
Xstrata Nickel to double Raglan nickel output in 5 years

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It is reported that Xstrata Nickel of Toronto plans to double the output from its Raglan nickel copper mine in Nunavik. As per report the target output is 2 million tonnes of ore annually, which will make Raglan one of the world's largest nickel mines with output of nearly 50,000 tonnes per year of contained nickel in concentrate.

Ms Dominique Dionne vice president of corporate affairs of Xstrata Nickel said that "When you look at what we are investing in ramping up to 2 million tonnes in 2011 and we want to have passed 2 million tonnes in 2013 it is very important. We already have a big, big infrastructure and we have the exploration results behind our expansion."

The Raglan site, which Ms Dionne describes as a huge belt of nickel, consists of one open pit three underground mines and a concentrator. The expansion will include a couple of new open pit mines. The current production rate of 1.1 million tonnes will grow to 1.3 million tones per year by the end of 2008; further increases will begin in 2011.

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