



Government of Yukon

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NEWSrelease

FOR RELEASE #10-097

June 7, 2010

Remediation work to begin at Faro Mine site

WHITEHORSE – The Government of Yukon recently issued a contract to Pelly Construction Ltd. of Whitehorse for early remediation work to address potential environmental risks at the Faro Mine Complex this summer.

"This early remediation project ensures the ongoing protection of the environment and human health and safety," Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Patrick Rouble said. "It also enables significant training, work and business opportunities for Yukoners."

The one-year, \$11.5 million contract was issued following an open and competitive public tender process overseen by Energy, Mines and Resources (EMR). The early remediation work is funded by Indian Affairs and Northern Development and will be managed by EMR.

"We remain committed to remediating Type II abandoned mine sites throughout the Yukon," said the Honourable Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians.

"The early remediation work to be conducted at the Faro Mine Complex is a concrete example of our Government's commitment to protect the integrity of our northern environment and the health and safety of Aboriginal people and Northerners."

The remediation work involves the installation of a heavy-duty liner over a reactive portion of waste rock found at the Faro Mine Complex. If not managed, the rock material has the potential to dissolve metals and release them into the ground and surface waters.

Currently, the water on the site is heavily monitored and does not pose a threat to the environment. The project is designed to prevent contaminated water from posing any threat to the environment in the future. The contractor will carry out the work in the summer and fall 2010.

The Faro Mine Complex is an open-pit lead-zinc mine site that was abandoned in 1998. It is classified as a Type II site under the Devolution Transfer Agreement. The governments of Canada and Yukon are taking a collaborative approach to managing the site and planning for its final closure and remediation.

For more information about the Faro Mine Complex visit www.faromine.ca.

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