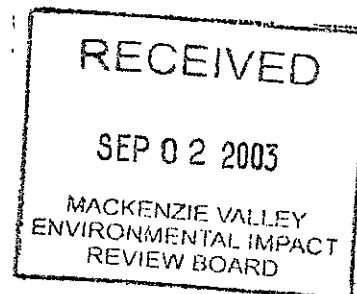


# ***NORTH SLAVE METIS ALLIANCE***

*PO Box 340 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N3*



Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
Box 938, 5102-50<sup>th</sup> Ave.,  
Yellowknife, NT  
X1A 2N7



Sept 2, 2003

**Attn: Sherry Sian**

**Re: NSMA's review and comments on the DARs for Consolidated Ventures Inc., New Shoshoni Ventures and North American General Resources Corp.'s Proposed Diamond Exploration at Drybones/Wool Bay.**

Dear Sherry,

Please find below the NSMA's comments on the DARs for Consolidated Ventures Inc., New Shoshoni Ventures and North American General Resources Corp, as per your letter dated August 18, 2003.

First and foremost, the NSMA do not have the capacity or the financial support to adequately review and comment on the DARs presented. Without the resources to review and comment on the DARs neither the NSMA nor the MVEIRB can assess the impact of the proposed explorations on the environment or the NSMA people. Considering these exploration programs were recommended to Environmental Assessments as a result of significant public concern from Aboriginal groups we require the resources to fully participate in these processes.

Second, Drybones Bay and Wool Bay are important harvesting areas for the NSMA membership, and as such we require comprehensive community consultations be conducted to inform our members of the exploration programs proposed, ascertain culturally significant sites, Traditional Knowledge about the area, and on site ground-truthing of land-use data already provided during these Environmental Assessments and Cumulative Effects Assessment. Without these consultations and information gathering sessions there are no assurances for the NSMA or the MVEIRB that cultural and heritage resources will be protected.

Third, the NSMA continue to disagree with the scope set out in the Terms of reference for these Environmental Assessments. Mineral exploration is one of the steps toward mine development. As we have stated previously the NSMA honour the Drybones and Wool Bay areas for their cultural and spiritual importance. The NSMA do not want a diamond mine to be built within these significant areas and thus we do not support searching for diamonds. In order to clarify our point about the limited scope of these Environmental Assessments the NSMA request information outlining:

- A detailed description of the typical mineral exploration to mine development cycle,
- A detailed description and timeline of the next steps the junior mineral exploration companies will take should diamonds be identified in the Drybones/ Wool Bay areas,

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- A description of what the junior mineral exploration companies intentions are should these mineral claims prove to be diamond bearing. Will there be additional sampling required? What are these processes? Will the mineral claims be sold?
- The NSMA request analysis be conducted on the probability of a mine being developed in the area should these explorations be approved and diamonds be discovered. Past experience and historical information about diamond exploration and mine development should suffice.

The following are general comments about the DARs the NSMA would like clarified:

1. Who will be responsible for the construction, care, maintenance and operation of the winter access roads? Who will be monitoring the winter access roads? What are the existing guidelines for construction/maintenance and closure of a winter road in the NWT?
2. Environmental Performance Records- References have been made to responsible environmental practices in the North- what are the Environmental Performance Records for these companies and Head Geologists Nationally and Internationally? What are the Environmental Performance Records for the personnel who will be on site? Will there be a person on-site responsible for environmental protection/compliance at all times? What are their past Environmental Performance Records?
3. What are the Environmental Performance Records of the drill contractors?
3. In the Exploration Companies' experience what types of environmental accidents **do** happen in diamond explorations such as this and what measures have been taken to prevent such accidents? Ie: Fuel spills.
4. How many local Aboriginal people will be hired to work on these exploration projects?
5. How will exploration companies respond should someone be fishing in the location they plan to drill?
6. What are the suspended solids/additives present in the water that will be released on land? Does this water meet CCME drinking water guidelines? Where are the locations of these wastewater releases? What habitat exists in these locations?
7. How do drill noises impact fish?
8. What Traditional Knowledge was used when developing the DARs?

Please include the above questions and comments for the Cumulative Effects Assessment where appropriate. Should you have any questions or comments feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Kris Johnson  
Land & Resource Coordinator  
North Slave Métis Alliance

## Sherry Sian

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**From:** Kris Johnson [kris@nsma.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 02, 2003 3:56 PM  
**To:** Sherry Sian  
**Subject:** NSMA DAR review



Kris Johnson.vcf (478 B)



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Hi Sherry,

Please find attached the NSMA's Developer's Assessment Report reviews for Consolidated Ventures Inc., New Shoshoni Ventures and North American General Resources Corp. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Cheers,

Kris Johnson  
Land & Resource Coordinator  
North Slave Metis Alliance

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