



Canadian Northern Economic  
Development Agency

Agence canadienne de développement  
économique du Nord



Northwest  
Territories Environment and Natural Resources

MAR 25 2014

VIA EMAIL

Kara King, President  
Fort Resolution Métis Council  
PO Box 1921  
Fort Resolution, NT X0E 0M0

Dear Ms. King:

**Re: Participation in the Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation - Jay-Cardinal Project  
Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Processes (EA1314-01)**

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As you are aware, Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation (the "Developer") has filed its Jay-Cardinal Project (the "Project") application to mine two new kimberlite pipes in order to continue operations at the Ekati diamond mine near Lac De Gras, Northwest Territories. On November 21, 2013, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada ("AANDC") referred the Project to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the "Review Board") for environmental assessment ("EA") on the basis of potential significant adverse impacts on the environment.

The location of the proposed Project is in proximity to the area described within the Northwest Territory Métis Nation's ("NWTMN") Interim Measures Agreement. Recognizing this, and that the Fort Resolution Métis Council ("FRMC") has registered as a party to the EA and is affiliated with the NWTMN, the purpose of this letter is to encourage the FRMC to participate in the processes of the Review Board and Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board ("WLWB"), as well as in the engagement efforts of the Developer.

During the EA, a variety of opportunities are available for potentially affected Aboriginal groups to communicate any concerns to the Review Board, including during the technical and public hearing phases of the EA. When providing such input, the FRMC is encouraged to:

- clearly indicate, in as much detail as possible, whether any adverse impacts on FRMC established or asserted Aboriginal or treaty rights are anticipated as a result of the Project; and, if so,

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- clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on those right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated, as well as any evidence that will help in understanding those impacts; and,
- support the Review Board in understanding the evidence, including traditional knowledge, with respect to both potential impacts and mitigations.

The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board has developed Engagement Guidelines, which require the Developer to prepare an engagement plan for affected communities and maintain an engagement record. In addition to the EA process, direct engagement with the Developer is one of the principal means through which your group can:

- fully understand the nature and scope of the Project;
- identify any potential adverse impacts of the Project;
- explore alternatives to eliminate or mitigate such impacts; and,
- offer local knowledge or advice on the Project.

For those matters within their mandates, the Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories will rely on the consultative processes of the Review Board and the WLWB, as well as the engagement conducted by the Developer, as the primary means for consulting potentially affected Aboriginal groups. For this EA, as the FRMC has registered as a party, future communication will be addressed to FRMC and copied to NWTMN.

It is recognized that engaging in EA and regulatory processes may impact your group's human and financial resources. As you are aware, funding from AANDC's Interim Resource Management Assistance program (to be devolved to the Government of the Northwest Territories) can be utilized (in accordance with program guidelines) for projects such as this one, as it is intended to strengthen the ability of Aboriginal communities in areas of the Northwest Territories without modern treaties to participate in land and resource management activities.

In addition, your group may also apply through proposal submission to Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency ("CanNor") programs, which, on a case-by-case basis, may have available funding to support planning and management of issues associated with major development projects in the North.

The Northern Projects Management Office of CanNor will act as the Crown consultation coordinator on behalf of federal ministers with statutory decision making in relation to the Project. The Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories look forward to the FRMC actively participating in the EA and regulatory processes and related engagement opportunities.

If you have questions regarding this letter or potential CanNor funding, please contact David Alexander, Project Manager (867-766-8436; david.alexander@cannor.gc.ca).

Sincerely,



Matthew Spence  
Director General  
Northern Projects Management Office,  
Canadian Northern Economic Development  
Agency



Ray Case  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Corporate & Strategic Planning,  
Department of Environment and Natural  
Resources, Government of the Northwest  
Territories

cc: Garry Bailey, President, Northwest Territory Métis Nation  
Kathryn Bruce, Regional Director General, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development  
Canada  
Carey Ogilvie, Head, Environmental Assessment North, Environment Canada  
Stuart Niven, Senior Fisheries Protection Biologist, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
David McNabb, Director, Sustainable Mining and Materials Policy Division, Natural  
Resources Canada  
Michele Taylor, Regional Director General, Prairie and Northern Region, Transport  
Canada  
Jim Lothrop, A/Director General, Stewardship and Sustainable Transportation Programs,  
Transport Canada  
Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review  
Board  
Brett Wheler, A/Executive Director, Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board  
Eric Denholm, Superintendent, Traditional Knowledge & Permitting, Dominion Diamond  
Ekati Corporation

