PROPOSED AJAX MINE PROJECT (proposed Project)
Meeting with EAO, CEAA and KAPA
December 9, 2011, Kamloops

Draft Meeting Summary

Meeting Participants:

Name	Affiliation
Chris Hamilton	Environmental Assessment Office (EAO)
Fern Stockman	EAO
Colleen Hanlan	Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA)
Don Barz	Kamloops Area Preservation Association (KAPA)
Ruth Madson	KAPA
Sharon Antoniac	KAPA
Donna Sambolec	KAPA
Ivan Sambolec	KAPA
Dr. Judith Naylor	KAPA
John Shlamacker	KAPA
Michael Hewitt	KAPA

1. Introductions and Opening Remarks

2. KAPA provided brief background

3. EAO and CEAA reviewed the environmental assessment (EA) process and upcoming public comment period
   - Upcoming public comment period will include open houses on February 6 and 7 from 12pm to 8pm at the Kamloops Convention Centre
   - The format of the open houses will consist of a series of stations with technical experts from the Proponent's consultant team to answer questions and EAO and CEAA representatives to record key messages and concerns raised by the public. All comments will be tracked and posted to EAO's webites.
   - KAPA suggested a summary question and answer period so that everyone attending the meeting could hear each other's concerns and the Proponent's answers
     - In response, EAO and CEAA reiterated that these question and answer periods will not be conducted for this public comment period.
     - EAO noted that, given the technical nature of the AIR document, we are providing more time in a face-to-face format, based on our experience at other open houses. This recognizes that not everyone is comfortable speaking in a large group. EAO also noted some safety concerns (e.g. pushing and shoving) had been observed during other recent public comment periods.

- KAPA stated that the upcoming public comment period for the draft Application Information Requirements (dAIR) is too short. KAPA requested more time.
    - In response, EAO and CEAA extended the public comment period from 44 days to 60 days on the dAIR (January 11 to March 12, 2012)
- KAPA questioned why the Proponent prepares the first draft of the dAIR
    - In response, EAO and CEAA stated that the Proponent holds detailed project information to draft the dAIR and EAO and CEAA seek technical and public input on whether the Proponent has asked the right questions
- KAPA suggested expanding the proposed mail drop advertising the public comment period
    - EAO agree and KAPA committed to provide specific neighbourhoods mail drop should target

4. KAPA expressed the following concerns:
    - Lack of interaction by KGHM Ajax Mining Inc. (Proponent) with residents
    - Air quality
    - Health
    - Water quantity and quality
    - Tournament city – concerned that Kamloops wouldn't attract the same amount of tourism or tournaments if the proposed Project is approved given the health concerns
    - Distrust of information generated by the Proponent
    - Cumulative effects (including air quality)
    - Would like more information made available from the Proponent
    - Proponent responses to the last round of public comments are not posted yet
        - In response, EAO stated that the tracking tables with Proponent responses to public comments from the first public comment period will be posted before January, 2012
    - Unsatisfied with Proponent responses provided at the last open house
    - Effect of the weight of the waste rock pile
    - Would compensation be made available for remaining residents if the proposed Project were to proceed?

5. Community Advisory Group
    - EAO and CEAA introduced the idea of a community advisory group (CAG) to feed into the EA process throughout the review; in addition to the public comment periods
    - The CAG would include representatives from various stakeholder groups within the community including the Grasslands Council of BC, naturalist club, fish and game club, BC Cattlemens Association and Stockmen's Association, Ducks Unlimited, Aberdeen Highlands Development Corporation, Aberdeen Neighbourhood Association and others
    - The EAO and CEAA would co-chair the CAG and seek comments and input from the CAG regarding Proponent documents, work plans and reports
    - KAPA requested documentation of the CAG

    - In response, EAO and CEAA stated that a terms of reference would be developed for the CAG
- The first meeting would occur in January 2012 and the CAG would meet as needed
- KAPA suggested getting Thompson Rivers University (TRU) professors involved in the EA and review of the dAIR
    - KAPA agreed to identify TRU professors who would be interested in reviewing the dAIR and providing comments to EAO and CEAA in a workshop format
    - EAO and CEAA committed to organize a workshop with TRU professors to review the dAIR
- KAPA committed to identify a representative to sit on the CAG

6. Information Sharing
    - Discussion regarding EAO and CEAA's policy of information sharing
    - Discussion of the blasting report and EAO and CEAA's determination that this confidential document should not have been accepted or distributed to the working group; EAO and CEAA have removed the blasting report from their files
    - EAO and CEAA have directing the Proponent to share more information with the public as it is available
    - EAO and CEAA will consider all information received from the Proponent to be public, and EAO will post this information on EPIC, except in rare circumstances that the Proponent requests confidential information not be shared and EAO and CEAA agree to accept this information

7. Review of Action Items

Who	Action	Target Date
EAO/CEAA	extend the public comment period from 44 days to 60 days on the dAIR (January 11 to March 12, 2012)	Complete
KAPA	identify to EAO and CEAA a representative to sit on the CAG	Before January 2012
KAPA	identify TRU professors who would be interested in reviewing the dAIR	January 2012
EAO and CEAA	organize a workshop with TRU professors to review the dAIR	February 2012
EAO and CEAA	develop a terms of reference for the CAG	January 2012
KAPA	provide neighbourhoods the mail drop advertising the public comment period should target	January 2012
EAO	post the tracking tables with Proponent responses to public comments from the first public comment period	Before January, 2012

Pages 4 through 6 redacted for the following reasons:
- -
s13, s16

July 11, 2011

2200-21

Ms. Nicole Vinette
Project Assessment Manager
BC Environmental Assessment Office
Box 9426 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria BC V8W 9V1

Dear Ms. Vinette:

RE: Proposed Ajax Mine Project

Based on the information provided to date including, but not limited to, the "KGHM Ajax Mining Inc. - Ajax Project - Project Description" report, the April 27, 2011, working group meeting, the June 16, 2011, open house, and the various work plans, the City of Kamloops would like to ask a number of questions of the proponent.

Overall, we have concerns with a mine being located within such close proximity to existing homes (1,400 m at the closest) and within such close proximity to the urban growth boundary (within 950 m). Our research has yet to discover where a mine is operating in North America within these short distances from residences. Therefore, the questions that we are posing through this letter are to help us better understand what the impacts (positive or negative) will be to the residents of Kamloops. Also, we want to gain a better understanding of what mitigative measures will be taken by the proponent to reduce or eliminate any of the negative impacts.

A. Project Description

1. Mine Location

   a) The proponent's project summary document is located on the BC Environmental Assessment Office website and is one which is reviewed by the public. This document indicates that the proposed mine is located "10 km southwest of Kamloops". This description is misleading as the proposed mine actually straddles the City of Kamloops southern boundary. Approximately half of the mine is located within the City of Kamloops. It has been brought to our attention that some residents of Kamloops have not even paid attention to any information being published about the mine because they think that it is some distance away from Kamloops. We feel that it is important for the proponent to correct this information and any future information so that residents of Kamloops are aware that a mine is being proposed within city limits and can adequately inform themselves.

b) Similarly, all future pictorial submissions should clearly show the city limits.

2. Additional Storage Areas

a) Will there be any additional storage areas other than those outlined in Figure 5.2 of the Project Summary document? Will there need to be storage areas established for times of extreme weather (most especially in the winter time) when the roads are impassable and trucks hauling concentrate are not able to leave/enter the site? If so, where will these areas be located? What capacity will they be designed to store?

B. Direct Impact on Neighbourhoods

1. Public Health

a) What are the health impacts to residents within the vicinity of the proposed mine? The project summary document does not go into details regarding the types of chemicals that will be used and by-products that will be formed during the various mining operations including, but not limited to, blasting, crushing, concentrating, etc. We would like to know the details of those chemicals and by-products.

b) What are the levels of dust going to be on existing and proposed neighbourhoods? We would like to know specifically how much additional dust is going to fall in the surrounding neighbourhoods (Aberdeen, Upper Sahali, Pineview Valley, Dufferin and Knutsford) in any given month and what mitigation measures will be utilized? Will the levels of dust cause health concerns for the general public and/or those with pre-existing respiratory conditions?

c) We are concerned about evaporation and leaching from the tailings pond. Does this have the potential to vaporize chemicals? Is there the potential for acid rain? Is there potential for leaching?

2. Light

a) What will be the impact of 24-hour operations on the surrounding neighbourhoods (existing and proposed) with respect to mine lighting? What level of light during the non-daylight hours can residents expect and what mitigation measures will be used?

b) Our understanding is that the waste rock and tailings piles will extend above the height of the current hills in the area. If this is correct, we anticipate there will be lost sunlight during the winter months to those residents in the Upper Sahali and Knutsford areas. Information is requested regarding how much sunlight will be lost to these neighbourhoods.

c) What will be the impact of the shadowing from the tailing and waste rock piles? We ask that the proponent conduct a shadow impact study of these facilities.

d) The Kamloops Astronomical Society has an observatory at Stake Lake which was put there specifically due to the quality of the dark sky. They are able to maintain their dark sky designation due to the cooperation of the residents of Stake Lake. We would like confirmation that the proponent will work with the Kamloops Astronomical Society to reduce the impact of the proposed mine on their observatory and implement some of their recommendations for types of lighting.

3. Noise and Vibration

a) What level of noise will be heard by the neighbouring residents during mine operation? How will that level increase or decrease when future residential areas are constructed? How will the level(s) of noise differ during different operations (i.e. blasting versus crushing versus back-up-beepers on trucks or equipment on the waste rock piles)? What measures will the proponent take to reduce the impact of noise?

b) How often will blasting occur (i.e. what are the minimum and maximum number of times blasting will occur each day)? How far away will vibrations be felt? Will proposed subdivisions within the Aberdeen and Pineview Valley neighbourhoods feel vibrations from the blasting? Will blasting be restricted to certain times of the day?

c) What impact will the blasting have on the proposed Coal Hill water reservoir?

C. Impact on City Infrastructure and Operations

1. Southwest Sector

a) The City of Kamloops has existing groundwater and slope stability issues in close proximity to the mine. This groundwater causes concerns with respect to slope stability and is constantly mitigated utilizing a network of more than 100 piezometers controlled through 30 dewatering wells operated by the City. Both the piezometers and the dewatering wells are monitored generally weekly by the City and some critical wells are hard wired to the City's SCADA system allowing for continuous monitoring. Additionally, alarms are set up for the piezometers to detect piezometric pressures which dip or rise sharply. All dewatering wells have backup power in place or have hookups for backup generators in the event of power failure. Some wells pump a few hours per week while others pump continuously. As noted above, there is also a continuous alarm system for the critical dewatering wells and a weekly alarm generated for wells where it is assessed that their failure for a short period of time would be acceptable. The piezometer/dewatering system is of sufficient importance to the City that it is administered through a formal Risk Management Plan.

We will be meeting with representatives of KGHM-Ajax and Orica (their consultant) during early July to discuss this matter in person. However, due to the serious nature of our concerns in this area, I thought it reasonable to repeat in this letter the questions that we will be seeking answers to during our July meeting:

i) precipitation falling onto waste rock management facilities will penetrate below the evaporative zone more quickly than if it was falling onto native grasslands. Does the proponent have any information pertaining to what kind of increase in groundwater recharge this will result in and what is the impact on the Aberdeen neighbourhood?

ii) what is the peak ground acceleration in the Aberdeen area from blasting? We will have our consultants put this information into their stability model to ensure that blasting will not negatively impact stability.

iii) the air blast tests that were conducted were done during clear sky conditions. What are the results of air blast during adverse weather conditions, specifically conditions that would exacerbate the magnitude of the airblast at the receptors?

iv) we would like to have advanced notification of the exact timing of future limited scale tests or full-scale test blasts so that we can utilize our existing vibrating wire piezometers to determine if impacts are felt in the areas of slope stability. Please provide us with information (exact date and time) for the next round of test blasting and detailed information about the blast size and how and where it will be conducted.

v) we understand that a number of boreholes have been drilled around the proposed mine area. In order to help us determine what impact the proposed de-watering activities will have on our Aberdeen neighbourhood, we ask that the proponent provide borehole drilling data including logs, water levels and other hydrogeological information. Our consultants will utilize this information in our groundwater models to determine whether or not there will be impacts to the southwest sector.

vi) a number of residents in the areas surrounding the proposed mine to the south, west and east rely on groundwater wells for their potable water. As part of the environmental assessment process, the proponent should conduct baseline sampling of those existing wells (including quantity, groundwater level and quality). Please confirm that this will occur.

vii) At the end of the operations (23 years from now), is the open pit going to be filled with water? If so, what is the impact of that on the groundwater regime specifically in the Aberdeen neighbourhood?

