Pipelines and most of the study was completed in 1974-75. It will be continued at a monitoring level to determine long-term effects.

Mine wastes from the Yellowknife gold mines are being studied to elucidate their toxicity and to devise ways of removing arsenic from waste waters. In the Yukon, a study is in progress to determine why water seeping from a tailings pond is alkaline although the pond is constructed of highly acidic rock (pyrites).

A preliminary archaeological survey and studies on waste disposal which were begun under the Environmental-Social Program, Northern Pipelines, in 1972-73 have been concluded.

Oil and Minerals Branch. The Exploration and Geological Services Unit of the Mining Section provides a geological information and advisory service to those engaged in the mineral industry in the Yukon and Northwest Territories. Resident geologists' offices are maintained in Whitehorse, YT, and Yellowknife, NWT. Two new core libraries were officially opened in 1973. These contain laboratory facilities for core splitting, diamond saw cutting and thin section preparation, as well as core storage facilities to provide a means of preserving valuable core data for the mineral industry.

Resident and district geologists carry out mineral property examinations, collect rocks and mineral specimens and advise the mineral industry, government departments and research scientists on geological problems arising from their work in the territories. The service includes carrying out geological evaluations on mining developments in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, where government assistance is solicited, such as for the Prospectors' Assistance Program and the Northern Mineral Exploration Assistance Program.

A library of released technical assessment reports is available for reading and copying by means of a microfilm system. A small library of technical books and mining publications is maintained also for public convenience in Whitehorse and Yellowknife.

9.2.7.3 Parks Canada

Research conducted by Parks Canada is applied primarily to the selection, acquisition, preservation and development of representative and significant examples of Canada's natural and historic heritage in the form of National Parks, National Historic Parks and Sites and historic canals, waterways and land routes. Other benefits from this work are derived indirectly by universities, other agencies and levels of government and interested public sectors of the natural and historic scientific community.

National Parks. Primary research programs currently being conducted by Parks Canada relate to the selection, planning, development and operations of the National Parks and include: the preparation of Resource Inventories of each park as a basis for resource management and development planning; applied research to provide data for environmental effects assessments; and applied research required as a guide to new park planning.

The development of National Parks Resource Inventories comprises three stages: the preparation of bibliographical synthesis and evaluation of existing information to plan the inventory and set priorities for collecting missing data; setting of bio-physical classifications to divide the park into types and levels of study, followed by the examination and collection of data on the physical elements (climate, geology, geomorphology, etc.), the biological surroundings (vegetation, wildlife, etc.) and references to the human history of the area; and assembling and correlation of data, and synthesis into maps and descriptions as usable forms for park planning and management.

Resource Inventory maps are currently in the final stages of preparation for Point Pelee, Kejimkujik and Waterton Lakes national parks. Data and other related information obtained from these studies form the basis of environmental effects assessments for major construction projects and the effects of large numbers of visitors to the parks.

Natural history and region research studies are conducted to identify natural areas of significance in the national character of Canada's landscape worthy of selection and designation as National Parks. For this purpose Canada is divided into 39 territorial and nine marine regions, each with a defined and distinct natural history characteristic. To date, five natural regions are well represented by the existing National Parks, 19 are partially represented, leaving 24 unrepresented.