

Francis M. Greene
Vail Road
Poughkeepsie, N. Y. 12603

14 Sept '71.

Dear Albert;

Thanks for your letter of 8 Sept. It certainly is an impressive collection of frustrations you are faced with and I fear I can't offer much in the way of ideas but will give my reactions off the cuff.

I have trouble analyzing the sea and shore fisheries state of depression. Obviously they have been picked around a lot and are temperamental; at least Dow demonstrates a lot of this attitude as observable the evening of the meeting especially at my cottage. They expressed agreement that nothing could be done when that young jackass from N. D. C. first enunciated the idea of "leaving the mess as an example to the Legislature".

I was shocked when I heard and still don't know whether the idea originated with the boy or with Dow. It isn't helpful in any case and I think you or someone should tell Dow so. Had you are trying to accomplish

2

Some reclamation and defeated statements are not helping your objective and can only serve to block the Committee's efforts. The point should be made that Callahan has not refused to help and has publicly stated they would spend money. I don't suggest a conciliatory letter but rather a request for cooperation to help bring people together on this issue.

How about a letter to Sued asking him to offer to take on specific projects to be executed with Callahan's men and equipment rather than worrying about each payment to the Committee or some other agency?

I can't fathom the talk of a marina. Not only is the dredging and blasting prohibitive but the lift bridge and its maintenance would be ~~paid~~ a permanent investment and high maintenance commitment by the town that seems impossible to justify. I can't help feeling that Beck is playing on the Loris's frustration with regard to lack of access to shore line and that the project is not really a feasible one.

3

I enclose an article in the house organ of the Utility I used to work for. It is interesting that this project is to study metallic ions. I don't see how ions should be considered a problem in the Hudson River but I'll try to find out. It looks a little like a "boondoggle". Apparently ions are becoming popular ~~word~~ among the researchers, as a means toward academic credits and perhaps employment opportunities for unemployed scientists.

The list of priorities that Beck wants appears to indicate a willingness to do something and seems to tie into the idea of Callahan offering to do specific projects. This also would tie into Beck's asking for specifications on work to be done. I think I feel encouraged by these symptoms.

Regarding Trip and the letter, I think you could write him and point out that weeks are passing and much has to be done before Callahan closes up. The more time that is lost at this end in getting started the less will

4.
be accomplished in the way of work by Callahan. The force is shrinking and the equipment is standing idle. It may already be very late to get effective work done by Callahan.

Further more a dollar expended directly by Callahan will be worth much more than a dollar expended on an independent contractor because Callahan has engineering and supervision available whereas these will cost infinitely more to provide after Callahan slows out.

You might also point out that the State must be conscious of the mess that needs cleaning up. All that is needed is a push by the Governor who certainly would be alerted to the embarrassment of having this devastation adjacent to a State Park.

This type of letter might get him off his butt and moving personally to getting action.

Hope these thoughts may be helpful

P.S. I'll talk with you later about Patrick's bill!

Yours,
Frank.

September 9th 1971

Dear Frank :

Trust you had a pleasant last week in Harborside, we missed the cool evenings and low humidity.

I'm writing this to you as more or less a reminder to me of the last few days developments on the mine problem...

John Hurst called me the afternoon of the 8th concerning his department's interest in the amount of money Callahan is willing to put up on the reclamation of the area. In so many words he wanted some guarantee of a substantial percentages of the funds turned over to the committee by Callahan for the reclamation work to be done,, before he he would develop for necessary paper work for a request to the federal agency that Dr. Patrick suggested. Would take about a month to do this after receiving these assurances.

His comment that bothered me the most was that he and his department were willing to accept a good bit of the blame for the ruin of the Goose Pond area. He further stated that would be something to be gained by just leaving the area a mess as an example to the legislature. I guess he has been kicked around as much as Dow and is every bit as bitter.

There doesn't seem to be much sence in my asking Dr. Patrick to help with obtaining funds if this is the Sea & Shore Fisheries attitude, I have an appointment to see her early next week. (I will)

I called Snead and asked if Callahan intended to participate in the reclamation of the area if this proposed corporate entity did not come to be. He gave the impression that they were not much interested in doing anything without having some control of the money they might put up. ALSO SAID HE WANTED TO STAY OUT OF THE WHOLE THING He is definately aggravated with Dow's statements in the press AT HARBOUR and at the public meeting and I'm sure would make it impossible for Dow to get any of Callahan's reclamation money.

Fred Beck called this morning and expressed shock at Dr. Patrick's \$300.00 per day fee. I asked him if I could count on some money to pay the 387.00 bill received. His answer was if the committee would become incorporated we could get money to pay the bill.

I have closed out the account in the Blue Hill bank which will cover about half of the fee, I'll take care of the balance. PLEASE DO NOT CONSIDER THIS AS A NEED FOR MONEY DON'T SEND ANY I have my reasons for wanting to pay this.

Beck also stated that he has a group of researchers at the mine from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration from Tiboron, California for a weeks study of the mines potential toxic metal ion problem, he intimated that his discussions with this group lead him to believe there would be little if any danger in exposing the copper pyrites in the pit to salt water as they are INSOLUBLE IN SALT WATER. I'll have to chec this out with Dr. Patrick when I see her, it just does not sound right. I think Beck is hell bent on this marina proposal and is sincerely determined to bring in a source of employment. I think the commitments in the lease with Phil & Virginia Gray must require the removal of the dam when Callahan ceases operations, or perhaps the amended lease with Bobby Gray's pushing insists on the removal of the dam.

12:25
E. ROSSON
GRANTS

3 PM

SEPT 9
10 AM

Beck also has not yet completed the minutes from the public meeting of the 17th of August. But, will shortly. He suggested along with tying up the loose ends of the committees recommendations that a list of priorities go along with it. I told him of my concern to get the mud and rock waste into the pit above all, he agreed this was his main concern too.

I asked if Kip's letter has gotten to Governor Curtis yet he said no it hadn't he saw the finished letter at Kip's the night before last. Seems that Shannon Blodgett is having a hard time finding his way through the family tree to Speaker of the House Kennedy.

I called John Gray tonight and asked if he could not insist that this be gotten off to Gov. Curtis right away. He said he was under the impression that this was done over a week ago. Why in the hell they ever delegated this job to Chan Blodgett I'll never know, other than the fact that he is a relation of Mr. Kennedy's. Anyhow it seems that Shannon blew his chance to do a job. I only hope Kennedy doesn't consider the source ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{of} ~~letter~~ ^{of} as important as the bearer.

Along with the copy I sent to you I also sent one to Dow, I'm beginning to wonder if that was the right move considering the attitude expressed by his right hand man Hurst.

Well, that is about it to date, you must pardon this stream of conscience letter. Between the work that has piled up here this summer and the discouraging events of the last two days I'm probably not making too much sense.

Attached is an article I found in the Spring issue of the Maine Fish & Game magazine. The old statutes are interesting if only they were applied today. It seems odd that there has never been a positive approach by the State of Maine from the executive or judicial level on what must be done to the Goose Pond area when the mining activity ends.