Once we have received and reviewed the provided information, we will be in a better position to discuss the possibilities of sharing costs for the existing groundwater monitoring network, cost sharing for a permanent solution to the groundwater and stability issues and contingencies for problems which may arise in the future.

2. Fire Protection and Emergency Response

   a) It is important for us to understand what the proponent's expectations are with respect to fire protection and response time. A number of the proposed facilities are within the City of Kamloops but located such a distance from the nearest fire station that our response time would be well over industry standards for this type of operation. We require details from the proponent regarding their expectations with respect to fire protection and emergency response. If they are not expecting service from the City of Kamloops, they should provide a detailed fire protection plan for review by Kamloops Fire Rescue.

   b) Open pit mining requires personnel for mine rescue operations specific to the site. As Kamloops Fire Rescue does not have the equipment or training to perform mine rescue, the proponent should provide details as to how mine rescue operations are to be performed and what they will be expecting from Kamloops Fire Rescue.

3. Traffic and Hauling

   a) We require confirmation and details of the route that the proponent plans to use for hauling the concentrate to Vancouver. We have concerns about haul trucks using Lac Le Jeune Road north of the proposed mine site as this road was not built to a standard which would accommodate this type or amount of traffic. To the best of our knowledge, Lac Le Jeune Road is not built to a highway standard on any portion of the road regardless of whether or not it is in the City of Kamloops or the Thompson-Nicola Regional District. It is simply a rural road.

   b) Additionally, Lac Le Jeune Road is used by school buses and residential traffic and does not seem the best option for a haul route. We strongly suggest using Inks Lake Road as much as possible and then rebuilding that road once the tailings storage facility is built over top. This route would alleviate any conflict between large haul trucks and residential/school bus traffic and would be the most direct route to the Coquihalla interchange.

   c) We require that the proponent complete a Traffic Impact Assessment. Given the proximity to and use of BC Ministry of Transportation Infrastructure (BC MOTI) controlled access highways, it is recommended that a meeting be held between BC MOTI, the City and KHGM-Ajax representatives to determine a terms of reference for this study. For your information, the City is currently conducting a study with the MOTI and ICBC to determine short-term and long-term improvements at most of the interfaces between MOTI and City infrastructure, including the Copperhead Interchange with the Trans Canada Highway.

      Currently, we are in the data collection phase of the project and moving into the identification of short-term improvements. Dependent upon the impact of the mine, there may be an opportunity to tie in the traffic impact assessment into this study.

The Copperhead Interchange with the Trans Canada Highway is used by Dufferin and Pineview Valley neighbourhoods and is adjacent to an elementary school. Should the proponent plan to utilize this intersection as a haul route, we would require them to identify all of these potential hazards and conflicts with industrial truck traffic. We are concerned about mine traffic in general, and specifically the hauling of concentrate to Vancouver, and what impacts they will have on this intersection.

d) We need to know what the impact will be on Lac Le Jeune Road when most (if not all) of the mine's employees will be travelling that route on a daily basis. We can then determine what it will cost the City of Kamloops to upgrade the road to a standard which will support this amount of traffic. Additionally, we will be able to calculate the additional cost to maintain the road (especially during the winter time) to a standard which will be safe for this type of traffic.

e) What will the impacts be on the timing of the Aberdeen Drive/Copperhead Drive extensions contemplated in TravelSmart and KAMPLAN?

4. Solid Waste

a) Other than waste rock and tailings, what types of wastes will be generated during mine operations? How much waste is anticipated on a monthly or yearly basis? What are the expectations around disposal of this waste? How much will be recycled by the proponent? How much is anticipated to enter the City's solid waste system (either being land filled or recycled)?

D. Impact on Future Planning (Transportation, Growth, Sustainability, and Airshed)

1. Transportation

a) The City of Kamloops has an integrated transportation plan which we refer to as TravelSmart. This plan was created in 1999 and is currently undergoing a re-write in order to properly address changing circumstances over the past decade. A copy of the TravelSmart plan can be found on our website at www.kamloops.ca for your reference.
Rather than focusing on building new roads, TravelSmart shaped the City's pattern of growth to optimize the use of existing roads, and make the most efficient use of any additional facilities required. The results formed the foundation of the City's Official Community Plan (KAMPLAN). One of the key elements of TravelSmart and KAMPLAN is that 36% of the population growth is planned to be in the Southwest sector (Aberdeen, Dufferin, Sahali) up to 100,000 population threshold. Up to the 120,000 threshold, 48% of the population growth is planned to be in the Southwest sector.

In order to understand what impact the proposed mine will have on transportation planning within the City of Kamloops, we would like the following additional information:

i) will impacts from the mine (further to questions above related to light, noise, dust, vibrations, etc.) make the Aberdeen, Pineview Valley and Dufferin neighbourhoods less desirable places to live?

This may cause additional growth in other areas in the City which may not have sufficient transportation infrastructure in place.

ii) will additional traffic generated on roadways within the southwest sector negatively impact those areas from a desirability perspective?

2. Growth

a) The City's Official Community Plan identifies the Aberdeen neighbourhood as a significant growth area. Specifically, 48% of the City's growth distribution to a population level of 120,000, which is anticipated to be reached by the year 2036 at current growth rates, is projected to occur in this neighbourhood. The City has based its major infrastructure planning and expenditures (i.e. roads, water, sewer, and new fire hall location) over the past 30 years on this growth area. Growth in other areas carries an even greater cost to the taxpayer.

i) what impact will the proximity of the mine have on the desirability of future residents living in this major growth area? Should the Aberdeen neighbourhood become a less desirable neighbourhood, to the point where residential growth is significantly slower than anticipated or does not occur at all, what growth impact, pressures and costs will this place on other areas in the city not having the infrastructure in place?

Further, the City has followed a 1.25% over five years growth scenario for growth management and planning purposes.

ii) what are the local employment generation projections during mine construction and operation activities - both direct jobs, as well as 'spin-off' employment? Please translate this into population growth projections attributable directly to the mine (based on local labour availability, consequent in-migration to take up mine and related jobs, and the family characteristics of in-migrants). These projections would allow us to have a greater sense of when key population thresholds (100,000 and 120,000) would be reached.

b) What future mineral rights does Abacus hold in the southwest sector? We would like to have an understanding of the future expansion perspective within the area.

3. Sustainability

a) The Sustainable Kamloops Plan was adopted by City Council in 2010 and sets out Kamloops Vision of Sustainability. The plan is divided into 19 key sustainability components and then sets aggressive goals in each which allow us to work towards our Vision. A copy of the Sustainable Kamloops Plan can be found on our website at www.kamloops.ca for your reference.

i) please outline how the proposed mining operation will abide by the Sustainable Kamloops Plan and will work towards our Kamloops Vision of Sustainability.

4. Airshed

a) Creation of an Airshed Management Plan for the City of Kamloops is currently underway. The need for this plan was identified during the creation of the Sustainable Kamloops Plan. The vision of the plan is to ensure that citizens have healthy air to breathe by meeting or exceeding the Canada-wide standards and provincial air quality objectives, ensure continuous improvement in air quality throughout the community/region, educate and inform the community on local air quality issues, and lead by example by changing behaviour as needed to protect air quality. As this planning process is underway, please indicate your willingness to provide information and/or presentations to the two airshed management committees.

i) is the mine expected to negatively impact air quality within the Kamloops airshed?

ii) what is the air quality impact from the additional vehicular traffic generated by the mine (employees, contractors, haul trucks, etc.)?

E. Socio-Economic Impacts

1. Recreation

a) The areas proposed for the waste rock management facilities and most especially the tailings storage facility/pond are highly used recreational areas. Inks Lake and surrounding areas are used extensively for skating, fishing, hiking, mountain biking, ATVing and more. Please quantify the impact that the proposed mine will have on the recreational use of these areas. What proposed rehabilitation or upgrade works are proposed?

b) What will be the quality of Jacko Lake as a fishing lake if a 450 m deep open pit is located immediately adjacent?

2. Economic Spin-off

a) It is widely understood that the proposed mine will create approximately 385 jobs over the life of the mine and approximately 1000 during the initial two years of construction. Obviously these jobs will have a positive impact on the City. We would like more information on what the other economic spin offs there will be from the proposed mine? Please quantify.

b) Please translate the employment generation into population growth projections attributable directly to the mine (based on local labour availability, consequent in-migration to take up mine related and spin off jobs and the family characteristics of in-migrants). These projections will allow us a greater sense of understanding around when key population thresholds (e.g. 100,000 and 120,000) will be reached.

3. Long-Term Impact

a) What is the long-term impact of having a mine of these proportions within the City? What will the impacts of the proposed mine be on Kamloops?

4. Quality of Life

   a) What will be the impact (positive and negative) on the quality of life for Kamloops residents as a result of mining operations?

F. Impacts on Habitat, Fish and Wildlife

We understand that federal and provincial ministries are part of the environmental working group and will be reviewing these types of questions in detail, but we wanted to voice our questions and concerns regarding the impact(s) of this proposal on habitat, fish and wildlife. We will leave the detailed questions to the federal and provincial experts.

1. Peterson Creek

   a) How will the re-routing of Peterson Creek impact the fish and wildlife associated with that creek? Will grassland areas be lost as a result of the diversion?

2. Jacko Lake

   a) How will the blasting impact the fish in Jacko Lake?

   b) Please provide confirmation that Jacko Lake will not drain into the Ajax Pit (even over time).

   c) Is there the potential to preserve Jacko Lake and it's surroundings as a recreation area by swapping the private land around it with Crown Land?

3. Inks Lake

   a) Although Inks Lake is not fish bearing, it is used by wildlife, especially birds. What will be the impact to wildlife in the area when with the loss of Inks Lake and surrounding areas?

4. Grasslands

   a) What is the total area of grasslands either completely destroyed or negatively impacted by the proposed project? What mitigative measures are proposed to reduce the impact to the grasslands? For example, are there replanting strategies in place for the finished waste rock and tailings piles?

   b) What is the impact on wildlife by removing this quantity of grassland?

5. Kamloops Lake

   a) What is the impact on fish and wildlife based on the proposed water intake volumes?

G. Aesthetics

1. Power Line Location

   a) During the April 27, 2011, working group meeting it was mentioned that the proponent is favouring the east power line option, but no final decision has been made. Please provide details on the location of the finalized power line location. If the east option is selected, what will be the impacts on the City's future growth in that area? We are concerned the proposed location will impact a future growth area of the City that is highlighted in the Official Community Plan. If the eastern option is used, we would prefer to see it built so it wouldn't bisect a future City neighbourhood.

   b) Are there any health impacts from having high voltage power lines in such close vicinity to residences?

   c) What are the aesthetic impacts on surrounding properties from the finalized power line location?

   d) Is there the possibility of reduced property values with a power line located very close (or even on) certain properties?

2. View scapes

   Up to this point, only two-dimensional drawings have been available to the public. It is safe to say that the proposed mine will have an impact on the aesthetics of Kamloops. In order to relay to residents what those impacts are, we ask that the proponent develop a number of different "visuals".

   a) We would like to see a three-dimensional table-top type model constructed of the proposed mine area and the surrounding neighbourhoods.

   b) Artist type renderings would be helpful. We ask that "snap shots" be created from different locations around Kamloops and include artists' renderings of what the new view scape will be. Snap shots from the following locations are requested as a minimum:

      - Aberdeen Elementary School
      - Top of Pacific Way in Aberdeen
      - Pineview Valley neighbourhood
      - McGowan Park in Sahali
      - Entering Kamloops on the Coquihalla, Highway 5A and Highway 5
      - Batchelor Heights' newest subdivisions
      - Knutsford area - highest point on Knutsford Hills Road
      - Dufferin neighbourhood
      - Rayleigh

   c) Please create a model using a Google Earth type of format. By drawing the facilities into this type of format, residents will be able to point out where their house is located and see what visual impacts (if any) there will be from their own home.