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MAR 25 2014

VIA EMAIL

Grand Chief Eddie Erasmus  
Tlicho Government  
PO Box 412  
Bechoko, NT X0E 0Y0

Dear Grand Chief Erasmus:

**Re: Participation in the Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation - Jay-Cardinal Project  
Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Processes (EA1314-01)**

---

As you are aware, Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation (the "Developer") has filed its Jay-Cardinal Project (the "Project"), application to mine two new kimberlite pipes in order to continue operations at the Ekati diamond mine near Lac De Gras, Northwest Territories. On November 21, 2013, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada ("AANDC") referred the Project to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the "Review Board") for environmental assessment ("EA") on the basis of potential significant adverse impacts on the environment.

The location of the proposed Project is within the boundaries of the Wek'eezhii area. Accordingly, the purpose of this letter is to encourage the Tlicho Government to participate in the processes of the Review Board and Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board ("WLWB"), as well as in the engagement efforts of the Developer.

During the EA, a variety of opportunities are available for potentially affected Aboriginal groups to communicate any concerns to the Review Board, including during the technical and public hearing phases of the EA. When providing such input, the Tlicho Government is encouraged to:

- clearly indicate, in as much detail as possible, whether any adverse impacts on Tlicho rights are anticipated as a result of the Project; and, if so,
- clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on those right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated, as well as any evidence that will help in understanding those impacts; and,
- support the Review Board in understanding the evidence, including traditional knowledge, with respect to both potential impacts and mitigations.

The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board has developed Engagement Guidelines, which require the Developer to prepare an engagement plan for affected communities and maintain an engagement record. In addition to the EA process, direct engagement with the Developer is one of the principal means through which your group can:

- fully understand the nature and scope of the Project;
- identify any potential adverse impacts of the Project;
- explore alternatives to eliminate or mitigate such impacts; and,
- offer local knowledge or advice on the Project.

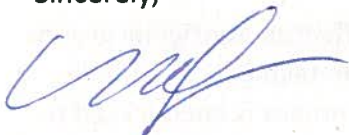
For those matters within their mandates, the Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories will rely on the consultative processes of the Review Board and the WLWB as well as the engagement conducted by the Developer as the primary means for consulting potentially affected Aboriginal groups.

It is recognized that engaging in EA and regulatory processes may impact your group's human and financial resources. The Tlicho Government may wish to apply through proposal submission to Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency ("CanNor") programs, which, on a case-by-case basis, may have available funding to support planning and management of issues associated with major development projects in the North.

The Northern Projects Management Office of CanNor will act as the Crown consultation coordinator on behalf of federal ministers with statutory decision making in relation to the Project. The Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories look forward to the Tlicho Government actively participating in the EA and regulatory processes and related engagement opportunities.

If you have questions regarding this letter or potential CanNor funding, please contact David Alexander, Project Manager (867-766-8436; david.alexander@cannor.gc.ca).

Sincerely,



Matthew Spence  
Director General  
Northern Projects Management Office,  
Canadian Northern Economic Development  
Agency



Ray Case  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Corporate & Strategic Planning,  
Department of Environment and Natural  
Resources, Government of the Northwest  
Territories

**cc: Kathryn Bruce, Regional Director General, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development  
Canada  
Carey Ogilvie, Head, Environmental Assessment North, Environment Canada  
Stuart Niven, Senior Fisheries Protection Biologist, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
David McNabb, Director, Sustainable Mining and Materials Policy Division, Natural  
Resources Canada  
Michele Taylor, Regional Director General, Prairie and Northern Region, Transport  
Canada  
Jim Lothrop, A/Director General, Stewardship and Sustainable Transportation Programs,  
Transport Canada  
Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review  
Board  
Brett Wheler, A/Executive Director, Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board  
Eric Denholm, Superintendent, Traditional Knowledge & Permitting, Dominion Diamond  
Ekati Corporation**