I will let you know of any further developments and hope I am not too burdensome.

HURST. — WANTS

PERK ← ELMER 403 9,500.00

RECORDERS
BULBS ← PLUMBING

TOTAL APPROX 12 - 15,000.

50 Tanner Street
Haddonfield,
New Jersey 08033
September 7, 1971

State of Maine
Department of Sea & Shore Fisheries
State House Annex
Augusta, Maine 04330

Mr. Robert L. Dow
Marine Research Director

Dear Mr. Dow:

I thought you should be made aware of the now active marina proposal for the Goose Pond area.

Enclosed are copies of two letters from the Town of Brooksville's Selectmen which are about to be or already have been hand delivered to Governor Curtis.

The single page letter is from a draft by Mr. Fred Beck of the Callahan Corporation and Mr. Eugene Hart, Supervisor from the Department of Outdoor Recreation. The two page letter I drafted and submitted to the Selectmen as a request to be made by the Town of Brooksville for the State's assistance on the problems at Goose Pond.

Considering the statements made by Mr. Beck at the public meeting on August 17th I felt the need to do something like this to get action on the matter of reclamation.

This marina facility understandably excites the Town and Selectmen, as a desirable addition to the area for the jobs it might produce as well as a means of filling the tax void when Callahan leaves. What troubles me is that it also serves to distract from the specific problems of reclamation, particularly the probable heavy metal toxicity of the ponds once they are flooded. The Town's prospects for the long sought marina may override concern for the impoundment of the pond area and the surrounding marine environment.

Callahan's publicly expressed intentions to replace themselves with a source of employment and tax ratables when they leave is magnanimous and the best of public relations. It also places Callahan in the light of doing all that is possible to conform with the MMB lease requirements under section 23, which is all they are legally obliged to do.

If the State decides to make a study of the area for a marina facility, this will eat up the precious time that remains for any reclamation effort. Callahan has stated that they are willing to start reclamation as soon as a set of recommendations have been approved and would carry out the work while they are still operating at the mine-site.

I have been trying to get these recommendations in a final form and will forward a copy to you as soon as they are available.

Personally I feel the marina proposal would be financially and physically difficult if not impossible for the State to undertake, although Mr. Hart seems to think otherwise.

Time is the critical factor and if the marina is to be considered it will no doubt lead to feasibility studies Town meetings etc.. Barring any new ore discoveries by that time Callahan will be well on the way to termination of their operation. The mine would then be out of time to carry out any reclamation of the area, this could neatly shift the blame to the State for balking on the marina after it sees the costs involved.

The alternative if the marina was approved could lead to the escape of the toxic metal ions, creating an even worse situation. The idea of a marina being developed but unuseable for the period of time necessary for the impounded waters to reach an equilibrium is the height of boondoggery.

Rather a perplexing situation.

I have been in contact with Mr. Hurst about the desired AA unit and the possibility of Federal funds. I will be meeting with Dr. Patrick this week about her channels for obtaining basic research grants.

Trust you had a pleasant vacation in South Dakota and thank you for the copies of the Muskie letters of 1968.

Sincerely,

Albert E. Sandeckl

50 Tanner Street
Haddonfield,
New Jersey 08033
September 3, 1971

State of Maine
Department of Sea & Shore Fisheries
Augusta, Maine 04330

Mr. John Hurst
Laboratory Director

Dear Mr. Hurst:

Enclosed is some information from my friend George Brown of E.S. Industries. I am disappointed that his firm does not deal in the AA units we had discussed over the telephone in mid August.

Perhaps you might be interested in the material anyway, if not, at least it is a start towards the instrumentation your department is in need of.

I have an appointment with Dr. Ruth Patrick the week of the 13th and would like to ask you for a letter outlining the equipment your department would find necessary to carry on detailed monitoring of the waters in and around the area affected by the Callahan Mining Corporation.

It is my intention to ask Dr. Patrick for her assistance in seeking the funds necessary for this equipment from the Federal Government. I am not too optimistic but perhaps she will be able to funnel me through the right channels and cut some of the red tape. Dr. Patrick intimated that she would like to help and her approach was to seek basic research grants from Dr. Cawley, Director of the FWQA and the office of Water Resources. I had discussed this with Mr. Dow the evening of the public meeting held by our committee last August 17th. Mr. Dow had no objection to my "going to the well" for a change. You might like to talk this over with him on his return from South Dakota.

If the desired piece of equipment is a Berk/Elmer 403 any information such as a brochure describing the equipment and its cost would be appreciated, along with any visible means of support for the requesting of a federal grant to your department might prove to be helpful.

Hope to hear from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Albert E. Sandecki
Chairman G.P.R.C.

50 Tanner Street
Haddonfield,
New Jersey 08033
September 3, 1971

Callahan Mining Corporation
N.E. Dist. Exploration Office
41 Union Wharf, Portland, Maine

Mr. Fred Beck
Exploration Manager

Dear Fred:

Enclosed is a copy of the Selectmen's letter to the Governor, along with a summary of the recommendations arrived at to date.

The third paragraph of the two page letter referring to the recommendations arrived at leads me to think it is necessary to draw these to a completed list as soon as possible.

I have enclosed the copy of the summary with the idea of asking you to make as complete a set as you can considering your past discussions with Mr. Hart of the Parks & Recreation Department. Would you then send them to the committee members for their consideration with a request that they decide on any amendments or changes necessary, holding them for the next meeting of the GPRC.

I feel the next meeting of the committee should come as soon as possible after the selectmen's conference with Governor Curtis.

Lastly, I would appreciate a copy of the amended and approved minutes from the public meeting held on the 17th of August.

Sincerely,

Albert Sandecki
Chairman GPRC

cc:

Mr. John Gray
Selectman

* SUMMARY OF G.P.R.C's. RECOMENDATIONS *

1. To fill and seal as much of the open-pit by mud and rock waste now existing in the pond bed before flooding the pit area.
2. Reducing mud and waste rock in the pond beds to some committee approved level below normal salt water low tide level. Benchmarks for high and low salt water levels are on record with the Callahan firm [prior to the mining activity.]
3. The present concrete dam to be retained until a balance of toxicity level is reached within the pit area's waters and those of Goose Cove and beyond. Requiring careful monitoring of the affected area, with a possible need for a baseline to be obtained from an unaffected area similar to that of Goose Cove before the mining operation began.
4. Possible reinforcing of the secondary dike in the lower pond bed and installation of a flood control gate to allow salt water into the pit area and to control outflow of the impounded waters. An alternative method to flood the pit would be the use of pumps.
5. Daming of the Weir Cove outlet to a proper level to prevent southerly flow of any drainage into the Weir Cove area.
6. Reshaping of the westerly wall of the pit from low water mark to create an irregular as opposed to a shear surface as a safety consideration.
7. Grading of the waste rock dump area to a combination of slope and terraces to facilitate revegetation and prevent erosion.
8. Allow the tailings pond to stabilize, doing necessary grading to permit drainage and revegetation.

