



January 17, 1995

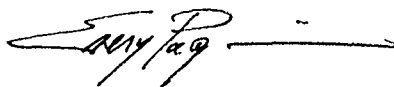
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**Approved Minutes of Meeting to Discuss Emissions
from the Giant Yellowknife Mine - 28 November 1994**

Attached are approved minutes of the November 28, 1994 meeting which was convened to discuss Renewable Resources' activities with respect to air emissions from Giant's roaster stack. I apologize for the delay in finalizing these minutes and any inconvenience this delay may have caused.

Thank you for your participation in the November meeting. If you have any questions regarding either these minutes or our continuing activities respecting air emissions from the mine's roaster stack, please do not hesitate to contact me at 873-7654.

Yours sincerely,



Emery Paquin
Director
Environmental Protection Division

Attachment.

MINUTES OF MEETING

Royal Oak Giant Yellowknife Mine Atmospheric Emissions Minister's Meeting with local stakeholder representatives - 28 November 1994

In attendance:

Silas Arngna'naaq, Minister of Renewable Resources	Tony Whitford, MLA
Joe Handley, Deputy Minister, Ren. Res.	Brian Lewis, MLA
Bob M ^c Leod, Asst. Deputy Minister, Ren. Res.	Charles Dent, MLA
Émery Paquin, Director of Env. Prot., Ren. Res.	Dave Lovell, Mayor, City of Yellowknife
Jim Sparling, Air Quality Specialist, Ren. Res.	Alice Hill, Yellowknife Dene Band
Kevin Weston, General Manager, Royal Oak	Dave M ^c Kenna, DFO
David Anthony, Environmental Mgr., Royal Oak	Laura Johnson, Environment Canada
Christine Tanner, Executive Assistant, Ren. Res.	John Witteman, DIAND
Frank Hamilton, Mack. Regional Health	Ranjit Sonniassy, DIAND
Dr. Andre Corriveau, Mack. Regional Health	Howard Madill, DIAND
Michael Cunningham, GNWT EM&PR	

The meeting was convened at the request of Silas Arngna'naaq to provide participants with information about Renewable Resources' activities with regard to air pollutants released by Royal Oak's Giant Yellowknife Mine and to solicit comments.

Renewable Resources provided a presentation on studies conducted by the Department, levels of arsenic and sulphur dioxide measured, regulatory and physical control options and current activities. It was pointed out that vegetation damage observed in the vicinity of the mine has been attributed to sulphur dioxide but that arsenic emission rates are lower now than during the early and mid 80's. According to an assessment by the Department of Health, present air pollution levels do not present an unacceptable risk to human health.

Following the presentation, participants noted that arsenic and sulphur dioxide emissions from the Giant roaster stack have been a concern of Yellowknife residents for many decades. There was discomfort about the levels of air pollution in Yellowknife and there was general agreement that efforts should be made to improve air quality. Health representatives commented that they would be concerned if there were increases in pollution levels now being experienced. There was agreement however, that it is valuable to have the information available when dealing with those concerns.

Economic considerations influence solutions to the problem. It was felt that increasing dispersion of Giant emissions should receive further consideration. Some pointed out that we have frequent concerns about transboundary pollution arriving by wind into the NWT and that by accepting increased dispersion we would be spreading our own pollutants in a similar fashion. For this reason, some suggested we should continue to look at emission reductions.

Company representatives stated that they consider proper preventative maintenance and operation of existing arsenic control equipment to be a high priority. They could not commit to making improvements in sulphur dioxide controls until economic costs were identified but they are interested in assessing increased dispersion through modelling work with Renewable Resources. The company presently shows 7 years of ore reserves on their books. They stated that the property continues to be a marginal operation that can't sustain large capital expenditure.