Minister, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Ottawa, Ontario KlA OA6

Dear Mr. Crombie:

As you are aware, concerns were raised by the people of Fort Franklin and Rae-Edzo regarding the potential danger to health from radioactive tailings left on the mine sites at Rayrock and Port Radium.

This government asked the Science Institute of the Northwest Territories to investigate this matter. A copy of the Science Institute's recommendations is attached for reference.

Please note that the recommendations call for a minimal program of observation and analysis, in addition to site cleanup and posting. It is assumed that your Yellowknife office will be responsible for this, but I would appreciate your confirmation. I must assure the people of Rae-Edzo and the other communities affected that the situation is under control.

I am glad to say that the cleanup at Port Radium is regarded as satisfactory.

Yours sincerely,

Red Pedersen, Minister.

Attachment

LOUC COVU 951V COCUPOSA TOCUPOSA \$35, \$4400 KIN 0NP

LC 4, W E

ዔ▷ኦኒሎጌንዡ, ፚዺ፟ኌ፞በጕኦዑ₭ ▷ዔ▷ጕ▷፫▷ግሊሢር ን⊄ ንሲሤፎና▷ው ላዜጋ ሲ-ፚጐኖ▷ው ለነፈበዔግሥ ፟ቝታላ፫፫▷ጋ∆ሚሲላጜኇግሞታ ር፲፱4ላ ፟ቝታማ፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟፟ ዋĽሚጋዔዊግሊጭቻ ኦታናጐታማቢው Rayrock-Γ ላዜጋ (ሲናነ) ላዜጋ Port Radium-Γ ▷ፋ ሲቦኒ

ዔ▷ት∟ታላግ>ጕ ር∟ህላ ላጋ፦፟ቃንታሊኛ ካዋርኮጡጔሹ ዔ▷ት\ሤጕጚጊጚ፫ ላጚጔ፟ ዔ▷ት\ግር▷ጕታላል፣ ተፈርጜኇጚ፝፞፞፞፞ጚ፟ ፌጋፌልግርኮሪሃጋሹ, ላጊርፒ▷ግ ኮታናቴ ላፕለኮቴዊግእነታና ኤጋኒ ጜግርኮሪሃታ▷፦ጋጡ ላጊጋ በበማስቡ ፌጋፌልህር፦ግርኮሪሃታጮጋጡ. ልላጊቦታኮንግ «ጋፌልሾጋግ ላት ሲህጥልና ርርጋፑግህ ቴርቦታዔታሲላሜናሥጋሹ, የተላውናርውግ የፈለላጊሊሁንግ>ህ ቴርቦታኮቦላናታህታት ፌጋፌልግተላህቴትታንግፌንለና. ልማተትና ሲ-ልናተፐውና ላጊጋ ላለላና ቴታቦችታ ውፌሮችግና ርርጋጋህ ላግጋላታዔናለኮሉ ቴኦትጠላዔናም ርርሚ ቴርቦታውናበላና ጋላጊና

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מכייות בירות

مرد پريک

۵درد ۲۵ ۱۲۰۰ کرد.

SCIENCE INSTITUTE OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

12 440 961

June 4, 1986

Honourable Red Pedersen
Minister
Department of Renewable Resources
Government of the N.W.T.
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Dear Mr. Pedersen:

I am writing, with sincere apologies, to correct an oversight in Dan Billing's letter of May 14, 1986 to you concerning the results of the recent workshop on the Rayrock Mine site.

Mr. Billing's letter inadvertently omitted recommendations six and seven. I have attached a final and complete list of the recommendations resulting from the workshop. It is most important that this revised list of recommendations is sent to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, as the recommendations for water sampling, site cleanup and posting (nos. 5, 6 and 7) are the responsibility of his department.

Again, my apologies for this unwarrantable confusion.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Janes, Executive Director.

Robert R. Junes

Attachment

₹ 4. 198€

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በበናግርፐውዣው Δሮላውና LΔ 14, 1986-ህበት-ጋዛ ለተብሎጋሹ መሞርጋውግሹ ካቢኮተብዮውፕሮር
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Γ'C Billing ጠግቴናው ለዓስፈው >ΔJΔ\/L∢ናውኦሮንግ፥ ላጋድግታና 6ና, 7-Г.».
Δε.«ኦበነ'ናቴ ለኦሲግ/L≮ ላጋድግታናውና ላግትሁላያበናውና ቴበዚላበነሃናግውነ.
ጋትርኦንሲላውና ርቴታላ ጳግዮርኦ/L≮ ላጋድግታና Γυζυνώና Δωδεκλጋሜቴታር ርቴታላ ላጋድግታና
Δናግን ቴኦኦኣንግና, ኦሃናንውላፕለኦና ነውላውን ካጋኒካልግርቴዎች ርቴታኦበርኦየላውና
(ላጋድግታና 5ና, 6ና, 7ና.»). ሮቴታላ ቴርሃኦንግሊግቴህር ላንድላህንው

