



**Royal Oak
Mines**

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June 23, 1995

Northwest Territories Water Board,
P.O. Box 1500
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2R3

Attention: Mr. Gordon Wray, Chairman

Dear Mr. Wray:

**Re: Giant Mine - Study of The Underground Storage of Arsenic Trioxide
Water Register # N1L2-0043**

The Board's concern regarding the pace of activity on the Water License Study, "An Assessment of Scientific Data Relating to the Permanent Storage of Arsenic Trioxide in the Underground Mine Workings at the Giant Mine" are acknowledged. Royal Oak takes its commitment to environmental protection seriously. The commitments made to the Board with regards to this study will be honoured.

Royal Oak has retained the services of Mr. Fred Matich of MAJM Corporation to act in the capacity of a senior technical advisor on this study. Mr. Matich is a well respected geotechnical engineer with extensive experience in permafrost in Northern Canada. Mr. Matich has had considerable involvement in previous presentations to the N.W.T. Water Board in relation to the construction of the northwest tailings impoundment at the Giant mine. Under the guidance of Mr. Matich, Royal Oak will retain the services of appropriate consultants with expertise in the area of hydrogeology and thermal ground conditions.

Work is well advanced on the collection of historical data relating to the existing storage chambers and on the design specifications for future storage chambers and the related bulkheads.

The project team will be next meeting in Yellowknife during the third week in July. A revised study schedule will be submitted to the Board following this review session. The revised schedule will be sensitive to the original five year term of the study but will also ensure that the amount of data collected is scientifically appropriate to meet the study objectives and is realistically achievable.

Yours very truly,

ROYAL OAK MINES INC.



Larry Connell
Manager of Environmental Services

LC

cc: S. E. El-Alfy - V.P. Operations
J. Stard - Mine Manager
D. Anthony - Manager Environmental Services - NWT Division
P. MacIntyre - Mill Superintendent
F. Matich - MAJM