A.E.S.
Sept. 3, 1971

cc: Fred Beck
John Gray

Harborside,
Maine 04642
August 31, 1971

Callahan Mining Corporation
N.E. Dist. Exploration Office
47 Union Wharf, Portland, Maine

Mr. Fred Beck:
Exploration Manager

Dear Fred:

Just to let you know that I am returning to Haddonfield on the 1st of September and am planning to return as soon as possible to Harborside. This return date will have to wait pending the situation in New Jersey.

I spoke to John Gray today and I understand the letters we had submitted to the Town of Brooksville selectmen last week will be delivered shortly to the Governor.

Dr. Patrick's bill arrived on the 26th and I am sending you and John Gray a copy. As I recall you made mention of Callahan's intent to pay this billing last July and I would like to know what the final decision is as soon as possible so that this bill can be paid. My intentions are to pay her as soon as I return to Haddonfield on the 2nd or 3rd, but I will wait to hear from you before I go ahead.

Sincerely,

Albert Sandeck
Chairman C.P.R.C.

cc: Mr. John Gray
Selectmen

Copy: Dr. Ruth Patrick's billing attached.

August 27, 1971

Honorable Kenneth M. Curtis
Governor of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, Maine

Dear Governor Curtis:

As selectmen of the Town of Brooksville, we feel the importance of writing to you in regards to the closing of our only large year around employer, Callahan Mining Corporation.

For some time we have been working with the water ways division of the State Parks & Recreation Commission, attempting to create a marina facility in our area. This project has been pursued in an effort to reduce our excessively high unemployment while not seriously affecting our high quality environment. Unfortunately we have had a difficulty in securing a proper site due to high land costs.

We are now faced with the problem of having the Callahan Mine closing which will result in the additional loss of 120 jobs, which only serves to compound our economic problems. This closing also offers the problem of rehabilitation of the mine area. We feel now that this problem could in fact, actually be an opportunity for future economic growth by providing the site to create our long sought marina.

The Callahan officials have offered their cooperation and the limited use of their equipment but unfortunately they will be leaving the area in early 1972. We are therefore requesting your help to expedite assistance from the Waterways Division, to develop applications to the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and Economic Development Administration.

We would like to arrange a meeting with you in regard to this subject matter at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

Clifford A. Leach

John H. Gray

C. Shannon Blodgett
Selectmen, Town of Brooksville

CAL:nab

August 27, 1971

Honorable Kenneth M. Curtis
Governor of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, Maine

Dear Governor Curtis:

As selectmen of the Town of Brooksville, we feel the importance of writing to you in regard to the closing of our only large year around employer, Callahan Mining Corporation.

We have been working with the Goose Pond Reclamation Committee which was formed on June 8th, 1971, in view of the imminent termination of the mining operations to carry out the provisions of Section 23 of the State of Maine's, Maine Mining Bureau lease #5, i.e. "Lessee will cooperate with Lessor, its various agents and the officials of the Town of Brooksville, Hancock County, Maine, in the planning, funding and implementation of a program for the rehabilitation of the said lands upon the completion of the mining activities thereon. The details of such program, including the funding and administration of same and the sources of funds to accomplish the program shall be the subject of further discussion and negotiation between the parties."

The committee consisting of representatives from the Maine Mining Bureau, Department of Sea & Shore Fisheries, Town of Brooksville and the Callahan Mining Corporation having consulted with experts has arrived at recommendations for the reclamation of the Goose Pond area.

The committee is without funds to carry out studies to arrive at specifications necessary to the reclamation effort and to guide the Callahan Mining Corporation in executing the reclamation work.

Since the mining operation was introduced by the State of Maine on and affecting State owned lands with no provisions made at the time for the reclamation of the areas at the cessation of the operations and since the disturbed area borders along 8,000 feet of the recently acquired wildlife sanctuary, the committee finds itself in need of advice and specifications which can only be obtained through various State agencies.

August 27, 1971

Representatives of the Sea & Shore Fisheries Department have stated at the public meeting held August 17th at the Brooksville community hall, that they have insufficient funds and equipment to carry out the necessary monitoring. The Maine Mining Bureau also indicates the lack of funds.

The projects requiring study and specifications are as follows:

1. Detailed monitoring and control of the impounded waters for the period of time necessary to attain a toxicity equilibrium with the tidal waters of Goose Cove and beyond.
2. Engineering specifications concerning the movement of mud and rock now in the pond beds into the open-pit area.
3. Gradient specifications to deal with spoil banks and tailings areas.
4. Reforestation specifications for spoil banks, tailings area and other affected areas.
5. Watershed survey and study of pond evaporation rate relative to control of water in the impounded area.
6. Dike and control gate specifications to maintain a proper pond level and avoid tidal flow.

The town further requests State assistance in obtaining State and/or Federal funds to supplement reclamation costs beyond that which may be provided by the Callahan Mining Corporation.

We would like to arrange a meeting with you in regard to this subject matter at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

Clifford A. Leach

John H. Gray

C. Shannon Blodgett
Selectmen, Town of Brooksville

CAL:nab

THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES

NINETEENTH AND THE PARKWAY, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19103

Phone LO 4-3921 Area Code 215

August 20, 1971

Mr. Albert Sandecki
Harborside, Maine 04642

Dear Mr. Sandecki:

As you requested, I am sending you a bill for my services. I enjoyed very much discussing the mining problems with you, and am very happy that you feel that I was helpful to you.

As I stated during our conference, I think it is most important that the pit be filled with mud and then with the waste rock and soil from the mine proper. It would be extremely dangerous to leave a hole this deep without guarding it. I am sure that many accidents would occur if this were the case. The hole should be filled until the lake is relatively shallow, and then water might be allowed to stand in it. Otherwise, it would be wise to try to fill it to the level of the sea and the marsh and let it again revert to what it was in the past--a salt marsh area with an open, shallow pond.

I think that the mine should be made to backfill and contour the waste piles so that the area will be more pleasing to anyone wishing to live in that area. A great deal can be done by planting such waste piles once they are contoured. You really do not need a lot of soil in order to get a cover of trees. Of course, much depends upon the kind of rock that composes the wastes from the mines. We have been very successful in Pennsylvania in the contouring and backfilling of strip mines, and I think Maine should follow the same policy.

There is a very interesting account of surface mining in our environment put out by the Department of Interior. I feel sure you could get a copy of this. I will try to find for you other articles on strip mining that may be of interest.

I have not had a chance as yet to talk to the Federal Water Quality Administration about the State of Maine's request, but will try to do so in the near future. The Federal Water Quality Administration is undergoing reorganization and it is difficult to get anything very definite from them at this time. I will be in touch with you later.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Ruth Patrick

Ruth Patrick
Chairman
Department of Limnology

RP:bs

RESEARCH / MUSEUM / EDUCATION

THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES
OF PHILADELPHIA
19th Street and the PARKWAY
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19103

Sold to

August 23, 1971

Mr. Albert Sandecki, Chairman
Goose Pond Reclamation Committee
50 Tanner Street
Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033

Our Contract No. B-117

Contract billing of costs incurred for a cursory study of Goose Pond estuary
by Dr. Ruth Patrick.

