

MACKENZIE VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL

IMPACT AND REVIEW BOARD

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

GAHCHO KUE DIAMOND PROJECT - DE BEERS CANADA

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HELD AT:

Yellowknife, NT

May 24, 2012

Day 3 of 4



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		7
1	TABLE OF CONTENTS	
2]	Page No.
3	List of Commitments	7
4	List of Undertakings	8
5		
6	Recap of previous day & Questions	9
7		
8	Discussion Re: Kennady Lake Aquatic Environment	14
9		
10	Discussion Re: Socio-economic Impacts	96
11	Presentation by GNWT	96
12		
13	Certificate of Transcript	211
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

			1
			8
1		LIST OF COMMITMENTS	
2	Number	Description Page	No.
3	4	De Beers to outline its training	
4		and apprentice positions for life	
5		of mine	121
6	5	De Beers to provide a conceptual	
7		flow mitigation plan	206
8	6	De Beers to meet with Lutsel K'e De	ne
9		First Nations to review monitoring	
10		locations, and discuss potentially	
11		new monitoring locations as part of	
12		the AEMP process	211
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			

			9
1		LIST OF UNDERTAKINGS	
2	Number	Description	Page No.
3	2	De Beers to provide some	
4		clarification around the timing	
5		for the physical properties for	
6		the fine PK	11
7	3	Akaitcho IMA office to produce f	For
8		the panel a Water Survey of Cana	ada
9		map outlining the community's	
10		preferred reference monitoring	
11		sites	19
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			

10 --- Upon commencing at 9:04 a.m. 2 3 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Good morning, everyone. I'll just have everyone find their seats, give a two (2) minute warning, and then we'll get started. 7 (BRIEF PAUSE) 9 10 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Okay, good morning, everyone. Welcome back to the technical 11 session for the Gahcho Kue project. My name is Paul Mercredi. I'm an environmental assessment officer with 13 the Review Board. I'm helping Chuck with his 14 15 facilitator duties. 16 So I'll be facilitating for the first part of the day here. And I'd like to remind everybody 17 18 to sign in at the back, if you haven't all ready. And without further ado, we'll turn the mic over to the Gahcho Kue team to -- for housekeeping from yesterday. MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica 21 22 Chisholm from De Beers. I just have a correction from 23 yesterday. When Stephanie Poole asked about the number 24 of flights to the Gahcho Kue project, we were referencing table -- it's in the project description in

- 1 Table 3.10-2, air traffic forecast by project phase and
- 2 air -- and type of aircraft.
- 3
 I'll make a correction. I said two (2)
- 4 flights a week. That did not include freight and
- 5 helicopter, so I want to provide a bit more
- 6 comprehensive answer. During operations there will
- 7 actually be six flights per week. That would include
- 8 freight and helicopter. Also with respect to
- 9 construction we could have up to fifteen (15) flights a
- 10 week, again including freight and passenger, as well as
- 11 helicopter. And at closure we're expecting somewhere
- 12 with two (2) to three (3) flights per week, but they'd
- 13 come in -- in peaks and specific peak times. So just
- 14 to provide that clarification.
- 15 Also, this morning we were going to
- 16 provide some clarification around the timing for the
- 17 physical properties for the fine PK. We're going to
- 18 take that on as an undertaking, so we'll have that
- 19 completed within two (2) weeks and send that through to
- 20 the Board.
- 21 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: And so
- 22 that'll be Undertaking number 2.
- 23
- 24 --- UNDERTAKING NO. 2: De Beers to provide some
- 25 clarification around the

12 1 timing for the physical 2 properties for the fine PK 3 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica Chisholm, De Beers. Yes, that's correct, number 2. And I'm just going to have John Faithful speak to the -- the CO question that was asked yesterday just to 7 complete that task. 9 MR. JOHN FAITHFUL: John Faithful, Golder Associates. I think the -- the Chair asked 10 yesterday a question regarding the -- the project 11 12 emissions from the -- the proposed project or planned 13 project, the estimated project emissions of CO2 and to 14 -- to put that into proportion with the annual 15 estimates of CO2 emitted from Northwest Territories. 16 We provided that information. It's a 17 consistent question that was asked at the gap analysis 18 session back in November, and we provided that detail 19 to -- to the -- the Board via email. The information that we provided to the Board is consistent with the 21 information that we have provided in the 2010 EIS. 22 I refer you to Section 11-13, Table 23 11.13-7. It provides an indication of the total annual greenhouse gas emissions with respect to kilotonnes of 24 25 carbon dioxide equivalents. It's provided on an annual

13 basis with -- with comparisons made to -- to the other mines in the Northwest Territories. 3 I'll go on to read the paragraph that is below that table where it states that: 5 "Estimates of greenhouse gas 6 emissions for the project are similar to those of other diamond mines in the Northwest Territories. Table 9 11.13-7. It is equivalent to about 7 10 percent of the estimated total for 11 the Northwest Territories, 1,450 kilotonnes of carbon dioxide 12 13 equivalent units in 2008, and about 0.01 percent of the estimated 14 15 national total, which is 734,000 kilo 16 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents, 17 in 2008." 18 And that reference was drawn for -- that information was drawn from Environment Canada 2010. 20 Thank you. 21 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Thank you. And were there any further clarifications from the 22 23 Gahcho Kue team? 24 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica 25 Chisholm, from De Beers. No, I do not think so. I

1 think that covers everything. Thanks.
2

3 DISCUSSION RE: KENNADY LAKE AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT:

- 4 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Very well.
- 5 Thank you. So we will get into the first item on
- 6 today's agenda, which is upstream and downstream
- 7 effects from Kennady Lake. And actually, before we do
- 8 that, were -- were there any questions for the follow-
- 9 up from yesterday from -- from the floor?
- 10 And with that, we'll go into the first
- 11 item, upstream and downstream effects from Kennady
- 12 Lake. And I will -- does the Gahcho Kue team have any
- 13 preliminary comments on that?
- 14 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 15 Chisholm, from De Beers. No, no preliminary comments.
- 16 We're -- we're here to answer questions. We have our
- 17 technical team here because we want to be able to
- 18 address everybody's questions and comments. Thanks.
- 19 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Absolutely.
- 20 Sorry? There we go. And with that, we will turn the -
- 21 the mic to the floor for first questions.

22

23 (BRIEF PAUSE)

24

THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: I'll ask

- 1 everybody not to speak at once. Bruce, go ahead.
- MR. BRUCE HANNA: Yeah, Bruce Hanna,
- 3 DFO. Just for discussion purposes, one (1) suggestion
- 4 might be just to blurb on the downstream flow
- 5 mitigation plan that we've discussed at another
- 6 meeting, but just as far as the flows you're looking at
- 7 and what you're doing to narrow that gap, and I think
- 8 between point two three (.23) and point seven eight
- 9 (.78) to determine where it is a barrier.
- 10 MR. KASEY CLIPPERTON: Kasey
- 11 Clipperton, Golder Associates. As part of the -- the
- 12 assessment we did identify downstream -- reduced
- 13 downstream flows as a potential concern for fish
- 14 habitat. And through that process we've developed a
- 15 conceptual flow mitigation plan. And we've been in
- 16 consultation with -- with DFO regarding the conceptual
- 17 flow mitigation plan.
- One (1) of the main aspects of the plan
- 19 is looking at reduced spring flows and -- and trying to
- 20 narrow the gap between the -- the project flows and --
- 21 and the flows required for fish passage.
- The field work that's been done to date
- 23 has identified that there are natural barriers in the
- 24 streams downstream of Kennady Lake that likely restrict
- 25 fish movements and fish passage at naturally-occurring

- 1 flows. Some of the work that's been done has -- has
- 2 indicated that there is fish passage available at a
- 3 moderately high flow, just under 1 cubic metre per
- 4 second, and at a lower flow of about 0.23 cubic metres
- 5 per second there's a barrier to fish movement.
- 6 We undertook some field work last year
- 7 to try and identify the -- the point in-between those
- 8 where -- where barrier -- barriers to fish passage
- 9 aren't an issue. And we're continuing with that work
- 10 again this spring to -- to identify that. But the fish
- 11 -- the flow mitigation plan is designed to allow for
- 12 fish passage in the spring a majority of the time.
- 13 Also, just -- we -- we did provide a response to -- to
- 14 that on DFO EC Information Request number 59.
- THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: And, Bruce,
- 16 do you have any follow-up to that? No? And I -- just
- 17 one (1) second. When does the Gahcho Kue team
- 18 anticipate submitting this to the panel?
- 19 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 20 Chisholm, De Beers. As Kasey mentioned, we are in
- 21 discussion and -- and developing the conceptual
- 22 downstream flow mitigation plan, but we'd be targeting
- 23 submission in September for that conceptual plan.
- 24 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Thank you.
- 25 And we'll turn the mic over to the floor again for any

- 1 questions on -- on this topic. No? Okay. I believe
- 2 we are due for a health break after this topic. It
- 3 looks like Stephanie has some questions.
- 4 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Good morning.
- 5 Stephanie Poole, Akaitcho IMA Office. I have some
- 6 questions regarding the -- the upstream and -- and
- 7 downstream water in regards to this proposal. And I
- 8 have had a look at the watersheds and the maps that are
- 9 on the wall.
- 10 And I wonder why there's no monitoring
- 11 for the watershed that goes down towards the north
- 12 shore of the east arm? I understand, you know, it's De
- 13 Beers' position that -- that the main -- that the water
- 14 flows kind of up and around through Artillery Lake into
- 15 the east arm. But when I'm looking at the -- the new
- 16 data for watersheds provided by the Water Survey of
- 17 Canada, it looks like water may also flow down directly
- 18 from the project down to the north shore.
- 19 So I have that redrawn watershed here.
- 20 And I just wanted it to be considered in this review.
- 21 And I could provide this to the Review Board if you
- 22 would like. As I said I got this new data from the
- 23 Water Survey of Canada.
- 24 And the concern for me is that there
- 25 should be a monitoring plan in place for this area here

- 1 that goes down -- directly down from the project into
- 2 the north shore of the east arm, as well as the area
- 3 that goes up and around through Artillery Lake.
- And then I'm also wondering about the
- 5 cumulative effects in our watershed. De Beers has
- 6 another mine in our water -- watershed, and there's a
- 7 lot of other explor -- exploration activity and -- that
- 8 goes on in -- in our watersheds, and I wondered if
- 9 those impacts were being monitored.
- I wonder, if there is a monitoring plan
- 11 in place, is it -- is it just a draft so far, and --
- 12 and could it be amended to include more areas. When
- 13 you look at this map of the water monitoring stations
- 14 on the east arm there's a gap between these two (2)
- 15 here, 07SC005 and 07SC004. So perhaps De Beers should
- 16 put another monitoring station in between those two (2)
- 17 just so we can have a good idea of that watershed and
- 18 how that water flows. And then when we talk about
- 19 water it's usually about surface water.
- 20 And I wonder what is the information on
- 21 aquifers and how the water flows underground. And I
- 22 think it was in the De Beers' water licence hearing
- 23 where I had asked if they had done those red dye tests,
- 24 that we put it into the water and it shows actually
- 25 where the water flows and -- and how quickly. And I

19 wonder if any of those kind of tests have been contemplated. And we'll start with that. Thank you. 3 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Thank you, Stephanie. For the panel to consider that, that's -- I suggest we have that as Undertaking number 3, and if you could also indicate where those monitoring stations 7 in -- in your submission as well, where those are. That would be great. 9 10 --- UNDERTAKING NO. 3: Akaitcho IMA office to 11 produce for the panel a 12 Water Survey of Canada map 13 outlining the community's 14 preferred reference 15 monitoring sites 16 17 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: And I'm 18 wondering if the Gahcho Kue team would also like to 19 comment on that? 20 MR. JOHN FAITHFUL: John Faithful, Golder Associates. Paul, could -- could we suggest 21 that -- that Stephanie's figure is projected up on the 22 23 screen? It may -- thank you. 24 25 (BRIEF PAUSE)

20 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: And so while 1 Chuck is setting that up, were there any other questions? Okay. We'll just set this up for... 3 4 5 (BRIEF PAUSE) 6 MR. NATHAN SCHMIDT: Nathan Schmidt 7 from Golder Associates. Thank you, Stephanie, for that information. We are aware of the -- the existing and 10 historical Water Survey of Canada stations in that area 11 that drain kind of the north slopes down into the east 12 arm of Great Slave Lake. 13 We define the -- the local and regional 14 study areas for the project on the basis of where the 15 footprint is, and where the likely impacts, or 16 potential impacts, could be. And the project footprint 17 does not extend into those watersheds. That's the 18 primary reason that we did not include, you know, any 19 monitoring in that area. 20 The -- the hydrological characteristics 21 of those watersheds are likely to be different from, 22 especially the local area around Kennady Lake, 23 primarily because of elevation differences and 24 differences in water yields. So we had quite a bit 25 more reliance on the -- the short-term but local data

- 1 at our site, the hydrometric programs that we've --
- 2 we've been running there, and that will be incorporated
- 3 into the monitoring programs in the longer term so that
- 4 we can actually assess, you know, what the -- what the
- 5 water yields are on site during operation so we can
- 6 manage our flows and to evaluate what the potential
- 7 impacts are.
- 8 What you can see there, 07SC004, the
- 9 Hoarfrost River. And for the Hoarfrost, it was
- 10 actually only established in 2010, a very, very short-
- 11 term station. Adjacent to that, the -- 005 is the
- 12 Barnston River. And that also was only established in
- 13 2010. So obviously the were included in the -- the
- 14 baseline because they didn't exist at that time. And
- 15 you know, it -- it would definitely be a few years
- 16 before they would, you know, provide us with, you know,
- 17 any sort of data that would be of -- of value for
- 18 comparison to the project.
- 19 The Waldron River right there was
- 20 actually considered in the baseline. I believe De
- 21 Beers actually funded that station in 2004/2005. And
- 22 it's got a bit longer record. It existed from '78 to
- 23 '94, and then again was reactivated 2004 to 2006,
- 24 deactivated, and then again reactivated in 2010. We
- 25 get further over here to the -- the Beaulieu River.

