Progress Update on Environmental Assessment

Environmental Assessment Certificate Application

The Morrison Copper-Gold Project is classified as a major mine in British Columbia and subject to review under the Environmental Assessment Act. The B.C. Environmental Assessment Office (BCEAO) issued the Morrison Project Section 10 Order to Pacific Booker Minerals Inc. on September 30, 2003 confirming review under the Act. Under the terms of a joint provincial – federal agreement, the BCEAO and Canadian Environmental Assessment Agencies (CEAA) will harmonize their respective consultation and review requirements for the Project.

Following the Section 10 Order, early Project definition and pre-application activities commenced. A multi-stakeholder Project Working Group was formed in May, 2006 and is overseeing the review and finalization of a Project Terms of Reference for the Environmental Assessment Certificate (EAC) Application, as well as providing guidance on consultations with the Lake Babine Nation and public input to the Terms of Reference and confirmation of environmental work plans. Approval of the Project Terms of Reference and issuance of the Section 11 Order by the BCEAO, specifying formal consultation requirements with agencies, First Nations and public during preparation, submission and review of the EAC Application are anticipated in the second quarter of 2007.

Development of the Environmental Assessment Certificate Application will occur in late 2007 following completion of the environmental fieldwork and impact assessment, concurrent with completion of the Project Feasibility Study. Once the completed Application is screened by the BCEAO and accepted as conforming to the Project Terms of Reference, formal review will be initiated and must be completed in 180 days. At the conclusion of the 180 day review period, the BCEAO submits an Assessment Report with recommendations to Ministers who will determine whether to issue the EAC within 45 days. It is Pacific Booker Minerals’ goal to be in receipt of an EAC in mid 2008.

Environmental Assessment Studies

Environmental baseline and project impact assessment studies are well advanced at the Morrison Project. Studies commenced several years ago and in 2006 Pacific Booker Minerals retained Rescan Environmental Services Ltd. to consolidate prior studies and to review outstanding requirements to complete the Project Terms of Reference requirements coordinated by the BCEAO. Environmental studies include a range of aquatic, terrestrial and socio-cultural inventories and assessment to determine the possible effects of the Project on the environment and how these effects can be mitigated, as well as the possible effects of the environment on the Project and how these can be minimized. In 2007, the following remaining studies will be completed: archaeological impact assessment; soil mapping for reclamation planning; metal leaching and acid rock
drainage prediction and mitigation design; traditional use and traditional knowledge; groundwater assessment and modelling; and aquatic biology. Monitoring of water quality and meteorological conditions will continue. Additional studies may be required along portions of the proposed transportation and power line access corridors. The scope of environmental studies is communicated to the BCEAO Project Working Group and Lake Babine Nation for their input. Collaboration with agencies, such as Fisheries and Oceans Canada on fish habitat assessments, is occurring. Preparation of the Environmental Assessment Certificate Application will follow completion of environmental field assessments in mid-2007.