NORTH SLAVE MÉTIS ALLIANCE

PO Box 2301 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7

March 23rd, 2012



Alan Ehrlich, Manager of Environmental Impact Assessment Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board 200 Scotia Centre. Box 938, 5102-50th Ave Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7 Email: <u>aerlich@reviewboard.ca</u>

Re: Submission deadline for Technical Reports - Giant Mine Remediation Project

The North Slave Métis Alliance (NSMA) has reviewed the request of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation to extend the deadline for submission of Parties Technical Reports for the above noted environmental assessment, and has the following comments to contribute.

- According to the Review Board's published Rules of Procedure, a "Notice of Public Hearing" must be issued at least 30 days prior to a hearing.
- $\infty~$ The contents of the "Notice of Public Hearing" must include at least the date, time, place, and deadline for submissions.
- ∞ The date, time and location of the public hearing has not yet been decided. We have been informed that it will not occur before the middle of May.
- ∞ The Giant Mine Remediation Project is a very complex proposal. There are likely to be some very substantial technical reports provided for this hearing, which will take the board and staff some time to review.
- $\infty\,$ There will also be a need for Parties to coordinate the participation of numerous experts, once the date time and location of the hearing are finalized.
- $\infty\,$ The NSMA, like the YKDFN, struggles with capacity issues, and would appreciate additional time.

The NSMA recommends, therefore, that eight weeks notice be given in advance of this particular public hearing, once the proponent announces that they are ready to proceed, and that the deadline for Parties submissions be set to four weeks in advance of the hearing.

Sincerely,

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Sheryl Grieve Environment and Resource Manager North Slave Metis Alliance Box 2301, Yellowknife. X1A 2P7 E-mail: <u>enviromgr@nsma.net</u>

Ph: (867) 873-NSMA (6762)

Fax: (867) 669-7442

Email: general@nsma.net