

# Sherridon Orphan Mine Site Reclamation Plan

Doug Ramsey, M.Sc., R.P.Bio. Wardrop Engineering Inc. MEND Workshop Winnipeg, June 4, 2008

People, Passion, Performance. Trusted Globally.



## Acknowledgements

- Manitoba
  - Science, Technology, Energy, and Mines
- Study team
  - WARDROP Engineering Inc.
  - Gartner Lee Limited
  - SENES Consultants





#### **Project Location**





#### **Project Location**



elev 319 m

Oct 5, 2007

Eye alt 6.59 km 🔘



## **Project Background**

- 1929-1952 VMS Copper-Zinc deposit mined
- ~ 7 million tonnes of tailings produced
- Primarily sub-aerial deposition, covering 47 ha
- ARD has acidified Camp Lake and is progressing into Kississing Lake
- Site is the responsibility of the Province of Manitoba



#### WARDROP

## **Site Conditions Before and After Mining**





### **Current Conditions**

47 ha/~ 7 million tonnes

ARD source

Tailings dust storms

Camp Lake • pH 2 to 5



## **Reclamation Plan Objectives**

- Control wind-blown tailings
- Reduce loading of ARD and metals to Kississing Lake
- Make site safe
- Minimise future operating, maintenance, management costs
- A final walk-away solution preferred



## **Options Considered**

- Re-vegetate Tailings Surface and Treat Camp Lake in Perpetuity (Base Case)
- Relocate Tailings
- Engineered Cover and Treat Camp Lake
- Raise Camp Lake and Flood Tailings in Perpetuity
- Terrace the Tailings and Flood
- Tailings Relocation/Neutralization in Combination with Flooding



## **Options Examined in Detail**

- Re-vegetate Tailings Surface and Treat Camp Lake in Perpetuity
  - Most expensive treatment would continue for hundreds of years
  - Likely difficult to establish vegetation
- Engineered Cover and Treat Camp Lake
  - Also expensive treatment would continue for decades
  - Uncertainty regarding durability of cover
- Tailings Relocation/Neutralization in Combination with Flooding
  - Least expensive
  - Limited period of post-reclamation treatment
  - Experience at other sites indicates treatment can be ended within 5 years of flooding
  - A walk-away solution



#### **Plan Overview**





## Implementation

- 2008/09
  - Construct South Dam to Current Lake Level
- 2009/11
  - Tailings Relocation and Lake Treatment
  - Sherlett Creek Re-Direction
- 2010/12
  - Complete South Dam
  - Construct North Dam
  - Flood Tailings
  - Periodic Lake Treatment
- 2012/2017
  - Monitoring
  - Treatment as needed



## **Questions?**

People, Passion, Performance. Trusted Globally.