- 1 And -- and that's a station that had a few years of
- 2 kind of patchy data back in the '30s and '40s, 1930s
- 3 and 1940s, and again was -- was reactivated in 2010.
- 4 The key thing for us though is that the
- 5 project exists up in this area here, and the flows from
- 6 the project go north through Kirk Lake, eventually
- 7 ending up in the Lockhart River. And there is a long-
- 8 term station at the outlet of Artillery Lake there that
- 9 we can use for characterizing the -- the regional
- 10 flows, you know, and basically knowing whether it was a
- 11 wet year or a dry year for that -- that entire region.
- 12 And I think that gives us a good kind of regional
- 13 context, which combined with any on site pro --
- 14 monitoring programs there will give us, you know, the
- 15 finer spatial scale information that we're looking for.
- 16 And, yeah, just to be very clear, this -
- 17 this is a watershed divide. So, you know, the
- 18 footprint of the project is in here. We should not
- 19 have any effects on surface water flows in those
- 20 adjacent watersheds. Thank you.
- 21 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Just to clarify,
- 22 you said that one (1) of those stations was installed
- 23 by De Beers. Which number was that?
- 24 MR. NATHAN SCHMIDT: That was the
- 25 Waldron River station, 07SC002. It wasn't installed by

- 1 De Beers. It was actually installed and operated by
- 2 the Water Survey of Canada. Bele -- I believe it was
- 3 partially funded under one (1) of the baseline programs
- 4 in -- starting in 2004.
- 5 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: So it says that
- 6 C002 was installed by the Water Survey of Canada. It
- 7 was originally installed in 1978 and operated until
- 8 2006. And then the station was reactivated in 2010.
- 9 And so it would be conceivable to me
- 10 that there would be baseline data available from 1978
- 11 to 2006 on that station. And when you put your
- 12 pointer, your little red dot up there showing where the
- 13 project location is, I think you put it a little bit
- 14 higher than where it actually is.
- MR. NATHAN SCHMIDT: Nathan Schmidt,
- 16 with Golder Associates. The project is actually --
- 17 like it borders that watershed boundary. That's
- 18 correct. But, you know, most of the -- you know, the
- 19 flow actually goes to the north there.
- 20 And just a clarification on that Waldron
- 21 River station. I believe it was inactive from 1995 to
- 22 2003 inclusive. A lot of times, the Water Survey of
- 23 Canada records indicate, you know, start and finish,
- 24 but what they don't indicate is the -- the gaps in the
- 25 record until you go look at the detailed data.

- 1 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Perhaps we
- 2 require more information from the Water Survey of
- 3 Canada. And just now one (1) of our Elders was
- 4 mentioning to me that -- that this is an issue of
- 5 community concern and -- and should be discussed
- 6 amongst community members. And just to kind of
- 7 highlight our ongoing discussions regarding traditional
- 8 knowledge, I would like to just highlight this as an
- 9 example of where traditional knowledge could be
- 10 incorporated into your project plans.
- 11 When we request something, you know,
- 12 even though it doesn't make sense to your scienti --
- 13 tific minds, like it -- it makes sense to us. And
- 14 that's why we're requesting it. And if it could be
- 15 considered and -- and accommodated, then -- then this
- 16 is how -- one (1) of the ways that we would like to see
- 17 you integrating our traditional knowledge into your
- 18 plans.
- 19 DR. KATHY RACHER: Kathy Racher here
- 20 interrupting rudely, from the Mackenzie Valley Land and
- 21 Water Board. I just wanted to understand Stephanie
- 22 actually a little bit better. So your concern is -- is
- 23 that there will be some effects in -- in the darker
- 24 purple watershed? I don't know the names of the
- 25 watersheds. That's -- that's because of the position

- 1 of the project, so. And -- and so you'd just like to
- 2 see that there's some sort of monitoring going that
- 3 way. Even though, you know, the scientists may say, It
- 4 all goes this way, you want to see something there to
- 5 be assured that it in fact is not going that way.
- 6 That's what you're looking for?
- 7 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Yes. And -- and
- 8 further to that, yesterday it was discussed that --
- 9 well, there was actually a commitment made by De Beers
- 10 to use reference lakes outside of the project area that
- 11 are similar to the lakes within the project area. And
- 12 I wonder if any of those reference lakes are being
- 13 considered for that area where the gap and the Water
- 14 Survey of Canada data is.
- 15 Like you can see kind of the light blue
- 16 part. And then it goes to purple. And there's a gap
- 17 in there between C005 and C004. I would also like De
- 18 Beers to consider installing a monitoring station in
- 19 that area to further define that gap.
- 20 DR. KATHY RACHER: I beat you to the
- 21 mic, Paul. Kathy Racher here. Sorry, it's so much
- 22 power, you just turn it on and then you've got the
- 23 floor.
- 24 And I guess, just as part of -- of the
- 25 monitoring program discussions that will ensue about

- 1 the AEMP and stuff. I mean, I -- I don't know what way
- 2 anyone will go, but I think it's important to have that
- 3 on the record, what your concerns are so it can be
- 4 considered as part of the monitoring program. So just
- 5 to make sure that -- that that gets written down
- 6 somewhere and on the record.
- 7 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Absolutely,
- 8 and in -- and it is on the record for the panel's
- 9 consideration and -- and they will hear those concerns.
- 10 And does the Gahcho Kue team have any follow-up for
- 11 that, as well? Yeah. So I'll have the Gahcho Kue team
- 12 address that.
- 13 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 14 Chisholm, from De Beers. As mentioned, one (1) of our
- 15 commitments will be to incorporate traditional
- 16 knowledge into our monitoring programs. That is a
- 17 commitment we've made in the EIS and I will make here
- 18 again today. And so all of that information will be
- 19 considered as part of our monitoring programs.
- 20 Your suggestion, I wanted to point out
- 21 that we actually do have a reference lake. I don't
- 22 know whether we can see purple still, but in that
- 23 purple watershed. And Nathan will eventually whisper
- 24 the name of that watershed to me, eventually.
- So we actually do have a reference lake

- 1 in the Waldron watershed. So we do have a reference
- 2 lake as part of the AEMP. And as we continue that
- 3 program, De Beers does make a commitment to discuss the
- 4 monitoring programs and look for opportunity to
- 5 incorporate the community knowledge, including the
- 6 information that George provided. We want to -- we
- 7 want to discuss that program with you and we want to
- 8 hear about suggestions for monitoring in those areas.
- 9 So that is our commitment and we'll continue to do
- 10 that. Thank you.
- 11 We are just compiling some additional
- 12 information on some of your other questions, Stephanie,
- 13 regarding groundwater and the cumulative effects. So
- 14 two (2) seconds. Thanks.
- THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: And I will
- 16 not move this mic for the rest of the day because our
- 17 sound tech is getting very impatient with the bees in
- 18 my mouth, so. And I believe, was there any -- anything
- 19 you wanted to add to this diagram?
- 20 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 21 Chisholm, De Beers. Yes, I'm going to have John
- 22 Faithful address the -- the comment regarding
- 23 cumulative effects and where that's been addressed and
- 24 how to -- how we addressed that in the EIS, just to
- 25 provide some clarification. And also we'll address the

- 1 groundwater questions and whether there was any dye
- 2 testing done, et cetera.
- 3 MR. JOHN FAITHFUL: John Faithful,
- 4 Golder Associates. Thanks, Stacey. I've got a figure
- 5 that's -- that's taken from the -- the aquatics
- 6 assessment component of the -- of the EIS. It shows
- 7 the -- the boundary of the local study area under which
- 8 the -- the environmental assessment has been bound, to
- 9 which project effects are expected to -- to the maximum
- 10 extent of the project effects that are expected to
- 11 occur with respect to the aquatics assessment.
- 12 This area down here represents the
- 13 Kennady Lake watershed. So it's -- it's a headwater of
- 14 the Lockhart River system. And if -- if we recall from
- 15 the previous figure that was shown, it represents the -
- 16 a small portion of that, sort of lower end of the --
- 17 it's -- if we -- if you wouldn't mind just taking a
- 18 look around behind you, the centre figure on the wall.
- 19 All right? How about that?
- 20 So -- so where the Kennady Lake watersh
- 21 -- where the -- the local study area that's presented
- 22 on the projector is located in this portion of the
- 23 Lockhart River watershed. And I think Nathan pointed
- 24 that out when he was referring to his -- when he was
- 25 providing his request. What we have is, we have

- 1 Kennady Lake. We have the L and the M watersheds that
- 2 flow into Lake 410. We have the N lakes watershed that
- 3 also flows into Lake 410. They go through the P
- 4 watershed and into the Kirk Lake watershed. And --
- 5 and that -- that marks the extent of the local study
- 6 area.
- 7 So the lo -- this -- this part of the
- 8 local watershed area is -- is the area that has been
- 9 defined as the local study area. And the environmental
- 10 assessment considered cumulative effects to valued
- 11 components of the aquatic environment. And that is
- 12 provided in Section 13.6 of the of the 2010 EIS.
- 13 They anticipated that impacts to water
- 14 quani -- quantity and quality and fish and fish habitat
- 15 were anticipated to be confined to the local study
- 16 area. Downstream project effects to water quality are
- 17 projected to occur between Kennady Lake and Lake 410.
- 18 Again, that's within the Kennady Lake to the Lake 410
- 19 watershed. And the movement of radio-marked fish were
- 20 less than 2 kilometres within the LSA.
- 21 The database of previous and existing
- 22 developments that were assessed in terms of evaluating
- 23 cu -- the potential of comul -- cumulative effects
- 24 indicated that there are no prior active developments
- 25 within this particular local study area. There is a

- 1 foreseeable pro -- future development associated with
- 2 the Taltson hydroelectric -- hydroelectric expansion
- 3 project; although, that's -- that's currently only
- 4 foreseeable at this stage. That is likely to -- to
- 5 potentially interact with the local study area. And
- 6 that would be through the -- the placement of a -- of a
- 7 transition -- a transmission line that crosses Kennady
- 8 Lake, Kirk Lake, and the 'N' watersheds within the LSA.
- 9 Its contribution to project effects was considered to
- 10 be small.
- 11 The results of the residual impact
- 12 classification for the project indicated that the
- 13 impacts to water quality and fish in Kennady Lake would
- 14 be negative of low to high magnitude, local and
- 15 geographic extent, reversible, but not environmentally
- 16 significant in terms of the entire Kennady Lake
- 17 watershed, and that downstream effects of the project
- 18 were not deemed environmentally significant. As a
- 19 result, with respect to cumulative effects, the -- the
- 20 conclusions were that there would be negligible
- 21 cumulative effects to the -- the region as a result of
- 22 this project to the aquatic environment, which includes
- 23 surface flows, water quality, and fish and fish
- 24 habitat.
- DR. KATHY RACHER: Kathy Racher, for

the Mackenzie Valley Board. John, that was a -- an excellent scientific description, but it -- like, I think, maybe if -- something a little plainer would be 3 -- would be good. 5 The -- so like for the Snap Lake project, does it drain into this watershed at all? 7 No, it doesn't. MR. JOHN FAITHFUL: DR. KATHY RACHER: Okay. And -- and so just to -- just to be very clear on -- on -- are there 10 other projects in this area before or coming up that 11 would affect the same watershed as this project is 12 anticipated to affect? 13 14 (BRIEF PAUSE) 15 16 MR. JOHN FAITHFUL: John Faithful, Golder Associates. Thanks, Kathy. Within -- within 17 18 the local study area, the only foreseeable project that 19 could potentially interact with the effects of this particular project would be the Taltson hydroelectric 21 expansion project, but that's on hold and is -- and is 22 -- is only a foreseeable project. So there are no -no other projects in the near vicinity, such as Snap 23 24 Lake, which doesn't flow through this particular

watershed that would in -- that would add to the

- 1 effects that have been provided -- that have been
- 2 assessed for this project, or likewise that this
- 3 project would provide cumulative effects to another
- 4 project within this area.
- 5 There are some small exploration
- 6 projects that exist outside of the local study area,
- 7 but their contribution to effects is very limited.
- 8 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Thank you,
- 9 John, that was an awesome summary. Stephanie...?
- 10 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: I just wanted to
- 11 say that you keep referring to the environmental
- 12 assessment portion of this review and I -- and I did
- 13 not participate in the environmental assessment of this
- 14 proposal. It's my understanding that this is now an
- 15 environmental impact review and that during this
- 16 technical session our conc -- concerns should be
- 17 considered.
- 18 That -- that was a pretty good red
- 19 herring you threw in there with Deze, but I would say
- 20 that there are other exploration sites in the area that
- 21 -- that could contribute to cumulative effects.
- 22 Projects like Mountain Province and Harry Winston, and,
- 23 you know, those -- those are just the ones that -- that
- 24 come off the top of my head. And to say that Snap Lake
- 25 will not contribute to the downstream effects that are

- 1 quite likely to occur to the Lockhart River in the east
- 2 arm, I'm -- I do not agree. So there has to be some
- 3 kind of monitoring regime in place to give us some kind
- 4 of assurances that, you know, generations from now we
- 5 won't be, you know, extinct, just to put it out there
- 6 like that.
- 7 So I do want cumulative effects to be
- 8 considered. You know, whether or not you -- you think,
- 9 you know, in -- in all of your expertise that it will
- 10 not happen, that -- that just gives us cold comfort,
- 11 really. We need a really extensive monitoring regime
- 12 to provide us with these assurances, because it is very
- 13 important, and like -- like I said, it's life or death
- 14 to us really in the long run.
- So I -- and I just wanted to remind
- 16 everyone that this is an environmental impact review.
- 17 It is the highest level of rev -- review that we are
- 18 afforded here in the North. You can correct me if I'm
- 19 wrong, but I think this is the first environmental
- 20 impact review that the Review Board has dealt with.
- 21 And I have never participated in one before, although I
- 22 have participated in a few environmental assessments.
- 23 I would just like to say that in general so far in this
- 24 review I would expect, you know, like a little bit more
- 25 scrutiny on -- on what is being proposed. Thank you.

