ATTENTION: ASSIGNMENT EDITORS
THREE TEAMS SHORTLISTED FOR BRITANNIA MINE CLEANUP

VANCOUVER – Corrected versions of this news release and backgrounder are being distributed to reflect that the Squamish First Nation is not participating on any of the proponents’ teams. Also the Britannia Mine discharges an average of 600 kg of heavy metals each day, not 800 kg.

VANCOUVER – Three qualified respondents have been shortlisted to receive a Request for Proposals to design, build, finance and operate a new acid water treatment plant to clean up the Britannia Mine site, the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management and Partnerships BC announced today.

The three shortlisted proponents are:

• AMEC Americas Ltd. and Ledcor Projects Inc.
• EPCOR Water Services Inc. and Team
• Terasen Utility Services Inc. and Team

Overall, six expressions of interest were received in response to the Request for Expressions of Interest, which sought to identify firms interested in providing effective, innovative proposals to design, build, finance and operate the water treatment plant at the former mine near Squamish.

Respondents were evaluated on financial capacity, proponent organization and structure, relevant demonstrated experience and their understanding of the project. The process is being administered by Partnerships BC for the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management.

The mine, once the largest copper mine in the British Commonwealth, has been a major source of acid mine water pollution in Howe Sound, since its closure in the mid-1970’s. The site discharges an average of 600 kg each day of heavy metals, making it one of the largest sources of acid rock drainage to a marine environment in North America.

A formal request for proposals will be issued to the shortlisted proponents in May 2004, with a lead proponent expected to be selected and an agreement signed this fall. Design and construction are expected to be completed in fall of 2005.

1 backgrounder(s) attached.
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