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US Army Corps of Engineers
Alaska District

Public Notice of Application for Permit

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
MAR 29 1988
GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

Regulatory Branch (1145b)
Post Office Box 898
Anchorage, Alaska 99506-0898

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: March 23, 1988

EXPIRATION DATE: April 25, 1988

REFERENCE NUMBER: 4-880269

WATERWAY NUMBER: Hawk Inlet 1

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States, as described below and shown on the attached plan.

APPLICANT: Greens Creek Mining Company, ATTN: H.M. Wimborne, 3000 Vintage Boulevard, Suite 200, Juneau, Alaska 99802.

LOCATION: Adjacent to Hawk Inlet, section 27, T. 43 S., R. 65 E., Copper River Meridian, USGS Map Juneau A-3, Admiralty Island, Alaska.

WORK: Placement of fill material within the Tributary Creek drainage area, near Hawk Inlet, Alaska, to construct tailing and impoundment embankments. Approximately 75,000 cubic yards (cy) of quarry rock, sands and gravel, and glacial till would be placed to create a main embankment, and a saddle embankment, for the proposed pond and tailings storage area. Another 8,000 cy of mill tailings and quarry rock would be placed to create crossroads and drains within the tailings storage area. This project would impact approximately 6.5 acres of wetlands. Mill tailings would be transported by truck to the tailings storage area and placed in lifts by means of access roads across the tailings storage area.

PURPOSE: To store mill tailings and to create an impoundment for the collection of mine runoff, drainage water from disturbed areas at the mine/mill site and mill wastewater, prior to the discharge of the wastewater in Hawk Inlet.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: In association with this project, an effluent disposal line would extend from the tailings basin and be buried in tidelands on the Greens Creek Delta, to end at depth in Hawk Inlet. The effluent outfall disposal line construction would be authorized by Nationwide permit 33 CFR 330.5(a)(7). The wastewater discharge would be regulated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency NPDES permit No. AK-004320-6. Please contact the applicant's agent, Glen J. Akins, Principal, AMERICA NORTH, INCORPORATED, 4040 B Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, (907) 562-3452 for further information.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts which the proposed activity may have on the public interest requires a careful weighing of all those factors which become relevant in each particular case. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to authorize a proposal, and if so the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur, are therefore determined by the outcome of the general balancing process. That decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

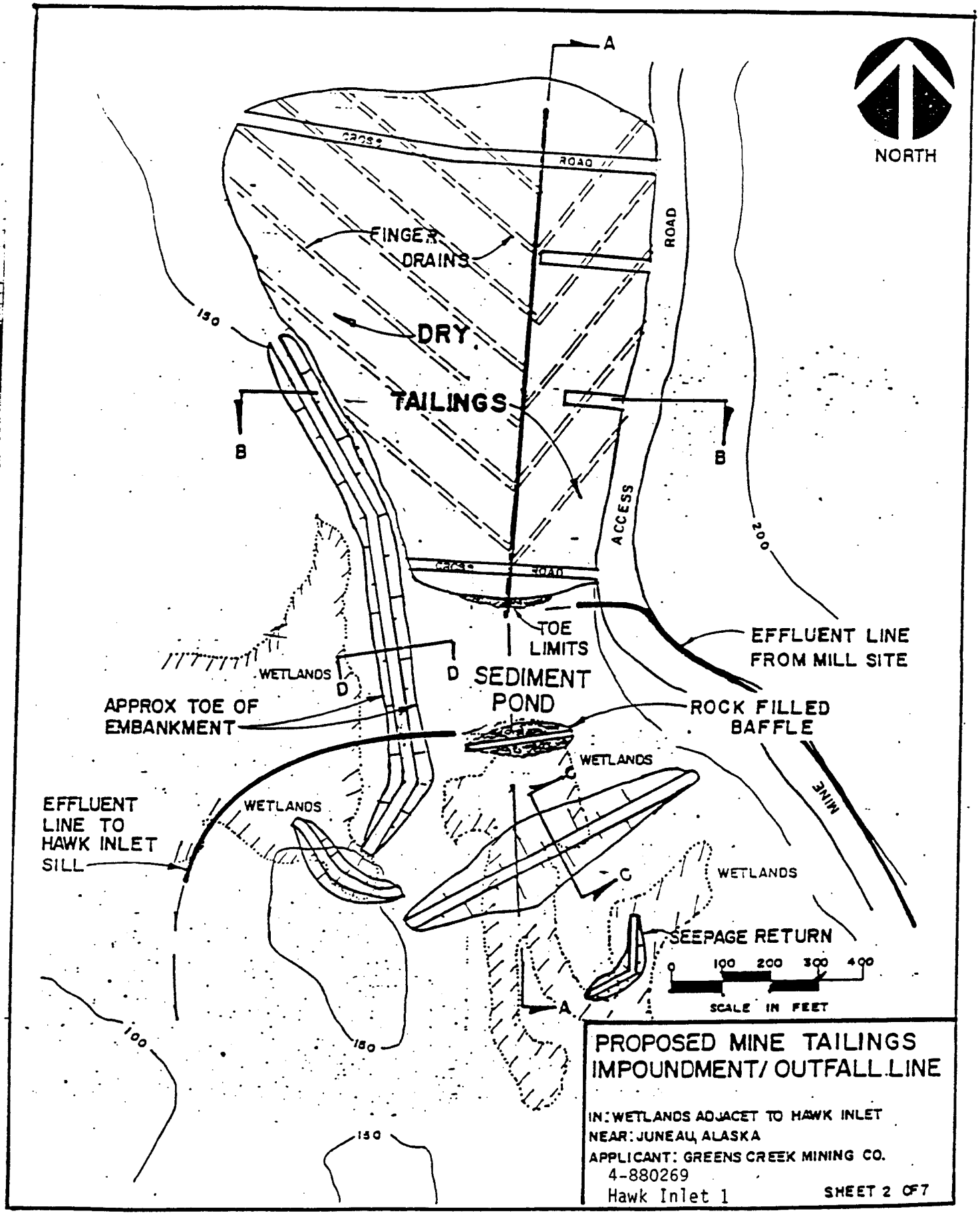
AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authorities: Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States - Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. If further information is desired concerning this notice, contact Mr. Don R. Rice at (907) 753-2712.

