

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

May 12, 1999

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Our file: EA99-004

Larry Aknavigak, Chair
Nunavut Impact Review Board
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RE: Environmental Assessment - BHP Pigeon, Beartooth and Sable Kimberlite Pipe Development

Dear Mr. Aknavigak:

I am writing to inform the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) that the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) has started an environmental assessment of a development that may have transboundary considerations. The environmental assessment is for the BHP Diamonds Inc. (BHP) development proposal of three kimberlite bearing pipes. They are named Pigeon, Beartooth and Sable. The Northwest Territories Water Board referred the development proposal to the Review Board for environmental assessment as per Section 125(1) of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act.

The Review Board is required to determine the scope of the development (ss.117(1)) for the purposes of conducting the environmental assessment, in addition to considering factors in the environmental assessment (ss.117(2)). In anticipation of engaging the environmental assessment, please contact Ms. Heidi Klein, our executive director, to discuss how we can keep ourselves jointly informed during the assessment of developments that may have transboundary implications.

Sincerely,



Gordon Lennie, Chair
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board