



Environmental Assessment Office

Inspection Record

Project Name: Mt. Milligan Copper Gold Project	Inspection Status:
Certificate #: M09-01	Inspection No:
Certificate Status: <u>Certified</u>	Inspection Date: 2013-01-24
Region: <u>Omineca</u>	Office: <u>Victoria</u>
Trigger: <u>Incident</u>	Incidents of Non-Compliance Observed: <u>Yes</u>
Non-Compliance Decision Matrix Level: <u>Level 1 - No impact likely</u>	Non-Compliance Decision Matrix Category: <u>Few NCs, not aware/capable to comply</u>
Inspector Name(s): Chris Parks (EAO), Clayton Gross (FLNRO)	
Audit Record(s): <u>N/A</u>	Total Non-Compliance(s):
Proponents Name: Thompson Creek Metals Ltd.	
Proponents Contact(s): Chris Werbicki, Environmental Coordinator Andrew Chewter, Environmental Superintendant	
Mailing Address: 132- 250 Stuart Drive East Fort St. James, BC Canada, V0J 1P0	
Phone No: (250) 996-2551	Fax No:
Contact Email: cwerbicki@tcrk.com; achewter@tcrk.com	
Location Description: Mt. Milligan Mine, located 95 km northeast of Fort. St. James, BC.	
Lat: 55°07'37.32" N	Long: 123°56'30.57" W
Sector: <u>Mines</u>	

Summary

MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Inspection Period:

From: 2013-01-24

To: 2013-01-24

Certificate or Act:

Certificate under the Environmental Assessment Act

Activity: On Site

Inspection Summary:

Inspectors from the Environmental Assessment Office and the Compliance and Enforcement Branch of the Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations attended the Mt. Milligan Mine northeast of Fort St. James, BC, on January 24 2013 to verify the certificate holders compliance with Condition 1 of EAC# M09-02. The Certificate Holder was found to be non-compliant with this requirement. Verbal notice of the non-compliance was provided to Chris Werbicki, Mt. Milligan Environmental Coordinator. A written advisory regarding the non-compliance will be provided to Thompson Creek Metals subsequent to this report being finalized. See Regulatory Considerations section for additional information.

Inspectors evacuated the cleared site in relation to conditions that would be added to EAC M09-01, should the amendment be granted. The onsite works were found to be consistent with these proposed requirements.

Response:

Advisory

Compliance Summary

Automatically populated upon upload

In

Out

N/A

N/D

Inspection Details

Types of Compliance: Construction

Requirement Description:

Condition 1 of EAC M09-01 states: The Proponent must cause the Project to be designed, located, constructed, operated and decommissioned in accordance with the Conditions of this Certificate, the documents listed in Schedule A, and the Table of Proponent's Commitments in Schedule B, and must comply with all of the Conditions of this Certificate to the reasonable satisfaction of the Minister.

Schedule A of EAC M09-01 includes the "Mt. Milligan Copper-Gold Project Environmental Assessment and Appendices, application for an Environmental Assessment Certificate, September 4, 2008" (Application). The Application can be viewed at:

http://a100.gov.bc.ca/appsdata/epic/html/deploy/epic_project_home_285.html

Findings:

The proposed camp facility and associated works are not described in the Application or any other of the Schedule A documents to EAC M09-01.

Inspectors noted that Thompson Creek Metals has cleared access to, removed vegetation from, and stripped the topsoil from the area of the proposed camp pad, and begun clearing the right-of-way for the proposed walking trail and utility corridor, in contravention of Condition 1. Appendix 1 includes a map of these proposed facilities. Figures 1 through 6 of Appendix 2 document the clearing and stripping activities conducted on the site.

Compliance: Out

Types of Compliance: Construction**Requirement Description:**

Inspectors evaluated the onsite works in relation to the following proposed requirements:

Operations Accommodation Camp

1. The Camp will be in the location identified in (Appendix 1).
2. The maximum footprint of the site for the Camp will be four hectares, including areas required for temporary use during construction.
3. The Camp will use an existing access road in the location identified in (Appendix 1) which may be upgraded; and include a new walking trail that will also serve as a corridor for Services, in the location identified in (Appendix 1).
4. The pad referenced in paragraph 3 must be set back at least 30 meters from any wetland, or watercourse classified as a stream under the Forest and Range Practices Act.

Findings:

1. Inspectors noted that the cleared camp pad and cleared area of the proposed utility corridor and walking trail are located as per Figure 1 of the proposed condition.
2. Inspectors walked the perimeter of the cleared camp pad and measured the area of disturbance using the "area calculate" function of a Garmin 62ST GPS. The area was measured to be 3.474 hectares. At inspectors request Mt. Milligan Environmental Coordinator Chris Werbicki provided an "as built" survey map of the camp pad completed by Radloff and Associates Engineering, which identifies the cleared area to be 3.82 hectares (Appendix 3).
3. The cleared camp pad is accessed by an existing access road that has been brushed-out by Thompson Creek Metals. The road has not been upgraded beyond clearing brush and grading, and would require additional upgrade and installation of a new culvert prior to operational use.
4. Inspectors measured the distance between the cleared camp pad and any identifiable watercourses. The cleared area was determined to be greater than 35m away from identifiable watercourses, however given that the site is under snow there may be additional watercourses that were missed by inspectors. Natural Resource Officer Clayton Gross will re-visit the site during snow free conditions to confirm these measurements.

Compliance: Not Applicable

ACTIONS REQUIRED BY PROPONENT(S) & ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

EAO has requested that all on-site activity in relation to the development of the camp facility and related works cease until they are allowable under EAC M09-01.

INSPECTION CONDUCTED BY:

Signature

Chris Parks, Environmental Assessment Compliance Officer

Date Signed :

2013-02-08

ENCLOSURE(S) TO PROPONENT(S) & DESCRIPTION:

Appendix 1: Map showing proposed works in relation to approved works and identifying area subject to inspection.

Appendix 2: Photographs documenting clearing of camp pad.

Appendix 3: As-built plan of cleared camp area, produced by Radloff and Associates.

REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS:

The Mt. Milligan Project is currently under construction. Thompson Creek Metals has requested an amendment to EAC M09-01 to allow the construction and operation of a camp to house mine workers during the operations phase of the mine. That amendment process is nearing completion. EAO has developed draft conditions that would be attached to EAC M09-01 should the amendment be approved. Thompson Creek Metals is aware of these conditions. The site works that were the subject of this inspection were conducted in accordance with those draft conditions. Thompson Creek Metals self-reported to EAO that the camp pad had been cleared and graded. TCM representatives believe they were given verbal authorization by EAO and the Ministry of Energy and Mines to proceed with the works from senior EAO and MEM staff.

Given these considerations, the response to the non-compliance detailed in this report will be at the advisory level.

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