A plan, Notice of Application for Certification of Consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program, and Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are attached to this Public Notice.

District Engineer
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

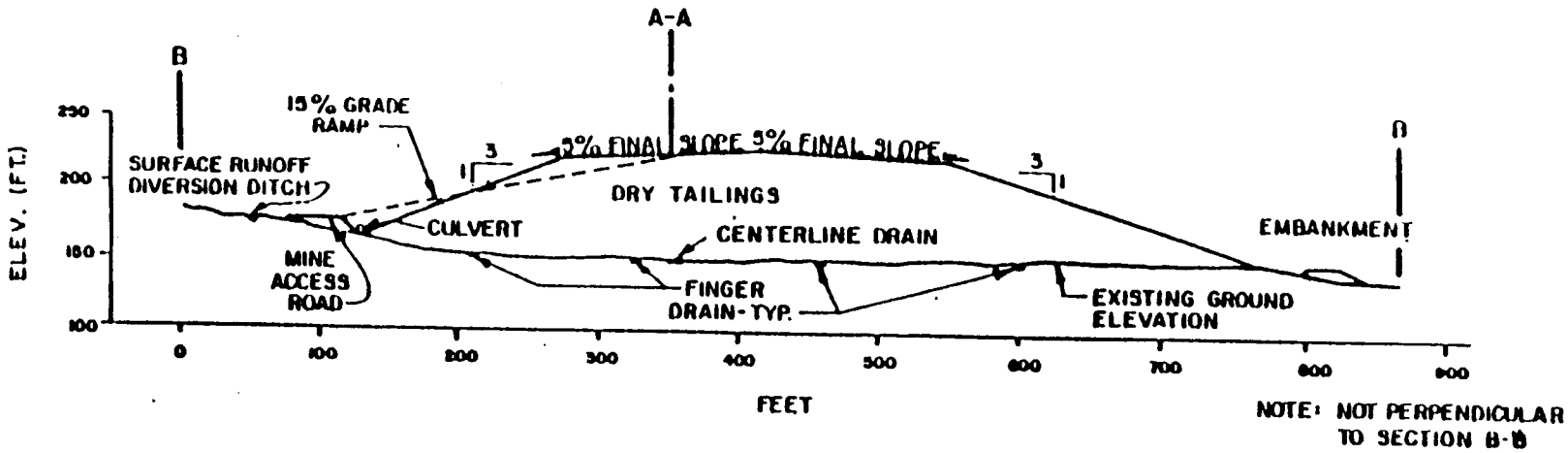