3. Mitigative Measures

a) Please detail the mitigative measure that will be undertaken to reduce the aesthetic impacts of the mines waste rock and tailings facilities both during and after operation (i.e. sloping, seeding, planting, etc.)

b) Is the tailings pile going to be progressively closed?

c) Can the waste rock and tailings piles be moved further south of Kamloops and east of the Coquihalla Highway to eliminate or minimize any and all aesthetic impacts?

d) What other options have been explored for locations of the waste/tailings piles?

e) Has the proponent explored using a buffer between the mine and current/future Aberdeen and Knutsford neighbourhoods?

H. Conclusion

Thank you for taking the time to listen to and understand our concerns. We look forward to receiving answers to our questions and to continuing our involvement on the Environmental Working Group.

Sincerely,

Jen Fretz, P.Eng
Sustainability and Environmental Services Manager

JF/rjt

cc: Environment Canada - Lyle Thompson, Project Manager
Environmental Working Group - Proposed Ajax Mine Project (via email)
Thompson-Nicola Regional District - Dan Wallace, Planner
KGHM-Ajax - Jim Wittaker, Project Manager
Dianna Stoopnikoff, Environmental Manager
City of Kamloops Mayor and Council
MLA for Kamloops-South Thompson - Kevin Krueger
MLA for Kamloops-North Thompson - Terry Lake, Minister of Environment
MP Kamloops-Thompson-Cariboo - Cathy McLeod

Ajax Project Baseline Studies Work Plan

Valued Component: Noise and Vibration

Lead	Knight Piésold Ltd.
Study Objective(s)	• To establish an acoustic baseline in the project area for assessment of potential health effects related to the Ajax Project. • To determine vibration impacts from the proposed Ajax Project
Background	A site characterization of blast vibration was conducted on the Ajax property in February 2011. Two sets of signature holes were fired: one set of signature holes was fired in the waste overburden, and the other set was fired in the ore body. The vibration and air over pressure from the blasts were monitored and analyzed. Two small production blasts were also fired during the monitoring. Site characterization information includes: • Site vibration attenuation law from signature hole vibration for the waste rock and ore body • ground sonic velocity • Multiple seed waveforms were recorded at different distances for input to the Multiple Seed Wave (MSW) vibration modeling
Applicable Standards/Guidelines	• Acoustics - Description, Measurement and Assessment of Environmental Noise - Part 1: Basic Quantities and Assessment Procedures (Adopted ISO 1996-1:2003, second edition, 2003-08-01). 2005. • Acoustics - Description and Measurement of Environmental Noise - Part 2: Acquisition of Data Pertinent to Land Use (Adopted ISO 1996-2:1987, first edition, 1987-04-15). 2005. • Acoustics - Description and Measurement of Environmental Noise - Part 3: Application to Noise Limits (Adopted ISO 1996-3:1987, first edition, 1987-12-15). 2005. • Procedure for Measurement of Sound and Vibration Due to Blasting Operations. CAN3-Z107.54-M85. 2001.
Methods	The Quest 2900 (Type 2) Integrating/datalogging sound level meter will be used to monitor baseline daytime and night time sound levels at the receptor locations. The study will involve direct 24-h continuous monitoring of comprehensive sound parameters. For the 24-h measurements, the sound level meter settings are set for "slow" response and and the "A"- weighting network and 1 minute intervals. The instrument is set within a weather resistant enclosure that will reduce the potential for wind-induced noise. The instrument is field-calibrated before starting the survey and checked when the survey had been completed. Survey data are stored in the monitor data logger and downloaded to a laptop computer following the survey.
Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC)	• Sound data sets will be downloaded to a computer and monitored parameters will be reviewed for consistency, unity and quality • The Quest 2900 (Type 2) Integrating/datalogging sound level meter will be calibrated regularly following manufacturer's instructions. • Placement of the meter will be in areas representative of baseline conditions.

Ajax Project Baseline Studies Work Plan

Valued Component: Noise and Vibration

Sample site location and rationale	Baseline monitoring stations will be established near potential receptors surrounding the proposed project area as follows: • Residential areas in Aberdeen, to the northeast of the Project area • Residential areas in Knutsford east of the Project area • Subdivision off Hugh Allan Drive on the west edge of Kamloops city limits • Near Iron Mask Trailer Park on Lac Le Jeune Road • Near Sugarloaf Ranch east of the existing old Afton Mine Haul Road • Near Jacko Lake boat ramp Locations are shown on Figure 6.
Frequency	Seasonal
Data analysis	Noise • Average daytime, night time and overall 24-h baseline ambient sound levels (Leq) will be calculated • Summary of baseline sound level for both daytime and night time at the receptor locations • Identification of all potential noise-sensitive receptors and their locations relative to the project area • Delineation of the distance of the project to receptors indicating noise levels at varying distances from the project area Vibration • MSW blast vibration model will be used to develop blast design scenarios for vibration control for peak particle velocity and frequency shifting

McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX

From: Hanlan,Colleen [CEAA] [Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca]
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2011 1:04 PM
To: McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX; Gajowski, Leigh Anne EAO:EX
Subject: RE: Request: Notes from last bi-weekly (Ajax)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Lindsay,

Here are the action items from the last call, please correct if I'm missing anything.

Thanks,
Colleen

Action items from the last bi-weekly call:

1. KGHM to submit a draft posterboards/displays to EAO and CEAA by Dec 7th
2. KGHM to submit FINAL (EAO and CEAA approved) posterboards/displays to EAO and CEAA by December 19
3. KGHM to submit FINAL dAIR/EIS Guidelines for posting on EPIC by December 19
4. CEAA will translate the posterboards/displays to French and post both English and French versions on CEA Registry for Public Comment Period on January 11th

From the October 27th working group meeting:

1. KGHM to incorporate outstanding comments and discussion points from Working Group meeting into another iteration of the Working Group Issues Tracking Table by November 14, 2011 (COMPLETE)
2. KGHM to submit updated Working Group Issues Tracking Table to EAO for distribution to Working Group members for two-week review (purpose: to review the comments and responses in order to confirm they have been adequately captured and/or to identify outstanding issues); deadline for feedback is November 28, 2011. (COMPLETE)
3. KGHM to review comments received from the Working Group and prepare draft AIR/EIS Guidelines for submission to EAO for posting on EAO's website by December 19th
4. EAO and CEA Agency to confirm timing and format of public comment period and open house on the draft AIR/EIS Guidelines; deadline TBC. (COMPLETE)
5. EAO to canvass Working Group members for their interest in participating on any of the sub-working groups identified: (COMPLETE)
   a. health;
   b. hydrogeology and water quality; and,
   c. cultural and heritage resources.
6. Shelley Ball from NRCan to discuss with Dianna regarding potential explosives trigger (in progress)

From the November 2nd teleconference:

1. add Displays/Posterboards as a standing agenda item (COMPLETE)
2. EAO & CEAA to provide guidance on displays and posterboards (In progress)
3. Dianna to identify communications company to work with in developing displays and posterboards
4. Colleen to send email to Jim – confirming that Orica Blasting Report will be available as an appendix of the feasibility study on Sedar Late November 2011

From: McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX [mailto:Lindsay.McDonough@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2011 10:18 AM
To: Hanlan.Colleen [CEAA]

Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX; Gajowski, Leigh Anne EAO:EX
Subject: Request: Notes from last bi-weekly (Ajax)

Hi Colleen,

Could you please send me the notes/action items from the last Ajax bi-weekly call? I'd like to send out the draft agenda and action items either today or tomorrow.

Also, let me know if you have anything to add to the below:

Agenda:

1. Action items from previous bi-weekly meeting
2. Action items from Oct 27 working group meeting
3. EAO/CEAA Update
    a. Update from City of Kamloops/TNRD call
    b. Upcoming meetings (sub-working group; stakeholder; local gov't)
4. Proponent update
    a. Status of revised dAIR (anticipated Dec 15th)
5. Public comment period and open house planning
    a. Venue
    b. Displays/Poster boards
    c. Advertising
6. First Nations Update
7. Next Steps

Lindsay McDonough | Project Assessment Officer | BC Environmental Assessment Office
Ph: 250.387.7411 | Fax: 250.356.5326 | www.eao.gov.bc.ca
"Nothing is certain, anything is possible, and everything depends on everything else." **"Nothing is certain, anything is possible, and everything depends on**
> everything else."

McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX

From: Hanlan,Colleen [CEAA] [Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, November 8, 2011 5:42 PM
To: Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX; Jim Whittaker; Dianna Stoopnikoff; Chris Brodie; McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX; seagen@knightpiesold.com
Cc: Jordan.McNiven@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca; Evans, Megan J EAO:EX; Fitton, Susan FLNR:EX
Subject: Ajax Telecon - Nov 9 @2:30pm - Proposed Agenda

Hi all,

Below is the proposed agenda for our bi-weekly Ajax call tomorrow at 2:30pm. Please let me know if you would like to add to the proposed agenda.

The dial-in information is the same at:

s17

Colleen

604-666-1495

Agenda:

1. Action items from previous meetings
2. Status of revised issues tracking table (anticipated from KGHM Nov 14th)
3. Public comment period and open house planning

a. Displays/Posterboards

4. First Nations Update
5. Next Steps

Action Items from previous meetings:

From the October 27th working group meeting:

1. KGHM to incorporate outstanding comments and discussion points from Working Group meeting into another iteration of the Working Group Issues Tracking Table by November 14, 2011;

2. KGHM to submit updated Working Group Issues Tracking Table to EAO for distribution to Working Group members for two-week review (purpose: to review the comments and responses in order to confirm they have been adequately captured and/or to identify outstanding issues); deadline for feedback is November 28, 2011.

3. KGHM to review comments received from the Working Group and prepare draft AIR/EIS Guidelines for submission to EAO for posting on EAO's website by December 19th

4. EAO and CEA Agency to confirm timing and format of public comment period and open house on the draft AIR/EIS Guidelines; deadline TBC. (Complete, see below)

5. EAO to canvass Working Group members for their interest in participating on any of the sub-working groups identified: (In Progress)

a. health;

b. hydrogeology and water quality; and,

c. cultural and heritage resources.

6. Shelley Ball from NRCan to discuss with Dianna regarding potential explosives trigger

From the November 2nd teleconference:

1. add Displays/Posterboards as a standing agenda item (Complete)

2. EAO & CEAA to provide guidance on displays and posterboards (In progress)

3. Dianna to identify communications company to work with in developing displays and posterboards

4. Colleen to send email to Jim – confirming that Orica Blasting Report will be available as an appendix of the feasibility study on Sedar Late November 2011

Key Decisions:

1. Timing for Public Comment Period on dAIR/EIS Guidelines:

a. Advertisements, posting on EPIC January 4, 2012

b. Public Comment Period January 11- February 24, 2012

c. Open House – Feb 1 & 2, 2012

2. KGHM to submit FINAL (EAO and CEAA approved) posterboards/displays to EAO and CEAA by December 19

3. KGHM to submit FINAL dAIR/EIS Guidelines for posting on EPIC by December 19

4. CEAA will translate the posterboards/displays to French and post both English and French versions on CEA Registry for Public Comment Period on January 11th

McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX

From: Dianna Stoopnikoff [dstoopnikoff@amemining.com]
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2011 8:55 AM
To: Michael Hewitt
Cc: McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX; Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: RE: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Dear Mr. Hewitt,

Upon the request of Mr. Hamilton of the EA Office, I would like to respond to your request for the test blast report. Thank you for your interest in the project and although I cannot release the test blast report to you as a standalone document, I can however ensure that you will personally be notified when the document becomes public as an appendix to the Feasibility Report scheduled to be released mid-December or early January.

I hope that this meets your satisfaction and if you have any further questions please feel free to contact me or come by our offices at 330 Seymour Street.

Best regards,

Dianna Stoopnikoff
Environmental Manager

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX [mailto:Chris.Hamilton@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: 30-Nov-11 12:29 PM
To: 'Michael Hewitt'; Dianna Stoopnikoff
Cc: McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX; Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Subject: RE: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Hi Michael
I've cc'ed your note to Dianna, who represents the Proponent. Given the testing you refer to is being completed by the proponent, not the Crown, it is best she respond to the availability of this information.
C

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

From: Michael Hewitt s22
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 11:40 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Dear Mr. hamilton.