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économique du Nord



MAR 25 2014

VIA EMAIL

Charlie Evalik, President  
Kitikmeot Inuit Association  
PO Box 18  
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

Dear Mr. Evalik:

**Re: Participation in the Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation - Jay-Cardinal Project  
Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Processes (EA1314-01)**

---

As you are aware, Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation (the "Developer") has filed its Jay-Cardinal Project (the "Project") application to mine two new kimberlite pipes in order to continue operations at the Ekati diamond mine near Lac De Gras, Northwest Territories. On November 21, 2013, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada ("AANDC") referred the Project to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the "Review Board") for environmental assessment ("EA") on the basis of potential significant adverse impacts on the environment.

The location of the proposed Project is in proximity to the area described within the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement. Accordingly, the purpose of this letter is to encourage the Kitikmeot Inuit Association ("KIA") as the designated regional Inuit organization for this area, to participate in the processes of the Review Board and Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board ("WLWB"), as well as in the engagement efforts of the Developer.

During the EA, a variety of opportunities are available for potentially affected Aboriginal groups to communicate any concerns to the Review Board, including during the technical and public hearing phases of the EA. When providing such input, the KIA is encouraged to:

- clearly indicate, in as much detail as possible, whether any adverse impacts on Inuit Aboriginal rights are anticipated as a result of the Project; and, if so,
- clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on those right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated, as well as any evidence that will help in understanding those impacts; and,
- support the Review Board in understanding the evidence, including traditional knowledge, with respect to both potential impacts and mitigations.

Canada

The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board has developed Engagement Guidelines, which require the Developer to prepare an engagement plan for affected communities and maintain an engagement record. In addition to the EA process, direct engagement with the Developer is one of the principal means through which your group can:

- fully understand the nature and scope of the Project;
- identify any potential adverse impacts of the Project;
- explore alternatives to eliminate or mitigate such impacts; and,
- offer local knowledge or advice on the Project.

For those matters within their mandates, the Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories will rely on the consultative processes of the Review Board and the WLWB as well as the engagement conducted by the Developer as the primary means for consulting potentially affected Aboriginal groups.

It is recognized that engaging in EA and regulatory processes may impact your group's human and financial resources. The KIA may wish to apply through proposal submission to Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency ("CanNor") programs, which, on a case-by-case basis, may have available funding to support planning and management of issues associated with major development projects in the North.

The Northern Projects Management Office of CanNor will act as the Crown consultation coordinator on behalf of federal ministers with statutory decision making in relation to the Project. The Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories look forward to the KIA actively participating in the EA and regulatory processes and related engagement opportunities.

If you have questions regarding this letter or potential CanNor funding, please contact David Alexander, Project Manager (867-766-8436; david.alexander@cannor.gc.ca).

Sincerely,



Matthew Spence  
Director General  
Northern Projects Management Office,  
Canadian Northern Economic Development  
Agency



Ray Case  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Corporate & Strategic Planning,  
Department of Environment and Natural  
Resources, Government of the Northwest  
Territories

**cc: Kathryn Bruce, Regional Director General, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development  
Canada  
Carey Ogilvie, Head, Environmental Assessment North, Environment Canada  
Stuart Niven, Senior Fisheries Protection Biologist, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
David McNabb, Director, Sustainable Mining and Materials Policy Division, Natural  
Resources Canada  
Michele Taylor, Regional Director General, Prairie and Northern Region, Transport  
Canada  
Jim Lothrop, A/Director General, Stewardship and Sustainable Transportation Programs,  
Transport Canada  
Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review  
Board  
Brett Wheler, A/Executive Director, Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board  
Eric Denholm, Superintendent, Traditional Knowledge & Permitting, Dominion Diamond  
Ekati Corporation**

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MAR 25 2014

VIA EMAIL

Chief Dora Enzoë  
Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation  
PO Box 28  
Lutsel K'e, NT X0E 0H

Dear Chief Enzoë:

**Re: Participation in the Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation - Jay-Cardinal Project  
Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Processes (EA1314-01)**

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As you are aware, Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation (the "Developer") has filed its Jay-Cardinal Project (the "Project") application to mine two new kimberlite pipes in order to continue operations at the Ekati diamond mine near Lac De Gras, Northwest Territories. On November 21, 2013, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada ("AANDC") referred the Project to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the "Review Board") for environmental assessment ("EA") on the basis of potential significant adverse impacts on the environment.

