

Nahẕa Dehé Dene Band

GENERAL DELIVERY, NAHANNI BUTTE, NT, X0E 0N0

•Phone (867) 602-2900 •Fax (867) 602-2910 •Email: manager@nahannibuttedb.com

August 26, 2009

Chuck Hubert
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Yellowknife, NT

FAX: 867-766-7074

Regarding File EA0809-002 -- Prairie Creek Mine

Dear Mr. Hubert,

This letter covers two issues.

First, a recent submission by the NWT Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the Fort Simpson Chamber of Commerce includes the statement "Through MOUs signed with the Liidlii Kue First Nation and the Nahanni Butte Dene Band, 15% of the workforce will be aboriginal" (slide 7 of the submitted Power Point presentation). This statement is incorrect and misleading. The MOU signed by the Nahẕa Dehé Dene Band (NDDB) makes no mention of hiring targets. Furthermore, it is a confidential MOU, and it is therefore inappropriate for a third party to be speaking to the MOU or on behalf of the NDDB. Finally, given that the majority of the population in the Dehcho region is Aboriginal, it is unlikely that NDDB would agree to such a small hiring target, if such targets are set.

The second issue relates to a traditional knowledge (TK) assessment of the Prairie Creek Mine carried out by NDDB. Although the full TK assessment report is not being made available to the proponent or other agencies at this time, an abbreviated addendum to the report has been prepared to help inform decision making processes, particularly mitigation processes. The Nahẕa Dehé Dene Band would like to share a copy of this addendum with the MVEIRB but wants pages 10 to 27 deemed confidential. We are therefore requesting that the Board determine whether it can formally accept a copy of the addendum with those pages deemed confidential. NDDB is willing to submit a full copy of the addendum in confidence in advance to help the Board make this decision. This copy would be provided by Peter Redvers of Crosscurrent Associates Ltd., who assisted us with the TK assessment.

Thanks for your direction on this matter.

Yours truly,


Chief Fred Tesou