UU2020

Robert R. Janes,

DCCDULKO

Rayrock Workshop - Yellowknife, N.W.T. April 29th and 30th, 1986

Findings and Recommendations - Rayrock Tailings

- 1. The concentrations of radioactive substances and heavy metals in the immediate vicinity of the abandoned Rayrock Mine do not pose a health hazard to the residents of nearby communities or to persons who visit the area from time to time. People who camp in the area for hunting, fishing and trapping should not use the tailings disposal areas for their campsites. The tailings should not be disturbed.
- There is no evidence of any sickness or deaths due to past or present use of the Rayrock area by the Dene people of nearby communities.
- 3. The tailings pose no hazard to persons using existing winter roads in the area (see map attached). Care should be taken so that future roads and trails do not cross tailings piles.
- 4. Increased levels of radioactive substances and heavy metals have been found in those ponds nearest the tailings (see map attached). Similar levels of these substances have not been found downstream from these water bodies or in the Marian River.
- 5. It is recommended that a water quality sampling program be developed and implemented to monitor the levels of selected radioactive substances and heavy metals in Sherman Lake, Lake B, and Sherman Creek. Additional fish sampling should be carried out in Sherman Lake to complement the existing information base.
- 6. The mine buildings should be razed and the mine openings permanently closed to prevent accidents. The remaining debris and chemicals at the site should be disposed of in an appropriate manner.
- The tailings should be posted, warning the visitor to stay away from the tailings and not to disturb them.

Rayrock-**ℰ ኦንናራንፈስና አበ∟ላበ୮ራንናና** ንጔፈል୮ ፴፯ ዮላሻፕ ፭∆ና>ኪ 29-୮ 30-୮ጔ, 1986 ዔኦኦኦራሊ-≮ ፭ጋድ-የሐናኇትኌ - Rayrock-ℰ ኦንናራላያለን∿ኖና ፴**զ**ርኦራժልና

- ኒ ሲዛሪ የኢትዮት ላው ማዕካልት ርዜታ ኦሃናታ የለዣው የተማርካልናቸው ውል ቴጋልና ቴታዮት ህወ, ርታዮንረ አማሪ አማሪ አማሪ ርዜኦት የተማናርካ
- 2 ጋጫዬ ዬው ጓሊ ዣጋጐ ቴራዚ ትሊላቴሲ ላላኒ ጋጐለማራሊቦላህ ኃጐ ርኒራ ውንናጐታላኝለና ቴራ ዓንታ ላተናጓሩ ጋታት ላተፈቀት ውል ቴጋታት ውንናትታላኝለውና ቴሪቶችው.

- 6. ሮነዛላ ኦታና፣ታላፕለነና ልግጋናታ፣ ለናልታቅርኦነባላሮ፣ ኦታናታላሽ፣ አርጋታኦጋብት ላተታንርኦትሀሊና. ላርላታናታ፥ ፲፱፻ጋፊ፣ፎትጋና ኦታና፣ታላሺና ነታላታናንና ውህበርኦተላሊላሮና

The following attended the Workshop:

Dan Billing	Chairman	Yellowknife
Edgar Ladouceur	INAC	és
Bill Stephen	II .	ii .
David Sutherland	EPS	*
John Villamere	Hatfield Consultants	Vancouver
Geoffrey Smith	11 11	•
Wayne Wagner	EMRS	Yellowknife
Dr. Otto Schaefer	SINT	Edmonton
Dave Nutter	NWT Chamber of Mines	Yellowknife
Allen Bouvier	Dene Nation	91
Joe Rabesca	Chief, Rae Band	Rae
Violet Camsell	Rae Dene Band	11
	II	11
Eddie Erasmus	H	
Joe Migwi	II	n
Susie Mackenzie Eddie Paul Rabesca	II .	8 1
	II	П
Patrick Beaulieu	Translator	81
Ernie Camsell	I Latiz La COi	99
Noel Drybones	NAP - NWT	Yellowknife
Greg Cook	DIAND	Ottawa
Martin Barnet	Environment Canada	Regina
	GNWT	Yellowknife
Emery Paquin	Boojum Research Ltd.	Toronto
Dr. Margaret Kalin	NWT Water Board	Yellowknife
Darcy Arden		Ottawa
Dr. Dan Dimitroff	HWC (MSB)	U CCana
Dr. Roger Eaton	HWC (EH)	n -
D Deie Ege . E	AECB	Yellowknife
Judy Fitzpatrick	HWC - MSB	Vancouver
Dr. Rick Mathias	UBC	Yellowknife
Dr. Robert R. Janes	SINT	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Dr. Robert Van Everdingen	Hydrologist	Calgary
Ben Hubert	Rapportour -	Yellowknife