The location of the proposed Project is within the boundaries of the area described in the Tlicho-Akaiicho Territory Dene First Nations Overlap Agreement. Accordingly, the purpose of this letter is to encourage the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation ("LKDFN") to participate in the processes of the Review Board and Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board ("WLWB"), as well as in the engagement efforts of the Developer.

During the EA, a variety of opportunities are available for potentially affected Aboriginal groups to communicate any concerns to the Review Board, including during the technical and public hearing phases of the EA. When providing such input, the LKDFN is encouraged to:

- clearly indicate, in as much detail as possible, whether any adverse impacts on LKDFN established or asserted Aboriginal or treaty rights are anticipated as a result of the Project; and, if so,
- clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on those right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated, as well as any evidence that will help in understanding those impacts; and,

- support the Review Board in understanding the evidence, including traditional knowledge, with respect to both potential impacts and mitigations.

The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board has developed Engagement Guidelines, which require the Developer to prepare an engagement plan for affected communities and maintain an engagement record. In addition to the EA process, direct engagement with the Developer is one of the principal means through which your group can:

- fully understand the nature and scope of the Project;
- identify any potential adverse impacts of the Project;
- explore alternatives to eliminate or mitigate such impacts; and,
- offer local knowledge or advice on the Project.

For those matters within their mandates, the Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories will rely on the consultative processes of the Review Board and the WLWB as well as the engagement conducted by the Developer as the primary means for consulting potentially affected Aboriginal groups.

It is recognized that engaging in EA and regulatory processes may impact your group's human and financial resources. As you are aware, funding from AANDC's Interim Resource Management Assistance program (to be devolved to the Government of the Northwest Territories) can be utilized (in accordance with program guidelines) for projects such as this one, as it is intended to strengthen the ability of Aboriginal communities in areas of the Northwest Territories without modern treaties to participate in land and resource management activities.

In addition, your group may also apply through proposal submission to Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency ("CanNor") programs, which, on a case-by-case basis, may have available funding to support planning and management of issues associated with major development projects in the North.

The Northern Projects Management Office of CanNor will act as the Crown consultation coordinator on behalf of federal ministers with statutory decision making in relation to the Project. The Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories look forward to the LKDFN actively participating in the EA and regulatory processes and related engagement opportunities.

If you have questions regarding this letter or potential CanNor funding, please contact David Alexander, Project Manager (867-766-8436; david.alexander@cannor.gc.ca).

Sincerely,



Matthew Spence  
Director General  
Northern Projects Management Office,  
Canadian Northern Economic Development  
Agency



Ray Case  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Corporate & Strategic Planning,  
Department of Environment and Natural  
Resources, Government of the Northwest  
Territories

cc: Akaitcho AIMO / Akaitcho Treaty 8 Corp  
Kathryn Bruce, Regional Director General, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development  
Canada  
Carey Ogilvie, Head, Environmental Assessment North, Environment Canada  
Stuart Niven, Senior Fisheries Protection Biologist, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
David McNabb, Director, Sustainable Mining and Materials Policy Division, Natural  
Resources Canada  
Michele Taylor, Regional Director General, Prairie and Northern Region, Transport  
Canada  
Jim Lothrop, A/Director General, Stewardship and Sustainable Transportation Programs,  
Transport Canada  
Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review  
Board  
Brett Wheler, A/Executive Director, Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board  
Eric Denholm, Superintendent, Traditional Knowledge & Permitting, Dominion Diamond  
Ekati Corporation

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MAR 25 2014

VIA EMAIL

Chief Louis Balsillie  
Deninu Kue First Nation  
PO Box 1899  
Fort Resolution, NT X0E 0M0

Dear Chief Balsillie:

**Re: Participation in the Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation - Jay-Cardinal Project  
Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Processes (EA1314-01)**

---

As you are aware, Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation (the "Developer") has filed its Jay-Cardinal Project (the "Project") application to mine two new kimberlite pipes in order to continue operations at the Ekati diamond mine near Lac De Gras, Northwest Territories. On November 21, 2013, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada ("AANDC") referred the Project to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the "Review Board") for environmental assessment ("EA") on the basis of potential significant adverse impacts on the environment.

