

P.O. Box 360
Kugluktuk, NU X0B 0E0
Telephone: (867) 982-3310
Fax: (867) 982-3311
www.kitia.ca

April 4, 2016

Kugluktuk
ᑭᓄᓗᓴᓐ

Melissa Pink
Project Assessment Analyst
Government of the Northwest Territories

Bathurst Inlet
Kingaok
ᑭᐅᓇᕈᕐ


**Re: Mackenzie Valley Environment Impact Review Board Report of Environmental Assessment
and Reasons for Decision**

Bay Chimo
Umingmaktok
 $\triangleright \Gamma^{\text{a}} L^{\text{b}} \dot{\cup}^{\text{c}} b$

The Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA) would like to thank the Government of Canada (GOC) and Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) for the opportunity to comment on and express our concerns regarding the recently released Report of Environmental Assessment and Reasons for Decision (Report) by the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) on Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation's (DDEC, or Developer) Jay Project (Project).

Cambridge Bay
Ikaluktutiak
 $\Delta^{\text{ᑭᔨ}} \text{ } ^{\text{ᕐᓂ}} \text{ } ^{\text{ᕐᓄ}} \text{ } ^{\text{ᕐᓇ}}$

The KIA has been involved in all MVEIRB phases to date on the Project, and has voiced its concerns when and where appropriate. Within the scope of the MVEIRB process, the KIA's concerns lie with water quality of the Coppermine River. The Coppermine River is habitat for spawning char, and the source of drinking water for the Hamlet of Kugluktuk. The residents of Kugluktuk publicly expressed their concern with the possible effect the Jay Project will have on their drinking water during the Project, and in perpetuity.

Gjoa Haven
Okhotsk


At the community hearing in Kugluktuk, NU, on September 21, 2015, DDEC committed to providing resources, both financial and in-kind, for a long-term water quality monitoring program on the Coppermine River near the Hamlet of Kugluktuk (PR #648 (pp. 98-99), Commitment #36).

Taloyoak
ᑕᓂᐱᐅᐱ

Considering that the official commitments contained in Appendix C of the Report will be honoured and fulfilled as part of the MVEIRB's recommendation to proceed to the regulatory phase, the KIA and Kitikmeot Inuit are satisfied that concerns with respect to potential impacts on established Inuit rights have been adequately addressed. While no discussions on a specific long-term water quality monitoring program with DDEC have occurred to date, the KIA is looking forward to working with the Developer on fulfilling this commitment.

Kugaaruk
ᑕᑭᑭᑦᑲᑦ

Sincerely,

Paul O'Hara

Jared Ottenhof
Lands & Environment Officer

Affiliates: Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Nunavut Resources Corporation, Kitikmeot Corporation