- 1 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 2 Chisholm, De Beers. I guess -- what -- what we would
- 3 like to say is, when we undertook the environmental
- 4 impact assessment that included the cumulative effects
- 5 assessment we used a standard method, a scientific
- 6 method, to assess impacts. We took into consideration
- 7 all the potential impacts associated with the project,
- 8 and any additional contributions within that watershed
- 9 in the act -- in the cumulative effects assessment.
- 10 We are confident in our results. We're
- 11 confident -- confident in the detail that we provided
- 12 in our assessment.
- 13 We are always -- De Beers is always
- 14 willing to listen to the contribution of traditional
- 15 knowledge. We are alway -- always willing to discuss
- 16 this project with the communities. In fact, we have on
- 17 several occasions. And most recently in February 15th
- 18 we were in Lutsel K'e, and throughout February and
- 19 March we reviewed the project with the communities.
- 20 And at that time, we asked for input on the project,
- 21 and we will continue to do so. That's part of De
- 22 Beers' commitment.
- But in terms of -- I wanted just to
- 24 emphasize that we're quite confident in our cumulative
- 25 effects assessment. We are developing the monitoring

- 1 program that will be associated with this. We are
- 2 looking for input on that program in order to address
- 3 potential concerns on the project.
- 4 So -- and one (1) other thing that I
- 5 wanted to mention, and I think Nathan may add this,
- 6 regarding long term monitoring that exists along the
- 7 Lockhart River. There is a monitoring station located
- 8 at the outlet of Artillery Lake, and that's been
- 9 monitored since -- I'll -- I'll just ask Nathan to
- 10 speak to that.
- 11 MR. NATHAN SCHMIDT: That's an active
- 12 monitoring station -- Nathan Schmidt, from Golder
- 13 Associates -- active monitoring station operated by the
- 14 Water Survey of Canada with a period of record from
- 15 1944 to 1949, and then 1962 continuously to date. And
- 16 so it's one of the highest quality, longest term
- 17 stations in the region.
- 18 ELDER GEORGE MARLOWE: Good morning.
- 19 I'll just remind that I got to bring my daughter to
- 20 airport, so I'll come back in, but just to remind that
- 21 -- that when we're talking about a watershed and the
- 22 water flowing, and we're talking about a park, too,
- 23 that -- that water -- that flowing is going to go into
- 24 the park. Just -- just that park boundary right there
- 25 at Gahcho Kue, not too far, maybe 20 miles.

```
1
                   So the thing about, too, because I --
   things -- things that we're going to do about the mine
   is we got to be careful, the park, and the Gahcho Kue,
3
   and anything that we got to is -- we got to talk --
   really be careful with everything. So just to remind
   you of that, because that's not too far from here,
7
   where we're talking about a park. So think about that
   and I'll get back again anyway. Thank you.
9
                   THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI:
   Mr. Marlowe. And did the Gahcho Kue team have...
10
11
                  MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
12
   Chisholm, from De Beers. Yeah, I'm just going to have
13
   -- Don Chorley is going to respond to the groundwater
14
   related question that was posed by Stephanie.
15
16
                          (BRIEF PAUSE)
17
18
                  MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
19
   Chisholm, De Beers. Although I missed the opportunity
   to catch George before he left, we certainly do
21
   appreciate his comments, and particularly around the
22
   park boundaries. So De Beers would like to thank him
23
   for those comments. Thank you.
24
25
                          (BRIEF PAUSE)
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- 1 MR. DON CHORLEY: Don Chorley, of
- 2 Golder Associates. I just want to speak about the
- 3 groundwater flow. During -- at this present time,
- 4 groundwater flow is generally flowing in a sort of a
- 5 northeast direction -- direction. During -- during
- 6 development in mining what will happen is that the
- 7 gradient will be changed because of the mining out
- 8 here. There'll be a gradient going in this direction,
- 9 from X6 and X4.
- Now, what you have to realize in the
- 11 groundwater flow system is this is a deep groundwater
- 12 flow system. It's got to go down and then beneath --
- 13 down 300 metres and beneath the permafrost, then up
- 14 again. So it's a very slow groundwater flow and it's -
- 15 the permeabilities are very low.
- 16 During development we estimate that
- 17 there'll be a reduction, I got to look at this, during
- 18 mining, a 0.4 percent of the annual precipitation that
- 19 falls on these, just on the lakes, not on the catchment
- 20 area of these lakes, the X6 and X4 will be -- will move
- 21 towards -- towards the mine development. Once --
- 22 during closure and post-closure these flow conditions
- 23 will be -- will be put -- they'll be put back to what
- 24 the direction is, southwest direction. And we estimate
- 25 at that time that there will be 1 percent -- .1 percent

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38
   of the total to 0.05 percent of the total yield of
   these two (2) lakes will be represented by this flow
   from the -- from the reestablished lake at post-
 3
   closure.
 5
                   But what you have to keep in mind is
   that this -- this groundwater flow is really slow.
   It's estimated to take five hundred (500) years to
   eight hundred (800) years to get to those lakes from --
   from the project site. Okay.
10
11
                          (BRIEF PAUSE)
12
13
                   MS. STEPHANIE POOLE:
                                          Thank you.
14
    Stephanie Poole, Akaitcho IMA office. When you're
   talking about the way the groundwater flows around the
15
16
   proposed project area and the Kennady Lake, which is a
    really big lake, could you tell me if Kennady Lake has
17
18
   one (1) outlet and where is it located?
19
20
                          (BRIEF PAUSE)
21
22
                   MR. NATHAN SCHMIDT: Nathan Schmidt,
23
   with Golder Associates. Yeah, Kennady Lake has a
24
   single outlet. That -- that map actually isn't at a
   very good scale, but heading up -- up there, at the
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- 1 north end of what's been referred to as Area 8. And it
- 2 flows from the Kennady Lake watershed into the 'L' and
- 3 'M' chains before it hits Lake 410 downstream.
- 4 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: And so Kennady
- 5 Lake will remain with only one (1) outlet after the
- 6 project is completed. How many, like, inlets does the
- 7 Kennady Lake have?
- MR. NATHAN SCHMIDT: Nathan Schmidt,
- 9 from Golder Associates. There's a -- a pretty good
- 10 watershed delineation in our baseline report, the --
- 11 the Annex H of the -- the impact assessment. Sure,
- 12 John -- John's just going to bring up a watershed map
- 13 here.
- 14 One (1) of the things Kennady Lake is,
- 15 it starts with a 'K' and we've kind of named all of the
- 16 major tributaries, even though some of those are only,
- 17 you know, a square kilometre or two (2). And so you'll
- 18 see the 'A' lakes, the 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E', 'F', 'G',
- 19 'H', 'I', 'J'. And those are the -- the main
- 20 tributaries.
- 21 We have the 'A' watershed up here, 'B',
- 22 'C'. 'D' is the larger one (1) here that comes down.
- 23 'E' over here, this is actually a part of the 'D'
- 24 watershed. 'E' there. Some of these we haven't --
- 25 they're basically just direct drainage to Kennady Lake

- 1 without any lakes or -- or streams in them.
- We got 'F' there, 'G' down here, 'H',
- 3 'I', and then 'J'. And so there's the outlet of
- 4 Kennady Lake right there that goes down, progressing
- 5 into 'L' and 'M'. And then the 'N' watershed is the
- 6 larger, adjacent one that meets up with that drainage
- 7 at Lake 410 and heads downstream to Kirk Lake. This
- 8 area here is -- is, again, what we've referred to as
- 9 Area 8 of Kennady Lake.
- 10 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Area 8. Got it.
- 11 So you're saying that there are ten (10) inlets into
- 12 Kennady Lake?
- MR. NATHAN SCHMIDT: Sorry, I was just
- 14 counting to 'J'. Yeah, in -- in general defined
- 15 streams from the larger -- I mean, there may be a
- 16 femoral flow paths from these local tributaries to --
- 17 to Kennady Lake. But according to the delineation
- 18 there, there's ten (10), kind of substantial flowing
- 19 water inlets. Nathan Schmidt, from Golder Associates.
- 20 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Stephanie Poole,
- 21 Akaitcho IMA. It is interesting to me that Area 8 is
- 22 the outflow and right adjacent to it Area J is an
- 23 inlet, while it looks on the map like they are almost
- 24 connected. Just a comment, observation.
- MR. NATHAN SCHMIDT: That's just a

- 1 comment, not a question? Basically, the drainage here
- 2 is defined by the topography. It's Nathan Schmidt,
- 3 from Golder. It's, you know, heavy in bedrock and the
- 4 -- the channels follow the land, sort of thing. So we
- 5 have done -- spent a lot of time on the ground up here
- 6 both, you know, initially truthing the -- the mapping
- 7 and then wit -- executing our monitoring programs, both
- 8 on the ground and with -- with aerial surveys. And so
- 9 we're quite -- quite comfortable with the watershed
- 10 divides and delineations. Thank you.
- MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Stephanie Poole,
- 12 Akaitcho IMA. If Area 8 is the outflow and Area J is
- 13 an inlet, where does the water come into Area J from?
- 14 MR. NATHAN SCHMIDT: Nathan Schmidt,
- 15 with Golder Associates. Area J right here, basically
- 16 just the -- the local drainage from that watershed
- 17 drains into that lake and then enters Area 8 right at
- 18 the south end of -- of Area J.
- 19 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: So you're saying
- 20 that that lake -- I'm not sure what you're calling that
- 21 lake in Area J, has no natural inlet such as a stream
- 22 or creek. It just only is refilled through run-off
- 23 from the land?
- 24 MR. NATHAN SCHMIDT: Nathan Schmidt,
- 25 with Golder. That's correct. It just receives the --

- 1 the snow melt and -- and rainfall run-off from that
- 2 small local area, similar to, you know, all of these
- 3 other smaller watersheds that are tributaries to -- to
- 4 Kennady Lake.
- 5 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Well, the lake
- 6 looks like it looks to be a good size lake in Area J.
- 7 Stephanie Poole, Akaitcho IMA. And what the -- I
- 8 believe is -- is your name Bill? When you were talking
- 9 about groundwater and how it goes underground, could it
- 10 be possible that there is underground water feeding
- 11 that lake in Area J?
- MR. DON CHORLEY: The groundwater flow
- 13 component would be very small in that lake because of
- 14 the very low permeability and the -- that goes so deep
- 15 and then to -- below the permafrost, then up again.
- 16 You know, Area J, I think the water
- 17 levels -- I don't know if the water levels are there.
- 18 Okay, where is 'J', because I can't see it from this
- 19 angle. Okay, that lake there.
- I think that that lake -- the lakes to
- 21 the east and west, we should look on that other figure,
- 22 17 again. Yeah, we need to look at Figure 17 again
- 23 because that has the elevations on it.
- 24 So there's two (2) things controlling
- 25 the groundwater flow. First of all the lake has to be

- 1 big enough so that it has a through-talik that goes
- 2 through the -- through the permafrost and into the deep
- 3 groundwater flow regime.
- 4 So where would that lake be on that one?
- 5 Yeah, that lake is probably too small. Because all the
- 6 lakes that have a large enough surface area to produce
- 7 a through-talik have elevations on them in this figure.
- 8 And so if that doesn't have an elevation that means it
- 9 doesn't have a through-talik, so there would be no
- 10 contribution from groundwater flow at that depth
- 11 because it couldn't go through the permafrost.
- 12 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Thank you.
- 13 Stephanie Poole, Akaitcho IMA. Just a question
- 14 regarding permafrost and how that affects the flow of
- 15 the water. In your proposal you have a large number of
- 16 -- are -- are they thermosyphon, those things that you
- 17 put into the ground to keep the ground frozen? And I
- 18 believe there's also some kind of -- there's some of
- 19 those in the ground and there's some on top of the
- 20 ground as well -- like, ropes or some kind of a rope
- 21 kind of thing going around the whole project area that
- 22 you've been testing how they work and how they keep the
- 23 ground frozen.
- 24 And when you are altering the ecosystem
- 25 in that way, freezing the area and keeping it frozen in

44 a man-made way, how -- what potential does this have to affect the flow of the -- the water underground? 3 And you're saying that it already has to go a long way down because of permafrost and is very slow. And if that area is kept frozen for a long period of time, or not in it's natural state, does that going to mean that the water flows even slower? Will 7 it stop the flow of water? These are the questions that are coming to mind in that regard. Thank you. 10 11 (BRIEF PAUSE) 12 13 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: We'll give 14 the Gaucho Kue team a moment to caucus here. 15 MR. BILL HORNE: Bill Horne, from EBA 16 Engineering. Currently we've got ground temperature 17 cables that have -- measure the ground temperatures 18 onsite. We've got those in the pit area and -- and 19 throughout the -- the plant site, and some of the dam locations. 20 21 But the project does not include any 22 thermosiphons. The -- thermosiphons are sometimes used 23 where we need to freeze the ground, but currently the 24 project does not include any thermosiphons. 25 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Stephanie,

- 1 did you have any further questions?
- MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Well, it just
- 3 seems -- so what you're saying is the ground is just
- 4 naturally frozen enough that you don't require to -- to
- 5 freeze it further. You know, with the other diamond
- 6 mines they used them when they had dikes, when they go
- 7 underground.
- 8 You're proposing a large number of
- 9 dikes. I can't imagine how you will not be using them.
- 10 So -- and to say, you know, all -- all of these diamond
- 11 mines do eventually go underground and -- and it could
- 12 be perhaps a possibility in the future. I just -- I
- 13 just want to understand all the possible impacts and
- 14 adverse effects on our watershed, and I want them all
- 15 to be investigated thoroughly.

16

17 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 19 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: And after
- 20 this response from Gahcho Kue, we'll take a ten (10)
- 21 minute break, so once the team is done caucusing.
- MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: I just wanted to
- 23 make it clear for the record that my concern is not
- 24 only with the flow of the water, it's also in regards
- 25 to the quality of the water. And I'm -- I just wanted

- 1 to make sure that that was clear.
- 2 Like when I was talking about a life or
- 3 death situation for my people, like it means that not
- 4 only the quantity of water, and how it flows, and how
- 5 it reacts to this proposal, but the quality of it as
- 6 well is -- is 100 percent, you know, of concern to us.
- 7 I think that's coming through in most of
- 8 my questions, ones related to mercury and our fish, you
- 9 know, and maybe later on when we talk about socio-
- 10 economic impacts we can talk about human health
- 11 assessments, as well, for my people.
- But I just wanted to make it clear for
- 13 the record that -- that we are very concerned with the
- 14 quality of water, and -- and perhaps there's some room
- 15 for some more work in that area. The -- the data
- 16 that's provided by De Beers may not be adequate in that
- 17 record. And I need that to be considered, as well.
- 18 Thank you.
- 19 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Thank you
- 20 for the clarification, Stephanie.
- 21 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 22 Chisholm from De Beers. I'm going to have our
- 23 engineers address the question about permafrost in the
- 24 dikes. But just on that last one, Stephanie,
- 25 appreciate the comment, and I want to assure you that

- 1 water quality was considered as well as quantity in our
- 2 assessment. And water quality and quantity will be
- 3 part of our long-term monitoring program.
- And so we have done a good job in terms
- 5 of providing the predicted impacts associated with
- 6 water quality and quantity for this project, and will
- 7 continue to develop our monitoring programs to validate
- 8 the impact predictions that we have for the project.
- 9 Now, having said that, I think I'll have
- 10 Bill explain how permafrost was considered in the dike
- 11 design.
- MR. BILL HORNE: Yeah, just Stephanie -
- 13 this is Bill Horne, EBA engineering. Stephanie made
- 14 reference to some of the thermosiphons at other
- 15 projects and questions why -- why we don't have them
- 16 here and -- and the effect on the water movement if we
- 17 did.
- 18 I think it's important to -- to
- 19 recognize what the -- what the dikes are and what
- 20 they're used for. The -- the external dikes that rely
- 21 on -- we have external dikes that the ge -- have a
- 22 geomembrane liner that is keyed into the permafrost.
- 23 These dikes are -- are very low head structures and
- 24 they are keeping water from entering the basin rather
- 25 than keeping water -- rather than retaining water. So

- 1 the -- they're not as critical structures as some of
- 2 the structures at other sites.
- We have used perm -- permafrost ha --
- 4 thermosiphons have been used to freeze the ground at
- 5 some of the diamond mines where we have a dike in a
- 6 very large lake. This site, we don't have any dikes.
- 7 We're not placing the dikes in the lake. We're not
- 8 relying on permafrost so we don't need thermosiphons
- 9 for those dikes. The perimeter dikes we -- the dikes
- 10 do key into permafrost. Yeah, the -- the project --
- 11 the project doesn't rely on permafrost for the dikes.

12

13 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- MR. BILL HORNE: I'm not sure whether -
- 16 does -- does that answer your question?
- 17 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: And for the
- 18 record, Steph mentioned that's good for now. And I
- 19 believe John Faithful wanted to add to that.
- 20 MR. JOHN FAITHFUL: John Faithful,
- 21 Golder Associates. Just to support the -- the response
- 22 that Bill Horne provided, back in May, 2011, there was
- 23 a conformity issue that -- that was addressed by De
- 24 Beers. It was number 3. And so additional information
- 25 with regard to -- to permafrost and its association

- 1 with the project is provided in that response.
- 2 I'm now going to pass it over to Nathan
- 3 Schmidt.
- 4 MR. NATHAN SCHMIDT: Nathan Schmidt,
- 5 with Golder Associates. One (1) of my colleagues has
- 6 pointed out to me that I apparently said at some point
- 7 this morning that most of the flow from Kennady Lake
- 8 goes out through the Lockhart system. All of the flow
- 9 from Kennady Lake goes out through the Lockhart system.
- 10 So I just wanted to clarify that.
- 11 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Awesome.
- 12 Thank you. And with that, we will take a twenty-five
- 13 (25) minute break. And everybody -- all can go over
- 14 and grab some coffee.

15

- 16 --- Upon recessing at 10:10 a.m.
- 17 --- Upon resuming at 10:24 a.m.

- 19 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Okay. Thank
- 20 you. Before we get under way, just to clarify
- 21 Undertaking number 3 from the Lutsel K'e Dene First
- 22 Nation. Just to clarify the wording: Lutsel K'e Dene
- 23 First Nation will -- is to produce for the panel a
- 24 Water Survey of Canada map outlining the community's
- 25 preferred reference monitoring sites. And -- and

- 1 that's my -- my understanding of -- of how that
- 2 undertaking was to -- was to be worded.
- 3 Stephanie, did you have -- did that
- 4 under -- did that undertaking -- does that meet what --
- 5 what your concerns were with regard to that discussion?
- MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Sorry, could you
- 7 repeat that for me?
- 8 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: For sure.
- 9 We're just clarifying what Undertaking number 3 is and
- 10 my understanding, just to get the wording right, was
- 11 for the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation to produce for the
- 12 panel a watershed survey of Canada map for that north-
- 13 south watershed flowing to the north arm -- sorry, the
- 14 east arm, outlining the community's preferred reference
- 15 monitoring sites.
- Does that capture it?
- 17 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: If the
- 18 undertaking is for -- for me to provide the Water
- 19 Survey of Canada data it would be coming from the
- 20 Akaitcho IMA office. And I can provide that data --
- 21 well, I've already provided it to you today, but I'll
- 22 follow-up with another email that has -- outlines my
- 23 specific questions in that regard and -- and what I
- 24 would like to be considered if that's appropriate.
- THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Yes, that

- 1 would be -- be -- with the -- with the rationale the --
- 2 the written that would be -- that would help. Thank
- 3 you. And actually, if we could have that in a letter
- 4 then that would be great. With that we've captured
- 5 undertaking number 3 and we will move on to the next
- 6 agenda item which is the Gahcho Kue team would like to
- 7 comment on something.
- 8 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 9 Chisholm, from De Beers. Thank you for that
- 10 clarification on the undertaking. And with respect to
- 11 any questions we certainly are here to answer questions
- 12 today, but -- so I wasn't -- I was a bit unsure whether
- 13 there would be additional questions outside this
- 14 process that would be included as part of that
- 15 undertaking.
- 16 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Additional
- 17 questions?
- 18 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Yes, I just
- 19 heard Stephanie mention that included in her letter
- 20 with the submission from the Water Survey of Canada
- 21 would be some additional questions. And so I just
- 22 wondered if there -- if you can provide some
- 23 clarification around that? Thanks.
- THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI:
- 25 Stephanie...?

- 1 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Stephanie Poole,
- 2 Akaitcho IMA. I don't believe I said additional
- 3 questions. I -- I just said that I would outline the
- 4 questions that I had described when I had presented the
- 5 information this morning. And just -- just to re-
- 6 outline what I had said and -- and what it is I'm
- 7 hoping that will be considered by the panel. Thank
- 8 you.
- 9 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: And as I
- 10 understand Undertaking number 3, it's -- it's going to
- 11 be the figure that was emailed to Chuck earlier, and
- 12 that it's going to be a rationale, just kind of
- 13 explaining why -- the nature of the concern that --
- 14 that Stephanie brought up regarding that. So that -- I
- 15 -- I didn't see any questions with that. It's the
- 16 rationale for that particular concern.
- 17 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 18 Chisholm, from De Beers. Thank you very much for the
- 19 clarification. I was just unsure. Appreciate that.
- 20 Thank you, Stephanie.
- THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: You bet.
- 22 And Bruce?
- MR. BRUCE HANNA: Yeah, Bruce Hanna,
- 24 DFO. Just before we switch topics we just have a -- a
- 25 quick question related to DFO and EC IR number 11. In

- 1 De Beers' response they said a targeted monitoring
- 2 program in the D, E, and N watershed lakes would happen
- 3 during the open water period. We just wanted to
- 4 confirm that these lakes would include lakes downstream
- 5 of impacts, including those that receive water from the
- 6 dewatering process of Kennady Lake. So just a
- 7 confirmation on that. Thanks.

8

9 (BRIEF PAUSE)

10

- 11 MR. JOHN FAITHFUL: John Faithful,
- 12 Golder Associates. Bruce, the -- the D, E, N pro --
- 13 lakes program that's -- that's projected to occur this
- 14 year in the open water season is really the -- only the
- 15 lakes within the D and the E and the N lake watersheds.
- 16 And it's going to focus on water quality, sediment
- 17 quality, lower trophics, and -- and fish.

18

19 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 21 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Pete, did
- 22 you have a follow-up to that? Or, Bruce?
- 23 Okay. So with that we'll move on to the
- 24 next agenda item. Hydrology, water quality, fish and
- 25 fish habitat. So with that we'll open up the floor to

- 1 questions for the Gahcho Kue team. Once again, not
- 2 everybody speak at once. Okay, Anne...?

- 4 QUESTIONS RE. HYDROLOGY, WATER QUALITY, FISH, AND FISH
- 5 HABITAT:
- 6 MS. ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson,
- 7 Environment Canada. I'm a little late here, but this
- 8 is a groundwater question so it does relate to water
- 9 quality.
- 10 We got the groundwater report this
- 11 morning. Thank you for that. It's got the summary of
- 12 the chemistry with the box and whisker plots. And I
- 13 just wanted to confirm that the data that is updated in
- 14 this document has been used in the modelling so that
- 15 the chemistry will reflect the most current information
- 16 for groundwater inputs.
- 17 MR. MIKE HERRELL: It's Mike Herrell,
- 18 from Golder Associates. That's correct. In the 2012
- 19 EIS supplement, the information that was collected in
- 20 2011 was also incorporated into the water quality
- 21 assessment.
- MS. ANNE WILSON: It's Anne Wilson.
- 23 Thank you. I do have another question that is a little
- 24 bit of a carryover from yesterday. Shall I go ahead
- 25 with that?

- 1 It's in relation with Area 7. And I'm
- 2 still wrestling with the need to dewater Area 7 right
- 3 out the gate and leave it dewatered as opposed to maybe
- 4 build a coffer dam and trying to construct the dike --
- 5 what is that, Dike K -- whatever the dike is separating
- 6 Area 7 from the mining activity, in order to maintain
- 7 the water and that.
- 8 From what I've been able to glean
- 9 through the update, the main purpose of partially
- 10 dewatering Area 7 is to allow the flexibility to
- 11 discharge mine water to it if needed. And without
- 12 seeing the alternatives analysis I -- I haven't yet
- 13 been convinced that that is warranted based on the
- 14 other options for water management. So if De Beers
- 15 could comment on that, that would be great.
- MR. WAYNE CORSO: Wayne Corso, JDS.
- 17 Yeah, thanks, Anne, I know my description yesterday was
- 18 probably not as complete as it could have been, but I'm
- 19 glad I have the opportunity to finish up today.
- 20 The -- the use of the -- of Area 7 as
- 21 water management is -- is more of a consequence than --
- 22 than reasonings for -- for including Area 7 in the
- 23 dewatered area. It's -- it's -- in the alternatives it
- 24 definitely is a -- when we determine the minimum amount
- 25 of -- of storage area that we need for the water

- 1 management plan, it definitely, you know, works into
- 2 that -- that volume, that -- that's for sure. But --
- 3 but there's some other practical -- more practical
- 4 reasons for including Area 7 and -- and the biggest one
- 5 (1) is probably the -- the construction of Dike K.
- Is it -- is it physically possible to
- 7 build a -- a dike in the wet, sure. Any -- anything is
- 8 possible. You know, it's -- it's a cost consideration
- 9 at one (1) point and it's a safety consideration at
- 10 another. The -- the construction of Dike K, if it were
- 11 done early on, would -- would be a -- a hit to the
- 12 project schedule, because it would have to be -- have
- 13 to be built in the wet, have to be built early on. So
- 14 it would probably be a -- a year hit on the schedule
- 15 before any dewatering can take place.
- 16 So if you -- if you go your next -- your
- 17 next natural topographic high, I quess you could call
- 18 it, would be the -- which is the -- the joint between
- 19 Area 7 and Area 8, where there's only about a -- oh, I
- 20 think it's less than 2 metres worth of water. It's
- 21 almost like a stream crossing rather than a connection
- 22 to the lake. It's a -- it's a natural place that you
- 23 can -- that you can build a safe, inexpensive and, you
- 24 know, you can -- you can build it the same year and
- 25 dewater immediately.

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1
                   So that's -- that's, you know, a pract -
   - the -- some of the practical issues. Schedule Area 7
   -- yes, and we already discussed the use of Area 7 as a
 3
   -- a wa -- as water storage. But like I say, as a
   consequence of having it dewatered already. That's it
 6
   for now.
7
                  MS. ANNE WILSON: Anne Wilson, thanks
              The plan appears to be to construct the dike
   for that.
   in the dry and then allow over the next seven (7) or so
10
   years the Area 7 to refill naturally and then start to
   discharge, provided the quality is -- is good enough.
11
12
                   I guess it just seems like there ought
13
   to be other alternatives, like I've mentioned maybe
   doing a coffer dam or some other way to construct it in
14
15
   the dry, without compromising the schedule, in order to
16
   preserve Area 7 without having to dewater it partially.
   Will that be explained fully in the alternatives
17
18
   analysis that's forthcoming?
19
                  MR. WAYNE CORSO: Yes, it will. Wayne
   Corso, JDS. The -- okay, I -- yeah.
21
                  MS. ANNE WILSON: Your light's still
22
   red.
23
   <S>
                  MR. WAYNE CORSO: I know. Well, I can
24
   see by your face that that's not enough, so I want to
   make sure that you go away with -- with as much
```