The location of the proposed Project is within the boundaries of the area described in the Tlicho-Akaiitcho Territory Dene First Nations Overlap Agreement. Accordingly, the purpose of this letter is to encourage the Deninu Kue First Nation ("DKFN") to participate in the processes of the Review Board and Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board ("WLWB"), as well as in the engagement efforts of the Developer.

During the EA, a variety of opportunities are available for potentially affected Aboriginal groups to communicate any concerns to the Review Board, including during the technical and public hearing phases of the EA. When providing such input, the DKFN is encouraged to:

- clearly indicate, in as much detail as possible, whether any adverse impacts on DKFN established or asserted Aboriginal or treaty rights are anticipated as a result of the Project; and, if so,
- clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on those right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated, as well as any evidence that will help in understanding those impacts; and,

Canada

- support the Review Board in understanding the evidence, including traditional knowledge, with respect to both potential impacts and mitigations.

The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board has developed Engagement Guidelines, which require the Developer to prepare an engagement plan for affected communities and maintain an engagement record. In addition to the EA process, direct engagement with the Developer is one of the principal means through which your group can:

- fully understand the nature and scope of the Project;
- identify any potential adverse impacts of the Project;
- explore alternatives to eliminate or mitigate such impacts; and,
- offer local knowledge or advice on the Project.

For those matters within their mandates, the Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories will rely on the consultative processes of the Review Board and the WLWB as well as the engagement conducted by the Developer as the primary means for consulting potentially affected Aboriginal groups.

It is recognized that engaging in EA and regulatory processes may impact your group's human and financial resources. As you are aware, funding from AANDC's Interim Resource Management Assistance program (to be devolved to the Government of the Northwest Territories) can be utilized (in accordance with program guidelines) for projects such as this one, as it is intended to strengthen the ability of Aboriginal communities in areas of the Northwest Territories without modern treaties to participate in land and resource management activities.

In addition, your group may also apply through proposal submission to Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency ("CanNor") programs, which, on a case-by-case basis, may have available funding to support planning and management of issues associated with major development projects in the North.

The Northern Projects Management Office of CanNor will act as the Crown consultation coordinator on behalf of federal ministers with statutory decision making in relation to the Project. The Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories look forward to the DKFN actively participating in the EA and regulatory processes and related engagement opportunities.

If you have questions regarding this letter or potential CanNor funding, please contact David Alexander, Project Manager (867-766-8436; david.alexander@cannor.gc.ca).

Sincerely,



Matthew Spence  
Director General  
Northern Projects Management Office,  
Canadian Northern Economic Development  
Agency



Ray Case  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Corporate & Strategic Planning,  
Department of Environment and Natural  
Resources, Government of the Northwest  
Territories

cc: Akaitcho AIMO / Akaitcho Treaty 8 Corp  
Kathryn Bruce, Regional Director General, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development  
Canada  
Carey Ogilvie, Head, Environmental Assessment North, Environment Canada  
Stuart Niven, Senior Fisheries Protection Biologist, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
David McNabb, Director, Sustainable Mining and Materials Policy Division, Natural  
Resources Canada  
Michele Taylor, Regional Director General, Prairie and Northern Region, Transport  
Canada  
Jim Lothrop, A/Director General, Stewardship and Sustainable Transportation Programs,  
Transport Canada  
Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review  
Board  
Brett Wheler, A/Executive Director, Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board  
Eric Denholm, Superintendent, Traditional Knowledge & Permitting, Dominion Diamond  
Ekati Corporation

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Northwest  
Territories Environment and Natural Resources

