



DE BEERS
CANADA
GAHCHO KUÉ PROJECT

May 04, 2012

File: S110

Chuck Hubert
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Suite 200, 5102 – 50th Avenue
PO Box 938
Yellowknife NT X1A 2N7

Dear Mr. Hubert:

RE: De Beers Canada Inc. – Gahcho Kué Project Technical Session May 22-25, 2012

De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) is writing to provide comments on the Gahcho Kué Project (Project) Technical Sessions draft agenda and meeting format distributed by the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board Gahcho Kue Panel (Panel) on April 26, 2012.

De Beers views the upcoming May 22-25, 2012 technical sessions as an opportunity to advance discussions beyond those held during the November 28 – December 2, 2011 EIS Analyses Sessions, to discuss its recent Information Request (IR) responses and EIS Supplemental submissions, and to continue focusing the discussion down onto key issues as the Project environmental impact review process progresses. De Beers supports a format and agenda for the upcoming technical sessions that fosters open discussions and dialogue amongst all participants on specific key technical topics.

In response to the Panel's draft agenda, De Beers suggests that the agenda items include more focused sub-topics. De Beers is making this suggestion based on feedback it has received during its stakeholder engagement activities, and also on the IR topics De Beers recently responded to. A suggested Agenda is attached for your consideration. It is expected that within each of the sub-topics, discussion on traditional knowledge throughout the stages of the mine will be included.

De Beers thanks the Panel for this opportunity to provide its comments on the Panel's Technical Sessions draft agenda and meeting format.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at veronica.chisholm@debeerscanada.com or 1-877-446-8701.

Sincerely,



Veronica Chisholm
Permitting Manager



Technical Sessions

May 22 – 25, 2012

Draft Agenda Topics

Day 1 (Afternoon) - Introduction

De Beers Presentation

- a. EIS Supplement Update
- b. Environmental Monitoring Framework
- c. Overview of Information Requests

Day 2 (Morning) – Caribou

- a. Caribou

Day 2 (Afternoon) & Day 3 (Morning) - Kennady Lake

- a. Water Management, including Hydrology and Hydrogeology
- b. Waste Management, including Geochemistry
- c. Water Quality at Closure
- d. Fish and Fish Habitat and Recovery of Kennady Lake

Day 3 (Afternoon) - Downstream Kennady Lake

- a. Hydrology (changes to water levels, flows and potential for erosion)
- b. Water Quality (during operations and closure)
- c. Fish and Fish Habitat

Day 4 (Morning) - Socio-Economic