

# Golden Band



RESOURCES INC

---

## Community Consultations

### La Ronge

Tuesday July 15, 2008, 5 pm.

#### **Golden Band Resources Inc:**

- Gary Haywood, Vice-President, Operations & COO
- Richard Snider, Environment, Health & Safety Manager

#### **Kitsaki Management L.P.:**

- Russell Roberts, CEO

#### **SRK Consulting:**

- Don Hovdebo, Principal Consultant

#### **Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment (MOE):**

- Malcolm Ross, Project Manager, Environmental Assessment

**Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency:** Peter Boothroyd, Senior Project Officer, Prairies Office, Winnipeg.

#### **Recorder:**

- Gill Gracie, Aurora Communications Ltd.

**Public:** 3

#### **MOE Presentation: Malcolm Ross**

---

*PowerPoint Presentation with handout*

#### **Golden Band Presentation: Gary Haywood/Richard Snider.**

---

*PowerPoint Presentation with handout.*

#### **Questions/Comments**

---

*Russell Roberts made himself available for questions about Kitsaki's involvement with Golden Band's projects, Kitsaki-Procon (KP), further explanation of the General Services Agreement, and how KP expects to operate on an ongoing basis with Golden Band.*

*If there are some contract opportunities or other opportunities with local businesses as the project proceeds from exploration to production, we will maximize that as best we can, recognizing that this is an open tendering process for tendering. Our expectation is work for next year now.*

*Could you give us some perspective on what we can expect to happen between now and next spring – some of the work that might be started at the Jolu mill, and then looking at the expectation for production?*

**G. Haywood:** At the moment we're going through this environmental assessment phase, which is just one part of the overall project for us. The other really important part is the financing - we need around \$35 million to get this project up and going. Our president Rodney Orr couldn't make it today- he is working on financing. We're going to debt finance this project, so we're going out to try and find \$35 million.

Once that is in place and we have some dollars, we'd like to get started on the Jolu mill refurbishment this year. We realize that the construction season is fairly short in the north, but we would certainly like to get our access roads completed and start getting the equipment into the mill. If that happens this year, the earliest production date for us will be August-September 2009. Mill refurbishment is up to six months, so that would have us starting mill refurbishment in March 2009. We don't see much opportunity of doing too much in the winter, given that it's tough to get going in winter on construction projects. Some of the timing's a little bit off – we've been pushed back with the DFO decision; it's not a decision that we wanted. We had hoped to be fully into mill refurbishment by now. We've had a bit of a delay – about six months.

**P. Boothroyd:** *A question on the acid rock drainage – you said there's a blend of acid-generating and non-acid generating rock?*

**R. Snider:** The previous Komis testing has shown that the mine rock is non-acid generating; the tests on EP showed a combination of some potentially acid-generating (PAG), some uncertain and some non-acid generating. In general, EP is more on the PAG side, while Komis is not.

**P. Boothroyd:** *How are you planning to mitigate the acid generation?*

**R. Snider:** The main thing would be blending the rock. We would segregate the rock and then blend it in the pile. We have the option of in-pit disposal, but I think we would blend it.

**G. Haywood:** We would then set aside a particular area of the wastepile and bury it with the non-acid rock.

**P. Boothroyd:** *So by blending these two types of rock you can neutralize the acid?*

**R. Snider:** If you have potentially acid-generating and an acidic runoff from that, and then you have potentially acid-neutralizing rock, the sulphur and the carbonate balance each other out so you don't have the leaching of metals. At Komis it's approximately seven million tonnes, and about 500-550,000 tonnes for EP. There's a fairly large amount of Komis waste rock compared to EP.

**G. Haywood:** Of that 500,000 tonnes, only a portion is potentially acid-generating. It's a fairly small volume.

**R. Snider:** We'll see when we're actually operating what the test result show then. That may tweak our plans slightly.

***Will you have berms around your waste pile and stockpile to contain all your acid-generating water?***

**R. Snider:** The idea is to try to blend it so we don't have acid-generating water leaving the piles. The important thing is to have the monitoring program so we can see how much acid-generating rock we have, how much non-acid generating rock and what the potential of that is.

***Have you done any small-scale projects?***

**R. Snider:** We've sent waste rock samples from drilling to the laboratory for analysis. We've done test work on the core to see if it is potentially acid -generating or not. In some cases, such as at Komis, we don't just look at the theoretical, we actually go through kinetic (more aggressive) testing over several weeks to see if it is going to generate acid or not. It's been a combination of different test methods to come to where we're at right now. We'll have to see when we're operating what the best option is. We don't want the liability of having something that's going to generate acid, or have an issue with metals leaching into the receiving environment. If we need to, we look at placing PAG in-pit and covering it up.