Given below is a copy of my November 28, 2011 email to Ms. Nicole Vinette requesting a copy of the Ajax test blast report referred to by Mr. Jim Whittaker, project manager for the Ajax mine proposal. Will you now please provide the test blasting information requested. I also requested information on when the next Open House for the general public will be held. You might also wish to respond to my suggestions regarding the format for the next Open House, made in my November 11, 2011 email to Ms. Vinette, already forwarded to you.

Yours truly,

Michael Hewitt
Researcher,
Kamloops Area Preservation Association.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Michael Hewitt s22
Date: November 28, 2011 11:51:49 AM PST
To: Nicole Vinette <Nicole.Vinette@gov.bc.ca>
Bcc: Judith Naylor s22 , DON BARZ s22 , Don at Work s22 , Fawn Knox s22 Paula Pick s22 , Ruth Madsen s22
Subject: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Dear Ms. Vinette:

At the June 16th, 2011 Open House hosted by BC EAO/CEAA Mr. J. Whittaker discussed the test blast performed earlier this year at the Ajax mine site. Working Group member Ms. Jen Fretz (City of Kamloops) has told us that the Working Group has received the test blast report. We would appreciate receiving a copy of that report at your earliest convenience. It would be very useful to be cognizant of the content of the report in order to be able - if need be - to ask questions regarding the test blast at the next open house.

On another point, have you any idea when the next open house will be held, and where?

Thanks you for your anticipated cooperation.

Yours truly,

Michael J. Hewitt.
Kamloops Area Preservation Association (KAPA).

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McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX

From: Dianna Stoopnikoff [dstoopnikoff@amemining.com]
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2011 11:41 AM
To: Jim McGrath; Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; Einarson, Dennis ENV:EX; Anderson, Mike FOR:IN; Rothman, Stephen MEM:EX; Peter.Delaney@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; XT:Sheehan, Stephen Environment Canada EAO:IN; Seguin, Joe MEM:EX; Belliveau, Phil FLNR:EX; Bennett, Kevin A FLNR:EX; Yamelst, Brian H ENV:EX; john.mackie@tc.gc.ca; Bellefontaine, Kim MEM:EX; Howe, Diane J MEM:EX; Jeff.Guerin@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Taylor, Andrew JTI:EX; Underhill, Brian ALC:EX; danwallace@tnrd.bc.ca; Matscha, Gabriele ENV:EX; Lyle.Thompson@ceaa-acee.gc.ca; Demchuk, Tania MEM:EX; suzanne.lheureux@tc.gc.ca s22 Rhebergen, Frank ENV:EX; laura.maclean@ec.gc.ca; Jeanette Jules; Moody, Anne MEM:EX; referrals; ddraney@skeetchestn.ca; Delwisch, Cheryl L FLNR:EX; thewitt@skeetchestn.ca; nrreception@skeetchestn.ca; Klingbeil, Karl B FLNR:EX; colleen.hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca; Misty.Palm@interiorhealth.ca; McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX; sheila@stkemlupsemc.ca; Henry, Larry FLNR:EX; Fitton, Susan FLNR:EX; Shelley.Ball@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca; jfretz@kamloops.ca; Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX; marcy.friedel@tc.gc.ca; carl.alleyne@hc-sc.gc.ca; John.Heinonen@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Jordan.McNiven@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca; Puhallo, Jennifer ENV:EX; Hupman, C Bruce MEM:EX
Cc: cbrodie@knightpiesold.com; barb@stkemlupsemc.ca; seagen@knightpiesold.com; Jim Whittaker; Gajowski, Leigh Anne EAO:EX
Subject: RE: Ajax blasting report

Hi Jim,

The blasting report will be an appendix to the feasibility study which will be released mid December or early January.

Best regards,

Dianna

From: Jim McGrath [mailto:Jmcgrath@kib.ca]
Sent: 5-Dec-11 11:41 AM
To: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; Einarson, Dennis ENV:EX; Anderson, Mike FOR:IN; Rothman, Stephen MEM:EX; Peter.Delaney@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; XT:Sheehan, Stephen Environment Canada EAO:IN; Seguin, Joe MEM:EX; Belliveau, Phil FLNR:EX; Bennett, Kevin A FLNR:EX; Yamelst, Brian H ENV:EX; john.mackie@tc.gc.ca; Bellefontaine, Kim MEM:EX; Howe, Diane J MEM:EX; Jeff.Guerin@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Taylor, Andrew JTI:EX; Underhill, Brian ALC:EX; danwallace@tnrd.bc.ca; Matscha, Gabriele ENV:EX; Lyle.Thompson@ceaa-acee.gc.ca; Demchuk, Tania MEM:EX; suzanne.lheureux@tc.gc.ca; s22 Rhebergen, Frank ENV:EX; laura.maclean@ec.gc.ca; Jeanette Jules; Moody, Anne MEM:EX; referrals; ddraney@skeetchestn.ca; Delwisch, Cheryl L FLNR:EX; thewitt@skeetchestn.ca; nrreception@skeetchestn.ca; Klingbeil, Karl B FLNR:EX; colleen.hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca; Misty.Palm@interiorhealth.ca; McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX; sheila@stkemlupsemc.ca; Henry, Larry FLNR:EX; Fitton, Susan FLNR:EX; Shelley.Ball@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca; jfretz@kamloops.ca; Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX; marcy.friedel@tc.gc.ca; carl.alleyne@hc-sc.gc.ca; John.Heinonen@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Jordan.McNiven@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca; Puhallo, Jennifer ENV:EX; Hupman, C Bruce MEM:EX
Cc: cbrodie@knightpiesold.com; Dianna Stoopnikoff; barb@stkemlupsemc.ca; seagen@knightpiesold.com; Jim Whittaker; Gajowski, Leigh Anne EAO:EX
Subject: RE: Ajax blasting report

So the blasting report will be released, but only after the feasibility?

From: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX [mailto:Fern.Stockman@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 11:23 AM
To: Einarson, Dennis ENV:EX; Anderson, Mike FOR:IN; Rothman, Stephen MEM:EX; Peter.Delaney@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; XT:Sheehan, Stephen Environment Canada EAO:IN; Seguin, Joe MEM:EX; Belliveau, Phil FLNR:EX; Bennett, Kevin A FLNR:EX; Yamelst, Brian H ENV:EX; john.mackie@tc.gc.ca; Bellefontaine, Kim MEM:EX; Howe, Diane J MEM:EX; Jeff.Guerin@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Taylor, Andrew JTI:EX; Underhill, Brian ALC:EX; danwallace@tnrd.bc.ca; Matscha,

Gabriele ENV:EX; Lyle.Thompson@ceaa-acee.gc.ca; Demchuk, Tania MEM:EX; suzanne.lheureux@tc.gc.ca; s22 Rhebergen, Frank ENV:EX; laura.maclean@ec.gc.ca; Jeanette Jules; Moody, Anne MEM:EX; referrals; ddraney@skeetchestn.ca; Delwisch, Cheryl L FLNR:EX; thewitt@skeetchestn.ca; nrreception@skeetchestn.ca; Klingbeil, Karl B FLNR:EX; colleen.hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca; Misty.Palm@interiorhealth.ca; McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX; sheila@stkemlupsemc.ca; Henry, Larry FLNR:EX; Fitton, Susan FLNR:EX; Shelley.Ball@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca; jfretz@kamloops.ca; Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX; Jim McGrath; marcy.friedel@tc.gc.ca; carl.alleyne@hc-sc.gc.ca; John.Heinonen@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Jordan.McNiven@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca; Puhallo, Jennifer ENV:EX; Hupman, C Bruce MEM:EX
Cc: cbrodie@knightpiesold.com; dstoopnikoff@amemining.com; barb@stkemlupsemc.ca; seagen@knightpiesold.com; jwhittaker@amemining.com; Gajowski, Leigh Anne EAO:EX
Subject: Ajax blasting report

Ajax Working Group Members:

EAO and CEAA have become aware that the Proponent submitted a report to EAO, CEAA and the working group which was received on a confidential basis. This report was the Multiple Seed Waveform (MSW) Site Vibration Characterization - Signature Holes and Production Blasts, and Air Overpressure Estimate - prepared by Orica Canada, April 2011. Upon reviewing this document, EAO and CEAA have formed the opinion that it was accepted in error.

As you know, EAO and CEAA have a general policy that we do not accept information on a confidential basis, although there can be limited exceptions to this policy. After discussing this with the Proponent and clarifying the policy, the Proponent requested that EAO and CEAA remove this file from our records. In its request, the Proponent noted that the report is confidential and business sensitive in nature and is not to be released to the public until the Feasibility Report is released mid-December or early January and be made available to the Proponent's shareholders and the public at that time.

EAO and CEAA do not generally accept confidential documents, as it is usually necessary for EAO and CEAA to share information with proponents, First Nations and working group members and the public in order to adhere to principles of administrative fairness. Further, EAO posts most documents related to an EA process on its electronic project information centre in order to ensure transparency and enhance public confidence in the process. Therefore, EAO and CEAA have removed the report from our project files after considering the Proponent's request.

Further, EAO and CEAA are currently working on an enhanced access to information strategy. This strategy will be shared with the working group once finalized. In the meantime, please remove this document from your electronic and paper files.

Thank you.

Chris Hamilton | Project Assessment Director | BC Environmental Assessment Office
Ph: 250.357.1032 | Fax: 250.357.2208 | www.eao.gov.bc.ca
Fern Stockman | Project Assessment Officer | BC Environmental Assessment Office
Ph: 250.356.5326 | Fax: 250.356.6448 | www.eao.gov.bc.ca
Rethink Reduce Reuse Repair Recycle

Colleen Hanlan

Project Manager I Gestionnaire de projet

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency I Agence canadienne d'évaluation environnementale

Pacific and Yukon Region | Bureau du Pacifique et du Yukon

PO Box 10114, 701 West Georgia Street, Suite 410
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Government of Canada I Gouvernement du Canada

Telephone I Téléphone 604-666-1495

Cellular | Cellulaire s17

Facsimile I Télécopieur 604-666-6990

Email I Courriel électronique colleen.hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca

McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX

From: Jim Whittaker [jwhittaker@amemining.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2011 11:14 AM
To: McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX
Cc: Dianna Stoopnikoff
Subject: RE: Request: Documents regarding Ajax - clarification

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Lindsay,

I have sorted out a few things;

1) The 2009 assessment report is an annual summary report that is sent to the Geological Survey of the BC government, to describe the work that has been completed through the past year, in preparation for the reassessment of mining claims. This is public information, and should be on government websites. Anyway, the geologists at site are looking for the specific report, I will advise.
2) The Golder technical memorandums, sequential plans, and operational descriptions will be appendices in the 43-101 feasibility report, we currently expect this to be completed by mid December 2011
3) The Knight Piesold reports have a disclaimer for use by third parties, and are part of the working group baseline information. You can release these if you wish, please advise if you have this report in your files.
4) The Orica blast report will be part of the feasibility study, to be made public in mid December 2011. This has not been released to Abacus shareholders and I would prefer to wait for the official release with the study, this is the same as the Golder reports.

Best regards,

Jim

From: McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX [mailto:Lindsay.McDonough@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: November 9, 2011 8:17 AM
To: Jim Whittaker
Cc: Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX; Evans, Megan J EAO:EX
Subject: Request: Documents regarding Ajax - clarification

Hi Jim, we're in the midst of finalizing a response letter to a request for information regarding the Ajax file. You responded to my last email request which included a list of five documents (see below) that a member of the public is requesting access to, and I wanted to confirm a couple of things:

1. Assessment Report of the Abacus-New Gold Joint Venture Diamond Drilling Program on the Ajax Property, March 16, 2009;

    - **I looked on www.sedar.com as you suggested and it's not located on that site. Would you be willing to locate this document and make it public? (I understand that it was used by Abacus so perhaps you have another connection you could investigate)?**

2. Ajax Copper/Gold Project, Kamloops British Columbia - Preliminary Assessment Technical Report, July 31, 2009;

- **We were able to locate this on SEDAR. Thank you for the link.**

3. Golder 2010. Technical memorandum re: preliminary snapshots of the thickened disposal raising. From: Irwin Wislesky, Golder Associates Ltd. (cited in the Project Description);

    - **You note that this document and item #5 would be made available as an appendix once the feasibility study is completed. Could you please provide us with an approximate timeline that we can include in the response letter?**

4. Knight Piésold (KP). 2009. Abacus Mining and Exploration Corporation Afton Project: 2008 Preliminary Hydrometeorology Report. Prepared for Abacus Mining and Exploration Corporation. (cited in the PD);

    - **Could you please provide more clarification on this, i.e. can this be released? (If the document is not in draft form and does not contain proprietary rights, we will likely need to share it publicly).**

5. January 2011 Test Blast Results reported by Ajax Project Manager James Whittaker at the June 16 public meeting as having been submitted to the EAO Working Group.

