

## Real Time Water Quality Monthly Report for Voisey's Bay Nickel Company Ltd. June 2004

### General

- By mid-June, the ice in the rivers was breaking up and the conditions were suitable for deployment of the three Datasondes.
- The three Datasondes were taken out of winter storage on June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>; the instruments were cleaned and calibrated. All sensors calibrated properly with the exception of the turbidity sensors. In two of the three instruments, the turbidity sensor would not calibrate.
- After discussions between the Environmental Officer on-site and the Department of Environment and Conservation staff, it was decided to deploy the instruments so that data could be collected with the exception of turbidity data.
- On June 13<sup>th</sup>, all three instruments were deployed and appropriate QA/QC procedures were followed.
- Upon analysing the data and real-time graphs, it was determined that a change had been made in the data logger programming on-site and therefore the data was reading in the wrong order in the database and on the web page. This type of problem with the data logger programming can only be fixed on-site when the Environment Canada staff is working in Voisey's Bay. It is important to note that data was still being collected, the order only affecting the display on the web page.
- On June 18<sup>th</sup>, two of the three instruments were removed from Upper Reid Brook and Lower Reid Brook and sent to St. John's for repair of the turbidity sensors by the Campbell Scientific Representative that was visiting from Edmonton. The third instrument was left in Camp Pond Brook to ensure that data was being collected from the main area of work/construction.
- On July 11<sup>th</sup>, the two instruments that were repaired were placed in Upper Reid Brook and Camp Pond Brook. The original instrument in Camp Pond Brook that was un-repaired was then removed and sent to Edmonton for similar repairs. When the last instrument returns from Edmonton it will be placed in the Lower Reid Brook station.
- Environment Canada staff and Department of Environment and Conservation staff will be on-site the week of July 19<sup>th</sup> to re-program the data loggers to ensure the data reads in the correct order.
- A detailed monthly report with data interpretation will follow next month when all the issues have been addressed.

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