***You hope get to it before it ever generates acid?***

**G. Haywood:** Our plan would be to get to it before it ever generates acid.

***How will you manage your general domestic garbage?***

**R. Snider:** Right now we're looking at different options, such as incineration and electrified fences to keep wildlife out, because that's our biggest issue.

***Will you have a garbage dump on site?***

**R. Snider:** At Jolu we anticipate having a domestic landfill. Komis, EP and Bingo are small enough sites and garbage will be very ,limited. There won't be camps – for Komis and EP they'll be staying at Brabant, for Bingo they'll be staying at Grandmother's Bay, so we'll probably haul the domestic waste away.

***There's currently a study around using a number of garbage sites in the north, and I can't see that they'll be allowing another garbage dump to start up. That's a comment that you may want to write down. The other question is, what is your recycling program?***

**G. Haywood:** We will develop those as we go into operation, much the same as most other mine sites do – recycle, reuse sort of programs.

**R. Snider:** We have the benefit compared to the uranium mines where we can recycle the scrap metal and the domestic products like milk jugs, pop bottles etc.

**G. Haywood:** We will have environmental coordinators on site that will look after those sorts of programs. My experience with Cameco tells me a lot of those programs come from employees on site. They're a good source of ideas in terms of recycling programs..

***It needs to be part of the plan – don't leave it until someone says something.***

***What's the holdup with DFO?***

**R. Snider:** As part of our baseline studies for Jolu we found fish in the Mallard TMF. We've been in discussions with DFO and the province to determine what that means to us. The province is of the opinion that this is a tailings management facility and should

not be considered fish habitat. DFO disagrees with that; they've decided that it should be considered fish habitat. They've also determined it has the attributes of a natural water body, and because of that it will need be added to Schedule 2 of MMER. Essentially our TMF has been converted to a lake in DFO's eyes, and now it's going back from a lake to a TMF. We don't agree with it. We do have plans for an above-ground tailings facility next to our Mallard TMF so that we can operate the mill and place tailings in the above-ground TMF during early operations. Once we receive the federal approvals required, then we can operate the Mallard TMF.

**M. Ross:** -As I mentioned, Golden Band is currently conducting an environmental impact assessment to determine potential environmental effects of the project. That information that they collect has to be written into an impact statement. It gets submitted to the government and we review it technically to determine if it is acceptable. Then that statement goes out for public review, and after that the minister makes a decision whether or not to approve it. After that, Golden Band has to prepare detailed engineering for construction and operation in order to get their approval to operate. It's quite a rigorous and lengthy process.

**R. Roberts:** The provincial government and DFO assure us they are going to dovetail the process, and we hope they get through it as quickly as possible.

**G. Haywood:** We don't see having our approvals in place until spring 2009.

**M. Ross:** The process depends on whether or not there are any issues raised by the environmental impact assessment. The assessment identifies concerns and issues, and if they're significant they would have to be resolved before the minister would sign an environmental assessment approval. It boils down to the quality of the impact assessment and the documentation before they can apply for their approval to operate.

**R. Roberts:** We're fully aware of the process. I do not necessarily agree with the path DFO chose, but here we are. We'll go through the process and work together with the environmental process provincially and the DFO regulations, and do it right. Part of the process is to make sure there are no environmental issues related to it.

*I can't see how fish can survive in that lake.*

**G. Haywood:** The problem with interpretation of the law is, there is no distinction between good habitat and poor habitat. If there's one fish in it or 100, it doesn't matter, it's habitat. That's one of the issues we had with the whole process - we think it's very poor habitat.

*How many fish did you find there?*

**R. Snider:** There were about 60 fish in 2007. It all depends on the level of effort you put in, but there was lake chub, white sucker, yellow perch, and eggs found from northern pike.

*There were hardly any fish in Mallard Lake in the 1970s. We used to go out and we'd catch maybe 50 one-pounders and then you'd get a 20 pounder, and not much in between. They were mostly jacks, and there was whitefish in there too. They were all stunted and small except the odd 20 pounder. I got four 20-pounders out of there, and not one five-pounder.*

**P. Boothroyd:** *When do you anticipate the EIS?*

**R. Snider:** We anticipate submitting the EIS at the end of August.

**G. Haywood:** That's contingent on a few things. We've had no indication yet that DFO has reviewed the project-specific guidelines. We have requested that from them and have not received any indication that that has happened. August 29 is the date we would like to work towards, but it depends on other people.