- 1 information as we -- as we can give you today, Anne,
- 2 thank you.
- 3 Yeah, like I say, the -- the dewatering
- 4 schedule relies on -- on building -- building the dike
- 5 and -- and being able to -- to dewater against that in
- 6 the -- in the same season. So, like I said, if -- it
- 7 gives you a -- a one (1) year hit to the schedule, and
- 8 -- and the cost of -- of building the dike and having
- 9 it re -- retain water from day 1, upstream of the -- of
- 10 the open pits is -- you know, makes it a critical
- 11 structure.
- 12 And -- and you take the criticality away
- 13 from it when you build -- when you build the dike in
- 14 the -- in -- or the outlet dike at A1, which is between
- 15 7 and 8, because like you said, for the first six (6)
- 16 years it's not a water-retaining structure, the Dike K.
- 17 I -- and so in -- and in year 6 is when you amend it to
- 18 become a water-retaining structure and then you allow
- 19 it to fill. Is that helpful?
- 20 MS. ANNE WILSON: Yes, thank you. It's
- 21 Anne Wilson.
- THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Thank you.
- 23 Bruce, did you have a follow-up to that?
- MR. BRUCE HANNA: Yeah, Bruce Hanna,
- 25 DFO. We're along the same lines of Anne's comments

- 1 regarding Area 7 and any means to pre -- preserve that
- 2 area. I'm just wondering, can it be a water-retaining
- 3 structure earlier on? We've been told the water
- 4 management pond has a holding capacity, I think, for
- 5 two (2) years, so as far as a backup for water
- 6 management it doesn't seem to be really necessary.
- 7 Even if it couldn't be done with a
- 8 coffer dam or whatever, and built, and then refilled
- 9 immediately afterwards then you've got that over-winter
- 10 habitat with deeper depths than Area 8. It addresses
- 11 some of the concerns about persistence of lake trout
- 12 populations within Kennady Lake, a variety of things
- 13 like that. So if there's anything that -- that can be
- 14 done to preserve Area 7, I think it should be looked at
- 15 for sure.

