

EA1314-01  
April 10, 2015

Richard Bargery  
Manager, Permitting – Jay Project  
Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation  
#1102-4920 52<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 3T1

Dear Mr. Bargery,

**RE: EA1314-01 Jay Project, Additional information requests in preparation for technical session**

The Mackenzie Valley Review Board (Review Board) met on April 9, 2015 to review the status of the information requests and responses for the Jay Project environmental assessment, and to ensure sufficient information is available to maximize the efficiency of the technical sessions to be held April 20-24.

One of the key issues with the Jay Project is impacts to caribou behavior, energetics and movement due to sensory disturbance, and potential mitigation options to reduce those impacts. Sensory disturbance is a response to stimuli from the project. Caribou have been present in large numbers in September and October, when the mine is visible from a distance at night. Discussions at the upcoming technical session will be more productive if the Review Board and parties have an understanding of 1) how far the mine can be seen from (the Review Board has that information already for sound), and 2) what options exist to focus light where it is needed while limiting light (and noise) pollution.

The additional information requests to Dominion are as follows:

**1. Sensory disturbance to caribou**

- a) Please describe or estimate the distance on the tundra from which light from current operations is visible at night.
- b) Please describe possible mitigations for the Jay Project to reduce noise and light pollution that have been successfully implemented at Ekati or other industrial sites.

**2. The A21 Pipe at the Diavik Diamond Mine and scheduling of development activities in the Lac de Gras basin**

Diavik recently opted to pursue its A21 pipe which changes the number of current and potential projects impacting the Lac de Gras basin. Details about A21 and its predicted impacts to Lac du Gras are not on the Review Board's registry at this time.

- a) To assist with the cumulative effects assessment, please provide the A21 dike 2014 Design Report Update



- b) To help the Review Board and parties understand the potential cumulative effects to the Lac de Gras basin it would be helpful to have a Gantt chart outlining the timing of current or proposed pit development within the Lac de Gras basin. At a minimum, it should include the key construction dates for each pit (construction and dewatering, operation as an open pit, operation as an underground, closure) and key water pumping times (if pits are to be refilled with water, the date filling starts and finishes, when pumping from the pits to the Lac de Gras basin will start and finish).

The Review Board requests responses to these information requests by April 17<sup>th</sup>, so that parties are able to review the material prior to the technical sessions.

Please contact Chuck Hubert at 867-766-7052 or [chubert@reviewboard.ca](mailto:chubert@reviewboard.ca) with any questions.

Sincerely,

JoAnne Deneron  
Chairperson

