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SENT BY FAX
(to EBA, (867) 873-3324)

August 20, 1999

Deton'Cho Environmental Alliance
c/o EBA Engineering
P.O. Box 2244
#201, 4916 - 49th Street
Yellowknife, N.T.
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Attention: **Mr. Brent Murphy** (EBA Engineering)

Dear Mr. Murphy,

Re: Environmental Site Assessment & Cost Estimate - Giant Mine

I was pleased to have an opportunity to review the Draft Report on your Environmental Site Assessment and Cost Estimate for the Giant Mine. I was impressed by the thoroughness of the site work and the accuracy of information contained in the report, and generally agree with the conclusions and recommendations you have made.

I have a few, very minor comments on the content of the report, as follows:

(1) Section 6.4.1 'Designated Hazardous Waste Storage Area' (pages 55 and 56)

There are two references to the cessation of disposal of arsenic trioxide contaminated materials directly into the TCA. This disposal probably ceased in the early 1990's ('92 or '93), rather than 1997 as stated in the report. Since that time, sealed drums of this material have been stored on pallets and the intended use of the site has changed from disposal to storage.

The text also suggests that the reason this disposal ceased was to avoid making the water "unnecessarily more difficult to treat to Water Licence criteria". The issue is one of economics (the cost of treatment) rather than any technical difficulties.

(2) References (page 104)

The November 1998 revision to the Giant Mine Abandonment and Restoration Plan seems to have been omitted from the references.



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(3) Plate 37 Caption

We have a lot of arsenic at Giant, but I'm not sure we've ever thought about using it for insulation ! (late nights ?).

Congratulations on a good job. Please call me at (867) 669-3729 if you require further information at this time.

Yours sincerely,

Royal Oak Mines Inc.

Stephen Schultz
Superintendent, Environmental Services
NWT Division

cc: John Stard (ROM)
Emery Paquin (RWED-GNWT)
Jim Coughlin (MACA-GNWT)
Neill Thompson (INAC)