16

17 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 19 MR. WAYNE CORSO: Thanks, Bruce. And,
- 20 yeah, we'll -- we'll just -- make sure that that's
- 21 spelled out as clearly as possible in the alternatives
- 22 analysis, and we can -- we can take it from there, if
- 23 you'd like. Thanks.
- 24 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: And, Kathy,
- 25 I believe you had a question as -- as well.

- DR. KATHY RACHER: Kathy Racher. I --
- 2 I guess I -- I just wanted to be clear on something
- 3 John said earlier about the local study area. I
- 4 believe you said that the -- that was the maximum
- 5 extent of project effects, and sometimes effects can be
- 6 called different things. I'm not sure if you meant
- 7 that's the maximum area that you predict to exceed, for
- 8 example, just background water quality as a very low
- 9 bar.
- 10 MR. JOHN FAITHFUL: John Faithful,
- 11 Golder Associates. Thanks, Kathy. My definition of
- 12 that local study area was for the aquatics surface
- 13 flows and -- and surface water quality. And it was the
- 14 local study area that was determined in -- with the
- 15 onset of the assessment to be the area of -- of where
- 16 it was considered that the maximum extent of project
- 17 effects would be -- would occur. And within the -- the
- 18 -- within the assessment of effects, that study area
- 19 was delineated appropriately.
- 20 With water quality we're anticipating
- 21 that the -- that the effects are back down to the
- 22 variability with respect to baseline conditions by the
- 23 outfall of -- of Lake 410, which is -- immediately
- 24 precedes Kirk Lake. And -- and, Nathan, with respect
- 25 to hydrology, I think that's -- that local study area

- 1 is consistent with the -- with the assessment findings,
- 2 as well.
- 3 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: And did you
- 4 have a follow-up?
- DR. KATHY RACHER: Kathy Racher. I
- 6 have a separate question. Okay. My last question is
- 7 about -- I guess again about uncertainty. I'm the
- 8 queen of uncertainty.
- 9 And the -- the modelling of -- of four
- 10 (4) -- we -- we talked about it yesterday, about
- 11 Kennady Lake itself, and now we're talking about
- 12 downstream effects in Kennady -- on -- on the
- 13 downstream environment and -- and what those
- 14 predictions are. And so I'm -- you know, we've just
- 15 gone through the renewal, as you know, of the Snap Lake
- 16 project this year, and I had a good long look at the EA
- 17 predictions with respect to the Snap Lake project, and
- 18 then, you know, sort of what's -- what's happened.
- 19 And my observation was that the -- from
- 20 the EA the concentrations of -- of effluent coming out
- 21 of the mine were actually pretty accurate. They were
- 22 surprisingly accurate in terms of what actually the
- 23 effluent is, but the accumulation of contaminants in
- 24 the -- in Snap Lake seems to have been faster than was
- 25 predicted. Quite a bit -- the -- it's in -- they're

- 1 increasing and accumulating faster than what was
- 2 predicted.
- 3 And so I'm just -- I guess I'm -- and --
- 4 and it's also -- it's a headwater lake, as well, so it
- 5 doesn't get a lot of inputs as well. And I -- so I'm
- 6 just -- I guess I'm wondering, you know, what lessons
- 7 you might have learned from -- from that exercise, that
- 8 learning that you did between what the predictions were
- 9 and what has actually occurred and how that was
- 10 applied, you know, when you were looking at predictions
- 11 on this project.

12

13 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- MR. KEN DE VOS: Ken de Vos, with
- 16 Golder Associates. Kathy, I think -- think there's a
- 17 lot of things that -- that can and -- and are being
- 18 learned from Snap Lake. And I think some of the key
- 19 lessons that we're learning is that whatever plan we
- 20 put into place needs to be flexible. We need to be
- 21 able to adapt to changing conditions.
- 22 And that goes not just for -- for
- 23 potential mine water inflows. I mean, we need to have
- 24 a better understanding of -- of the variability and
- 25 hydrology, for example. We need to be able to -- to

- 1 store water if needed so that we're not put in
- 2 positions of having to discharge or having to
- 3 repeatedly go back to regulators to request discharges.

- 5 And that also provides a lot more time
- 6 to -- to adapt to the situations that -- that we may
- 7 encounter on site. I mean, yes, there are things that
- 8 are going to happen that we -- we -- that are
- 9 difficult, very difficult to predict, if not impossible
- 10 to predict, so we need to have flexibility to deal with
- 11 -- with those.
- 12 Yeah, I -- I mean, we -- we understand
- 13 the system pretty well. We've been working and looking
- 14 at this site for -- for years -- literally years now,
- 15 so, you know, that -- that's something else that we've
- 16 learned is that -- that we need to have a really good
- 17 understanding of these systems moving forward, and
- 18 comprehensive understanding of -- of the -- the inputs
- 19 to the -- to the chemistry -- the geochemistry of the
- 20 site, a better understanding of what the non-
- 21 geochemical inputs are, like nitrates, ammonia,
- 22 explosives, and pull -- being able to pull all that
- 23 together. You know, there's a reason there's a very
- 24 large team here, it's so that we can address all of
- 25 these -- these interrelated issues in a comprehensive

- 1 manner.
- DR. KATHY RACHER: Kathy Racher, from
- 3 the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board. Okay. I
- 4 guess I just -- I just wanted to highlight the
- 5 importance of -- of the not knowing, of the inability
- 6 to predict everything that the -- you know, collecting
- 7 baseline data and monitoring. And understanding the
- 8 system as it exists today doesn't necessarily tell you
- 9 what it's going to exist like when there's a -- there's
- 10 a stress on it that's never happened before. You know,
- 11 we have no -- there's no way to know how -- you know,
- 12 how -- how the system is exactly going to react.
- 13 And -- in my experience with the
- 14 projects it's typically been that the -- how the system
- 15 reacts is the biggest unknown. You know, what the mine
- 16 is going to produce and -- and stuff like that is --
- 17 has generally been fairly well characterized, but how
- 18 the system reacts is different than -- than predicted,
- 19 which, you know, isn't a problem as long as we've got
- 20 our eye on the ball all the time. And, like you say,
- 21 having the extra storage capacity, et cetera, and the
- 22 ability to change -- so I just -- I just stress the
- 23 importance of what we talked about yesterday.
- 24 And -- and you guys had talked about
- 25 this summer trying to come up with action levels and --

65 and significant thresholds. I -- I think that's really important because that's the part that will -- that will tip us off early as to, you know, when things are 3 -- are happening in the receiving environment that we didn't necessarily predict because -- and -- and I don't expect -- I mean, you guys have done a great job with -- with all the information you have today. But 7 that's -- that's all the information you have is today, and the mine isn't built yet. So just to emphasize the 10 importance of the action levels. So thank you. 11 12 (BRIEF PAUSE) 13 14 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: And did the 15 team have any follow-up? 16 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Just one (1). 17 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: You bet, 18 yeah. 19 20 (BRIEF PAUSE) 21 22 MR. WAYNE CORSO: Wayne Corso, JDS. 23 just wanted to tag on a little bit to that -- to that 24 discussion in that, you know, from an engineering point 25 of view and -- and from a project design point of view,

- 1 the -- the whole -- the whole concept of the project
- 2 deals with having the flexibility and the time and the
- 3 contingency to deal with -- with unforseen upset
- 4 conditions.
- 5 And the -- the whole concept of -- of
- 6 using the natural topography to contain a controlled
- 7 basin, the concept of be -- of not allowing inflows
- 8 from -- from outside -- from outside water streams and
- 9 being able to control our outflows, at the same time
- 10 being able to store water and have the capacity for,
- 11 during operations, up to two (2) years of time to be
- 12 able to -- to monitor what's actually -- all of our
- 13 chemical predictions and all of our hydrologic
- 14 predictions, being able to verify those and -- and
- 15 update models. That all works into the -- to the
- 16 concept of -- of the design of the project to -- with
- 17 this controlled basin.
- 18 And -- and it carries on into -- into
- 19 closure as well with the progressive reclamation of --
- 20 of the fine PK facility, for example, which is
- 21 completed before the operations phase of the project is
- 22 even over.
- So, you know, it -- it's -- every --
- 24 everything is integrated into this -- into this
- 25 concept. And I -- I just wanted to sort of, you know,

- 1 bring that -- bring that to the fore again. It's --
- 2 it's -- it seems like a simple concept, but it really
- 3 does try to encompass and -- and give us contingencies
- 4 and flexibility to be able to handle these conditions,
- 5 like you say, we may -- we may not know, right. We may
- 6 not know what comes our way, but we'll have -- we'll
- 7 have that flexibility to be able to handle them. Thank
- 8 you.
- 9 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Okay. And
- 10 were there any follow-up questions to that? And we
- 11 will again go back to the agenda item, hydrology, water
- 12 quality, fish and fish habitat. Maybe not on that
- 13 particular item there weren't any follow-up, but -- but
- 14 were there any questions on the -- on this agenda item
- 15 for now?
- And while everybody's formulating their
- 17 many questions we'll go to the telecom line and ask if
- 18 anybody has any questions from the teleconference.
- 19
- 20 (BRIEF PAUSE)
- 21
- THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: No
- 23 questions, let the record show. And any further
- 24 questions on this subject?
- 25

68 1 (BRIEF PAUSE) 2 3 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Very well. 5 (BRIEF PAUSE) 6 7 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Okay, so to bring us up to lunch we'll -- we will maintain the socio-ec portion of the technical session at -- at one o'clock. So we'll open it up. If there's nothing on 10 the agenda item for -- for hydrology, water quality, 11 12 fish and fish habitat, then we'll open the floor up for 13 questions for -- for anything. And, again, keeping in mind that we are doing socio ec at 1:00. So were there 14 15 any questions? I believe I see Mike Tollis coming to the mic. 16 17 MR. MIKE TOLLIS: Hi. Mike Tollis, 18 from Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation. I just had a 19 question for -- for DFO. Actually, the changes to the Fisheries Act -- the proposed changes, I guess. Are 21 they going to have any impact on how fish compensation 22 is going to be discussed for the Gahcho Kue project? 23 MR. PETE COTT: It's Pete Cott, from 24 DFO. That's about all I have to say about that. 25 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Thank you,

- 1 Pete. Okay. And once again, I'll open up the -- open
- 2 up the floor for any questions for the team. Mr.
- 3 Marlowe?
- 4 ELDER GEORGE MARLOWE: George, Elder
- 5 from Lutsel K'e. This is a short one. I want to act
- 6 like a lawyer, too, you know. Now, I work a little bit
- 7 at Ekati, that mine. About five (5) years from
- 8 beginning. And I work at myself, at my house.
- 9 Everyone of you in here, you have little garage, you
- 10 know, where you -- where you do your things, carpenter
- 11 or mechanic, welding, anything.
- Me, when I do something, I want to work
- 13 clean. If I cut a board with my skill saw, dust on the
- 14 floor, I have to sweep all the time. Real clean, I
- 15 like to work clean. One (1) of the brother from Lutsel
- 16 K'e told me that a long time. I still remember that.
- 17 Whatever you do to work in the shop or you got it
- 18 outside or anywhere. Clean your floor. Work. You're
- 19 happy that way. So this is something we're talking
- 20 about that way, too.
- 21 Gahcho Kue, I like to support those
- 22 people there because that's -- for I -- I said how many
- 23 times I go hunting there. By the time it's over, in
- 24 twenty (20), thirty (30) years, I be gone, but I want
- 25 something clean when it's over.

