

FAXED
Sept 18 2001

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

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Date:	<i>Sept 18, 2001</i>	Pages:	<i>3</i> including this page
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NOTES:

please see attached

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Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

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Our file: EA01-004

Kevin O'Reilly, Research Director
Canadian Arctic Resources Committee (CARC)
#3-4807 49th Street
Yellowknife NT
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RE: Rules of Procedure for the De Beers Snap Lake Diamonds Project Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. O'Reilly,

In a letter dated July 30, 2001, CARC expressed concern about the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's (Review Board) application of the draft *Rules of Procedures for Environmental Assessment and Environmental Impact Review Proceedings* (Rules). The Review Board completed its first round of consultations on the Rules in September 2000, and subsequently amended them to incorporate the valuable input provided, and issued its March 21, 2001 Rules.

The Review Board is starting a second round of consultation on the Rules in September 2001, and a third and final consultation in October/November, as required with submission to the Canada Gazette. The Canada Gazette is the only official medium for the publication of all legally binding decisions of the Government of Canada and its various Boards.

The Review Board encourages your active participation in on-going consultations over the next few months.

In the Interim, the Review Board has adopted the Rules dated March 21, 2001 as the *De Beers Snap Lake Diamond Mine Rules of Procedure for environmental assessment and Environmental Impact Review Proceedings*. They apply to the De Beers Snap Lake environmental assessment until the Review Board formally adopts its Rules. Thank you for your active contribution during the initial phase of the De Beers EA.

Sincerely,



Vern Christensen
Executive Director

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

September 18, 2001

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Kevin O'Reilly
Research Director
Canadian Arctic Resources Committee
(CARC)
#3-4807 49th Street
Yellowknife NT
X1A 3T5

**RE: Request for Ruling – Public Meeting/Hearing De Beers Snap Lake Diamonds
Project Environmental Assessment (EA)**

Dear Mr. O'Reilly,

On July 30, 2001, the Canadian Arctic Resources Committee asked the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's (Review Board) to rule on the matter of holding formal scoping meetings or hearings for the De Beers EA. The Review Board considered CARC's July 30 request, its supporting letter dated August 23, 2001, and other public registry submissions; in particular, correspondence provided by the Lutsel K'e Wildlife, Lands and Environment Committee (WLEC), Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and De Beers.

The Review Board considered CARC's well-organized submissions and continuing involvement a beneficial component of the EA. The Review Board however decided to reserve public sessions and hearings for the technical component of the EA given the evidence provided and placed on the public register regarding the draft Terms of Reference and Work Plan. Thank you for your on-going contribution to the EA.

Sincerely,



Vern Christensen
Executive Director

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