

November 4, 2011

To: Parties to the Gahcho Kue Environmental Impact Review

**Re: Past work on Gahcho Kue by EBA consultants**

Tetra Tech is one of several companies contracted by the Panel for the review of the Gahcho Kue project. Tetra Tech is a large multi-national with approximately 10 000 employees worldwide. It has purchased several smaller companies.

In August 2010, Tetra Tech purchased EBA. EBA was and is involved with the design of parts of the Gahcho Kue project, and has a contract with De Beers to provide support for engineering items throughout the review and permitting, including hearings. EBA contributed to the Gahcho Kue Environmental Impact Statement. At the time of the purchase, the experts at Tetra Tech that were engaged by the Panel were not aware of EBA's involvement with the project.

None of the experts engaged by the Panel were involved in the work EBA conducted for De Beers. To ensure its objectivity in the interest of procedural fairness, Tetra Tech confirms the following:

1. The Tetra Tech staff involved in the review do not share office space with the EBA staff involved with project.
2. Tetra Tech will create a "paper wall" within the company. The project folder will be user-protected so that only those Tetra Tech staff involved in the project review may gain access to the folder.
3. All Tetra Tech staff involved in the project review will be instructed not to communicate with EBA staff involved in the project regarding the project.

The Panel is raising this issue in the interest of openness and transparency. Parties with concerns are asked to provide their views to the Panel by November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011. If the Panel does not receive any, it will assume that the above approach is satisfactory to the parties.

Sincerely,

(Original signed by)

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Alan Ehrlich, Panel Manager  
Gahcho Kue Environmental Impact Review Panel

