



September 25, 2014

File: L020

Ms. Joanne Deneron
Chairperson
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
200 Scotia Centre; 5102-50th Ave
Box 938, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

[via E-mail]

Dear Ms. Deneron

Re: De Beers Canada Inc. Snap Lake Amendment Project EA1314-02 Report of Environmental Assessment and Reasons for Decision

De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) has received and reviewed the Report of Environmental Assessment and Reasons for Decision (the "Report") regarding the Snap Lake Water Licence Amendment Project EA1314-02. De Beers would foremost like to thank the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board for its careful deliberations leading to the Report, and for coordinating technical aspects of the review process with the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB). We would also like to thank all the other Participants for their time spent and valuable contributions to this important public process.

De Beers is pleased with the recommended measures in the Report as they relate to protecting fish, human health and the aquatic ecosystems of Snap Lake and downstream lakes. These recommendations are consistent with De Beers' current operations as licensed and commitments made during the public review process. Robust scientific and technical studies completed during the last year will support the expeditious setting of appropriate and achievable site-specific water quality objectives and effluent quality criteria by the MVLWB that are consistent with those objectives. The Review Board in its Report has concurred with De Beers that achieving these objectives over life-of-mine may require implementation of mitigation measures to reduce loadings of total dissolved solids inherent in the underground connate water reporting to Snap Lake.

De Beers looks forward to the Minister's forthcoming decision on the Report, and to the MVLWB continuing and concluding its process by amending the water licence consistent with the measures of the Report.

DE BEERS

GROUP OF COMPANIES

Sincerely,

DE BEERS CANADA INC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Erica Bonhomme", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Erica Bonhomme
Manager, Environment
Snap Lake Mine

cc Chief Louis Balsillie, Deninu K'ue First Nation (DKFN)
Chief Felix Lockhart, Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation (LKDFN)
Minister Robert C. McLeod, Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT)
Mr. Willard Hagan, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB)
Mr. Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB)
Mr. Zabey Nevitt, MVLWB