**Independent Expert Engineering Investigation and Review Panel** 

# Report on Mount Polley Tailings Storage Facility Breach

## **Appendix B: Supporting Information**

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#### **APPENDIX B: SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

As directed by the Terms of Reference, the Panel has provided this final report, along with the appendices, to the Minister of Energy and Mines, the Williams Lake Indian Band and the Soda Creek Indian Band. The background reports and information used by the Panel for the preparation of this report were also made available to these parties through an online data room. The Panel considers the supporting information and substantiating documentation to be an integral part of its report that is necessary for a proper understanding of its findings.

There are multiple parties involved in various investigations of Mount Polley Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) failure. The Panel must ensure that the conduct of the inquiry does not in any way impede or conflict with any other ongoing investigation or proceeding related to this matter. Specifically, the Panel's review must not in any way impede investigations conducted by Mines Inspectors, Conservations Officers or other regulatory agencies and any related proceedings. Further, all disclosures of the Panel must be compliant with the privacy protection provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA).

The B.C. Ministry of Energy and Mines and Ministry of Environment, Conservation Officer Services, have directed the Panel to withhold some of the documents, and redact portions of other documents, so that the Panel's inquiry does not compromise any other investigations and to ensure it is in compliance with the privacy protection provisions of FIPPA (see Appendix A). The redaction of personal information was completed by Shared Services BC. As a result, these documents, which may have been cited in this report, are not available at this time.

#### 1.1 PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

In November 2014, the Panel made a call for written (by mail or email) submissions from the public and informed interest groups to provide information relating to its investigation into the breach of the TSF at the Mount Polley Mine on August 4, 2014.

The Panel welcomed 24 submissions from various individuals and organizations. These included submissions from individuals, industry, education groups and professional organizations. Submissions were carefully reviewed and considered, and were found valuable, by the Panel in drafting this report.

The Written Public Submissions folder in the data room contains selected submissions made by the public to the Panel during the investigation. The submissions contained in the folder are those that the Panel received consent and permission by the author of the submission to make the information public. Some authors did not provide consent and permission to make their submission public.

#### 2.0 ORGANIZATION OF DATA ROOM

The information on the site is organized into two main categories including

- 1. Background Information
- 2. Post-breach Investigation Information.

#### 2.1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOLDER

The Panel issued a formal request to various companies and government ministries to submit copies of documents related to the Mount Polley TSF from their files. The Background Information folder contains data, reports and other documents that were provided to the Panel by:

- AMEC
- B.C. Ministry of Energy and Mines
- B.C. Ministry of Environment

- BGC Engineering
- Knight Piesold Consulting
- Mount Polley Mining Corporation

Each sub-folder within the Background Information folder identifies which government ministry or company provided the information contained in the sub-folder to the Panel. The spreadsheet entitled "Summary of Background Information" lists all documents within the folder.

All files within the sub-folders have been named in general accordance with the following protocol



A [COMPANY00000] – COMPANY is an acronym for the name of the government ministry or company who provided the document to the Panel. The 00000 is a four digit document number. Acronyms used for both COMPANY and AUTHOR are as follows:

COMPANY	ACRONYM
AMEC	AMEC
B.C. Ministry of Energy and Mines	MP
B.C. Ministry of Environment	MOE
BGC Engineering	BGC
Knight Piesold Consulting	KP
Mount Polley Mining Corporation	MPMC

- **B** [YYYY-MM-DD] Date of the document.
- **C** [AUTHOR] The government ministry or company who authored the document.
- **D** [TITLE] The title of the document as named by the author of the report.

#### 2.2 POST-BREACH INVESTIGATION INFORMATION FOLDER

The Post-breach Investigation Information has been divided into the following folders:

- 1. Independent Panel
- 2. Klohn Crippen Berger
- 3. Written Public Submissions

Documents in the Independent Panel folder include technical information from Thurber Engineering Ltd. as requested by the Panel, records of Panel meetings, presentations by Panel members and survey information.

The Klohn Crippen Berger (KCB) folder includes a geotechnical site investigation report along with other reports and lab test results from their field investigation of the breach area received by the Panel prior to December 31, 2014.

The Written Public Submissions folder contains select submissions made by the public to the Panel during the investigation.