

April 15, 1963

Mr. C. T. W. Hyslop,
Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources,
Northern Administration Branch,
Kent Albert Building,
OTTAWA, Ontario

Dear Sir,

I have received a copy of your letter to Mr. W. R. Edmonds dated April 10, 1963, regarding the Arsenic Survey in Yellowknife, N. W. T.

In general, I agree with the points raised in your letter, but feel that a few comments are in order:-

- 1) Our mass balance is currently being completed and will be forwarded to Mr. Grainge within the week.
- 2) Whilst agreeing that fluorescence dye would be an extremely costly reagent for undertaking the current flow study, I rather question if it would be possible to use the solution from the tailings dam as a tracer. Our most recent assay of the solution contained in the tailings dam indicated less than 6 parts per million of Arsenic. If this were pumped into the Yellowknife River, I feel that it might be diluted to the point where the contained Arsenic could not be detected.
- 3) I do not feel that further stack tests are required. I also feel that the aerial fallout pan sampling should be discontinued. These tests were unquestionably of considerable value before the present dust collection system was installed, but now fill no useful purpose to my way of thinking.

Some of my remarks must have been misunderstood, as

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you say in your letter, "If there is any Arsenic being discharged from the smoke-stack to the atmosphere, it can readily be noticed in the smoke as it is a bright red colour, due to the iron content." When the collection system is faulty, it is possible to detect this visually, but not by the bright red colour of the discharge from the stack. During the summer months, any discharge from the stack indicates that the system is faulty. During the winter months, condensed steam is visible at all times, but when the collection system is faulty, a change in appearance takes place. This again, can readily be detected.

Yours truly,

GIANT YELLOWKNIFE MINES LIMITED.

M. K. Pickard,
General Manager.

MKP:vw

cc: J. W. Grainge