Consultation - Dr. Patrick - 1 1/4 days @ \$300.00 =	\$375.00
Transportation	12.00
	<u>\$387.00</u>

10M 2-68

ALBERT E. SANDECKI JEAN S. SANDECKI 50 TANNER STREET HADDONFIELD, N. J. 08033	No. 708
	55-399 312
PAY TO THE ORDER OF	<u>THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES</u> \$387. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
	<u>Three hundred and eighty seven dollars</u> ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀ DOLLARS
 COLONIAL NATIONAL BANK SERVING SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY	<u>Albert E. Sandecki</u> CHAIRMAN GOOSE POND RECLAMATION Comm.
CONTRACT # B-117 ⑆0312⑆0399⑆	706 496 7⑆

Honorable Kenneth M. Curtis
Governor of the State of Maine

August 19, 1971

The Goose Pond Reclamation Committee was formed on June 8th, 1971 in view of the imminent termination of the mining operations to carry out the provisions of Section 23 of the State of Maine's, Maine Mining Bureau lease # 5, i.e. "Lessee will cooperate with Lessor, its various agents and the officials of the Town of Brooksville, Hancock County, Maine, in the planning, funding and implementation of a program for the rehabilitation of the said lands upon the completion of the mining activities thereon. The details of such program, including the funding and administration of same and the sources of funds to accomplish the program shall be subject of further discussion and negotiation between the parties."

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Representatives of the Sea & Shore Fisheries Department have stated at the public meeting held August 17th at the Brooksville community Hall, that they have insufficient funds and equipment to carry out the necessary monitoring. The Maine Mining Bureau also indicates the lack of funds.

The projects requiring study and specifications are as follows:

1. Detailed monitoring and control of the impounded waters for the period of time necessary to attain a toxicity equilibrium with the tidal waters of Goose Cove and beyond.
2. Engineering specifications concerning the movement of mud and rock now in the pond beds into the open-pit area.
3. Gradients specifications to deal with spoil banks and tailings areas.
4. Reforestation specifications for spoil banks, tailings area and other affected areas.
5. Watershed survey and study of pond evaporation rate relative to control of water in the impounded area.
6. Dike and control gate specifications to maintain a proper pond level and avoid tidal flow.

PAVIES
& RAC

The committee further requests State assistance in obtaining State and or Federal funds to supplement reclamation costs beyond that which may be provided by the Callahan Mining Corp..

Attached is a summary of ^{RECEIVED 89.} the Goose Pond Reclamation Committee's recomendations to date, drawn from the minutes read, amended and approved at the public meeting.

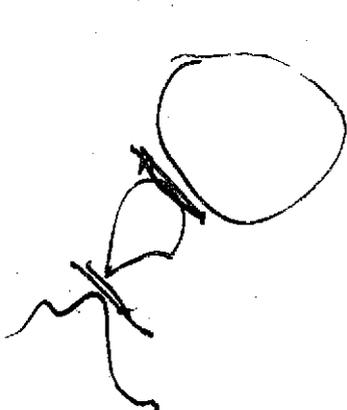
Sincerely,

Albert E. Sandecki
Chairman G.P.R.C.

* Summary of G.P.R.D's. Recomendations *

1. To fill and seal as much of the open-pit by mud and rock waste now existing in the pond bed before flooding the pit area. To provide naturally existing material to act on the toxic metal ions and exposed sulfides when the water enters the pit area.
2. Reducing mud and waste rock in the pond bed to some committee approved level below normal salt water low tide level. The low and high water benchmarks prior to *the mining parts* ~~the~~ are on record with the Gallahan Corporation. The purpose would be to eliminate Future Navigational Hazards.
3. The present concrete dam to be retained until a balance of toxicity level is reached within the pit area's waters and those of Goose Cove & beyond. This will require careful monitoring and a baseline for monitoring may have to be obtained from an unaffected area similar to that of Goose Cove before the mining operation began.
4. Possible reenforcing of the secondary dike in the lower pond bed and instalation of a flood control gate to allow salt water into the pit area and to control outflow of the impounded waters in the event of heavy rains. An alternative method to flood the pit would be the use of pumps.
5. Daming of the Weir Cove outlet to a proper level to prevent southerly flow of any drainage to prevent contamination of the Weir Cove Area.
6. The reshaping of the westerly wall of the pit from low water mark to create an irregular as opposed to a shear surface as a safety consideration for anyone falling into the water filled pit area.
7. Grading of the waste rock dump area to a combination of slope and terraces to facilitate revegetation and prevent erosion. Degrees of slope should conform to those researched by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
8. Allow the tailings pond to stabilize, doing necessary grading to permit drainage and vegetative cover.

A.S.S. Aug. 24, 1971



24 AUG / SAW
71 / BECK - MAJET (EUGENIE)
COFFEY - ERA. SUPV. OUTDOOR REC.
43 GREEN ST
AUGUSTA -
622-7233



The committee deliberates

Goose Cove Reclamation Committee members (l. to r.) Fred Beck, Albert Sandecki, John Gray and Paul Venno consider a point during Tuesday's open

meeting at Brooksville to discuss plans for reclaiming the Callahan mining operation there after it closes next year. Packet photo.

Committee favors turning pit into pond to reclaim mine area

BROOKSVILLE--A boat yard-yacht storage area, marina, site for small manufacturing plant, campground, and marine resources center were cited Tuesday night as possible replacements for Callahan Mining Corporation's Brooksville mine which is scheduled to close next year.

The ideas were discussed during a meeting of the Goose Cove Reclamation Committee Tuesday night at which the committee outlined tentative general recommendations for reclaiming the worked-out mine area.

Much of the questioning and comments during the meeting were directed at Fred Beck, Callahan manager of exploration, in an attempt to learn exactly what the mining company is prepared to do regarding reclamation, from now until the mine closes, and afterward.

Beck refused to be pinned to specifics, but indicated that the company would participate as much as possible in reclaiming the area, both financially and with manpower and equipment.

ACCORDING to Albert Sandeck, a Brooksville summer resident and chairman of the committee, Callahan is required under its lease with the Maine Mining Bureau to cooperate in a program of reclamation, including funding.

The committee (Sandeck, Beck, Brooksville selectman John Gray, Robert Doyle of the Maine Mining Bureau, and Robert Dow of the Maine Department of Sea and Shore Fisheries) has no legal power other than whatever importance it accrues through its work, Sandeck told the audience.

It is involved in gathering information, making recommendations and serving as the machinery for the cooperation required in the lease, he said.

Advice has been sought from various state agencies and other consultants, he said, and general recommendations have been formed, although nothing has been finalized.

Recommendations to date, San-

deck said, include converting the pit area to a pond, allowing the tailings pond to stabilize, grading and landscaping the waste-rock dump areas and closing off the Weir Cove outlet to prevent further drainage from the mine area into the cove.