- 1 So today this thing is very important
- 2 technical meeting, like this, for everybody. For the
- 3 government side, for DFO and government of Canada,
- 4 everybody. When we're finished, when you guys finish,
- 5 clean.
- 6 So something we would still discuss of
- 7 the closure to beginning. We were told at Ekati at the
- 8 beginning, let's talk about closure. But the people
- 9 said, let's wait. It went too far. Same thing with
- 10 Diavik. But Snap Lake -- well, but again, they said
- 11 wait again.
- 12 But this one here, we shouldn't wait.
- 13 We should talk about that one, too. So we keep this --
- 14 that land clean, the water, whatever you do -- a dike
- 15 or anything. I say, sweep the floor. Do the job.
- 16 This is my -- I got some -- some ideas
- 17 from the elders and the -- brother Prince (phonetic)
- 18 from Lutsel K'e. I like that land. We never talk
- 19 about caw -- caw -- caw or arctic rabbit. In our
- 20 language, "caw," that's an arctic rabbit. There's lots
- 21 there. And women use that arctic rabbit, too. I guess
- 22 you buy a moccasin or anything, it's just arctic
- 23 rabbit. Mukluks or anything for the hood, maybe mitts.
- 24 That's what our wom -- women from Lutsel K'e made --
- 25 use that too, lots. So we got to talk about those

71 arctic rabbit, too. Something like that. I know it's lots, right around the camps, lots. 3 But it's -- let's talk about it later, I After, maybe. Or not now, sometimes anyway. quess. That's all I want to say. Thank you. 6 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Thank you, Mr. Marlowe. 7 8 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica Chisholm, from De Beers. Thank you very much, George, 10 I appreciate those comments. I hear what you're saying. I think -- I want to stress the fact that De 11 Beers shares your values to keep the land, the water, 13 the air, clean for future generations, and that is 14 certainly a value that we hold at De Beers as well. 15 And we look forward to any additional advice or 16 knowledge you wish to share with us on that project 17 site and on that area. So I appreciate that. Thank 18 you very much. 19 20 (BRIEF PAUSE) 21 22 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Okay. I 23 believe we have another elder coming up to speak. 24 25 (INTERPRETED FROM CHIPEWYAN INTO ENGLISH)

- 1 ELDER PIERRE MARLOWE: What I've been
- 2 concerned about, I have to say it here. This is my
- 3 land, too. When you're talking about taking the fish
- 4 out to put it into another water, is that what you're
- 5 talking about? If their nutrient is not the same,
- 6 they're not used to it, maybe they might get sick from
- 7 it. We Dene people -- even our own -- all of us here,
- 8 we all go and share the same food. You -- you all have
- 9 your own traditional food. I can eat your food maybe
- 10 once -- once, but I can't eat it all the time.
- 11 Why I'm saying this, in the past the
- 12 people we used to have a lot of white people, trappers,
- 13 up in our area. They don't eat their own kind of food.
- 14 Sometimes for half a year, they live there, they leave
- 15 because they have -- they don't -- they're not
- 16 consuming their own food. You have to con -- be cons -
- 17 considerate about all these type of issues,
- 18 especially when you going to take the fish out and then
- 19 remove it into another.
- 20 And another thing, the vehicle, the --
- 21 the air, the -- because of the air -- or the dust and
- 22 everything, it travels a long distance through air.
- 23 When these in the past -- there are a lot of things
- 24 that travel where people -- there was no physicians in
- 25 the past, so people used their own medicine from the

- 1 land. If a person was sick they grab anything. They
- 2 used -- they -- they used it for their medicine.
- 3 Anything.
- 4 That's how people used to live in the
- 5 past. And now today when you're talking about air, I
- 6 can't tell -- I'm scared to take anything from the land
- 7 to use it for medicine today. Maybe I might get more
- 8 sick from it. That's why you have to consider
- 9 everything like that. When you do something any old
- 10 way it doesn't turn out well.
- Now, you, you're sitting -- you're
- 12 sitting -- you're talking from all your documents in
- 13 there from the paper. I don't have any paper myself,
- 14 but because of my thoughts and my thinking and my
- 15 concerns, the way things were in the pas -- from the
- 16 past, from my experience, that's what I'm speaking
- 17 from. Now you guys all have computer in front of you,
- 18 you refer to it to -- to talk. I don't have one (1) --
- 19 one (1) of them. So when I talk I have to -- I've got
- 20 to be right.
- 21 Those are two (2) concerns that I had, I
- 22 was thinking about. So -- so you're -- if you're going
- 23 to ruin my land that -- my medicine, my water, my fish,
- 24 you're going to damage all those for me. So when you
- 25 put the develop -- I -- it's only right you pay me

74 tancent (phonetic) for me giving you that land. That's -- while I'm -- I'm sitting here that's what I've been thinking about. 3 When you take that diamond you're the ones that are going to be richer and I'm -- I'm going to be still sitting here. I'm going to be poor sitting here and my land's going to be all damaged for me. We 7 could make a deal in that way. I'm -- I'm trying -- I want you to make a deal with us, that's what I'm 10 talking about, an agreement. 11 Thank you for allowing me to talk. 12 That's all I'm going to talk for that long. I'm 13 getting too old, so I want to sleep this afternoon. 14 Thank you. 15 THE INTERPRETER: And he's giving me a 16 break too. 17 18 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED) 19 20 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Thank you. 21 Mr. Pierre Marlowe has spoken through a translator, 22 Anne Biscaye. And... 23 24 (BRIEF PAUSE) 25

- 1 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 2 Chisholm, from De Beers. Thank you very much for those
- 3 comments. Yes, we do tend to use a lot of machines and
- 4 papers to remember, because our memories are not that
- 5 good on all of the details. So I appreciate that
- 6 comment.
- 7 I also want to mention I'd like to thank
- 8 everyone for stopping so that we could translate this,
- 9 because it's important to De Beers that everyone has
- 10 the opportunity to listen what Pierre Marlowe is
- 11 telling us. So thank you for that.
- I want to assure you that it's important
- 13 to De Beers to protect the air, the land, and the
- 14 water, so that you would have continued access to
- 15 medicines and other things that you harvest from the
- 16 land. We are -- we have made several commitments
- 17 regarding monitoring of that land and we've made
- 18 commitments about looking for traditional knowledge to
- 19 incorporate into those monitoring programs.
- 20 When I visited Lutsel K'e on February
- 21 15th and had the opportunity to speak with the
- 22 community, I did receive some feedback on monitoring at
- 23 that time and was very fortunate that the folks around
- 24 the table invited me back at some point in time to talk
- 25 about monitoring. So I look forward to continuing to

- 1 engage the community on monitoring and ensuring that we
- 2 protect the land for future generations. Thank you.
- 3 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Thank you,
- 4 Veronica. And once again, I will turn the mic over to
- 5 the floor for any questions or any further comments.
- 6 And I believe Elmar is coming up.
- 7 MR. ELMAR PLATE: Elmar Plate for --
- 8 from LGL for Deninu Kue. I don't quite know where that
- 9 fits, but I think probably it fits quite no -- right
- 10 now quite well following Pierre Marlowe's comments.
- 11 The people that hired me to review all of your
- 12 documents, they had two (2) issues with -- it's -- it's
- 13 more philosophical questions.
- Number 1, is -- and that was emphasized
- 15 by Kathy a lot is, where uncertainty exists it's never
- 16 expressed in the EIS. So that would, I think, have
- 17 built a little bit more trust. And I just want this to
- 18 be on the record, there is a lot of uncertainty.
- 19 Obviously you've done, you know, a good job with the
- 20 data that's there. There's a lot of uncertainty, but
- 21 it's never expressed in the EIS.
- In the EIS it says after sixty-five (65)
- 23 years it looks like -- the lake looks like it was
- 24 before as this concentration of lake will be at this
- 25 level, this will be like that. We don't know whether

- 1 it's going to be like that. So that was one (1)
- 2 problem that my client had said, the wording was so
- 3 set. And where there is a lot of uncertainty I think
- 4 it would have actually made your EIS, the whole
- 5 document, even more -- even stronger, more valuable if
- 6 you would have included all those uncertainties. I
- 7 don't -- I know that's not very common, but I think it
- 8 would help. So that's one comment I would make.
- 9 Another comment is the definition of
- 10 "significance of effects." And it could probably be a
- 11 long discussion here, but I think from the points of
- 12 the First Nations that I -- and probably from the point
- 13 of other First Nations too, there is significant effect
- 14 of this project on the land. And in the project
- 15 description the EIS says there is no significant effect
- 16 of this project.
- So, in summary, draining the lake --
- 18 it's one of many that's obvious in this area, but
- 19 there's a lake that's going to be drained, all the fish
- 20 are going to be killed in it, and there's going to be a
- 21 long period of time before this is all restored. This
- 22 is highly significant from a different culture and
- 23 perspective than yours, so I just wanted to bring that
- 24 to your attention.
- 25 So if your EIS would actually admit to

- 1 the -- that significance is not something that's only
- 2 defined by the Environmental Assessment Act of Canada
- 3 or of Northwest Territories, it's also a cultural
- 4 thing. And it's highly significant, I think, to the
- 5 people that live here. So I think it would make even -
- 6 your document even stronger if you would say -- even
- 7 if you don't want to define as significant, that the
- 8 First Nations in this area think this is a highly
- 9 significant effect on their land. And I think it would
- 10 build a little bit more trust.
- 11 You know, it's probably reversible,
- 12 probably not, as you said yesterday, it will probably
- 13 look different than it was before, it's somewhat
- 14 reversible, it's a long-term effect -- you know, it's
- 15 longer than twenty (20) -- ten (10), twenty (20),
- 16 sixty-five (65) -- probably now, you know, we're
- 17 looking at two (2) generations, so it's a very long-
- 18 term effect. So all those triggers for long-term
- 19 significance in the Environmental Assessment Act are
- 20 actually triggered. So I don't quite understand at the
- 21 end why you still say there's -- it's non-significant
- 22 in terms of effect, this project.
- 23 So I just wanted to bring that to your
- 24 attention because it was brought to our attention as
- 25 consultants that I think the First Nations think it is

- 1 highly significant what you're doing to this one little
- 2 area.
- 3 So those are the two (2) comments I
- 4 wanted to make. I never knew when to make them, so I
- 5 just made them right now at the end of one subject and
- 6 the beginning of another.
- 7 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 8 Chisholm, from De Beers. I appreciate those comments.
- 9 I'll address the -- the one regarding significance.
- 10 And I made a -- a statement like this at the EIS
- 11 analysis session as well.
- 12 And I guess as a company and as a series
- 13 of experts we can only bring our knowledge of the
- 14 project and evaluation of the project to the table. It
- 15 would be an environmental assessment on behalf of a
- 16 company and technical experts to be presumptuous to
- 17 judge or provide a judgement of significance from the
- 18 First Nation or aboriginal community perspective, for
- 19 example, or any of the other stakeholders.
- 20 We have an environmental impact review
- 21 process by which those opinion and those judgments can
- 22 be brought into the record and weighed by the panel.
- 23 So in an environmental -- in our application, in our
- 24 assessment, we bring forward our judgment for other
- 25 people to evaluate and then bring forward their

- 1 judgments. So I guess that's -- that's sort of my
- 2 general comment on -- on that.
- I will ask John Faithful to bring
- 4 forward some of the areas in which uncertainty is -- is
- 5 brought forward in the assessment.
- 6 MR. JERRY VANDENBERG: It's Jerry
- 7 Vandenberg from Golder Associates. So in the -- in the
- 8 EIS we do put forward a lot of predictions, and we do
- 9 present these as predictions. Generally we handle the
- 10 uncertainty in a section at the end of every major
- 11 modelling section. Sometimes it's -- or assessment
- 12 section. Sometimes it's listed as model assumptions
- 13 and limitations, sometimes it's uncertainty.
- 14 I'll list a few of those. In the 2011
- 15 submission, it's Section 8.15, 9.14 -- okay. In the
- 16 2010 submission it was Section 7.9. In the 2012
- 17 supplement it's 8.2.10 and 10.2.7. And finally in the
- 18 2011 submission, Section 10.9. And those are -- those
- 19 cover both the aquatics and terrestrial assessments.
- 20 So we do -- we do cover off uncertainty
- 21 in a -- in a fair number of sections. We do highlight
- 22 specifically that these are predictions and that they
- 23 are intended for screening effects, not necessarily to
- 24 predict what the actual concentration of some parameter
- 25 might be fifty (50) years from now. So we do try and

- 1 couch that in -- in that manner to give it context
- 2 around why we're making these predictions and what
- 3 they're used for.
- 4 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: And just
- 5 from Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review
- 6 Board's perspective, I mean significance has different
- 7 meanings to different people, and it's sessions like
- 8 these where that can be, as Veronica said, put on the
- 9 record. And ultimately that is up to the panel, or the
- 10 Review Board, to make the -- it is a very difficult
- 11 task to make that final significance determination.
- 12 But it -- these -- these sessions are exactly to -- to
- 13 gather that evidence for the panel's consideration. So
- 14 -- and -- so again, it is -- it is on the record, and
- 15 consider it evidence. So for sure.
- 16 MR. ELMAR PLATE: Yeah, okay. Thank
- 17 you. So it's Elmar Plate from LGL. I just wanted them
- 18 to be on the record because that was reported to me, so
- 19 I -- I give those comments onto -- basically to become
- 20 part of the record. That's all. Thank you for the
- 21 responses from the Board and from De Beers.
- THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Absolutely.
- 23 Kathy...?
- 24 DR. KATHY RACHER: Kathy Racher. I'm
- 25 just wondering -- asking you guys what -- if it's -- if

- 1 it's helpful for -- for groups like the Deninu Kue and
- 2 Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation, et cetera, to -- to make
- 3 really clear statements to the Board about what they
- 4 consider an acceptable level of change, you know, in --
- 5 in exchange for the economic benefits of the project,
- 6 to make a clear statement about that for your record,
- 7 maybe at the public hearing, or at some -- you know,
- 8 they might not be able to formulate that exact
- 9 statement here on the fly, but at some point during the
- 10 process to have that really clear.
- 11 Because as Veronica said, I mean,
- 12 they've put forward what they think is an acceptable
- 13 exchange -- acceptable level of significance, which is
- 14 -- which is fair. That's their opinion, so just to
- 15 make -- make it clear that other people should maybe do
- 16 the same clear statement.
- 17 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Absolutely.
- 18 And environment impact assessment encompasses both
- 19 environmental assessment and environmental impact
- 20 review. And throughout -- from the beginning of the
- 21 process to the end of it, if issues fall off the table
- 22 and there's resolution for any -- for any
- 23 disagreements, that's -- that's great. And whether
- 24 it's during the process, or during sidebar meetings,
- 25 that's -- that's great.