Attachments



PROPOSED MINE TAILINGS IMPOUNDMENT/ OUTFALL LINE

IN: WETLANDS ADJACET TO HAWK INLET
NEAR: JUNEAU, ALASKA
APPLICANT: GREENS CREEK MINING CO.
4-880269
Hawk Inlet 1

SHEET 2 OF 7



CROSS SECTION B-B LOOKING SOUTH

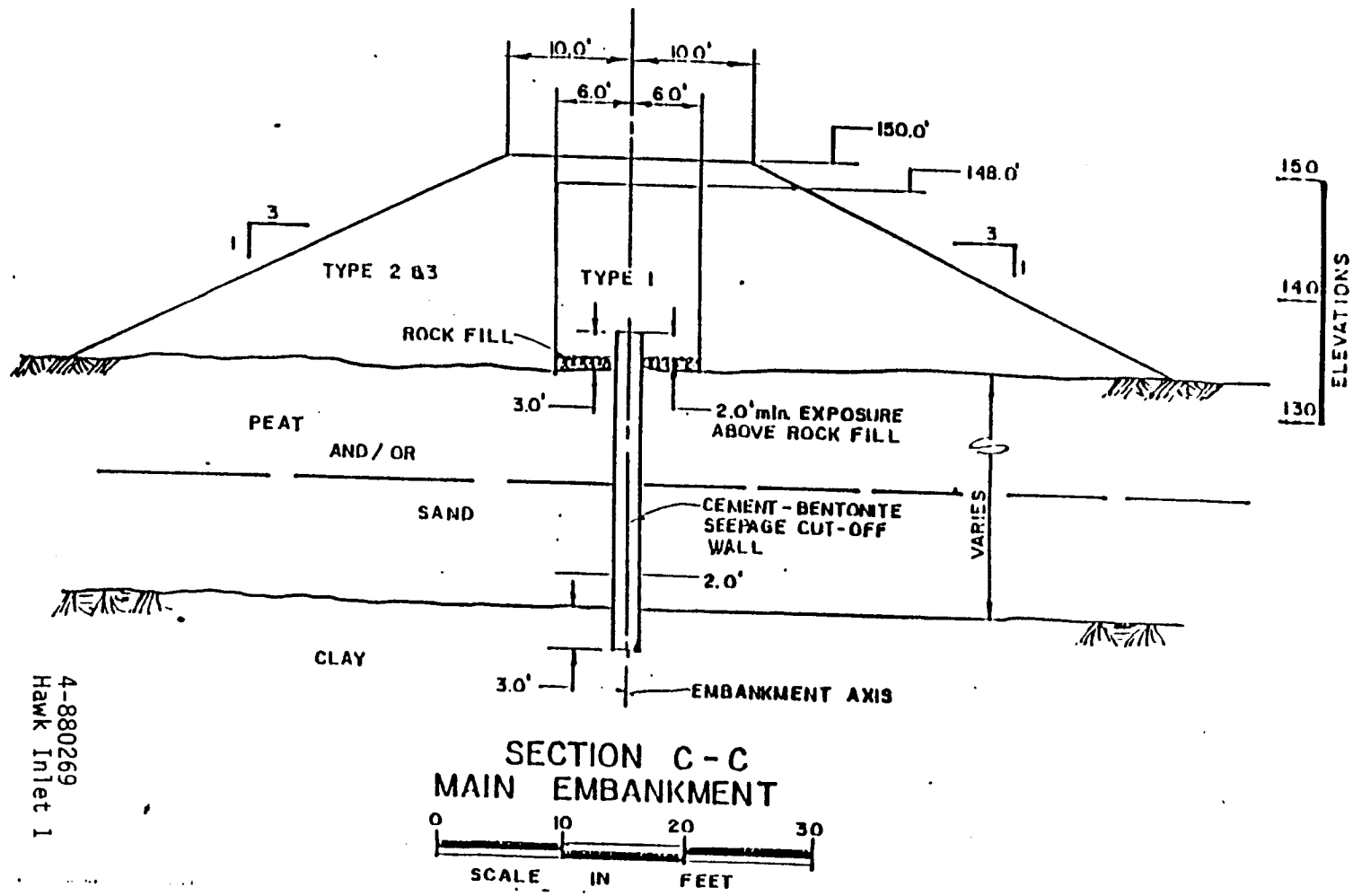
PROPOSED MINE TAILINGS IMPOUNDMENT

4-880269
Hawk Inlet 1.

