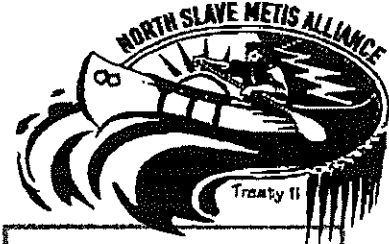


NORTH SLAVE METIS ALLIANCE

PO Box 340 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N3



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MACKENZIE VALLEY
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
REVIEW BOARD

facsimile transmittal

To: **Sherry Sian** Fax: **867-766-7074**

From: **Kris Johnson** Date: **July 31, 2003**

Re: **CEA site visit** Pages: **3 (including cover)**

CC:

- Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply Please Recycle

COMMENTS:

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Thank you.

Ph: (867) 873-9176

Fax: (867) 669-7442

EMail: general@nsma.net

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PO Box 340 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N3



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

July 31, 2003

Attn: Sherry Sian

Re: Cumulative Effects Assessment Site Visit- Drybones/Wool Bay

Dear Sherry,

After our conversation this morning I have a few questions and comments in regards to the proposed site visit to Drybones/Wool Bay for the Environmental Assessments and Cumulative Effects Assessments of Consolidated Goldwin Ventures, New Shoshoni Ventures, North American General Resources Corp., and Snowfield Development Corp.'s diamond exploration programs.

First, what is the agenda for the site visit? Will there be adequate time for the NSMA to discuss/record land use and Traditional Knowledge about the area during the site visit? This is particularly important considering the extensive aboriginal fishing and hunting that occurs in the area and the complete lack of data that exists about Aboriginal land use and natural resources in the Drybones/Wool Bay areas.

The NSMA would conduct this research on our own however, we do not have the funding or capacity with our organization to do so and, as you are aware, neither the MVEIRB nor DIAND has provided any funding to deal with these four EAs or the CEA. To add to the frustration the MVEIRB has adopted any extremely short timeline that is not conducive to securing funding should another source be made available.

It is already apparent the developers, contractor and directly affected Aboriginal groups are scrambling to gather what little data on the area is available- data that in many cases is at the wrong scale, not case specific or is incomplete. Having been left with no other options the NSMA request the site visit consist of a thorough examination of Aboriginal land use practices and TK for the Drybones/Wool Bay area. Otherwise, neither the NSMA nor the MVEIRB will have sufficient information to adequately assess or mitigate the impacts of the proposed 'exploration' on the NSMA cultural and heritage

resources. It will be a great tragedy should diamond 'exploration' take precedence over and possibly permanently damage cultural and heritage resources only because adequate resources or time were not allocated to properly document this important information.

It seems the rushed approach of the CEA and EAs are intentional to guarantee approval for these 'exploration' projects. Given these projects were referred to an EA due to considerable Aboriginal concern we should have the opportunity to document our own resources in the area before allowing any outsider exploration that could harm our cultural and heritage resources.

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Yours truly,



Kris Johnson
Land & Resource Coordinator