

NORTH SLAVE MÉTIS ALLIANCE

PO Box 2301 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7



North Slave Métis Alliance Public Hearing Presentation Outline – Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation Jay Project Environmental Assessment (EA1314-01)

Day 1: Traditional Knowledge, Socioeconomics, Climate Change, and Air Quality

Traditional Knowledge

Concerns Addressed

1. NSMA acknowledges and appreciates DDEC's commitment for providing ongoing support for the management of TK that is relevant to the Project (NSMA Technical Report Measure 3)
2. NSMA acknowledges that DDEC has been open to new ideas for Traditional Knowledge incorporation, and has committed to continue to be so
3. NSMA acknowledges that there are a number of Regulatory, Environmental Agreement, and IBA Instruments that address TK components

Remaining Concerns

1. Lack of clear framework for collecting, analyzing, and incorporating TK
2. Lack of procedural clarity for incorporating conflicting evidences in decision-making
3. Concern that TK is under-represented in environmental decision-making
4. Due to the lack of clarity, there is no clear TK-based evidence that demonstrates impacts on VCs are insignificant

Recommendations

The Developer shall establish an expert panel of traditional knowledge researchers. This panel will work with the Developer and traditional knowledge holders, to develop a sound traditional knowledge research protocols that will contribute to a better environmental management at Ekati

Ph: (867) 873-NSMA (6762)

Fax: (867) 669-7442

Email: general@nsma.net

Mine. Agreed upon research protocols shall be implemented prior to the submission of application for Type A Water License for the Jay Project.

The Developer will place equal weight on scientific knowledge and traditional knowledge when making environmental management decisions.

Socioeconomics

Concerns Addressed

1. NSMA's concerns about the Ekati SEA, presented in NSMA Technical Report, were addressed during the discussions with GNWT

Remaining Concerns

1. Despite increasing income and decreasing income disparity, adverse health and well-being trends exist in affected communities, and are significant
2. While improvements in employment and income are attributed to mining, sources of adverse effects are left unexplained
3. NSMA is concerned that mechanisms behind the adverse health and well-being in the affected communities are not adequately investigated
4. While NSMA is identified as an affected community, no specific socio-economic monitoring program exists for NSMA members

Recommendations

NSMA recommends that the Developer and GNWT, in collaboration with the leaders of affected communities, develop a strategy to uncover the mechanisms of significant, adverse trends in health and well-being indicators.

Climate Change

Concerns Addressed

1. NSMA acknowledges and appreciates DDEC's commitment to conduct a concept study of additional potential investments in alternative energy, including areas such as wind and solar energy.

Remaining Concerns

1. Climate Change poses a significant threat to NSMA members

2. Whereas IPCC recommends 40-70% reduction in GHG emission by mid-century (compared to 2010 level) to avoid catastrophic impacts of climate change, and whereas GNWT recommends replacing 10% of energy usage by alternative sources for new industrial projects, DDEC has identified internal target of 5% reduction for the fiscal year 2016.
3. The list of VCs and other potential effects from catastrophic impacts of Climate Change would be too long to list

Recommendations

NSMA recommends the Proponent to develop a long-term GHG reduction strategy toward carbon neutral operations.

Air Quality

NSMA will not present on Air Quality, but will ask questions as necessary.

Day 2: Caribou and Other Wildlife

Concerns

1. Bathurst caribou herd population continues to decline
2. Mechanisms behind the decline is unknown, including the impacts of the mines
3. The population decline and subsequent management decisions by GNWT ENR, have impacted NSMA members significantly
4. Jay Project will add additional adverse impacts on the sustainability of the herd

Recommendations

NSMA believes that it is now a time to consider off-setting of the impacts already incurred – future additional impacts must naturally be off-set. Therefore, the Developer shall develop a Caribou Compensatory Off-set Plan, in collaboration with interested parties, in order to enhance the recovery of the Bathurst caribou herd. The Plan must be made public within one-year of the Report of EA. The Plan shall also be a condition of the land use permit.

Day 3: Water

NSMA will not present on Water, but will ask questions as necessary.