THE COMMITTEE seemed to favor retention of the dam at Goose Cove at least until the metal ions remaining in the pit area can be neutralized.

Mud and other materials could be used to seal the pit and it could then be flooded with salt or brackish water to serve as a settling pond until a balance of toxicity has been reached, Sandeck said.

Beck said that work in the pit area is expected to conclude early next year unless further ore deposits are discovered. Enough ore would then be stockpiled, he said, to keep the refining operation going for four or five months.

He said Callahan has already begun a reclamation effort to some extent, but felt that any major work should come after a detailed work plan has been developed by the committee.

Other committee members and some in the audience, however, felt that the company could proceed with certain steps, including grading and seeding of waste-rock areas, without waiting for a decision regarding future use of the area.

Beck indicated that the company does not want to do anything the town or state does not want and for that reason would prefer to receive some direction.

HE FELT the committee should be incorporated, or another body formed, which could be funded and which could continue reclamation operations after the mine has closed.

Pressed for an answer regarding the amount Callahan would contribute for reclamation, Beck indicated only that it would probably be something under \$100,000.

He conceded, however, that the mine is not required to accept the recommendations of the committee if the cost of such recommendations is prohibitive.

Dow told the audience that the state has spent about \$10,000 and the federal government about \$17,000 since 1967 to monitor water conditions in the area.

But, he said, because of the history of metal deposits in the area, it is difficult to determine the rate of decay of metals and other specifics.

not continue to monitor the area after the mine closes unless additional funds become available from some source.

Selectman Gray said that one of the responsibilities of the reclamation committee should be to insure that some continuing machinery is established to carry out funding and other specifics.

It was not made clear just when the committee recommendations would be finalized.

Sandeck said, however, that "If there is too much talk, there will be time wasted. I think it's the sooner, the better as far as our recommendations are concerned."

Goose Pond Reclamation C

The Goose Pond Reclamation Committee, which has been meeting in closed sessions at Brooksville to consider restoration of the Callahan mine area when mining operations cease at the beginning of next year, has received recommendations from Dr. Ruth Patrick of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, from marine biologist Robert Dow, from the town officers of Brooksville, and from the Extension Service.

Minutes of a meeting held on July 30, as recorded by Secretary Fred Beck, are as follows:

Present: from Brooksville: Albert Sandecki - Chairman, John Gray; from the State: Robert Dow, Paul Venno, Spencer Apollonio, John Hurst; from the County: Carl Rogers; from Callahan: B. C. Scott.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman in the offices of Callahan Mining Corporation at 10:10 a.m. At the request of the Chairman, Dr. Ruth Patrick of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia stated her qualifications to study the problems of Goose Pond rehabilitation as they relate to marine life for the committee, but also stated that she could not expect to know all about the marine environment after only one day's study.

Robert Dow told the committee that the Maine Department of Sea and Shore Fisheries had collected the marine data used in the reports on Goose Cove published to date. He went on to say that copper is undetermined amounts are toxic to lobsters. He stated that bait worms are also sensitive to metal poisoning and that the lead content in clams is worrisome to S & S.

Dr. Patrick observed that copper and zinc combinations were shown to be toxic to several marine forms. She said that Federal standards for heavy metals content in marine foods have not yet been established, but should come out in about 6 months.

Mr. Scott asked Mr. Dow if there had been any samples of shellfish tested for metal content prior to Callahan's activities, to serve as a base for comparison. Mr. Dow replied that there had not, but that there had been mining activity in the area earlier, so there was heavy metal around earlier.

The Chairman then asked Mr. Dow if he had recommendations for the reclamation of Goose Pond to be presented to the Committee. Mr. Dow presented the following recommendations (copy appended) by the Department of Sea and Shore Fisheries:

- 1) Drainage to Wier Cove should be closed
- 2) The dam under the reversing falls bridge should be retained so there is no intrusion of tide water. The pit would then serve as a settling pond for ionic action in the water. The dam should be retained until the testing of marine life

is completed.

Mr. Sandecki then asked if Mr. Dow knew of any reports that would show the amount of drainage into the pond, that is, would there be enough drainage to offset evaporation, etc. so the pond would not become stagnant. Mr. Dow replied that there might be such reports; but that he did not definitely know of them.

At the request of the Chairman, John Gray stated the position of the Town of Brooksville:

- 1) The Town is interested in the best solution to the question a Goose Pond reclamation
- 2) The Town would like to have the pond returned to salt water if possible
- 3) The Town would like to keep employment available in the area.

The Chairman told the committee that the Maine Department of Parks and Recreation had stated an interest in cooperating with Callahan in developing picnicking, etc. on the Callahan side of the pit. Unfortunately, there was no representative of that department present at the meeting.

Mr. Dow stated that the Maine Department of Sea and Shore Fisheries had spent \$10,000 on shellfish monitoring in the area since 1987, and that the U. S. government had spent \$46,000 in the same period. He did not state exactly what this testing had yielded. He said that he had recommended to the Maine Mining Bureau that the royalties paid to the Mining Bureau by Callahan be used to purchase an Atomic Absorption unit to be used for testing at the Northeast Shellfish Sanitation laboratory, but that the Mining Bureau had turned down his request.

At the request of the Chairman, Mr. Carl Rogers stated the interest of the County Extension Service in the project. Mr. Rogers stated that:

- 1) The Extension Service's interest is in the people of the area, and in educational benefits. He said that he had worked with the Callahan group and the local residents, serving as a middle man for action through the county Technical Action Panel.
- 2) Extension wants to foster cooperative action by Callahan, the State, County and Town.
- 3) He recommended that funds from all sources, State, Callahan, Brooksville and surrounding towns, etc. be used in the reclamation project. Extension funds might be available if their use leads to employment opportunities for Town residents.

Mr. Venno suggested that a rehabilitation program be laid out and started as soon as possible.

Mr. Apollonio suggested that it would take a great deal of money to make the pit area safe for recreational purposes.

Mr. Dow stated that he felt

the greatest employment opportunities in the project lay in the research and monitoring associated with it.

Mr. Rogers stated that it might be possible to get an EDA technical assistance grant for study of the rehabilitation to serve as a guide for salt water mining projects elsewhere in the U. S. He also stated that moneys were available for settling up employment.

At the request of the Chairman, Mr. Scott stated that Callahan is interested in reclamation of the mined area; that its funds for such work were limited but that it had men and equipment available for such work if it is done while the operation is still in existence, and that it was consulting with firms and individuals experienced in similar rehabilitation programs.

The Chairman then asked Dr. Patrick to present her recommendations to the Committee. Dr. Patrick started her statement by observing that federal funds were available for such projects as this; that the recycling system used in the Callahan mill was a good one for controlling metal ions; and that ion exchange systems should be used for precipitation of metal ions whenever possible. Dr. Patrick then presented the following recommendations:

- 1) The drainage to Wier Cove should be closed
- 2) The dam under the bridge should not be removed until study shows that there will be no damage to marine life by water coming from the mine area
- 3) The mine dumps and tailing pond should be revegetated with Contours changed where necessary to prevent erosion

Committee Receives Recommendations

- 4) Marine mud should be allowed to slide into the pit to seal and cover the pit bottom
- 5) The pit as it now exists would be dangerous as a recreation area
- 6) Salt water would be better than fresh water for precipitation of harmful metal ions.

