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**Decommissioning & Waste Management**  
Port Hope Area Initiative Management Office

Chalk River Laboratories  
Chalk River, Ontario  
Canada K0J 1J0  
Tel (613) 584-3311  
Fax (613) 584-3250

Laboratoires de Chalk River  
Chalk River (Ontario)  
Canada K0J 1J0  
Tél (613) 584-3311  
Fax (613) 584-3250

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2010 May 28

Ms. Milena Kostova, Ph.D.  
Project Officer  
Wastes and Decommissioning Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater Street, P.O. Box 1046 Station B  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9

Dear Dr. Kostova,

**PORT HOPE PROJECT: ACTIONS REQUIRED AS RESULT OF THE 12(2) REQUEST FOR  
INFORMATION FOR WELCOME WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY**

The purpose of this letter is to provide responses to the actions requested by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) [1] regarding the Welcome Waste Management Facility (WWMF). Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) responses to the actions are presented as sequenced in the CNSC correspondence.

CNSC Request:

*By the end of May 2010, submit an action plan for modification of the collection pond for increasing their capacity and avoiding emergency discharges to Clark's ditch during events of heavy precipitations.*

AECL Response:

AECL is currently reviewing the requirements of the capacity of the collection pond, with the following actions underway.

- AECL has engaged the consulting services of Golder Associates to provide a solution to increase the collection pond capacity for the current water treatment capabilities.
- The consultant has provided a preliminary concept to increase the collection pond capacity by 4200 cubic metres by raising the berm of the west collection pond by 1 metre.
- AECL is reviewing the proposal and is planning to increase the capacity of the collection pond in the fall of 2010.

**CNSC Request:**

Submit to the CNSC the results of acute toxicity testing performed during 2009. It is expected that this will include results from twelve (12) consecutive months of toxicity tests. The licensee is required to continue performing monthly toxicity tests for the remaining operating life of the current Welcome WMF.

**AECL Response:**

AECL will continue the monthly acute toxicity testing. Cameco has submitted to the CNSC the results of the toxicity testing in the Cameco Welcome Waste Management Facility 2009 Annual Report [2]. AECL will submit the results of twelve (12) consecutive months (April 2010 – March 2011) of toxicity testing in 2011 April. AECL would like to note that, provided pass results of the toxicity tests continue to be obtained, AECL may wish to discuss with the CNSC the possibility of reducing frequency of acute toxicity testing beyond 2011 April.

I trust the above responses meet the actions requested. If you have any questions I would be pleased to discuss further (905-885-1943).

Regards,



Dave Boyce  
Manager, Waste Facility Operations  
Port Hope Area Initiative Management Office

DB:tlw

c.	C. Fahey	J. Walker	G. Case	A. Denby	J. Miller
	R. Neufeld	A. Choate	S. Faught	H. Kleb	W. Kupferschmidt
	B. Gerestein	R. Lesco	A. White	W. Pilkington	J. Bond
	>PHAI Files	P. Elder, CNSC	D. Howard, CNSC	>SRC	

**References:**

- [1] M. Kostova letter to C. Fahey: *Port Hope Project – Actions Required as Result of the 12(2) Request for Information for Welcome Waste Management Facility*. 4.05.02/37-26-0-0, 2010 April 16.
- [2] *Cameco Welcome Waste Management Facility 2009 Annual Report* March 2010.