

Subject: Field Trip to Minesite July 10

Hi all,

Jack asked me to send him an update from my field trip up to the minesite with a group of videographers getting the "before" shots for the construction project. Jack and Public Affairs Bureau are in the planning of a larger, more public event that will be the "during" phase (sometime in early August probably).

I met the four videographers and representatives from Quantum, SRK, Stantech and EMPR. John Cavanagh, ADM and Karina Brino, Executive Director came with Ron Bronstein from the Ministry.

The Borrow Pit is being cleared of its organic soil, which is being stock piled or used to build the road berm required by Mines Branch. They are exploring the area for till as they go and they hope not to disturb the entire area but high-grade out of a number of deeper till areas leaving smaller pits to reclaim. They are keeping a close track of soil volume to see if they will have any left over for the minesite. The berms will be reclaimed and that soil will go to the minesite at the end of the till hauling activity.

The Road has been either bermed or barriered all the way from the borrow pit to the minesite. The no-post barriers have had steel pipes, drilled into the rock, installed behind them. This is a "mine road" and meets all the health and safety standards of the Mines Branch.

The Seal has started to be delivered to the minesite. The material is trucked by highway truck to the Comox Valley then it is transferred to a crane-truck which delivers it to the site.

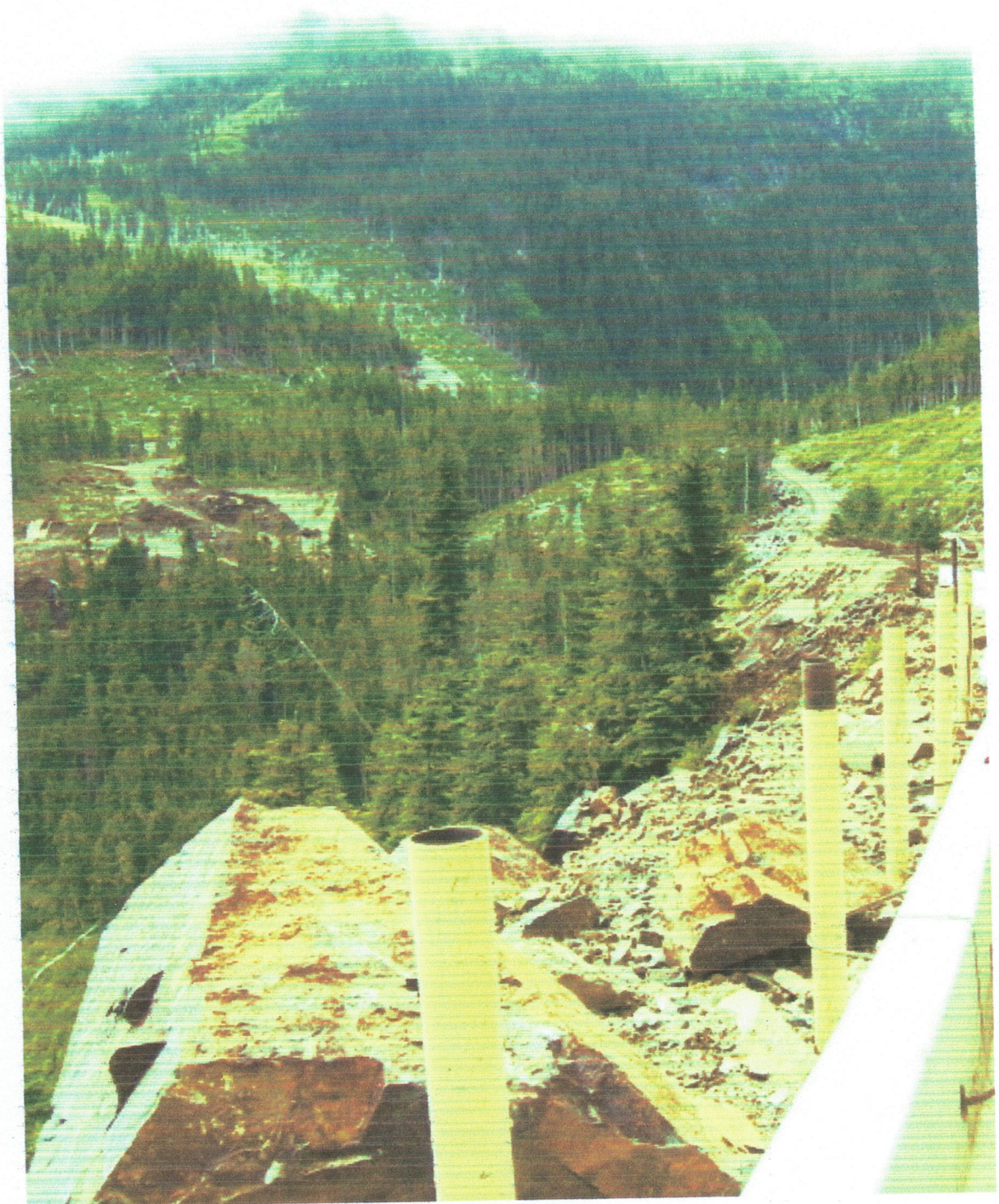
The Drain Rock has been mostly delivered to the minesite. There is still a small pile to be moved from the off-loading site for highway gravel trucks along the site access road but the majority is now stockpiled at the minesite.

I also had time to discuss the uphill ditch details and the revegetation program. Quantum is going to see how hard the rock in the existing ditch is to see if it can simply be deepened. The uphill ditch was already in the construction plans to refurbish. I have put Brent Densmore from Stantech (the revegetation people) in touch with Gary Rolston, the consultant in charge of Mt. Washington sewage sludge disposal to see if there can be some mutually beneficial arrangements.

Wayne White









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