    - **At the last WG meeting, you gave us verbal confirmation that this could be released. Can you provide me with the source and/or location?**

Thank-you!

Lindsay
CC: Nicole Vinette; Megan Evans

From: Jim Whittaker [mailto:jwhittaker@amemining.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2011 4:20 PM
To: McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX
Cc: Shaw, Rachel EAO:EX; Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX
Subject: RE: Request: Documents regarding Ajax

Hi Lindsay,

Let me try and get through this list:

1) The assessment report is before my time (it was 2007 to 2008, not 2009), I do not have a copy, and if it was utilized by Abacus and made public, it can be found on SEDAR (www.sedar.com) for free. Note: these results have been updated and superseded by the PEA and very soon by the Feasibility Study.
2) The PEA is public and found on SEDAR – again its free.
3) All technical memorandums that form the Feasibility study (release planned for Nov 2010) are internal to Abacus, not public, and will be superseded by the Feasibility Study once they are signed and sealed by professional engineers. The feasibility study will be available in its entirety with all appendices on SEDAR in late November or early December – free.
4) Knight Piesold historical documentation I believe is currently in the hands of the working group.
5) Orica blast testing results has been made available to Jen Fretz of the working group, and reviewed by the cities engineers and consultants.

I have no issue if items 4 and 5 are made public now, but I would like to know if it is typical for documents in study by the working group to be made public prior to termination of review.

Best regards,

Jim

From: McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX [mailto:Lindsay.McDonough@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: October 19, 2011 4:00 PM
To: Jim Whittaker
Cc: Shaw, Rachel EAO:EX; Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX
Subject: Request: Documents regarding Ajax

Hi Jim,

EAO received a request from a member of the public regarding access to the below-noted documents in relation to the proposed Ajax project. (In the email, the individual noted that these documents were either cited by you, the proponent, in previous correspondence and/or referenced in the minutes from Working Group meetings, but are not currently available through e-PIC).

Could you please let me know if these documents (specifically #1, #2, #3 and #5) could be made, or already are, available to the public? And if yes, where they might be available?

I understand that several documents may be available through other agencies, such as the Ministry of Energy and Mines, and will be following up with them as well.

Thanks in advance,

Lindsay
CC: Rachel Shaw; Nicole Vinette

6. Assessment Report of the Abacus-New Gold Joint Venture Diamond Drilling Program on the Ajax Property, March 16, 2009;

7. Ajax Copper/Gold Project, Kamloops British Columbia - Preliminary Assessment Technical Report, July 31, 2009;

8. Golder 2010. Technical memorandum re: preliminary snapshots of the thickened disposal raising. From: Irwin Wislesky, Golder Associates Ltd. (cited in the Project Description);

9. Knight Piésold (KP). 2009. Abacus Mining and Exploration Corporation Afton Project: 2008 Preliminary Hydrometeorology Report. Prepared for Abacus Mining and Exploration Corporation. (cited in the PD);

10. January 2011 Test Blast Results reported by Ajax Project Manager James Whittaker at the June 16 public meeting as having been submitted to the EAO Working Group.

Lindsay McDonough | Project Assessment Officer | BC Environmental Assessment Office
Ph: 250.387.7411 | Fax: 250.356.5326 | www.eao.gov.bc.ca
"Nothing is certain, anything is possible, and everything depends on everything else." **"Nothing is certain, anything is possible, and everything depends on**
> everything else."

McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX

From: Darling, May Y PREM:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2011 4:56 PM
To: McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX
Subject: RE: Quick Q for U, re: Ajax

Hi Nicole,
No problem. Yes, a blasting report was posted on sharepoint by me. You can find it under Ajax sharepoint. Working Group was advised that if they want to have review the document, they could download it from sharepoint.

May Darling
Cabinet Committee Director

Cabinet Operations, Office of the Premier
Suite 049 -167 Government Street, B.C., V8W 9V1
Phone: 250-952-0302 I Fax : 250-387-7392 I s17
May.Darling@gov.bc.ca

From: McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2011 4:06 PM
To: Darling, May Y PREM:EX
Subject: Quick Q for U, re: Ajax

Hi May,

Sorry to bug you about this, but Nicole is away for the next few days and we have a conference call with CEAA and the Proponent tomorrow which I need some information for.

I was wondering if you recall receiving any correspondence regarding a blasting report with respect to the proposed Ajax project? CEAA is under the impression that a blasting report was distributed to the working group following a June meeting...

I'd like to know (a) if the report was distributed; and (b) if yes, from whom and to whom?

Thanks in advance,

Lindsay

Lindsay McDonough | Project Assessment Officer | BC Environmental Assessment Office
Ph: 250.387.7411 | Fax: 250.356.5326 | www.eao.gov.bc.ca
"Nothing is certain, anything is possible, and everything depends on everything else." **"Nothing is certain, anything is possible, and everything depends on**
> everything else."

McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX

From: Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2011 2:31 PM
To: 'Michael Hewitt'
Cc: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX; Gajowski, Leigh Anne EAO:EX; Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX
Subject: RE: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Dear Mr. Hewitt,

I recently applied on a new position here at EAO that would allow me to spend 50% of my time on operational policy and 50% of my time on project work. I was fortunate enough to get that position, so a new project lead from EAO has been assigned to the environmental assessment for the proposed Ajax Project.

The new project lead is Chris Hamilton and he's a Project Assessment Director here at EAO. Chris has experience with mining projects, the Kamloops area, and the First Nations involved in the EA for the proposed Ajax Project, so the project is in very capable hands. Please see below for Chris' contact information:

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
T: 250-387-1032
M: s17
F: 250-387-2208
E: Chris.Hamilton@gov.bc.ca

My new position, and Chris' new role as project lead for Ajax, are both effective immediately, so I'm forwarding your e-mail to him for consideration and response. Thank you.

Nicole Vinette
Project Assessment Manager
Environmental Assessment Office
(250) 387-8745
Nicole.Vinette@gov.bc.ca

-----Original Message-----
From: Michael Hewitt s22
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2011 11:52 AM
To: Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX
Subject: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Dear Ms. Vinette:

At the June 16th, 2011 Open House hosted by BC EAO/CEAA Mr. J. Whittaker discussed the test blast performed earlier this year at the Ajax mine site. Working Group member Ms. Jen Fretz (City of Kamloops) has told us that the Working Group has received the test blast report. We would appreciate receiving a copy of that report at your earliest convenience. It would be very useful to be cognizant of the content of the report in order to be able - if need be - to ask questions regarding the test blast at the next open house.

On another point, have you any idea when the next open house will be held, and where?

Thanks you for your anticipated cooperation.

Yours truly,

Michael J. Hewitt.
Kamloops Area Preservation Association (KAPA).

McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 12:29 PM
To: 'Michael Hewitt'; 'Dianna Stoopnikoff'
Cc: McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX; Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Subject: RE: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Hi Michael
I've cc'ed your note to Dianna, who represents the Proponent. Given the testing you refer to is being completed by the proponent, not the Crown, it is best she respond to the availability of this information.
C

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

From: Michael Hewitt s22
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 11:40 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Dear Mr. hamilton.

Given below is a copy of my November 28, 2011 email to Ms. Nicole Vinette requesting a copy of the Ajax test blast report referred to by Mr. Jim Whittaker, project manager for the Ajax mine proposal. Will you now please provide the test blasting information requested. I also requested information on when the next Open House for the general public will be held. You might also wish to respond to my suggestions regarding the format for the next Open House, made in my November 11, 2011 email to Ms. Vinette, already forwarded to you.

Yours truly,

Michael Hewitt
Researcher,
Kamloops Area Preservation Association.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Michael Hewitt s22
Date: November 28, 2011 11:51:49 AM PST
To: Nicole Vinette <Nicole.Vinette@gov.bc.ca>
Bcc: Judith Naylor s22 DON BARZ s22 Don at Work s22 Fawn Knox s22 , Paula Pick s22 Ruth Madsen s22
Subject: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Dear Ms. Vinette:

At the June 16th, 2011 Open House hosted by BC EAO/CEAA Mr. J. Whittaker discussed the test blast performed earlier this year at the Ajax mine site. Working Group member Ms. Jen Fretz (City of Kamloops) has told us that the Working Group has received the test blast report. We would appreciate receiving a copy

of that report at your earliest convenience. It would be very useful to be cognizant of the content of the report in order to be able - if need be - to ask questions regarding the test blast at the next open house.

On another point, have you any idea when the next open house will be held, and where?

Thanks you for your anticipated cooperation.

Yours truly,

Michael J. Hewitt.
Kamloops Area Preservation Association (KAPA).

This transmission is intended only for the above listed recipient(s). It may contain privileged or confidential information, and is solely for the use of the above listed recipient(s). If you have received this transmission in error, please delete this message and any attachments included. Any distribution or copying of this transmission by anyone other than the listed recipient(s) is strictly unauthorized. Thank you.

McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX

From: Dianna Stoopnikoff [dstoopnikoff@amemining.com]
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2011 12:53 PM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX; Hanlan,Colleen [CEAA]
Cc: McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX; Chris Brodie
Subject: RE: DRAFT poster boards for Open House

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Chris,

First week of January works for me. s22 I have included Chris Brodie in this email as I think it will be good to have him on the tour with us.

Cheers,

Dianna

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX [mailto:Chris.Hamilton@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: 19-Dec-11 12:50 PM
To: Dianna Stoopnikoff; 'Hanlan,Colleen [CEAA]'
Cc: McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX
Subject: RE: DRAFT poster boards for Open House

I'm thinking first week in January. When are you back from holidays? No worries about release – whenever it is public is fine.

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 cel s17

From: Dianna Stoopnikoff [mailto:dstoopnikoff@amemining.com]
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2011 12:38 PM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX; Hanlan,Colleen [CEAA]
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX
Subject: RE: DRAFT poster boards for Open House

Hi Chris,

Sorry – I was just waiting on official word. The official word is that the Feasibility will be sent out Tuesday at 5pm, and will be available on Sedar Wednesday morning. Unfortunately I cannot release the blasting report prior to the Feasibility. It's not possible.

Yes to the site visit. Anytime Chris. I was planning to come to Victoria to meet with you and anyone from your team that would like a walk through the project, but if you come here, that will be even better.

Cheers,

Dianna

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX [mailto:Chris.Hamilton@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: 19-Dec-11 12:21 PM
To: Dianna Stoopnikoff; 'Hanlan,Colleen [CEAA]'

Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX
Subject: RE: DRAFT poster boards for Open House

Hi Dianna
Just sent you a vmail about a briefing, site visit and a question about the blasting report. When is the feasibility report out?

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

From: Dianna Stoopnikoff [mailto:dstoopnikoff@amemining.com]
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2011 11:59 AM
To: Hanlan,Colleen [CEAA]
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX; Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: RE: DRAFT poster boards for Open House

Hi Colleen,

No worries. I expect the poster boards to be finalized with yours and Chris' comments within the next two days. I will let you know when they are ready to upload.

Cheers,

Dianna

From: Hanlan,Colleen [CEAA] [mailto:Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca]
Sent: 19-Dec-11 11:54 AM
To: Dianna Stoopnikoff
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX; Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: RE: DRAFT poster boards for Open House

Hi Dianna,

I should have clarified that when I wrote that these were "CEAA's preliminary comments" – I wanted to ensure that both Chris and I have an opportunity to have "another look" at the end products. When do you anticipate we will be able to see the incorporated changes?