Mr. Sandecki suggested the possibility of allowing salt water to move in above the dike separating the pond area from the pit. This would require removal of the dam under the bridge, or at least opening it to allow inflow of salt water.

Mr. Dow suggested that to meet Dr. Patrick's recommendation for salt water in the pit to help control metal ions, salt water could be pumped into the pit first, then the pit be allowed to become fresh, rather than salt water, as a result of natural runoff. Dr. Patrick then restated her recommendation that marine muds be allowed to move into the pit, adding that this should be done before any water is allowed in.

Mr. Sandecki told the committee that there were two legal obligations to removal of the dam under the bridge, these being Callahan's agreement with the Grays, and the legislative requirements for its removal. Mr. Venno stated that the dam would have to be allowed in any case, so the legal requirements could be met as a consequence.

Dr. Patrick suggested that the committee contact Dr. William Cowley, Chief of the Federal Grants of the Federal Water Quality Administration, requesting funds for a rehabilitation study. Mr. Scott asked Dr. Patrick if her recommendations on sources of available funds would be presented in writing

to the committee — Dr. Patrick replied that she would be happy to orally give these recommendations to the Chairman.

Mr. Gray asked that part of the mud available to the pit be retained for hydro-sealing of the tailing dumps.

At Mr. Scott's request that Dr. Patrick present her recommendations to the committee in writing, Dr. Patrick agreed to give her recommendations orally to the Chairman.

Mr. Venno stated that he felt that Callahan should be asked to start immediately on a rehabilitation program. Mr. Scott replied for Callahan that such a program could not be started without a detailed work plan. Mr. Sandecki stated that Mr. Beck would be working on such a plan within two weeks.

The Chairman presented to the committee the recommendations of Mr. Harold B. Staley, specialist in water treatment (attached). The chairman observed that Mr. Staley's recommendations were not in accord with those of Dr. Patrick and Mr. Dow.

The Chairman stated that the recommendations would be given to Mr. Beck for study and inclusion in his rehabilitation work plan.

The Chairman had invited members of the press and public to meet with the committee at the close of the meeting, and asked members to cooperate in answering questions put to the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Dr. Patrick's full report submitted to the committee is as follows:

I have read many articles concerning the effects of strip mining in general in the environ-

ment of Cape Rosier and particularly of the Callahan Mining Company. These have included the following reports: the acute toxicity evaluation of wastes from the mine by S. C. DeWick; the report of Robert Dow on toxic metals in the marine environment; the report on the probable composition of the tailing wastes; the August 1970 report of the Department of the Interior on the effect of Strip-Mine Discharges on the Marine Environment.

I have spent one day examining the fresh water pond, the dump pond, Goose Pond and the general environs of the mine. I understand the mine is to close as of December 31, 1971, and that they will be given or have been given certain exemptions under the stripmining law or the law about to be enacted.

Because I have so little data that I or my staff have developed it is impossible for me to make any exhaustive statement. However, certain things are evident.

1. The shellfish in the area and particularly those from the vicinity of Goose Cove exceed the amounts of heavy metals which will probably be allowable according to Federal Standards. Dr. Mount of Duluth tells me they are recommending concentrations in food similar to those in drinking water. These standards I believe are now being developed. Therefore in view of natural releases of heavy metals all releases from mining activities should be strictly controlled.

2. I believe it is the moral responsibility of the mine, if not the legal responsibility, to leave the mine pit and the mine waste piles in such a condition that they cannot continue to degrade the environment. As conditions are now, the pit if left

unguarded is a great hazard and the appearance of the waste piles will forever degrade the value of the area for recreation and living. Therefore I would recommend the following:

a) The mine veins be sealed and the lower part of the mine be sealed to best extent possible so they will not seep mine minerals into the water. The mine pit should be so managed that it will not be a hazard to human life. If a lake is developed, shallow areas should be developed so that anyone who falls in can get out. Perhaps it would be better to fill it with mud or to partially fill it and develop paths so one could walk down to a bog garden.

b) The waste heaps should be regraded and covered in a method to support vegetation. Pennsylvania has developed extensive data on how to do this and it is being done at the present time. When this is done the area becomes attractive for living and recreational use.

As of the present time I have not been able to make extensive enough studies to determine the amount of depredation that has occurred to Goose Cove. But from the Dept. of Interior report and from talking with others, it would appear some damage has been done and the accumulation of heavy metals in sea weeds and mollusks is high. I would strongly recommend that waste discharge to Weir Cove be stopped so as to confine or localize any effects as much as possible.

The mine is to be commended for having developed a method for recycling most of their waste water.

Dr. Ruth Patrick
The Academy of
Natural Sciences
Nineteenth and the
Parkway Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania 19103.

ISLAND ADVANTAGES



Your East Penobscot Bay Weekly Newspaper

VOLUME 36 NO. 34

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1971

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preservation modified



the conservation easement

PAGE 3

Callahan to Close Within a Year ; Residents Worried Over Reclamation

Callahan mine will be completely shut down by next year at this time.

This was the stark fact confronting the Goose Pond Reclamation Committee and 60 Brooksville residents Tuesday night as they met to discuss and answer questions about reclamation or other uses of the area when the mine closes down. Speaking for Callahan, Fred Beck said that mining operations on the pit are scheduled to cease in mid January of 1972. The processing mill will continue in operation until the middle summer to handle the back log of ore. And that will be that. But Beck said exploration is continuing into further underground possibilities. If they prove feasible, further mining would be done.

Robert Dow, head of the Sea and Shore Fisheries Department's research division, present at the meeting and an active member of the committee, notes the extreme toxic effect of copper ions on shellfish, especially lobster. He and other scientists (J-A 8-6-71) warned of the consequences of opening the tidal flow into the pit area.

Residents complained of the "visual eyesore" of the waste rock pile and pressed Beck for firm commitments about reclamation. He evaded direct answers, referring to the committee. He received the heat of the questions from both the citizens and other committee members.

So it was against this back that the 2 1/2 hour meeting was set. The meeting report, compiled from 19 pages of notes follows.

Present at the committee table in front: Albert Sandeck, Chairman; John Gray, Brooksville selectman; Robert Dow and Paul Venno from the Sea and Shore Fisheries Department and Fred Beck, from Callahan.

The meeting was opened by Chairman Sandeck. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and corrections made. He read a statement of the committee's recommendations to date. (see opposite) He said the committee would come up with firm recommendations in several weeks. John Gray moderated the question period.

Fred Beck noted that reclamation procedure would depend on what future use the area was put to. He told of the shut down schedule mentioned above saying, "our intent is to find new use to continue to operate as long as possible. We are trying to stay as long as possible. When we do go, we are attempting to locate another industry to help employment."