MAR 25 2014

VIA EMAIL

Chief Edward Sangris  
Chief Ernest Betsina  
Yellowknives Dene First Nation  
PO Box 2514  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P8

Dear Chiefs:

**Re: Participation in the Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation - Jay-Cardinal Project  
Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Processes (EA1314-01)**

---

As you are aware, Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation (the "Developer") has filed its Jay-Cardinal Project (the "Project") application to mine two new kimberlite pipes in order to continue operations at the Ekati diamond mine near Lac De Gras, Northwest Territories. On November 21, 2013, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada ("AANDC") referred the Project to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the "Review Board") for environmental assessment ("EA") on the basis of potential significant adverse impacts on the environment.

The location of the proposed Project is within the boundaries of the area described in the Tlicho-Akaiicho Territory Dene First Nations Overlap Agreement. Accordingly, the purpose of this letter is to encourage the Yellowknives Dene First Nation ("YKDFN") to participate in the processes of the Review Board and Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board ("WLWB"), as well as in the engagement efforts of the Developer.

During the EA, a variety of opportunities are available for potentially affected Aboriginal groups to communicate any concerns to the Review Board, including during the technical and public hearing phases of the EA. When providing such input, the YKDFN is encouraged to:

- clearly indicate, in as much detail as possible, whether any adverse impacts on YKDFN established or asserted Aboriginal or treaty rights are anticipated as a result of the Project; and, if so,

Canada

- clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on those right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated, as well as any evidence that will help in understanding those impacts; and,
- support the Review Board in understanding the evidence, including traditional knowledge, with respect to both potential impacts and mitigations.

The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board has developed Engagement Guidelines, which require the Developer to prepare an engagement plan for affected communities and maintain an engagement record. In addition to the EA process, direct engagement with the Developer is one of the principal means through which your group can:

- fully understand the nature and scope of the Project;
- identify any potential adverse impacts of the Project;
- explore alternatives to eliminate or mitigate such impacts; and,
- offer local knowledge or advice on the Project.

For those matters within their mandates, the Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories will rely on the consultative processes of the Review Board and the WLWB, as well as the engagement conducted by the Developer, as the primary means for consulting potentially affected Aboriginal groups.

It is recognized that engaging in EA and regulatory processes may impact your group's human and financial resources. As you are aware, funding from AANDC's Interim Resource Management Assistance program (to be devolved to the Government of the Northwest Territories) can be utilized (in accordance with program guidelines) for projects such as this one, as it is intended to strengthen the ability of Aboriginal communities in areas of the Northwest Territories without modern treaties to participate in land and resource management activities.

In addition, your group may also apply through proposal submission to Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency ("CanNor") programs, which, on a case-by-case basis, may have available funding to support planning and management of issues associated with major development projects in the North.

The Northern Projects Management Office of CanNor will act as the Crown consultation coordinator on behalf of federal ministers with statutory decision-making in relation to the Project. The Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories look forward to the YKDFN actively participating in the EA and regulatory processes and related engagement opportunities.

If you have questions regarding this letter or potential CanNor funding, please contact David Alexander, Project Manager (867-766-8436; david.alexander@cannor.gc.ca).

Sincerely,



**Matthew Spence**  
Director General  
Northern Projects Management Office,  
Canadian Northern Economic Development  
Agency



**Ray Case**  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Corporate & Strategic Planning,  
Department of Environment and Natural  
Resources, Government of the Northwest  
Territories

cc: Akaitcho AIMO / Akaitcho Treaty 8 Corp  
Kathryn Bruce, Regional Director General, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development  
Canada  
Carey Ogilvie, Head, Environmental Assessment North, Environment Canada  
Stuart Niven, Senior Fisheries Protection Biologist, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
David McNabb, Director, Sustainable Mining and Materials Policy Division, Natural  
Resources Canada  
Michele Taylor, Regional Director General, Prairie and Northern Region, Transport  
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Jim Lothrop, A/Director General, Stewardship and Sustainable Transportation Programs,  
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Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review  
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Brett Wheler, A/Executive Director, Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board  
Eric Denholm, Superintendent, Traditional Knowledge & Permitting, Dominion Diamond  
Ekati Corporation

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