

Information Sheet for Media Public Hearings

Depositing Processed Kimberlite in pits and underground Diavik Diamond Mines Inc.

September 3-6, 2019

Yellowknife, NT – The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) is holding public hearings in Behchokò, Dettah, and Yellowknife for the Depositing Processed Kimberlite in Pits and Underground project (the Project) proposed by Diavik Diamond Mines Inc (Diavik). The Project proposes to deposit and store processed kimberlite in pits and underground at the Diavik mine, and then to reconnect these pits with Lac de Gras during closure.

WHAT- Public hearing

The purpose of a public hearing is for the Review Board to hear from the developer, interveners, Indigenous Government organizations, and community members to get their views on the proposed project.

WHEN/WHERE	September 3, 2019 – 1:30 pm until ~8:00 pm Behchokò, KQ Gocho Center
	September 4, 2019 - 3:00 pm until ~9:00 pm Dettah, Chief Drygeese Conference Center
	September 5, 2019 - 9:30 am – 6:00 pm Yellowknife, Explorer Hotel - Kat A and B
	September 6, 2015 - 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Yellowknife, Explorer Hotel - Kat A and B

Media are requested to sign-in at the hearings and speak to staff on site for designated areas to set up.

Staff and Review Board members will not be available for interviews during the proceeding. If you wish to set up an interview, please contact Mark Cliffe-Phillips to arrange a time following the meeting.

Media contact:

Mark Cliffe-Phillips
Executive Director
867-766-7055
mcliffephillips@reviewboard.ca

Please see below for background information on the project and instructions on media conduct during meetings and interviews.

Quick references for the Depositing Processed Kimberlite into Pits and Underground Project

The Project reflects an amendment to the existing Diavik water licence and processed kimberlite management plan. Currently, Diavik stores processed kimberlite in an on-land Processed Kimberlite Containment Facility. With this Project, Diavik proposes to divert some of its processed kimberlite tailings to pits and underground for disposal and long-term storage.

At closure, the pits would be back filled with freshwater from Lac de Gras. Diavik will monitor these pit lakes and once it has been determined that water in the pit lakes is safe for fish and aquatic life, the dikes surround the pit lakes would be breached, re-connecting the pit lakes to Lac de Gras. Diavik believes that the freshwater cap on the pit lakes will effectively contain the processed kimberlite and does not predict that this Project will result in significant adverse impacts on the environment.

The Review Board is responsible for conducting a fair and open environmental assessment of this Project. Through this environmental impact assessment, the Review Board must decide if there are significant adverse impacts on the environment or significant public concern about this development. The Review Board will decide whether the development should be approved and if so under what conditions.

The public hearing agenda is found [here](#). It is advisable to check the Review Board's [website](#) periodically to confirm logistical details about the public hearing.

Media conduct during the meeting

Media personnel are required to sign in at the public meetings and advise Review Board staff of their attendance. This is important so staff can announce the media's presence to the participants in the room.

The Review Board respectfully requests that all media personnel please observe the following courtesies:

- Please work within the designated Media Area to ensure that you do not disturb the proceedings
- Please work quietly and do not distract board members, staff, and other hearing participants from their work.

The resources available to the Review Board to assist the media are limited so bring your own equipment and power supplies.

Review Board staff will not conduct interviews during the public hearings. Therefore, please call the Review Board office to arrange for an interview, which will likely occur a few days after the hearing

has ended. Please request your interview far enough in advance to allow Review Board staff to coordinate their availability with your deadline.

Interview guidelines

Because of the quasi-judicial nature of the Review Board, there are certain limitations as to what the Chairperson and staff can speak about. For this ongoing environmental assessment, you will only be able to interview Review Board staff. The Chairperson and Board Members are not permitted to comment on matters before the Board. Further, staff members will comment on the process only, and not on substantive issues relevant to the environmental assessment.

Review Board decisions, submissions made by interveners and any other evidence must speak for itself. Staff cannot provide interpretation or explanations of any information that is on the public record. All the evidence is available on the Review Board's website. If you would like to gain a better understanding of the information on the public record, please contact the groups or individuals or outside expert who submitted the document.

You are encouraged to speak to the individuals or groups participating in the environmental assessment for their perspectives on the Project. It is advisable to make sure they have had a chance to review relevant evidence before soliciting their comments.

Finding background information and other interview sources

There are several sources you can use for background information about the Review Board. The Review Board [website](#) contains all the evidence the Review Board has on file for this project. You are also encouraged to contact the developer of the Project to get more specific details about the development.