He said there are no plans for the shaft one mile south of the pit due to the low price of copper. He noted that the salvage value of the buildings on the property is relatively low and that "we would like to have someone replace us and move in to use them."

Sandeck questioned him about reclamation funds. Beck noted that the pond belongs to the state and did not give any figure. He hoped future land and water use would be complementary.

Questioned about the official capacity of the committee, Sandeck replied "the state's lease with the mining company said there would be discussion and co-operation on reclamation. We have no specific power. Some importance may be accrued by the committee as the project progresses." Gray said the committee is trying to assist parties responsible for the reclamation. Dow noted that the committee has no power of authority.

A town planning board member noted that the mine had told the towns 2 years ago that they were setting up a sum for the reclamation and had asked the town to raise a sum each year. Beck replied, "we have talked to the Penobscot Mining Company. They have given us permission to negotiate directly with the town."

Dow explained the reasons for recommending that the pit remained closed off as the closed pit would act as a trailing pond for toxic metal run off. Salt water, which is denser than fresh, would stratify. "It has been assumed from lab work that size particles absorb through mud and lose their toxicity. But our monitoring in the area show this is not happening." He noted there is no research done anywhere in the world on this problem, but "we do know that it doesn't take much copper to give 100% mortality in lobsters."

Asked about the mine's statistics on fresh water inflow Beck said that they really didn't know "because there are so many factors we don't have any control over." Callahan had asked the US Geological survey, which had replied that it would take several years to fill the pit with fresh water. A citizen noted that there were several springs and wells in the pit area. Beck said they had gotten as much as 20-25' of water in the bottom of the pit during heavy storms.

He said the company had no legal obligation one way or the other to fill the ditch into Weir Cove and that the property at the end belonged to Mr. Robinson: "It's her decision."

Questioned about replacement alternatives he noted: a large yacht storage and boystorage; a marina, a small manufacturing plant; summer homes; a marine research center; campgrounds.

Brooksville selectman Shannon Blodgett asked, "isn't the park service against recreation?" Beck, "according to my conversations with them last week, they were not committal about development."

Beck said the tailings from the mill were fine -- similar to sand. He said that waste rocks were crushed to use for roads at the mine and is available for sale to people with trucks to haul it off, but "the volume is terrific -- the demand is not high enough to reduce the pile...if everybody in Brooksville did their driveway, the pile might do down a foot."

The meeting then digressed a bit after Sandeck pressed Beck about using Callahan men and equipment still at the mine for reclamation. Dow pinned him by saying he didn't consider the recommendations specific enough. Beck said the individual recommendations were specific enough, but "we haven't solicited any ideas from the people who know about fresh water." Dow said that both he and Dr. Patrick had recommended some salt water to act as a catalyst for the ions brought in by the fresh water. Beck again said Callahan would act on specific recommendations from the committee.

Dow, "will Callahan do anything if there is no compelling reason to bring in salt water...."

Beck admitted that their program of re-seeding was not as good as it should be. Again pressed Venno, he said that they would like to have specific recommendations.

Blodgett joined in, "How much money does Callahan have for reclamation?" Beck, "we don't know. We're prepared to work on a cost of doing business day to day. We've spent all of our money already on reclamation. We hope to see the Goose Pond Reclamation Committee incorporated as a non-profit group. We would give them money."

Asked about "the big rock pile", Beck said "it's as light as it's going to be. It will be flat-topped. This will be seeded....it's an eyesore." He said they are still dumping on the interior of the pit. "I think the slopes are rubbishy enough that the slopes will be stable."

A citizen noted that work could be done on the pile while "the making is going" to handle the ocular pollution now." Beck, "if the GPRC thinks this should be rounded - then we will round it." Citizen, "I'm talking about the angles which don't hold material. Dumping a little mud over the side isn't working -- the cover doesn't stay at this angle." Beck, "if we attempt to make flatter angles, there will be a space problem."

Beck said the mine was preparing estimates on the cost to blast out a way to get into the pit and put up a lift bridge.

Discussion then went back to specific recommendations with Beck again saying the committee should be specific and other committee members and citizens saying Callahan should take the initiative. Beck said that the slope of the rock pile is about 1 on 1 or 3/4. "It hasn't been established that there is any desirability to reduce slope." Dow, "enough people have indicated this is a problem." Beck, "there is no option to change these slopes now." Question, "has Callahan in the past, ever reduced piles of this angle successfully?" Beck, "yes." "You have the information to aid you with this?" Beck, "we're looking into the possibilities of other ways." Question, "you could say no to all recommendations." Beck, "yes, if the committee came up with things they couldn't afford to do." Pressed about the amount of money again, Beck replied, "certainly not millions, perhaps under 100,000's of thousands."

He admitted that the mine has been a losing proposition, but could break even if enough vein ore were discovered in the next few months.

Dow spoke of the frustrations of his department in getting federal funding for research for monitoring. Beck said he didn't want to give a lump sum to the Maine Mining Commission for reclamation because he was afraid it would be dissipated without any real effect. He pointed out that the timing of the closing was unfortunate -- with the closing of the pit in January, not much reclamation could be done until after the thaw.

RNWB

Recommendations of the Goose Pond Reclamation Committee

To fill and seal as much of the open-pit by mud and rock waste now existing in the pond bed before flooding the pit area. To provide naturally existing material to act on the toxic metal ions and exposed sulfides when the water enters the pit area.

Reducing mud and waste rock in the pond bed to some committee approved level below normal salt water low tide level. The low and high water benchmarks prior to the mining activity are on record with the callahan corporation. The purpose would be to eliminate future navigational hazards.

The present concrete dam to be retained until a balance of toxicity level is reached within the pit area's waters and those of Goose Cove. This will require careful monitoring. A baseline for the monitoring may have to be obtained from an unaffected area similar to that of Goose Cove before the mining operation begins.

Possible reinforcing the secondary dyke in the lower pond bed and installation of a flood control gate to allow salt water into the pit area and to control outflow of the impounded waters in the event of heavy rains. An alternate method to flood the pit would be the use of pumps.

Damming of the weir cove outlet to a proper level to restrict southerly flow of any drainage. To prevent recontamination of the weir cove area.

The reshaping of the westerly wall of the pit from low water mark to facilitate an irregular as opposed to a sheer surface as a safety consideration for anyone falling into the water filled pit area.

Grade the waste rock dump area to a combination of slope and terraces to facilitate revegetation and prevent erosion. Degree of slope should conform to those researched by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Allow the tailings pond to stabilize doing necessary grading to permit drainage and vegetative cover.

A.E.S.

Cover photo taken at Isle au Haut looking across the thorofare at Kimball's Island.
by Clayton Grass

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What Does Kerramerican Have to Hide?

