Province of British Columbia
Ministry of Employment and Investment
Mineral Resources Division

Report of Inspector of Mines
(issued pursuant to section 15 of the Mines Act)

Geotechnical Inspection Report

NAME OF MINE: Mt. Polley
OWNER OR OPERATOR: Imperial Metals Corp.
MANAGER: George Wight

LOCALITY: Suite 420 - 355 Burrard St.
ADDRESS: Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2G8
AREAS INSPECTED: Tailings Facility

Persons Contacted

MANAGEMENT: B. Kynoch, D. Parsons
OHS COMMITTEE: N/A
WORKERS: N/A

A copy has been forwarded to the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee and the union. The mine manager shall complete the right hand column noting specific corrective actions taken, or to be taken by a specified date, and return a copy to the inspector within 15 days of receiving the report. Further, the manager shall post a copy to the bulletin board, to be replaced by a copy showing the manager's response.

In this document, Code means Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia.

The following were present during the inspection: B. Kynoch, D. Parsons, F. Matich, K. Brouwer, K. Embree, and P. Procter.

Tailings Facility

A detailed tailings facility site inspection and review meeting at the Knight Piesold office was conducted as part of an independent expert review by F. Matich. A report with recommendations covering the foundations and starter dam will be submitted to the company shortly by Mr. Matich. Knight Piesold is continuing site investigations and modifying designs and procedures to satisfy the intent of the review.

Copies To: G. Seal-Jones, B. McBride, E. Beswick,

George S. Headley, P. Eng.
Senior Geotechnical Engineer
4th Floor, 1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4

Signature - Inspector

G. Wight
Signature - Manager

Date of Inspection: Aug. 26, 1996
Dated: Sept. 10, 1996
The following work had been completed or was in progress:

- Embankment fill was placed to approximately 2-3 metres above the foundation. Soil wet-of-optimum had been placed and was being dried on the dam. Wet weather, wet borrow materials, and a limited soil variety has slowed construction. Close supervision and changes to original design equipment has been necessary for borrow material quality, drying, selection, placement, and compaction standards. A redesign of the starter dam and drainage is being carried out.
- Lower basin liner had been installed.
- Reclaim barge channel was largely excavated with foundation liner test pits. Soil liner requirements will be determined Knight Piesold.
- Foundation drains and drain holes were installed and draining to the seepage collection sump. The existing foundation drain holes and the potential for additional ones will be reviewed by Knight Piesold and Mr. Matich.
- Foundation piezometers were installed.
- Collection sump was excavated and the embankment almost completed. Some seepage was observed. No large flows were noted.
- Perimeter embankment areas have been grubbed. Standing surface water exists in part of the north embankment footprint.
- Test pitting and cross section drafting for upper basin liner design was continuing.

### Mill and South Sediment Control Ponds at Mine Site

These sediment pond were reported by K. Brouwer to not have been constructed to the design. The Mill sediment control pond was observed to have upstream and downstream faces steeper than design and tension cracks on both faces. The company is planning to reconstruct the berms of this pond and the south sediment control pond to stable configurations. The company shall have its consultant confirm the stability of the embankments and submit as built drawings to the District Inspector of Mines and Geotechnical Section before the ponds are used and no later than March 31, 1997.