Thanks so much,
Colleen
604-666-1495

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX [mailto:Chris.Hamilton@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Thursday, December 15, 2011 10:42 AM
To: 'Dianna Stoopnikoff'
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX; Hanlan,Colleen [CEAA]
Subject: RE: DRAFT poster boards for Open House

Comments from us Dianna. Happy to talk more about them – crazy day though and I'm out of office from 3 onwards and in a meeting all day tomorrow. Overall, it is about humbleness and acknowledgement. I really like the "early consultations " section – it shows you've been listening. Try to use the phrase "if the project is approved" as often as possible as opposed to saying "the mine will" Even saying "Ajax proposes to ..." is better than writing everything in the future tense.

C

Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX

From: Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2011 9:28 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: FW: FYI: Document uploaded on Ajax sharepoint
Attachments: image002.jpg

Nicole Vinette
Project Assessment Manager
Environmental Assessment Office

(250) 387-8745
Nicole.Vinette@gov.bc.ca

From: Darling, May Y EAO:EX
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2011 10:06 AM
To: 'john.mackie@tc.gc.ca'; Bellefontaine, Kim MEM:EX; Howe, Diane J MEM:EX; Evans, Megan J EAO:EX; Seguin, Joe MEM:EX; Belliveau, Phil FLNR:EX; Yamelst, Brian H ENV:EX; 'GuerinJe@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca'; 'danwallace@tnrd.bc.ca'; Matscha, Gabriele ENV:EX; 'jessica.coulson@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca'; Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX; Darling, May Y EAO:EX; Einarson, Dennis ENV:EX; Anderson, Mike FOR:IN; Rothman, Stephen MEM:EX; 'Peter.Delaney@dfo-mpo.gc.ca'; Hupman, C Bruce MEM:EX; 'John.Heinonen@dfo-mpo.gc.ca'; 'kathy.mcpherson@nrcan.gc.ca'; 'laura.maclean@ec.gc.ca'; 'Michael.Engelsjord@dfo-mpo.gc.ca'; 'Lyle.Thompson@ceaa-acee.gc.ca'; Demchuk, Tania MEM:EX; 'suzanne.lheureux@tc.gc.ca'; 'jfretz@kamloops.ca'; 'Jeanettejules@kib.ca'; 'Jordan.McNiven@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca'; Delwisch, Cheryl L FLNR:EX; 'referrals@kib.ca'; 'ddraney@skeetchestn.ca' s22
'nrreception@skeetchestn.ca'; Henry, Larry ABR:EX; 'jmcgrath@kib.ca'; 'thewitt@skeetchestn.ca'; Klingbeil, Karl B FLNR:EX; Fitton, Susan FLNR:EX; 'carl.alleyne@hc-sc.gc.ca'
Cc: 'rbrodie@knightpiesold.com'; 'dstoopnikoff@amemining.com'; 'jwhittaker@amemining.com'; 'seagen@knightpiesold.com'; 'barb@stkemlupsemc.ca'
Subject: FYI: Document uploaded on Ajax sharepoint

Hello everyone,
For your information, there are three documents that have been uploaded to the EAO Ajax sharepoint. They are:

Baseline water sampling
Blasting report
Dustfall Monitoring

If you wish for a closer look, please go to the Ajax project site, http://sharepoint.env.gov.bc.ca/EAO/projects3/ajaxgoldcopper/default.aspx and download at your convenience. If you have comments you wish to make, please send Nicole and me an email. Thanks!

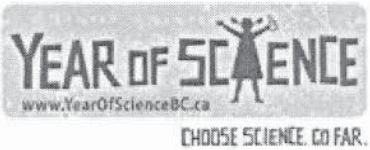
Again, just as a reminder, the userid for the sharepoint is : **Ajax_Mine (note underscore between the two words), and**

s17

Cheers!

May Darling
Project Assessment Officer

Environmental Assessment Office
1-836 Yates St., Victoria, B.C., V8W 1L8
Phone: 250-387-8689 I Fax : 250-356-6448
May.Darling@gov.bc.ca | www.eao.gov.bc.ca



Please consider the environment before printing this email

Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX

From: Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2011 9:28 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: FW: Blasting Test Report from Orica
Attachments: image001.jpg

Nicole Vinette
Project Assessment Manager
Environmental Assessment Office

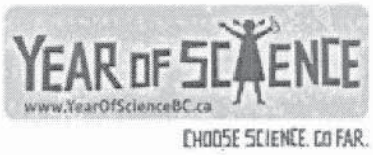
(250) 387-8745
Nicole.Vinette@gov.bc.ca

From: Darling, May Y EAO:EX
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2011 8:57 AM
To: 'Dianna Stoopnikoff'
Cc: Evans, Megan J EAO:EX; Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX; 'Lyle.Thompson@ceaa-acee.gc.ca'
Subject: RE: Blasting Test Report from Orica

Thanks, Dianna. I've posted the report on our project sharepoint site and any WG member interested in reading the report can download at their leisure. Cheers.

May Darling
Project Assessment Officer

Environmental Assessment Office
1-836 Yates St., Victoria, B.C., V8W 1L8
Phone: 250-387-8689 I Fax : 250-356-6448
May.Darling@gov.bc.ca | www.eao.gov.bc.ca



Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: Dianna Stoopnikoff [mailto:dstoopnikoff@amemining.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2011 4:09 PM
To: Lyle.Thompson@ceaa-acee.gc.ca; Hicks, Tim D EAO:EX; Darling, May Y EAO:EX; Fitton, Susan FLNR:EX; Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX
Cc: Chris Brodie
Subject: FW: Blasting Test Report from Orica

Hi all,

Please find attached the blast test report prepared by Orica. A copy of this report was a request from some of the members on the working group, so I leave it to you to distribute to the interested parties.

Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 8:27 AM
To: Riddell, David A EAO:EX; Starkes, Terri EAO:EX
Subject: Fw: Blasting Test Report from Orica

Fyi

----- Original Message -----
From: Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 07:36 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: RE: Blasting Test Report from Orica

No, they didn't tell us it was confidential until afterwards. They submitted it at the same time they were submitting their workplans for review and comment by the WG.

~Nicole

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: December 12, 2011 7:20 PM
To: Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX
Subject: Re: Blasting Test Report from Orica

Do you know if this was originally submitted to May as confidential or that only became clear once requests came from outside?
C

From: Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX
Sent: Monday, December 12, 2011 02:37 PM
To: Simpson, Vickie L EAO:EX
Cc: Starkes, Terri EAO:EX; Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: FW: Blasting Test Report from Orica

Just FYI -original receipt of the report by EAO from the proponent.

Nicole Vinette
Project Assessment Manager
Environmental Assessment Office
(250) 387-8745
Nicole.Vinette@gov.bc.ca<mailto:Nicole.Vinette@gov.bc.ca>

From: Darling, May Y EAO:EX
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2011 8:57 AM
To: 'Dianna Stoopnikoff'
Cc: Evans, Megan J EAO:EX; Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX; 'Lyle.Thompson@ceaa-acee.gc.ca'
Subject: RE: Blasting Test Report from Orica

Thanks, Dianna. I've posted the report on our project sharepoint site and any WG member interested in reading the report can download at their leisure. Cheers.

May Darling
Project Assessment Officer

Environmental Assessment Office

1-836 Yates St., Victoria, B.C., V8W 1L8
Phone: 250-387-8689 l Fax : 250-356-6448
May.Darling@gov.bc.ca<mailto:Karen.L.Christie@gov.bc.ca> | www.eao.gov.bc.ca
<file:///\\www.eao.gov.bc.ca> [cid:image001.jpg@01CC1AB9.BA5A1700]
ü Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: Dianna Stoopnikoff [mailto:dstoopnikoff@amemining.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2011 4:09 PM
To: Lyle.Thompson@ceaa-acee.gc.ca; Hicks, Tim D EAO:EX; Darling, May Y EAO:EX; Fitton, Susan FLNR:EX; Vinette, Nicole EAO:EX
Cc: Chris Brodie
Subject: FW: Blasting Test Report from Orica

Hi all,

Please find attached the blast test report prepared by Orica. A copy of this report was a request from some of the members on the working group, so I leave it to you to distribute to the interested parties.

Best regards,

Dianna Stoopnikoff
Environmental Manager

Abacus Mining & Exploration Corp.
#615 - 800 West Pender Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2V6
Tel: 604.682.0301
s22

P Think about the environment before printing.

Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 6, 2011 5:07 PM
To: 'Dianna Stoopnikoff'
Cc: 'Colleen Hanlan (colleen.hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca)'; Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Subject: FW: Status of Documents for Ajax Mine including the Orica Test Blast Report

HI Dianna
One of the things we want to talk about tomorrow is broadly called "access to information". We'll talk about general principles such as "we post all data" but you may also consider other information and how to make it accessible. I assume some of the 43-101 information is being referred to by Don. Much of that is typically included in final Applications, but of course we differentiate between what is provided to us for working group information in pre-Ap vs what is actually required to be submitted in Application Review. The first is primarily voluntary while the second is set out in section 16(2) of the Act.
Chris

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 6, 2011 12:52 PM
To: 'Don Barz'
Cc: 'Colleen Hanlan (colleen.hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca)'; Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Subject: RE: Status of Documents for Ajax Mine including the Orica Test Blast Report

Thanks Don
I apologize for not having time to respond to your note in detail at this time – I'm completing a few other deadlines before travelling to Kamloops tomorrow.

However, the issue of access to information, which is the subject of your note to Nicole, is very much what we would like to speak with you and your group about. I think we could all benefit from a detailed discussion of the EA process and in particular how we collect information, what information we ask for and post to EPIC, who reviews that information and how we use information to make recommendations.

I'm happy to use the recent test blast report as an example and to explain to you why I made the decision not to accept the draft report at this time. My note to Michael indicated that it is EAO's policy not to accept confidential information except in rare circumstances and consistent with FOIPA legislation.

I look forward to a more detailed discussion Friday.

Chris

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

From: Don Barz s22
Sent: Tuesday, December 6, 2011 11:34 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Cc: Krueger.MLA, Kevin LASS:EX; Lake.MLA, Terry LASS:EX; 'Colleen Hanlan (colleen.hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca)'
Subject: Status of Documents for Ajax Mine including the Orica Test Blast Report

Hello:

Congratulations on your new role as Project Manager for the Ajax mine environmental. I am sure you will find this review very interesting as time goes on.

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Don Barz and I work with Michael Hewitt doing research for the Kamloops Area Preservation Association.

I am forwarding for your attention the following unanswered September 19, 2011 email to Nicole Vinette. I am part of the group that will be meeting with you on Friday at 1:30 PM, and I wish to discuss this email at this time.

As a preliminary for this meeting, I wish to bring to your attention some of my concerns regarding the Orica test blast report.

Michael Hewitt forwarded me an email from you to him in which you have decided that the "EAO erred " when accepting this document as confidential, and that you are now attempting to expunge copies of this document from all EAO files, and requesting that Working Group members do the same. This decision raises the following questions:

1. On what grounds did you make this decision that an error occurred?
2. What was the nature of this error?
3. Are there any government policies regarding the acceptance of documents that proponents wish to see remain as confidential?
4. Does the government accept other documents from proponents that are deemed confidential? (My experience with Freedom of Information requests to the B.C. Government is that this is standard practice).
5. If so, what is the problem with the EAO accepting this document and keeping it confidential?
6. In other words, why destroy the document?
7. Was this decision to destroy the document made at the request of the proponent, KGHM Ajax?

With regard to the confidentiality aspects of this report, you may be aware that Jim Excell, Abacus President and CEO and Director of KGHM Ajax, told CFJC-TV news in an interview on June 16th at the Ajax mine open house, partly sponsored by your Office that:

"The good news is we have already done some test blasting there, and with the modern techniques that are available these days, electronic ignition of the detonation of the blasting holes, the amount of vibration that comes off that is really very minimal." (I have a copy of this interview, currently available on youtube, and this is a verbatim quote.)

Also at the same meeting, James Whittaker, Ajax Project Manager, told the meeting that the test blast report had been submitted to the Working Group. We have the complete video of Mr. Whittaker's public comments about the effects of blasting, which are too lengthy to be recounted here.

