

May 8, 1992

Mr W E Stanley, President
Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum
1210 - 3400 de Maisonneuve Boulevard West
Montreal, Quebec H3Z 3B8

Dear Mr Stanley:

Just a brief note with reference to our recent conversation to let you know that copies of the enclosed letters have also been sent to Dr Harlan D Meade at his Vancouver address. You will notice that "Precision Estimates for Ore Reserves" too triggered a surprising response from CIM's geostatistical reviewers. I attempted to report my opinion on CIM's review process for a paper that only remotely resembles "geostatistics", and was rewarded with another review by the same geostatistical fraternity.

Utterly frustrated with the reviews's lack of substance my son and I embarked on a close examination of the geostatistical theory, and found out that the kriged variance is mathematically invalid. Using kriged variances to calculate precision estimates for ore reserves violates one of the most fundamental requirements of mathematical probability. I am of the opinion that this flaw should be brought to the attention of CIM's Membership in due course. I have reported my views to non-reviewed mining journals and magazines in different parts of the world. I believe that geologists and mining engineers are qualified to pass judgement on this important subject.

Yours truly,

J W Merks
President

Miscellaneous letters

D05/131