IN: WETLANDS ADJACENT TO HAWK INLET
NEAR: JUNEAU, ALASKA
APPLICANT: GREENS CREEK MINING CO.
SHEET 4 OF 7 DATE JUNE, 1987

LEGEND

1. LOW PERMEABILITY CORE-GLACIAL TILL
2. ROCK FILL
3. SELECTED ROCK FILL
4. GRAVEL
5. RIP-RAP



SECTION C - C
MAIN EMBANKMENT

4-880269
Hawk Inlet 1

PROPOSED
MINE TAILINGS-
IMPOUNDMENT

IN: WETLANDS ADJACENT TO HAWK INLET
AT: ADMIRALTY ISLAND, ALASKA
APPLICANT: GREENS CREEK MINING CO.
DATE: FEB. 1988

SHT. 6 OF 7

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DIVISION OF GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

COE - Rice

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE
431 NORTH FRANKLIN
P.O. BOX AW, SUITE 101
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0165
PHONE: (907) 465-3562

PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET

PROJECT TITLE: Hawk Inlet / Greens Creek Review Part 1

STATE I.D. NUMBER/REVIEWING OFFICE: AK88 0401-02J

DGC CONTACT: Diane E. Mayer

APPLICANT CONDUCTING ACTIVITY: Greens Creek Mining Co.

DIRECT FEDERAL ACTION: YES____ NO ✓

REVIEW TYPE: CONSISTENCY ✓ ANILCA____ OCSLA____ NEPA____ OTHER____

ACTIVITY TYPE:

ARMED FORCES ACTIVITIES____
COMMERCIAL/TYPE____
LAND MGMT. PLAN____
MINING: HARDROCK MINING ✓
PLACER MINING____
OFFSHORE MINING____
OIL AND GAS____
OTHER____
PUBLIC UTILITIES/FACILITIES____
PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL____
FILL PLACEMENT____
FLOATING STRUCTURES____
TIMBER____

FISHERIES PRODUCTION:
GENERAL____
HATCHERY____
REMOTE RELEASE____
FISHERIES FARMS:
FINFISH____
SHELLFISH____
SEA VEGETABLES____
FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT____
FISHERIES PROCESSING____

RECEIVED
APR 4 1988
HABITAT REGION I - JUNEAU

PROJECT LOCATION:

NEAREST COASTAL DISTRICT: Juneau

PROJECT INSIDE THE DISTRICT BOUNDARY: YES____ NO ✓

DISTRICT PLAN APPROVED: YES ✓ NO____ PENDING____

REVIEW MILESTONES: DAY 1 4/01/88

REVIEW SCHEDULE: 15-Day____ 30-Day____ 50-Day ✓ OTHER____

REVIEWER REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BY: 4/25

COMMENTS DUE TO DGC BY: 5/04

NOTIFICATION TO APPLICANT BY: 5/16

DECISION DEADLINE: 5/20

01-A35LH

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

TO: Diane Mayer
DGC/OMB
Juneau

DATE: May 18, 1988

FILE NO.: AK880401-027

THRU:

TELEPHONE NO.: 747-5828

SUBJECT: Hawk Inlet 1

RECEIVED
MAY 26 1988
HABITAT REGION I - JUNEAU

FROM: Dave Hardy DH
Area Habitat Biologist
Sitka

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has reviewed the proposal by the Greens Creek Mining Company (GCMC) to construct tailings and wastewater impoundments in the upper Tributary Creek drainage basin for storage of tailings and treatment of wastewater from the Greens Creek Mine. The project will require placement of 75,000 cubic yards of fill material for the tailings embankments. The wastewater impoundment will treat mine runoff, mill wastewater, etc. prior to discharge into Hawk Inlet. The tailings disposal area will also be used for ash and sludge disposal. The project includes construction of an outfall pipeline to transport treated wastewater from the impoundment to the Hawk Inlet "mill site," south and west of the Greens Creek delta. This pipeline crosses the Greens Creek delta and will require a Fish Habitat permit from this Department for the stream crossing.

Tailings Disposal: As you know, the size of the tailings disposal area is greatly reduced from earlier plans approved in the Greens Creek E.S., leading to substantially lower impacts on wildlife and fisheries habitat. We support the modified project. However, we do have a basic concern that the tailings and wastewater dams will withstand earth tremors and seismic shocks. Since this is outside my area of expertise, I defer to United States Forest Service (USFS) and other reviewing engineers on this subject. On April 13, 1988 I received a stop clock request for more information on this subject from Sara Hunt. I assume DNR's concerns were adequately resolved.

Wastewater Impoundment: Wastewater will be confined between two main dams, with a downstream seepage return dam, and an emergency overflow spillway. I discussed the latter with Sam Smith, GCMC project engineer, who informed me that GCMC was working with the USFS to make sure that any overflow location and flow energy concerns are resolved. The low slope of the emergency spillway and expected frequency of flow occurrence are not expected to lead to significant scouring from overflow. Overflows will not flow toward fish habitat in Tributary Creek.