



25 April 2025

To: Regional Director
Ministry of Environmental Protection Division, 205 Industrial Rd, G. Cranbrook, BC
ENV.MiningAuthorizations@gov.bc.ca

Re: The Van Anda Improvement District (VAID) would like to take this opportunity to comment on Zyrox's *Application for a Permit under the provisions of the Environmental Management Act* (Application No. 112391, Tracking Number 440784)

VAID is the local government that is responsible for treating and distributing water to our ratepayers and ensuring that the distribution of potable water conforms to the drinking water standards set by Vancouver Coastal Health. We take this responsibility very seriously.

On face value, Zyrox's application suggested that the mining activity would not have any impact on the quality of the water in Priest Lake, the source of VAID's drinking water. Our water testing data to date suggests that discharge and seepage from the Yew mine site has not negatively impacted the quality of the drinking water from Priest Lake.

The original application was vague, lacking in supporting written documentation, and to allay the concerns of our ratepayers and the Board we ask that Zyrox be clear and transparent in this and future applications. This shall include written supporting documents. All applications should be site-specific and indicate the duration of the permits.

VAID requests being informed in writing of Zyrox's Emergency Response Plan, and the conditions placed on their application and permit by the Ministry. We strongly advise they share and coordinate the results of their water samples. This will allow the collection of Priest Lake water samples roughly every six weeks. We would also appreciate copies of the hydrology data that confirms the operations at the Yew site are outside of the Priest Lake watershed.



We look forward to collaborating with Zyrox in these matters.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ron Smith, Chair VAID

Cc:

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