

4. I consider that any liquors from the plant that may be discharged into the river are liable to reach the intake of the Montreal water supply, but in view of the immense amount of water with which any discharge will be mixed there is no danger of the water supply being contaminated. In particular, even a large discharge of sulphuric acid would be completely neutralized by the calcium carbonate in the water. I think, however, that the Company should be restricted in regard to the amount of any acid liquors that they may discharge and that any wash-waters carrying lead, arsenic or other objectionable suspended matter should be filtered before they are allowed to enter the river. In this connection the Department of Marine and Fisheries at Ottawa should be consulted regarding the possible effect on the fish in Lake St. Louis of liquors containing sulphuric acid or sulphates of iron, zinc or other metals.

5. In view of the frequency of important changes in metallurgical practice, it is impossible to predict with any degree of certainty what process or processes may be employed in the treatment of ores in this plant, or even the character of the ores that may be treated. I can merely state that in my opinion it is possible for the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company to treat such ores as I have indicated without causing any economic damage to surrounding vegetation or to