



January 27, 2006

Via fax: 867 699-3166

Herb Norwegian
Chairman
Deh Cho Land Use Planning Committee
Box 89
Fort Simpson, N.W.T. X0E 0N0

Dear Chairman:

We have had the opportunity to review the Revised *Draft Plan* dated November 2005 prepared by the Deh cho Land Use Planning Committee.

It is with much regret that we have to say that we are very disappointed with the *Draft Plan* and have some major concerns and reservations.

Specifically, we note that in the *Draft Plan* the area described as Zone No. 6 (Greater Nahanni Ecosystem) has been entirely classified as a "Conservation Zone" and as such all development, except tourism, is prohibited therein.

In attributing this classification to all of this area we suggest that the Committee has ignored all of the evidence submitted by Canadian Zinc and others about the very significant mineral potential in parts of this area. This mineral potential was confirmed to the Committee by its own consultant C.S. Lord and by the Geological Survey of Canada (*see previous submission of Canadian Zinc dated December 2004*). We submit that prohibition of all development in this area, including in particular its mineral development, is not justified on any basis and is not in the best interests of the Deh Cho First Nations or its communities, the Northwest Territories or the people of Canada.

We do note that the Draft Plan does not apply to any existing rights, dispositions, authorizations or activities and that these existing uses are allowed to continue as "non-conforming uses". We assume that this includes and is intended to apply to our Prairie Creek Project.

Herb Norwegian
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We further note that in R 13 that developers of existing rights and activities are encouraged to harmonize their activities with the intent of the surrounding zone where possible. We respectfully submit that the suggestion that attempts to harmonize mining activities as a non-conforming use within a surrounding conservation zone would be virtually impossible and simply not good planning practice and therefore not a good Land Use Plan.

Finally we submit that CR No. 6, which attempts to deal with existing rights and activities, as draft, we submit, a *recipe* for trouble. No adequate definitions or descriptions are provided and the concept that any new activities associated with those prior rights or activities, or any application to alter the existing non conforming use, be considered new activities and be subject to the full extent of the Plan is simply unworkable and unacceptable.

We very much regret that, after all of the hard work that has been put in by the Planning Committee and its staff, and all of the submissions which have been made to the Planning Committee by various stakeholders, we have had to come to this conclusion.

However, for the foregoing reasons we are recommending to the Deh Cho First Nations, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Minister of DIAND, that, in its current format, the *Draft Plan* not be approved.

Yours truly

CANADIAN ZINC CORPORATION

"John F. Kearney"

John F. Kearney
President

Cc: Heide Weibe, Executive Director
Deh Cho Leadership