Regarding the issue of confidentiality in the framework of administrative law and fairness, this right is not an absolute right and must be balanced against other rights, such as public safety. As you are no doubt aware, people living close to the proposed mine are very concerned about the potential for damage to their homes from the cumulative results of the blasting of up to 180,000 tonnes of rock per day for 23 years. In this particular instance, the public interest constitutes people's homes and property values, and health and safety concerns.

Ajax representatives have already made at least one public statement regarding the impacts of blasting apparently based on the test blast results contained in the Orica report. If this report is not in its final form, then I would suggest that KGHM officials were premature their conjecture about the effects of vibration from blasting, and that their statements may constitute an act of misrepresentation. Now, I don't believe that there is anything in the B.C. Assessment Act regarding misrepresentation (otherwise, you folks surely would be even busier than you are), but there is a provision in the Securities Act, 140.3 (2) regarding oral statements containing misrepresentations that relate to the business or affairs of the responsible issuer (in this case Abacus Minerals and Exploration Corporation).

On the other hand, if the Orica report is in its final form, then I would argue that given that the proponent is already making public statements using information in this report, the aforementioned public interest should over-ride the proponent's right to confidentiality, and therefore your office should release this report.

At the very least, given that there is at least one substantive legal issue at stake here, possible misrepresentation under the B.C. Securities Act, I suggest that you not issue, or rescind, your decision to destroy any copies of the Orica report, in print or electronic form, at this time.

I look forward to meeting with you on Friday.

Regards,

Don Barz

From: Don Barz s22
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 8:15 PM
To: Don Barz
Subject: FW: Status of Documents for Ajax Mine

From: Don Barz s22
Sent: September 19, 2011 3:00 PM
To: 'Nicole Vinette (Nicole.Vinette@gov.bc.ca)'; Lyle Thompson (Ajax@ceaa-acee.gc.ca)
Subject: Status of Documents for Ajax Mine

Hello:

It has been over two months since the June 16 public meeting was held in Kamloops for the Ajax mine project. During this period, I have been trying to obtain as much information as is available regarding the project. The federal and provincial websites for the environmental assessment of the project have been useful in the sense that the sites provide a checklist for what project documents are readily available to the public.

However, my concern is about those documents that have been either made public by the proponent, cited by the proponent but not yet released, or have been submitted to government agencies, but for some reason are not listed on the environmental assessment websites. These documents raise concerns about the protocol that exists for disclosure of information, and about whether the environmental assessment process to date reflects the public participation guidelines that both federal and provincial governments profess to be operating under – particularly with regard to such principles as transparency (e.g., disclosure), reliability, timeliness, and information sharing (see The *Ministerial Guideline on Assessing the Need for and Level of Public Participation in Screenings under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act).*

Documents that I wish to inquire about are as follows:

1. Assessment Report of the Abacus-New Gold Joint Venture Diamond Drilling Program on the Ajax Property, March 16, 2009
2. Ajax Copper/Gold Project, Kamloops British Columbia – Preliminary Assessment Technical Report, July 31, 2009;
3. Golder 2010. Technical memorandum re: preliminary snapshots of the thickened disposal raising. From: Irwin Wislesky, Golder Associates Ltd. (cited in the Project Description)

4. Knight Piésold (KP). 2009. Abacus Mining and Exploration Corporation Afton Project: 2008 Preliminary Hydrometeorology Report. Prepared for Abacus Mining and Exploration Corporation. (cited in the PD)

5. January 2011 Test Blast Results reported by Ajax Project Manager James Whittaker at the June 16 public meeting as having been submitted to the EAO Working Group.

With regard to the Assessment Report, this 2,515 page report is the most important document of all, for it contains the assay results for the project. It provides the geological information on which the economic justification for the project is determined. It also provides the fundamental geological data to understand the geochemical composition of the ore and waste rock, which is essential to determining the scope of environmental studies for the project. The report is in the possession of the B.C. Ministry of Mines. Why is this report not part of the documents listed for the project on the environmental assessment websites?

The Preliminary Assessment Technical Report contains significant information about the proposed project and about the basic geology of the project area. The report was released by Abacus Minerals and Exploration as part of securities disclosure requirements. Why is this report not part of the documents listed for the project on the environmental assessment websites?

The third and fourth reports listed above are cited in the References for the Project Description. The Golder 2010 report has already been used by a proponent spokesperson to make a public statement that "the waste rock and ore are not acid generating" (Letter to the Kamloops News from John Froese, Abacus, August 13, 2011), and similar statements in the Project Description (page43) and the April 27 Working Group meeting -even though the host ore for the mine is chalcopyrite, a sulfide ore. Have both reports been provided to the government agencies tasked with developing the study guidelines for the environmental assessment, and if so, why not?

With regard to the test blast results, it is noted that the minutes of the April 27, 2011 Working Group meeting state that "the Proponent advised that a report detailing the results of test blasting will be soon available." I have been informed that this report has now been submitted to the Working Group. Why has this report not been made available to the public through posting on the government environmental assessment web sites?

Regards,

Don Barz

Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2011 12:26 PM
To: 'Hanlan,Colleen [CEAA]'
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Subject: RE: Blasting results

Good idea, I had not thought that there may be more.

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

-----Original Message-----
From: Hanlan,Colleen [CEAA] [mailto:Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca]
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2011 9:06 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX; dstoopnikoff@amemining.com
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Subject: Re: Blasting results

Dianna,

Thanks for clarifying. Since all documents submitted to CEAA by KAM is subject to a current access to information request by KAPA, I would also like to take this opportunity to request you to identify other documents that have been submitted that fall into the category of causing potential harm to future business negotiations if released to the public.

If there are no other such documents, please let me know.

Thanks,
Colleen
6046661495

----- Original Message -----
From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX <Chris.Hamilton@gov.bc.ca>
To: 'dstoopnikoff@amemining.com' <dstoopnikoff@amemining.com>
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX <Fern.Stockman@gov.bc.ca>; Hanlan,Colleen [CEAA]
Sent: Mon Dec 05 08:52:15 2011
Subject: Re: Blasting results

Thanks Dianna - given that information I'm inclined to ask you to request that EAO remove from our files and consideration. This is a challenge with confidential docs. Thoughts? Feel free to call me anytime today to discuss. s17
C

----- Original Message -----
From: Dianna Stoopnikoff [mailto:dstoopnikoff@amemining.com]
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 08:44 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX

Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca <Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Blasting results

Hi Chris,

The Orica Blast Test Report will be released as an appendix with the Feasibility Study that will be released to the public in mid-December (hopefully). We are not able to release to the public the Blast Test Report stand alone without the feasibility study because our shareholders have not seen the report. The report is business sensitive and in hindsight likely should not have been released to the government.
It was an attempt to be transparent with the City of Kamloops and the working group and now it's coming back to bite us. I am currently looking to set up a share files ftp site on our website which will host many of these public documents once they are released.

Best regards,

Dianna

-----Original Message-----
From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX [mailto:Chris.Hamilton@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: 5-Dec-11 8:34 AM
To: Dianna Stoopnikoff
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; 'Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca'
Subject: Blasting results

Hi Dianna. Can you provide me with a bit of background on the tests people are asking for? In particular I'm wondering about the confidential nature of the work. EAO has a general policy of not accepting confidential works (although there are exceptions) as part of our adherence to principles of administrative law. If you could
provide a bit of background on this particular document today I'd very much appreciate it. Was it perhaps part of the pre-feasibilt work and therefore business sensitive? Part of me wonders if EAO accepted this document as confidential in error and we should purge our files of it.
Any thoughts todat most welcome.
C

Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2011 12:22 PM
To: 'Dianna Stoopnikoff'
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Subject: FW: Test blast results, KGHM Ajax.

fyi

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s22

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2011 12:17 PM
To: 'Michael Hewitt'
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; 'Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca'
Subject: RE: Test blast results, KGHM Ajax.

Hi Michael
Thanks for the letter. It's nice to have someone with your skills, understanding and background working with us. I've heard nothing but good things about the level of experience and education in your group.

To begin, I'm the Statutory Decision Maker on this file, which means that decisions considered under the Provincial Environmental Assessment Act which relate to information, process and instructions to the Proponent regarding the process come from me. In making those decisions and providing instructions, I'm guided by rules of Administrative Law and natural justice. As a former adjudicator, I'm sure you are familiar with principles of fairness and allowing parties to be heard before making important decisions. Neither my employer or the Proponent instruct me how to make these decision – to do so would be fettering, a serious breach of administrative law. I take my responsibilities seriously, and require that I have all the information available before making decisions. Thorough responses sometimes take more time; I'm sorry if this appears overly bureaucratic.

EAO has a policy where we do not generally accept confidential documents, as it is usually necessary for EAO to share information with proponents, First Nations, the public and working group members in order to adhere to principles of administrative fairness. Further, EAO posts most documents related to an EA process on its electronic project information centre in order to ensure transparency and enhance public confidence in the process.

Having had time to look into the specifics of your request for the report called "Multiple Seed Waveform (MSW) Site Vibration Characterization - Signature Holes and Production Blasts, and Air Overpressure Estimate - prepared by Orica Canada, April 2011" I have determined that EAO erred when we accepted this document as confidential.

Because the document is a component of the Proponent's confidential analysis, I have asked that the document be removed from EAO's files and that all working group members delete the electronic and hard copies. When it is available in a form that is no longer confidential, I will reconsider how or if it is made available, should it be offered to EAO.

With all of that said, I look forward to talking about an overall strategy for access to information for this project with KAPA and other groups. It is clear to me that people in

Kamloops are looking for information on the proposed project and have an interest in an extremely transparent process. Those are principles which I support, as long as they occur within the framework of administrative law and fairness.

Sincerely

Chris

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

From: Michael Hewitt s22
Sent: Saturday, December 3, 2011 3:32 PM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Cc: Judith Naylor; DON BARZ; Sharon Antoniak; Donna Sambolec; John Schleiermacher; Fawn Knox
Subject: Test blast results, KGHM Ajax.

Hello:

At the June 16, 2011 open house hosted by EAO/CEAA, Mr. Jim Whittaker provided the information that there had been test blasts at the Ajax site. He also said that the proponents were happy with the results. We have his statements on video. However, a number of attempts by individuals to obtain a copy of the test blast report have been rebuffed. Referring me to the proponent is, as you probably know, a complete waste of my time. My colleagues have tried that without success. The City of Kamloops representative on the Working Group told KAPA reps that, while the Working Group had been provided with the report she could not release it to us as the proponent had refused to allow its release. All of which leads me to conclude that it is not a report which they wish to have subjected to scrutiny, and that they dictate to EAO what the public may or may not see.

With respect, your comments (see below) are a classic example of a bureaucratic attempt to sidestep the issue. It certainly does not speak well of the EAO "guiding principle" of transparency. I spent 30 years in government Chris, and rose to the highest level. Since my retirement I was for seven years an adjudicator and know obfuscation when I see it. I have also been retained by government to write policy, and was retained by the NS Department of Justice to prepare an analysis of legislation for submission to a public enquiry into the Westray Mine disaster. For one year I was the sole commissioner of a public enquiry into management and safety practises at the Denison-Potocan potash mine in Sussex, New Brunswick. I was also contracted by the Mulroney government to act as interim President and CEO of a crown corporation while they searched for a permanent replacement.

I mention all of the above in order that we clearly understand each other. When I ask a question, I expect a forthright reply. If you are not allowed by either your employer or the proponent to provide the test blast report, then just say so.

Michael J. Hewitt.

Hi Michael

Probably a topic best left for a meeting in person to discuss access to appropriate information. In some cases draft information is presented to members of the working group for their consideration and feedback in the preparation of additional reports. I'm not familiar with this particular study, so it's difficult to comment on.
Again, happy to meet in person and we look forward to your response to our meeting request.
Chris

Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2011 10:03 AM
To: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca
Subject: RE: Question: Test Blast Report - Formal Request for Removal

I want to be just a bit more clear that EAO has taken ownership of the issue and that we are not just responding to the Proponent; that is, this is OUR decision, not the Proponents - they are reacting to our decision making.

Please send this with my signature too Fern. Thanks

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

-----Original Message-----
From: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2011 9:54 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX; Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca
Subject: RE: Question: Test Blast Report - Formal Request for Removal

Draft note to WG below for your review. Colleen is there anything from CEAAs perspective that you would like to add or clarify?

