



Kate Hearn  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Planning and Coordination  
2nd Floor Gallery Building  
(4923-52nd Street)  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Dear Assistant Deputy Minister,

Thank you for your letter dated January 6, 2020. Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN) are contented that the Mackenzie Valley Review Board in its decision, took into due consideration concerns of cultural significance in its reasons for decisions and arrived at commendable measure regarding consultation

However, through the process of the Environmental Assessment it became increasingly apparent to YKDFN that the proponent could not guarantee

- 1. A suitable time frame when the site location can be reasonably expected to once again be used by the YKDFN and the other aboriginal groups carry out traditional practice on and within the vicinity.**

This is significant because it should be a question that should be asked to inform or given keen attention in the development of the mine closure plan. For this reason, it is believed that some information be forthcoming from the proponent (Diavik) as to the timeframe (when) aboriginal groups can expect to use the site without apprehension.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. A. Thomas".

Machel Thomas  
Lands Manager  
Yellowknives Dene First Nation