According to Henry Mann, the E.I.C. is scheduled to make its final decision on Kerramerican's waste discharge proposal at a session on Friday, February 11, 1972. This is two months later than the original date proposed back in October. Members of the opposition think this may mean that the E.I.C. is really doing its homework and will come up with more stringent regulations. Kerramerican may be sharing similar thoughts, but not the same inner hope. The stricter the regulations, the more money might have to be spent, and by the looks of things at the mine, quite a bit has been spent already. Although when questioned, Mr. Pat Boiclaou, mine superintendent, felt that he was in no position to state their expenses to date, (The final estimated cost, given in October, was \$34 million.) He did say that the milling equipment was in place and the primary crusher building was in the process of erection. Also, the face is now at 700 plus feet, leaving another 700' to go before reaching the level of the first ore deposits. According to Boiclaou, the work on the face is on schedule. This conflicts with the reports of the former mine manager, Mr. Ed Bettiol, back in November, when he reported that the 1400' level would hopefully be reached in February. A total of 12 men and 3 supervisors, approximately half of whom are in some stage of training, are split into 3 shifts a day, 6 days a week, working steadily at the face. This is 2/3 more manpower than the November count.

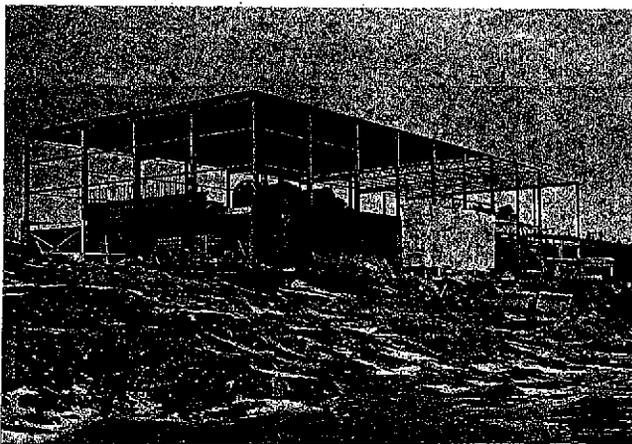
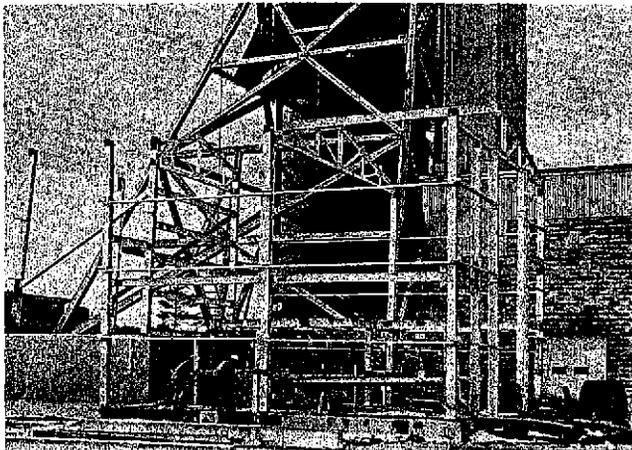
It is of concern to some people why Kerramerican has continued to do such extensive construction when they have not yet met with E.I.C. approval. Is this legal? Is the company just optimistic that the E.I.C. will grant them a license? A few weeks ago, Mr. Bud Rowswell, general manager, said that the company was optimistic about obtaining the license and Mr. Boiclaou, recently confirmed Mr. Rowswell's statement. Legality was also assured, since the E.I.C. did grant them a site location license. It brings to another question about whether the company thought they had enough ore to merit the heavy cost of construction. Mr. Boiclaou pointed out that a thorough evaluation of the records of the former Black Hawk Mine was done beforehand. If the company felt that the recovery of ore would not exceed the ultimate investment, they would not have undertaken the project in the first place. Of course, he said, "There are always risks in mining." "Mother Nature" perhaps being the biggest risk of all. But therein lies the challenge.

In the past Kerramerican has always seemed willing and eager to cooperate with the press. Now, for some reason(s), they seem suspicious, even abrupt. In concluding a brief telephone conversation with Mr. Rowswell in January, he said, "Be good to us, eh?" A similar attitude was prevalent recently with Mr. Boiclaou. When a visit to the mine site was requested to observe the progress of construction, he curtly asked, "When was your last article on the mine published?" "Is the only purpose of your visit to observe construction?" When he was assured that it was, he reluctantly consented.

During the interview, he seemed quite uncomfortable, and was unwilling to have his photograph taken. This led to a direct confrontation on this observation later on. "Mr. Boiclaou, you seem to be suspicious. Is there any reason for this?" He agreed he was and his reasons were two-fold. He mentioned that he was a new employee of the company as of January 8th, and he wasn't yet aware of the whole operation. He knew that there was opposition to the mine, and he wanted to act responsibly toward the company. "Not that there was anything to hide."

If there is in truth nothing to hide, why are the mine officials acting like there is some secret they wish not to be revealed? Is their optimism a front? Whether Mr. Ed Bettiol's release on December 1st has anything to do with their attitude or if it is tension over the prolonged E.I.C. decision, one can only venture a guess. Perhaps after February 11, public relations will improve - or worsen. Right now Kerramerican seems to have an itchy sense that it can't scratch. Relief or more discomfort may depend solely on the E.I.C.

Nanci Herrington



Two views of the mine construction: above, shaft superstructure, below, crusher assembly building. Our photographer was prohibited from taking other pictures.

Committee formed to study Callahan reclamation plan

BROOKSVILLE -- Representatives of the mine, the town, various state agencies, and the public met in the offices of Callahan Mining Corp. Tuesday to discuss reclamation plans for the mine and to suspend operations next week.

A number of topics were discussed in a general way during the two-hour session, and it became evident that detailed study was going to be required.

There was the matter of salt and fresh water, for example.

THE QUESTION arose as to whether there would be too heavy a content of heavy metals if the pit area were turned back into a salt water cove with tidal flowage. On the other hand, there was question as to whether the water would become stagnant if it were made into a fresh water pond.

And to complicate the picture are the terms of leases with various property holders concerning flowage rights when the mine is worked out.

Restoration funds are available from several sources.

Callahan has set aside money for restoration purposes and a portion of the state's royalties from the property are to be available. The group also discussed the possibility of securing Economic Development Administration funds.

ENDING Tuesday's meeting two representatives of Callahan, a representative from the Department of Parks and Recreation, a representative from the Department of Sea and Shore Fisheries, a representative of the Mining Bureau, the three Brooksville selectmen, Albert Sandecki who owns property adjacent to the mine, and Deer Isle lawyer Sherman Greene.

Committee meets on mine reclamation, results unavailable

BROOKSVILLE -- Reclamation plans for the Callahan Mining Corporation's Brooksville operation were discussed by a newly formed committee at Brooksville Tuesday but the results of that meeting are not known.

Representatives of the mine, the town, various state agencies and the public met two weeks ago and decided to form a smaller committee to study the situation and make recommendations.

Selectman John Gray, Brooksville, told the PACKET Wednesday that the committee had decided to release information on the progress of its deliberations only through its chairman, Albert Sandecki, a part-time Brooksville resident, or its secretary, Fred Beck, Portland.

The PACKET attempted to contact both men but without success.

Callahan has set aside funds for restoration after the mine suspends operations next year, and a portion of the state's royalties from the property can also be used.

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