- If they don't, that's where the Board
- 2 has their -- their authority to make that final
- 3 determination of significance. And so -- and again if
- 4 there has not been a resolution of -- of a disagreement
- 5 over a significance to one (1) or several aspects of
- 6 the environment then the -- the process is where to
- 7 bring it up, either at the beginning or again at the
- 8 end or at -- at a hearing.
- 9 Again it's at any point during the
- 10 process is an appropriate time. Definitely a hearing
- 11 is -- is where the Board is present, or the panel, to -
- 12 to hear that. So and -- and again in the hope that
- 13 there's resolution and -- and issues fall off the
- 14 table, but ultimately towards the end the -- the Board
- 15 or panel does have to make a final determination from
- 16 that. And they do consider that. So sessions like
- 17 these are useful for parties to bring those types of
- 18 concerns up and -- as are hearings. Stephanie?
- 19 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Regarding Kathy's
- 20 question. For the Akaitcho First Nations we require
- 21 the information requested under Undertaking number 1 in
- 22 order to develop an informed decision regarding what
- 23 type of change, if any, would be supported by the
- 24 Akaitcho Dene First Nations.
- 25 And, of course, that also -- it's --

- 1 it's going to depend on -- on the -- the completeness
- 2 of the response in Undertaking number 1. So I can't
- 3 just say, we'll receive Undertaking number 1 and then
- 4 be able to make a decision. It also depends on whether
- 5 or not Undertaking number 1 is complete and -- and
- 6 meaningful and -- and actually answers all of our --
- 7 our questions in that regard. Thank you.
- THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Thank you.
- 9 It's Chuck Hubert, with the panel. Just to elaborate
- 10 on that a bit, the -- we'll talk about next steps, you
- 11 know, after these technical meetings late on Friday.
- 12 But just -- just to note on -- on opinions from parties
- 13 and the developer on -- on significance and the -- the
- 14 panel's ultimate determination.
- 15 These various phases in -- in our
- 16 environmental impact review are intended to -- to
- 17 gather information so that parties have the -- the
- 18 ability to make an informed decision on their own
- 19 regarding the significance of adverse impacts. This
- 20 technical meeting is one (1) opportunity for that, to
- 21 gather that information.
- There will, most likely, be a second
- 23 round of information requests. That hasn't been
- 24 finalized. The panel will make the final call on that.
- 25 That will be, perhaps, another opportunity for parties

- 1 to gather information in order to come up with a
- 2 significance determination.
- 3 A technical report is probably, most
- 4 likely scheduled for say, November, for parties to
- 5 submit to the panel. And in that document parties will
- 6 be encouraged to provide the panel with their opinion
- 7 on significance of adverse impacts for the various
- 8 aspects of the project. So -- so really that's -- the
- 9 technical report, or final submission, is the -- the
- 10 key document going up to the hearings, where parties
- 11 are given the opportunity for that.
- MR. SHELDON YAMKOVY: Sheldon Yamkovy,
- 13 Lutsel K'e. You have a part here with traditional
- 14 knowledge and I think that's really good. Traditional
- 15 knowledge is really important to us. It's our
- 16 traditional knowledge that has left those diamonds
- 17 there in all this time. Because our concern with
- 18 traditional knowledge goes beyond that financial
- 19 aspect.
- 20 So my question is how much traditional
- 21 knowledge do you guys want to incorporate into your
- 22 work?
- 23 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Sheldon,
- 24 appreciate the question. First of all, within the
- 25 environmental impact statement we have included

- 1 traditional knowledge in a number of sections in the
- 2 EIS. And perhaps I won't bore you with each of those,
- 3 labelling off each of those sections, but I -- I can do
- 4 that for you.
- 5 We have also -- have engaged a number of
- 6 community, including Lutsel K'e Dene First Nations, on
- 7 completing a traditional knowledge study for this
- 8 project. That was initiated in 2006, and it's my
- 9 understanding that that will be finalized and be able
- 10 to be submitted as part of the record. That's our
- 11 hope, as part of this review process.
- 12 And in addition to that, and I've --
- 13 I've said this a few times and I don't mind saying it
- 14 again and I will continue to say it. De Beers values
- 15 traditional knowledge. We look forward to
- 16 incorporating traditional knowledge in our monitoring
- 17 programs. As well as we've -- we've outlined an area
- 18 as part of our environmental management and monitoring
- 19 framework that we proposed earlier, where traditional
- 20 knowledge could be incorporated and mechanisms for that
- 21 to be included.
- 22 So I think we share the fact that
- 23 traditional knowledge is important. And I just want to
- 24 reiterate that -- that De Beers does value that
- 25 information as well.

- 1 MR. SHELDON YAMKOVY: Sheldon Yamkovy,
- 2 Lutsel K'e. Part of our traditional knowledge has a
- 3 lot to do with like prayer and ceremony. And it's like
- 4 a learning here. We've learned your guys' techniques.
- 5 We've worked in the mines. We know your measurements,
- 6 weights, and scales. And we'd like to share that, our
- 7 knowledge with you guys.
- I think it's a great learning basis,
- 9 some of the programs that come out of there. We can re
- 10 -- remember out knowledge also because, as we know, a
- 11 lot of it has been forgotten, misplaced, set aside for
- 12 whatever reasons. And to have some programs set up to
- 13 help natives themselves even get more in touch with
- 14 their own culture with a joint venture with you guys
- 15 will -- I think it would be great because I really feel
- 16 that our traditional knowledge is and can be adopted by
- 17 all our relations wherever we're from.
- 18 And those things lead to happiness and
- 19 health and community. There's more to traditional
- 20 knowledge than just the typical fishing or hunting,
- 21 skinning caribou. It's like prayer also. It's like
- 22 when you go out to the land you pay respects. Does De
- 23 Beers pay respects like natives do, lay -- lay tobacco,
- 24 pray -- pray to like a one (1) great spirit? That's
- 25 what we want to share because I feel it's a benefit.

- 1 These things aren't bad.
- 2 And the programs, they can be developed.
- 3 I think there's a lot of educated natives that still
- 4 hold onto our values. And we can grow with that. I
- 5 think it would be a great benefit for all of us to
- 6 really have deep-rooted understandings of respect for
- 7 our land. My grandfather, I remember, said: We knew
- 8 that there was diamonds there. We would go there with
- 9 -- with our dog teams and you'd see sparkly things, but
- 10 we can't eat that.
- 11 And there's a different understanding
- 12 that I feel that we can share with that traditional
- 13 knowledge. So it's like, to me, this is one (1) of the
- 14 most important, set aside all the statistics and datas
- 15 that you guys have gathered, because it's that
- 16 knowledge that -- that placed everything there that you
- 17 guys want. And it'd be good to keep that respects with
- 18 it through a traditional value system. Thank you.
- 19 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Good morning.
- 20 It's Cathie Bolstad, from De Beers. And, Sheldon, it
- 21 was nice to meet you yesterday. I always get
- 22 passionate when people talk about this, and a little
- 23 bit teary, so forgive me. And it's probably based on
- 24 some of the wonderful spiritual experiences that I've
- 25 had with people from Lutsel K'e and other communities

- 1 through my work at De Beers.
- I want to express De Beers is absolutely
- 3 committed to doing what you're talking about and we're
- 4 doing it now. And I want to give you some tangible
- 5 examples so that you understand how our company works
- 6 to incorporate and what we mean when we say we're
- 7 looking for input from the communities and how we make
- 8 that alive.
- 9 De Beers has sponsored -- and I don't
- 10 remember exactly for how many years, the spiritual
- 11 gathering of the people of Lutsel K'e Dene First
- 12 Nation. And last year was my first time as a De Beers
- 13 person to be invited to participate and to experience
- 14 that. And it was a wonderful experience, a little bit
- 15 scary for me on the big lake being a person who hasn't
- 16 been out on that big lake so far. But, as a company,
- 17 we committed to exposing members of our management team
- 18 and our employees who work with people from the
- 19 communities to things that are important to them. So
- 20 that was an example last year of how we do that.
- 21 We -- we provide sponsorship of the hand
- 22 games for the Dene people here because it's a huge and
- 23 important gathering for them. And we go. And I love
- 24 it. And I still haven't figured out how the heck you
- 25 play the game yet, but I'm -- but one (1) of the things

- 1 we're coordinating, for example, at Snap Lake in
- 2 advance of National Aboriginal Day is we are bringing
- 3 in someone to teach the hand games to our employees and
- 4 to hold a hand game tournament at the mine site at Snap
- 5 Lake.
- 6 We don't come up with these things by
- 7 ourselves. When we ask for input and we go into
- 8 communities and say to them, How can we work with you
- 9 to keep your culture alive? They tell us how and these
- 10 are examples of how.
- 11 When we opened our accommodations, our
- 12 new accommodations at Snap Lake just over a year ago in
- 13 December, we invited elders from communities close by
- 14 to come and, with all of our employees, pray and bless
- 15 the use of that -- that accommodations. And in 2010,
- 16 when I took a number of visits to our Gahcho Kue
- 17 project there was nothing that made my heart happier
- 18 than to see Sabet Biscaye, our Superintendent of
- 19 Community Relations, teach youth how to pay the land
- 20 with tobacco, because they hadn't been there before.
- 21 Absolutely, we are committed to
- 22 including that. How we do that, is we hear your
- 23 suggestions and you tell us how to do that the right
- 24 way and you work with us to do that. That is our
- 25 commitment. Thanks.

91 1 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Thank you, Cathie, and thank you, Sheldon. Very heartfelt statements on -- on both sides there. I'm a little 3 verklempt myself after that. 5 With that, I'll -- if there's any other -- unless we do have any other comments we can take an early lunch. Raise -- raise your hand now, or else we 7 will take an early lunch. In which case, we'll take an early lunch. 10 So we will reconvene at one o'clock, 11 where we will start with socio-ec impacts and yeah --12 so we will start at one o'clock, on schedule. Cathie, 13 do you -- no? Okay, sorry. One o'clock. Everybody 14 have a good lunch. 15 16 --- Upon recessing at 11:40 a.m. --- Upon resuming at 1:05 p.m. 17 18 19 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Welcome back everybody to the afternoon portion of our technical 21 session. The topic for this afternoon are socio-22 economic impacts. It's great to see new faces here in 23 the facility. I thought it would be a valuable 24 exercise to go around the room once for introductions -25 - to state our names. And actually when I first

MVEIRB - DE BEERS TECHNICAL SESSION 05-24-2012 92 started I should have said my name, and -- and who I'm affiliated with, because this is a requi -- requirement of the Mary-Anne (phonetic) trans -- doing the 3 transcription. 5 So my name is Chuck Hubert. I'm with the Gahcho Kue panel. And I'll move to my left. 7 MS. BRIGITTE MASELLA: I'm Brigitte Masella. I work with Paul Wilkinson and Associates, and we're acting as advisor to the panel. 10 11 (BRIEF PAUSE) 12 13 MR. MIKE TOLLIS: I'm Mike Tollis, 14 representing Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation. 15 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Paul Mercredi, with the Review Board. 16 17 18 (BRIEF PAUSE) 19 20 MR. LIONEL MARCINKOSKI: Lionel 21 Marcinkoski, with AANDC. 22 MR. BOYAN TRACZ: Boyan Tracz, with 23 AANDC.

MS. BRITTANY SHUWERA: Brittany

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25

Shuwera, with the GNWT.

93 MS. DIANA BECK: Diana Beck, GNWT. 1 2 MR. CRAIG BLACKIE: Craig Blackie, De 3 Beers Canada. MR. DON CHORLEY: Don Chorley, Golder Associates. 6 MR. RANDY FREEMAN: Randy Freeman, 7 director of lands for Yellowknives Dene. 8 MR. ELMAR PLATE: Elmar Plate, LGL 9 Limited, working for Deninu Kue. 10 MR. GAVIN MOORE: Gavin Moore, manager 11 of environmental assessment, GNWT. 12 MR. SHAFIC KHOURI: Shafic Khouri, 13 Department of Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT. 14 MR. DANIEL JOHNSON: Daniel Johnson, 15 JDS. 16 MR. WAYNE CORSO: Wayne Corso, JDS. 17 18 (BRIEF PAUSE) 19 20 MS. DEBBIE MATHESON: Oh, Debbie 21 Matheson, GNWT. 22 MR. RON FAHT: Ron Faht (phonetic), 23 Lutsel K'e Dene First Nations. 24 MR. SAM BUSHEE: Sam Bushee (phonetic),

25 Lutsel K'e First Nation.

94 1 (BRIEF PAUSE) MR. PETER CHAPMAN: Peter Chapman, 3 4 Golder Associates. 5 MR. RYAN RODIER: Ryan Rodier, with De 6 Beers. 7 MR. ANDREW WILLIAMS: Andrew Williams, 8 De Beers. MS. KRISTINE MASON: Kristine Mason, 9 10 Golder Associates. 11 MR. KYLE HODGSON: Kyle Hodgson, Golder 12 Associates. 13 MS. KELSI LEROSSIGNOL: Kelsi 14 LeRossignol, Golder Associates. 15 MS. AMY LANGHORNE: Amy Langhorne, 16 Golder Associates. 17 MS. LEAH RUSSELL: Leah Russell, De 18 Beers. 19 MR. CAM STEVENS: Cam Stevens, Golder 20 Associates. 21 MR. DAMIAN PANAYI: Damian Panayi, 22 Golder Associates. 23 MR. STEPHEN LINES: Stephen Lines, De 24 Beers. 25 MR. GRAEME CLINTON: Graeme Clinton,

- 1 with Impact Economics.
- MS. LINDA HAVERS: Linda Havers, Golder
- 3 Associates.
- 4 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Good afternoon.
- 5 Cathie Bolstad, De Beers.
- 6 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 7 Chisholm, De Beers.
- 8 MR. JOHN FAITHFUL: Good afternoon.
- 9 John Faithful, Golder Associates.
- 10 MR. GREG BRADY: Greg Brady, Industry,
- 11 Tourism, Investment, GNWT.
- 12
- 13 (BRIEF PAUSE)
- 14
- MS. LORETTA RANSOM: Loretta Ransom,
- 16 GNWT.
- MS. AMY LIZOTTE: Amy Lizotte, with
- 18 ITI, GNWT.
- 19 MS. JUANITA ROBINSON: Juanita
- 20 Robinson, Industry, Tourism, Investment, GNWT.
- 21 MR. BEN SCOTT: Ben Scott, with ECE,
- 22 GNWT.
- 23 MS. JANET GRINSTED: Good afternoon.
- 24 Janet Grinsted, ECE, GNWT.
- MS. DEB BAIN: Deb Bain, Education and

- 1 Cultured Employment, GNWT.
- MS. LAURIE MORTON: Laurie Morton, ECE,
- 3 GNWT.
- 4 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Thank you very
- 5 much. And I heard somebody enter the discussion now on
- 6 the teleconference. If you could identify yourself and
- 7 your affiliation, please.
- 8 MR. TODD SLACK: Hey, Chuck. Todd
- 9 Slack, YKDFN.

10

- 11 DISCUSSION RE: SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS:
- 12 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Thanks very
- 13 much. And -- and -- thanks very much and welcome.
- 14 Okay, with that, welcome again, everybody. We're
- 15 looking forward to a good discussion here on the topic
- 16 of socio-economic impacts and issues.
- 17 I'd like to allow the Government of
- 18 Northwest Territories the opportunity to have a brief
- 19 presentation for us all, which should be useful to get
- 20 the discussion going. So, please proceed.

