

Our File: EA-03-002

July 9, 2003

Ref 121

Mr. Laurence Stephenson
GEOFIN
1136 Martin St.
White Rock, BC V4B 3W1
Fax 604-687-7179

Dear Mr. Stephenson:

**RE: Response to E-mail Outlining Concerns of Consolidated Goldwin Ventures Inc.
Diamond Exploration**

This letter is in response to your e-mail dated July 8, 2003. The Review Board has noted three primary concerns:

- requests for extensions to the comment period;
- meetings between Review Board staff and other parties; and
- extension to the deadline for comments until July 11, 2003.

The comment period for the Draft Terms of Reference and Workplan for the Consolidated Goldwin Ventures Environmental Assessment (EA) closed June 30th. The Review Board denied requests for an extension of this deadline in order to review all comments together. Approval of the Final Terms of Reference and Workplan is expected at the Board's next meeting on July 15-16, 2003.

Environmental Assessments typically require no less than 6 months. The aggressive timeline proposed for the Consolidated Goldwin Ventures EA requires careful planning because it occurs mainly in the summer and coincides with traditional activities, summer holidays, etc. As a result, staff have been speaking with parties to explain the process and timelines for this EA. The meeting with the Yellowknives Dene First Nation was to discuss the cumulative effects study being commissioned by the Review Board not the Consolidated Goldwin Ventures EA. Although this meeting was peripheral to your EA, the Review Board filed the results of the meeting on the public registry in the interests of fairness and full disclosure.

The July 11th deadline for comments is not for the Draft Terms of Reference and Workplan for the Consolidated Goldwin Ventures EA. This deadline is for the parties to provide input to the cumulative effects study of the Drybones Bay/Wool Bay area.

The Review Board has attempted to be progressive in developing an approach to the EAs for the Drybones Bay/Wool Bay areas which is consistent with the size of the developments

affected, sensitive to capacity of the companies involved and which respects the legitimate concerns expressed by the Yellowknives Dene First Nation. While we are open to constructive dialogue on the process of the EA, you must be aware that there are other parties representing different points of view involved in this proceeding.

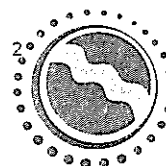
Should Consolidated Goldwin Ventures be of the view that the EA is not meeting the standards of fairness required by law of the Review Board, it is of course free to look to legal remedies.

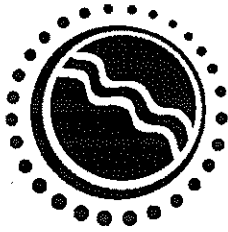
Sincerely,



Vern Christensen
Executive Director

Cc: Abby Farrage, Consolidated Goldwin Ventures
John Donihee LLB, Legal Counsel for the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Bob Wooley, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board





Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Box 938 , 5102-50th Avenue, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

From:	Kirsten Berg for	Fax:	867-766-7074
	Vern Christensen	Phone:	867-766-7050
Date:	June 10 th , 2003	Pages:	3 * including this page
To:	L. Stephenson	Fax:	
		CC:	Abby Farrage, CGW John Donihee, Legal Counsel for MVEIRB Bob Wooley, MVLWB

Re: Response to July 8th, 2003 E-mail

NOTES:

CGW.

(604) 572-1891

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