SCIENCE INSTITUTE OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

12 440 961

May 14, 1986

Honourable Red Pedersen
Minister
Department of Renewable Resources
Government of the N.W.T.
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Dear Minister:

As you are no doubt aware, the Institute was assigned by your predecessor to investigate the question of the effect of the tailings deposits at the Rayrock and Port Radium Mines on the health of the people living nearby or using the areas.

This long and difficult project has been brought to a conclusion by a two day Workshop in Yellowknife which was attended not only by all those involved in the investigation, but also by a representative from the Dene Nation and by most of the Tribal Council of Rae.

The Science Institute has endorsed the findings and recommendations of the Workshop which are as follows:

- 1. The concentrations of radioactive substances and heavy metals in the immediate vicinity of the abandoned Rayrock Mine do not pose a health hazard to the residents of nearby communities or to persons who visit the area from time to time. People who camp in the area for hunting, fishing and trapping should not use the tailings disposal areas for their campsites. The tailings should not be disturbed.
- 2. There is no evidence of any sickness or deaths due to past or present use of the Rayrock area by the Dene people of nearby communities.
- The tailings pose no hazard to persons using existing winter roads in the area (see map attached). Care should be taken so that future roads and trails do not cross tailings piles.
- 4. Increased levels of radioactive substances and heavy metals have been found in those ponds nearest the tailings (see map attached). Similar levels of these substances have <u>not</u> been found downstream from these water bodies or in the Marian River.

5. It is recommended that a water quality sampling program be developed and implemented to monitor the levels of selected radioactive substances and heavy metals in Sherman Lake, Lake B, and Sherman Creek. Additional fish sampling should be carried out in Sherman Lake to complement the existing information base.

With regard to fort Radium, it is considered that since the mine was decommissioned recently under modern protocols and since our investigation showed no dangerous levels of radioactive or toxic substances, that the mine site poses no threat.

Please note that the last three recommendations require action by an "appropriate" authority. This authority is Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and we ask that they be passed to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada for action.

The following attended the Workshop:

Dan Billing Edgar Ladouceur Bill Stephen David Sutherland John Villamere	Chairman INAC EPS Hatfield Consultants	Yellowknife " " " Vancouver
Geoffrey Smith Wayne Wagner Dr. Otto Schaefer Dave Nutter	EMRS SINT NWT Chamber of Mines Dene Nation	Yellowknife Edmonton Yellowknife "
Allen Bouvier Joe Rabesca Violet Camsell Eddie Erasmus	Chief, Rae Band Rae Dene Band	Rae "
Joe Migwi Susie Mackenzie Eddie Paul Rabesca	# # #	11 11
Patrick Beaulieu Ernie Camsell Noel Drybones Greg Cook	Translator	" Yellowknife Ottawa
Martin Barnet Dennis Lawson Emery Paquin Dr. Margaret Kalin Darcy Arden Dr. Dan Dimitroff	DIAND Environment Canada GNWT Boojum Research Ltd. NWT Water Board HWC (MSB)	Regina Yellowknife Toronto Yellowknife Ottawa
Dr. Roger Eaton Dr. Bernie Zgola Judy Fitzpatrick Dr. Rick Mathias Dr. Robert R. Janes Dr. Robert Van Everdingen Ben Hubert	HWC (EH) AECB HWC - MSB UBC SINT	" Yellowknife Vancouver Yellowknife Calgary Yellowknife

With this report, the research which has taken 18 months and about \$140,000.00 is closed and the Institute wishes to thank the Government of the Northwest Territories for the opportunity to be of service.

Sincerely,

Dan Billing. Chairman.

