

May 20, 2011

To: Parties to the Gahcho Kue Environmental Impact Review

Re: Timing for release of Final Workplan

In response to its request of April 15th 2011 for comments on the Draft Workplan, some parties have indicated that without the participant funding committed to by INAC for this review, they cannot adequately analyze De Beers' Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which is the current stage of process while waiting for the conclusion of the deficiency response from De Beers. The Panel is not able to finalize the workplan, in particular the dates, until INAC confirms the date by which parties will have received funding.

De Beers has indicated that it plans to submit its remaining responses to the Panel's deficiency statement on July 15th, 2011. Assuming INAC has confirmed the date by which parties will have funding by then, and that the EIS is in conformity, the Panel will release its workplan shortly after. In the meantime, parties that are able can continue with the review of the EIS and prepare for the next steps.

If you have any questions, please call me at (867) 766-7056.

Sincerely,



Alan Ehrlich, Panel Manager

Gahcho Kue Environmental Impact Review Panel