



Contaminant and Remediation Division
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October 29th, 2024

Anneli Jokela, PhD
Regulatory Manager
Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board
#1-4905 48th Yellowknife, NT
X1A 3S3

Re: Follow up on Version 6 of the Post Closure Monitoring and Maintenance Plan (PCMMP) for Colomac Project

Dear Anneli,

Please accept the below response to the September 9th, 2024 email correspondence requesting an update from Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada-Contaminants and Remediation Division regarding the below items related to the Colomac Long-Term Monitoring Project:

- Stability and remediation assessments
- 2023 Annual Report
- Version 6 of the Post-Closure Monitoring and Maintenance Plan

Stability and remediation assessments:

As a result of a flood event in 2016, the Spot Lake Channel location of the former plug, remains over-steepened due to erosion from the flood event. There is concern that there is potential for continued erosion, increased siltation, and the clogging of downstream areas that would potentially increase the risk of bank instability over time.

Under the Colomac Post-Closure Monitoring and Maintenance Plan (PCMMP), Geotechnical Inspections at this area were conducted by a Geotechnical Professional in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2023. Over this four-year monitoring period it was documented that the channel is performing well with no signs or indications of instability.

- CIRNAC-CARD's 2023 Annual Water Licence Submission included a copy of the Colomac Year-12 Long Term Monitoring Report. Section 2.3.2 of this report highlights that the over-steepened bank visually appears to be in a similar condition to previous years, confirming that there is no indication of continued erosion.
- The recommendation provided in the 2023 Geotechnical Assessment is to complete the remediation of the over-steepened bank area of the Spot Lake Channel as soon as practicable or when larger equipment is available at site.





- To address concerns associated with bank stability, and in compliance with the recommendation of the 2023 Geotechnical Assessment, CIRNAC-CARD will conduct an evaluation of the level of effort, equipment needs and duration to restructure the slope at the Spot Lake Channel during the 2025 summer field season. If it is feasible to proceed, the remediation work will be planned for the 2026 summer field season.

2023 Annual Report:

CIRNAC-CARD confirms that Colomac's Year-12 (2023) long term monitoring results and geotechnical assessment findings were included in the 2023 annual package submitted to the Board on May 31, 2024. All required information was submitted as part of the Type B water Licence W2021L8-0003: Year 12 Long Term Monitoring Report, concordance table and engagement log. CIRNAC-CARD will not be resubmitting the 2023 Annual Report.

Version 6 Post-Closure Monitoring and Maintenance Plan:

CIRNAC- CARD submitted Version 6 of the Post- Closure Monitoring and Maintenance Plan to the board on May 31st, 2023. Historical correspondence between the Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board (WLWB) board and CIRNAC-CARD indicates that Version 6 of the PCMMP is not to be submitted until remediation efforts at the Spot Lake Channel are complete.

CIRNAC-CARD would like to highlight that there are important updates, such as re-established SNP stations and revisions to tables to reflect current monitoring for Phase II monitoring scope, that could immediately be integrated into a new version, prior to completion of the Spot Lake Channel slope remediation. CIRNAC-CARD would like to submit Version 6 PCMMP immediately. However, if the Board does not support this then CIRNAC-CARD can submit Version 6 in 2027 once the Performance Assessment Review is complete and further updates/ revisions are made to the Long Term Monitoring Phase II Plan.

Please advise if the WLWB is in support of CIRNAC-CARD submitting Version 6 PCMMP immediately.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, please contact Kristin Moore at Kristin.moore2@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Kristin Moore
A/Project Manager, CIRNAC-CARD

cc. Dawn Keim A/ Senior Manager, CIRNAC-CARD
Amal Roy, Project Officer, CIRNAC-CARD

