

December 5th, 1980

Notes of a Meeting with Mr. Hank Giegerich of Cominco, December 5th, 1980.

He came in to discuss the Northern Mineral Advisory Committee but before he left I asked him about their plans for the Con arsenic pond. He informed me that they are doing research work on the hot water leach process and have earmarked something like \$75,000 for the project.

I indicated that we were presently looking at the fuming method and would only be going to pilot plant stage if we could justify it for our own needs. In other words, we would not be researching fuming method for the Con material unless there was some indication on their part that there was a deal.

He recognized my position and suggested that at the end of our studies we might want to compare notes and see which route to go. They feel that, with the time constraints presently imposed on them by the Water Board, they have to come up with something.

Their metallurgists have more or less ruled out the fuming because of hygiene problems involved. I told him that we had visited the Salsigne property and they are using fuming there with some success. He stated that he had been there a couple of years ago but that their environmental control left a lot to be desired for example, they were dumping something like 20 kilograms of arsenic into the receiving waters and were complaining that the Government was asking for half that. He also told me that the conditions around the bagging plant were less than desirable.

When discussing the possibility of Giant treating Con material, he said they have some real concerns about transportation of material to Giant. It looks like they would have to wash the trucks after loading before transporting through town. I suggested that this was not too great a cost when you consider the benefits to be gained from treating the material.

They are presently looking at recovering the arsenic pond using a clam shell, screening and then slurring. They do not like the idea of slurring directly for the hot water leach process because of the critical water balance. They can control their densities better by screening first into a sump and then slurring.


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their No. 51,000