Attachment

SHERMAN LAKE TAILING PILES TAILING PONDS RAYROLK MINE SITE SCALE 1:18.500

SHERMAN LAKE TAILING PILES TAILING PONDS RAYROCK MINE SITE SCALE 1:18.500

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۵.36 ዓባን፦ bD>L+ብና ተን፦ተለ። D°C°Δና Φ°PCD%:D'Lና ር፟ል ፟\$D>ት-ለውናታ Φ°D° CL°a Δ-L.34%DCናጋጐ D.3.4%L3&n.4MC Δ-4CD+L+ኛ -Rayrock-ở D>ናታ 45% ሩዛሬን Port Radium-ở D>ናታ 45% ህ የነፃነት ቀና ተነፃነት ተነፃነት ይመታ የተ

ርቀዛላ ተፈጋ∆የታው ያውንተፈላውረጋ≃ሆን፣ ላፈታህልየታ የፋሌዎት«ግሁ ያውታትው\୮ናው»

- - 3. ርLሤላ ኌላርኦታሪና bለላኤ ጐኖርጓቢር Δውኄ ኦየኦኖ ላጋሲላጐላሲሊሊዮዕናጋው (ኴጜህላጐ Δϲ-ኦቡሊቲጐ ርፈച)ኔ "ቴኦትኣትላሲላማቴሊሲንና ይላላ ኦየኦነራ ላጋሲላጐላኒላናንና ይሄላ ጔላፒኦሊቲ የኔሣኒንቴርጓዮቴጋላጊሣናር

- 5. ፈጋድ ማስፈተና ይገግ ርታሞ፣ ካለናንና ተሁፈልቱ ን ቴንንት ግርግተ ውና ውታ ላኬ ግንቴ የግቴ ውሳጊ ላዜር ርኖኖሁ፣ ርታሞ የህጋታ፣, ቴንንት ግርንግቴርን ውስርን ውስር ልቴ ኃል፣ ርኖህ፣ ርታህታ ተነፃግና ለተታ ላኬ ግንቴ የግቴ ወሳቢ ላዜር.

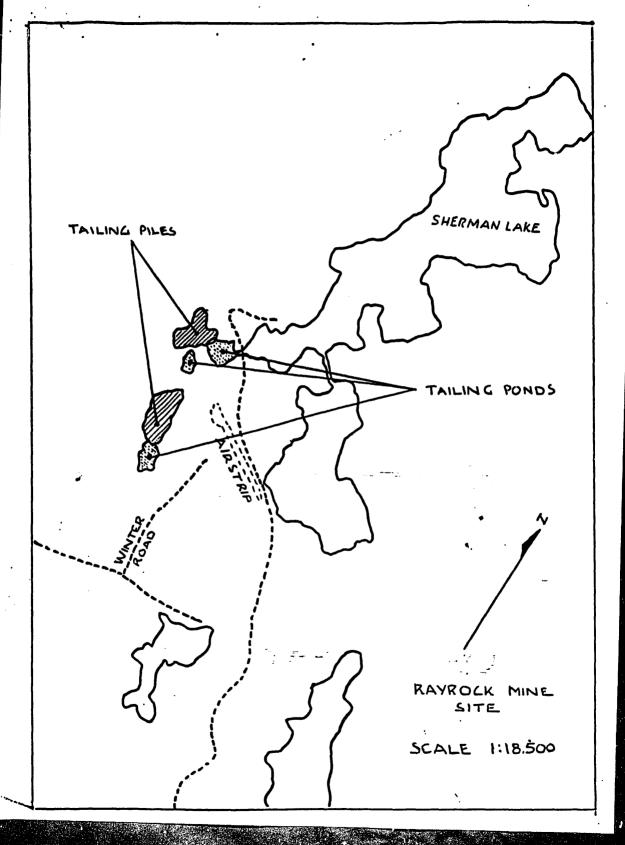
ሮቀሪ የሚተ-ቀረ፣ ለዚም ረጋድዓታ ካጥታቄጋታ ዜሆነንንተሊሞቴህር. ካጥታቄጋኝ ዜርኖን ሮቀሪ Δውሮሲንንቄታ የወርፐ, ዜሆነንንበድቅሩናጋበህተው Γታንሮሚያው Δውሮሲንጋቄነኝና የወርፐ.

ርካፈው በበናጓ-ፒ-የታ, ዔውን-ነ-የታ-የ৮ር-ውያና 18-ታ- ርግየታ- «ተ_ \$110,000,00-ታ- የፈውን-ታ-«ግን-ጋበት, ዓታ-ፌፒ-ፖር-የሩ ፌፌ-የ-ረና ሁረር-ያብና Δ&-የ-ፌር-ው-Լ-ር.

مر مالال

Dan Billing,

DCCDULY.



SHERMAN LAKE TAILING PILES TAILING PONDS RAYROLK MINE SITE SCALE 1:18.500