Ajax Working Group Members:

EAO has become aware that the Proponent submitted a report to EAO and the working group which was received on a confidential basis. This report was the Multiple Seed Waveform (MSW) Site Vibration Characterization - Signature Holes and Production Blasts, and Air Overpressure Estimate - prepared by Orica Canada, April 2011. Upon reviewing this document, EAO has formed the opinion that it was accepted in error.

As you know, EAO has a general policy that we do not accept information on a confidential basis, although there can be limited exceptions to this policy. After discussing this with the Proponent and clarifying the policy, the Proponent requested that EAO remove this file from our records. In its request, the Proponent noted that the report is confidential and business sensitive in nature and is not to be released to the public until the Feasibility Report is released mid-December or early January and be made available to the Proponent's shareholders and the public at that time.

EAO does not generally accept confidential documents, as it is usually necessary for EAO to share information with proponents, First Nations and working group members and the public in order to adhere to principles of administrative fairness. Further, EAO posts most documents related to an EA process on its electronic project information centre in order to ensure transparency and enhance public confidence in the process. Therefore, EAO has removed the report from our files after considering the Proponent's request.

Further, EAO and CEAA are currently working on an access to information strategy. This strategy will be shared with the working group once finalized. In the meantime, please remove this document from your electronic and paper files.

-----Original Message-----
From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2011 9:31 AM
To: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Cc: Gajowski, Leigh Anne EAO:EX; 'Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca'
Subject: Re: Question: Test Blast Report - Formal Request for Removal

Yes, but a cover note to the WG stating that we only consider non-confidential documents and that we're working on an access to info strategy, C

----- Original Message -----
From: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 09:26 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Cc: Gajowski, Leigh Anne EAO:EX
Subject: Question: Test Blast Report - Formal Request for Removal

So is this as simple as removing the report from our files (I drive, sharepoint and paper)? And informing the WG that we have removed the file?

-----Original Message-----
From: Dianna Stoopnikoff [mailto:dstoopnikoff@amemining.com]
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2011 9:06 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca
Subject: Test Blast Report - Formal Request for Removal

Hi Chris,

On behalf of KGHM Ajax Project (KAM), we would like to formally request that you remove the Multiple Seed Waveform (MSW) Site Vibration Characterization - Signature Holes and Production Blasts, and Air Overpressure Estimate - prepared by Orica Canada, April 2011 from your library as this report is confidential in nature and is not to be released to the public until the Feasibility Report is released mid-December or early January. The above mention report is business sensitive in nature and when the Feasibility Report is released, this report will be an appendix and will be made available to our shareholders and the public at that time.

We thank you for your consideration to this request to remove the Blast Test Report mentioned above from your library.

Best regards,

Dianna

-----Original Message-----
From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX [mailto:Chris.Hamilton@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: 5-Dec-11 8:52 AM
To: Dianna Stoopnikoff
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; 'Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca'
Subject: Re: Blasting results

Thanks Dianna - given that information I'm inclined to ask you to request that EAO remove from our files and consideration. This is a

challenge with confidential docs. Thoughts? Feel free to call me anytime today to discuss.

s17

C

----- Original Message -----
From: Dianna Stoopnikoff [mailto:dstoopnikoff@amemining.com]
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 08:44 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca <Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Blasting results

Hi Chris,

The Orica Blast Test Report will be released as an appendix with the Feasibility Study that will be released to the public in mid-December (hopefully). We are not able to release to the public the Blast Test Report stand alone without the feasibility study because our shareholders have not seen the report. The report is business sensitive and in hindsight likely should not have been released to the government.
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Best regards,

Dianna

-----Original Message-----
From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX [mailto:Chris.Hamilton@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: 5-Dec-11 8:34 AM
To: Dianna Stoopnikoff
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; 'Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca'
Subject: Blasting results

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Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2011 8:34 AM
To: 'dstoopnikoff@amemining.com'
Cc: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; 'Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca'
Subject: Blasting results

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C

Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2011 7:12 AM
To: 'Colleen.Hanlan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca'
Subject: Fw: Test blast results, KGHM Ajax.

Fyi

From: Michael Hewitt s22
Sent: Saturday, December 03, 2011 03:32 PM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Cc: Judith Naylor s22 ; DON BARZ s22 ; Sharon Antoniak s22 Donna Sambolec s22 John Schleiermacher s22 Fawn Knox s22
Subject: Test blast results, KGHM Ajax.

Hello:

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With respect, your comments (see below) are a classic example of a bureaucratic attempt to sidestep the issue. It certainly does not speak well of the EAO "guiding principle" of transparency. I spent 30 years in government Chris, and rose to the highest level. Since my retirement I was for seven years an adjudicator and know obfuscation when I see it. I have also been retained by government to write policy, and was retained by the NS Department of Justice to prepare an analysis of legislation for submission to a public enquiry into the Westray Mine disaster. For one year I was the sole commissioner of a public enquiry into management and safety practises at the Denison-Potocan potash mine in Sussex, New Brunswick. I was also contracted by the Mulroney government to act as interim President and CEO of a crown corporation while they searched for a permanent replacement.

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Michael J. Hewitt.

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Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2011 7:11 AM
To: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Subject: Fw: Test blast results, KGHM Ajax.

Fyi

From: Michael Hewitt s22
Sent: Saturday, December 03, 2011 03:32 PM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Cc: Judith Naylor s22 ; DON BARZ s22 Sharon Antoniak s22
Donna Sambolec s22 ; John Schleiermacher s22 ; Fawn Knox
s22
Subject: Test blast results, KGHM Ajax.

Hello:

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Chris

Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2011 9:33 AM
To: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Cc: 'Hanlan,Colleen [CEAA]'; McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX
Subject: RE: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

s13

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

From: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2011 9:14 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: RE: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

There's a few more similar requests that have been made for access to WG documents –
Public request of Interior Health: WG memo re: work plans with respect to air quality
Requested of TNRD from KAPA: "Metals and Chemicals" test that the TNRD has obtained from the Ajax Mine application as required in the TNRD processing forms.

It was on Nicole and Lindsay's to do's as far as a policy with sharing such documents.

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 5:13 PM
To: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Subject: FW: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

hmmm

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 4:29 PM
To: 'Michael Hewitt'
Subject: RE: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Hi Michael

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Chris

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

From: Michael Hewitt s22
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 3:16 PM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: Re: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Hello Chris:

Thank you for your prompt response. As noted in my earlier email to Ms. Vinette, the City of Kamloops Working Group member, Ms. Jen Fretz, advised KAPA members that the Working Group had been provided with the Ajax test blast report. That being the case, why cannot you or Ms. Fretz provide a group whose interests Ms. Fretz represents, with the report. Why the barrier? Does your response imply that we have to request the proponent for any information provided by the proponent to the Working Group? Does this mean that KGHM Ajax controls what the Working Group can release to the public? If so, what does that say for the transparency of the role of the Working Group?

Yours truly,

Michael J. Hewitt
On 2011-11-30, at 12:29 PM, Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX wrote:

Hi Michael
I've cc'ed your note to Dianna, who represents the Proponent. Given the testing you refer to is being completed by the proponent, not the Crown, it is best she respond to the availability of this information.
C

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

From: Michael Hewitt s22
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 11:40 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Dear Mr. hamilton.

Given below is a copy of my November 28, 2011 email to Ms. Nicole Vinette requesting a copy of the Ajax test blast report referred to by Mr. Jim Whittaker, project manager for the Ajax mine proposal. Will you now please provide the test blasting information requested. I also requested information on when the next Open House for

the general public will be held. You might also wish to respond to my suggestions regarding the format for the next Open House, made in my November 11, 2011 email to Ms. Vinette, already forwarded to you.

Yours truly,

Michael Hewitt
Researcher,
Kamloops Area Preservation Association.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Michael Hewitt s22
Date: November 28, 2011 11:51:49 AM PST
To: Nicole Vinette <Nicole.Vinette@gov.bc.ca>
Bcc: Judith Naylor s22 DON BARZ s22 , Don at Work s22 , Fawn Knox s22 Paula Pick s22 Ruth Madsen s22
Subject: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Dear Ms. Vinette:

At the June 16th, 2011 Open House hosted by BC EAO/CEAA Mr. J. Whittaker discussed the test blast performed earlier this year at the Ajax mine site. Working Group member Ms. Jen Fretz (City of Kamloops) has told us that the Working Group has received the test blast report. We would appreciate receiving a copy of that report at your earliest convenience. It would be very useful to be cognizant of the content of the report in order to be able - if need be - to ask questions regarding the test blast at the next open house.

On another point, have you any idea when the next open house will be held, and where?

Thanks you for your anticipated cooperation.

Yours truly,

Michael J. Hewitt.
Kamloops Area Preservation Association (KAPA).

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Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2011 9:27 AM
To: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Subject: Re: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Let's find some time to chat with Colleen and i

From: Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 01, 2011 09:14 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: RE: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

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Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

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Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 4:29 PM
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Subject: RE: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

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Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

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Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 3:16 PM

To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: Re: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

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British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
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Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX

From: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 4:34 PM
To: 'Dianna Stoopnikoff'; 'Hanlan,Colleen [CEAA]'; Stockman, Fern P EAO:EX; McDonough, Lindsay EAO:EX
Subject: FW: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Hi All

s.13

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

From: Michael Hewitt s22
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 3:16 PM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: Re: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Hello Chris:

Thank you for your prompt response. As noted in my earlier email to Ms. Vinette, the City of Kamloops Working Group member, Ms. Jen Fretz, advised KAPA members that the Working Group had been provided with the Ajax test blast report. That being the case, why cannot you or Ms. Fretz provide a group whose interests Ms. Fretz represents, with the report. Why the barrier? Does your response imply that we have to request the proponent for any information provided by the proponent to the Working Group? Does this mean that KGHM Ajax controls what the Working Group can release to the public? If so, what does that say for the transparency of the role of the Working Group?

Yours truly,

Michael J. Hewitt
On 2011-11-30, at 12:29 PM, Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX wrote:

Hi Michael
I've cc'ed your note to Dianna, who represents the Proponent. Given the testing you refer to is being completed by the proponent, not the Crown, it is best she respond to the availability of this information.
C

Chris Hamilton
Project Assessment Director
British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office

phone 250.387.1032 fax 250.387.2208 s17

From: Michael Hewitt s22
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 11:40 AM
To: Hamilton, Chris EAO:EX
Subject: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Dear Mr. hamilton.

Given below is a copy of my November 28, 2011 email to Ms. Nicole Vinette requesting a copy of the Ajax test blast report referred to by Mr. Jim Whittaker, project manager for the Ajax mine proposal. Will you now please provide the test blasting information requested. I also requested information on when the next Open House for the general public will be held. You might also wish to respond to my suggestions regarding the format for the next Open House, made in my November 11, 2011 email to Ms. Vinette, already forwarded to you.

Yours truly,

Michael Hewitt
Researcher,
Kamloops Area Preservation Association.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Michael Hewitt s22
Date: November 28, 2011 11:51:49 AM PST
To: Nicole Vinette <Nicole.Vinette@gov.bc.ca>
Bcc: Judith Naylor s22 , DON BARZ s22 , Don at Work s22 Fawn Knox Paula Pick Ruth Madsen s22
Subject: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Dear Ms. Vinette:

At the June 16th, 2011 Open House hosted by BC EAO/CEAA Mr. J. Whittaker discussed the test blast performed earlier this year at the Ajax mine site. Working Group member Ms. Jen Fretz (City of Kamloops) has told us that the Working Group has received the test blast report. We would appreciate receiving a copy of that report at your earliest convenience. It would be very useful to be cognizant of the content of the report in order to be able - if need be - to ask questions regarding the test blast at the next open house.

On another point, have you any idea when the next open house will be held, and where?

Thanks you for your anticipated cooperation.

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Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 4:29 PM
To: 'Michael Hewitt'
Subject: RE: KGHM Ajax test blast results.

Hi Michael
Probably a topic best left for a meeting in person to discuss access to appropriate information. In some cases draft information is presented to members of the working group for their consideration and feedback in the preparation of additional reports. I'm not familiar with this particular study, so it's difficult to comment on.
Again, happy to meet in person and we look forward to your response to our meeting request.
Chris

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