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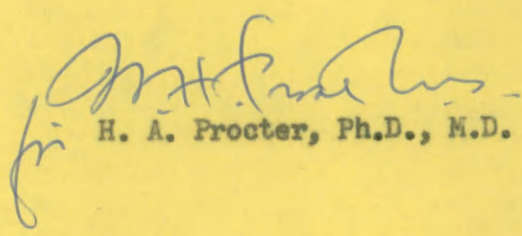
August 9, 1968.

ARSENIC SURVEYS OF YELLOWKNIFE BAY AND  
TURBIDITY SURVEY OF YELLOWKNIFE RIVER  
JULY 19, 1968

Your letter and Mr. Grainge's report have been discussed with the Chief of Public Health Engineering and the Chief of the Engineering Division of the Northern Administration Branch. Mr. Edmonds had issued instructions that Mr. Grainge's report was not to be distributed but Mr. Stairs apparently had received a copy of it by some route through the Resources Section of Northern Development.

Mr. Edmonds is obviously unhappy about any recommendation from the health department which would tend to decide the site of the water intake. While it is true that the improvements in the Hot Cottrell Dust circuit at the Giant Yellowknife Mine, and the lime treatment of the tailings resulting in a lower concentration of soluble arsenic in the tailings dam overflow, have resulted in consistently lower arsenic values in Yellowknife Bay; and future construction to divert the overflow of tailings to Baker Creek, which discharges into the bay a significant distance below the narrows, will improve the situation still further; nevertheless the hydraulics of the river and bay area must be considered by the consulting engineers in the choice of an intake site.

I gained the impression that Mr. Edmonds would be very happy if the intake were located in the Yellowknife River as originally recommended. He will be writing to Mr. Stairs and providing him with an evaluation of Mr. Grainge's report. Mr. Stairs is now aware of this and both he and Mr. Edmonds are aware of your views. The advance distribution of the report is unfortunate.

  
H. A. Procter, Ph.D., M.D.

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