- 22 PRESENTATION BY GNWT:
- 23 MS. JUANITA ROBINSON: Thank you. Good
- 24 day. My name is Juanita Robinson. I am the industrial
- 25 initiatives consultant for the Department of Industry,

- 1 Tourism, and Investment. In this role, I'm responsible
- 2 for the overall coordination of GNWT efforts related to
- 3 the socio-economic agreements, including the
- 4 negotiation and implementation of the socio-economic
- 5 agreements.
- 6 With me today also is Ms. Janet
- 7 Grinsted, assistant deputy minister of advanced
- 8 education and income security with education, envir --
- 9 Education, Culture, and Employment; and Ms. Loretta Ra
- 10 -- Ms. Loretta Ransom, from Environmental National --
- 11 Natural Resources. And Ms. Amy Lizotte, Land and
- 12 Environmental Affairs Specialist in Industry, Tourism,
- 13 and Investment.
- 14 I have a short presentation to deliver
- 15 on behalf of the Department of Industry, Tourism and
- 16 Investment, and then Ms. Grinsted will present on
- 17 behalf of the Department of Education, Culture,
- 18 Employment. Can everybody hear me okay?
- 19 Industry, Tourism, and Investment
- 20 advocates an approach to major projects that provide
- 21 certainty about project outcomes. This approach has
- 22 resulted in capacity building efforts by industry and
- 23 participation in employment and business opportunities
- 24 by residents that is unprecedented in the NWT.
- The approach we advocate is also

- 1 grounded, and the department would like to stress this,
- 2 grounded by the GNWT's sustainable development policy.
- 3 Guidelines under that policy state the GNWT will
- 4 support resource development if it not only meets
- 5 ecological standards, but if it also contributes to
- 6 economic, social, and cultural territorial objectives.
- 7 Under GNWT policy, economic, social and
- 8 cultural factors are to be weighed and considered in
- 9 addition to ecological considerations. Socio-economic
- 10 agreements which are framed around the socio-economic
- 11 components of our sustainable development policy allow
- 12 us to confirm that developments will proceed in a
- 13 manner that is consistent with the interests of
- 14 territorial residents and with our own policy
- 15 direction.
- What is sometimes missing from
- 17 environmental assessments in Canada, particularly in
- 18 the socio-economic domain, is something that will
- 19 provide certainty with regard to the findings of an
- 20 assessment, or environmental impact review, something
- 21 that is directly linked to the environmental assessment
- 22 process, something that will inform future
- 23 environmental assessments.
- 24 What is sometimes missing is something
- 25 that will tell us, did expected outcomes materialize?

- 1 Did the proponent implement the mitigations it
- 2 committed to? And almost equally important, something
- 3 that will encourage and facilitate a cooperative,
- 4 ongoing relationship between public, government and the
- 5 developer. The GNWT recommends that what is needed is
- 6 a socio-economic follow-up program in the form of a
- 7 socio-economic agreement, as a condition of the
- 8 project.
- 9 Mr. Mediator, I would like to take some
- 10 time at this point to set the socio-economic agreement
- 11 -- the socio-economic pro -- follow -- program that
- 12 GNWT recommends, in its legislative context.
- Under Part 5's Section 1111 of the
- 14 Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act, a follow-up
- 15 program means a follow-up -- means a program for
- 16 evaluating the soundness of an environmental assessment
- 17 or environmental review of a proposal for a development
- 18 and the effectiveness of the mitigative or remedial
- 19 measures imposed as conditions of approval of the
- 20 project.
- 21 To summarize, legislation identifies two
- 22 (2) parts to a follow-up program. The first is
- 23 verifying the environmental assessment. To the GNWT
- 24 this means verifying both the predicted impacts and the
- 25 implementation of committed mitigations. The second is

- 1 verifying the effectiveness of those mitigations.
- 2 Lastly, to ensure carry-through on the
- 3 intended effects of the project, emerging environmental
- 4 practice is to include an element of adaptive
- 5 mitigation in the design of a follow-up program. A
- 6 panel operating under the authority of the MVRMA must
- 7 consider whether a follow-up program is needed. Our
- 8 advice is that a socio-economic follow-up program in
- 9 the form of a socio-economic agreement is needed.
- 10 We have followed this model for major
- 11 resource development since the comprehensive study for
- 12 the Diavik diamond mine. That assessment was conducted
- 13 under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, which
- 14 has similar provisions for follow-up programs. And
- 15 though the Diavik assessment was only a comprehensive
- 16 study, regulatory authorities in that process
- 17 determined it was necessary and advisable to require a
- 18 socio-economic follow-up program as a term and
- 19 condition of the project.
- 20 A socio-economic agreement, or SEA, sets
- 21 out a formal process so that resultant performance can
- 22 be assessed against commitments, changes can be
- 23 recommended, and responses are provided to
- 24 recommendations.
- We have two (2) types of reporting under

- 1 the socio-economic agreements: Compliance reporting,
- 2 where each party reports the steps it has taken to meet
- 3 its commitments under the SEA. And impact reporting.
- 4 The industrial initiatives division in Industry,
- 5 Tourism and Investment coordinates the development and
- 6 publication of the Communities and Diamonds Report.
- 7 Communities and Diamonds tracks trends and indicators
- 8 that may change due to the influence of mining.
- 9 Monitoring under a socio-economic
- 10 agreement is consistent with developer in --
- 11 predictions, analysis of the EIS and the commitments in
- 12 it, existing GNWT monitoring program for industrial
- 13 projects, and the GNWT sustainable development policy.
- 14 By way of background, at this time five
- 15 (5) socioeconomic agreements have been negotiated since
- 16 1996 for the Ekati mine, the Diavik mine, De Beers Snap
- 17 Lake mine, Mackenzie Gas Project, and Prairie Creek
- 18 mine. Three (3) of those SEAs are in effect at this
- 19 time. Those are the BHP Billiton, Diavik, and De Beers
- 20 Snap Lake socio-economic agreements.
- 21 The socio-economic agreements that have
- 22 been negotiated since 1996 are directly linked to the
- 23 environmental assessment process, and regulatory
- 24 approvals. Government records indicate that before
- 25 1996 northern employment at fly-in fly-out mines was 15

- 1 percent, and northern procurement was less than 25
- 2 percent.
- 3 From 1996 to 2010 inclusive, northern
- 4 employment at the three (3) SEA mines has been about 51
- 5 percent, and purchases from northern businesses 73
- 6 percent. We have seen over seventeen thousand (17,000)
- 7 person years of northern employment out of a total of
- 8 thirty-four thousand (34,000) person years at the three
- 9 (3) SEA mines. More than \$8 billion in goods and
- 10 services has been purchased from northern businesses.
- 11 Impact and benefit agreements have a
- 12 place in this picture, as well, but I -- IBAs in
- 13 combination with an SEA that is intended to link to the
- 14 regulatory process seems to work particularly well.
- 15 Over the same period, there has been \$17 billion in
- 16 diamonds exported from the Northwest Territories.
- 17 In addition to its responsibility for
- 18 socioeconomic agreements, the Department of Industry,
- 19 Tourism, and Investment is also responsible for the
- 20 support and development of NWT businesses. We note
- 21 that De Beers commits to carry out the same procurement
- 22 strategies it has used for Snap Lake mine.
- De Beers' material on the public
- 24 registry indicates it expects its procurement from
- 25 northern businesses will be comparable to the levels it

- 1 has achieved at Snap Lake. This has been about 63
- 2 percent during construction and 74 percent during
- 3 operations, which would be a level that Industry,
- 4 Tourism, and Investment could support.
- 5 With that, I would now like to turn the
- 6 microphone over to Ms. Grinsted, who will present on
- 7 behalf of the Department of Education, Culture, and
- 8 Employment. Thank you.
- 9 MS. JANET GRINSTED: Thank you. Thank
- 10 you, Juanita, and thank you for this opportunity to
- 11 present this afternoon.
- 12 As Juanita mentioned, my name is Janet
- 13 Grinsted. I'm the Assistant Deputy Minister for
- 14 Advanced Education and Income Security for the
- 15 Department of Education, Culture, and Employment,
- 16 Government of the Northwest Territories.
- 17 With me today are on my left Deb Bain,
- 18 program development and evaluation specialist. On my
- 19 right, Ben Scott, coordinator of advanced education and
- 20 income security. And on technical assistance, Laurie
- 21 Morton, director of advanced education. Thank you.

22

23 (BRIEF PAUSE)

24

MS. JANET GRINSTED: Given the

- 1 importance of this project and the potential impacts,
- 2 it is a priority for the GNWT to ensure benefits are
- 3 maximized for NWT residents, including Aboriginal
- 4 persons. Education, training, and employment are key
- 5 areas of assessment in determining the overall benefit
- 6 of the Gahcho Kue project. Topics covered in this
- 7 presentation include an overview of the project as it
- 8 relates to education, training, and employment, the NWT
- 9 labour market environment, interests of the GNWT,
- 10 education, training, and employment.
- 11 The proponents have estimated that
- 12 during construction about two-hundred and sixty-seven
- 13 (267) person years, or 27 percent, of the direct
- 14 employment opportunities could be filled by NWT
- 15 residents including Aboriginal persons. During
- 16 operations this number is predicted to be a hundred and
- 17 thirty-seven (137) or 36.8 percent.
- This slide shows a quick snapshot of
- 19 labour market environment in the Northwest Territories,
- 20 based on 2009 community survey data.
- 21 Demand for labour remains high in all
- 22 sectors with employers experiencing challenges in
- 23 recruiting and retaining workers. While NWT residents
- 24 will benefit from the project, demand for skilled
- 25 workers will exceed readily available resources. The

- 1 proponents will have to make continued effort to fully
- 2 engage un -- under-represented segments of the labour
- 3 force to ensure local, that is NWT, employment
- 4 opportunities are maximized.
- 5 There is an NWT labour supply shown here
- 6 of about four thousand eight hundred and forty-seven
- 7 (4,847) that's those who are unemployed plus those not
- 8 currently in the labour force, but that want work.
- 9 About 55 percent of labour supply resides in small
- 10 communities of which 96.5 percent are Aboriginal. The
- 11 majority of the labour supply, however, has less than
- 12 grade 12 and little recent job experience.
- The GNWT wants to see maximum benefits
- 14 from this project accrue to the people of the Northwest
- 15 Territories. The GNWT is aware that the single
- 16 greatest deter -- determinant of employment is
- 17 education levels. Formal education and training is
- 18 relatively new in the NWT and while great progress has
- 19 been made, overall a fully ready-made workforce is not
- 20 yet available to meet the full needs of this mining
- 21 project.
- 22 GNWT wants to ensure increased levels of
- 23 education, development of a skilled, productive, and
- 24 diversified workforce, and long-term employment
- 25 benefits. The information presented here is based on

- 1 the GNWT's assessment of the education, training, and
- 2 employment information provided by the proponent to
- 3 date.
- 4 ECE is interested in ensuring that youth
- stay in school and receive information about project
- 6 opportunities so they can make informed career
- 7 decisions. The proponent states it is committed to
- 8 assisting those working at the mine seat -- mine site
- 9 who have below a grade 12 education to work towards
- 10 obtaining a GED so that they may further their careers.
- 11 For onsite adult education further
- 12 information is requested on the supports that will be
- 13 made available. In particular, does De Beers plan to
- 14 staff onsite adult educators as part of the onsite
- 15 training team? Is De Beers able to share further
- 16 details on its revised scholarship program as
- 17 previously mentioned in past meetings related to this
- 18 environmental assessment?
- 19 ECE has interest in ensuring NWT
- 20 residents are prepared in time to qualify for project
- 21 related opportunities. It is important that training
- 22 partnerships deliver timely, relevant, and community
- 23 based programs. The government of the Northwest
- 24 Territories works in partnership with industry,
- 25 including De Beers, to help maximize training and

- 1 employment benefits for northern and Aboriginal
- 2 residents. Employers are key partners in education and
- 3 training.
- 4 An important aspect of these
- 5 partnerships is the promotion and communication of
- 6 project career opportunities and skill requirements in
- 7 an open, transparent, and timely fashion, and in
- 8 cooperation with Aboriginal and other community
- 9 organizations and institutions.
- 10 While De Beers has referenced its
- 11 apprenticeship practices, further information is
- 12 requested on the number of apprenticeship positions in
- 13 place for the life of the mine. In order to better
- 14 understand the skill requirements of future employment
- 15 demands further detail is requested on the types of
- 16 occupations and number of positions for each
- 17 occupation.
- 18 It is requested that De Beers identify a
- 19 -- specific occupation titles, specific qualifications
- 20 and compety -- competencies, such as through job
- 21 profiles or job descriptions, and the number of job
- 22 opportunities related to each occupation that will be
- 23 required in both the construction and operation phase,
- 24 so that schools, training agencies, and government
- 25 programs can strive to address the skills -- skill

- 1 needs in advance of the project.
- 2 ECE promotes policies and plans aimed at
- 3 achieving sustainable employment, not just entry level
- 4 or short-term employment. This will ensure skill
- 5 capacities increase over the life of the project and
- 6 are transferrable to other industries. We want to
- 7 ensure that all NWT residents are provided the
- 8 opportunity to compete for project related employment.
- 9 Further to the hiring preferences
- 10 identified and in recognition of the current NWT labour
- 11 supply, will the proponent commit to identifying what
- 12 percentage of the Gahcho Kue project workforce will be
- 13 Aboriginal for each phase of the project. Further
- 14 clarification is requested regarding the transportation
- 15 practices for southern hires. Do De Beers plan to fly
- 16 southern workers directly to the Gahcho Kue site from
- 17 Edmonton? That concludes our presentation.
- 18 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Thanks very
- 19 much. Chuck Hubert, with the panel. Excellent.

20

21 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 23 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,
- 24 with the panel. Once again, thanks very much for those
- 25 presentations. It's informative. One (1)

- 1 clarification I'd like to make is that the first slide
- 2 of the presentation said, "Technical hearing." This is
- 3 not a hearing. This is a technical meeting, so. But
- 4 that's just a, you know, jargon thing. It's not a
- 5 official hearing. We're -- we're here to discuss the
- 6 project and -- and questions and answers, commitments
- 7 if possible. But again, thanks very much for the
- 8 presentations. They were excellent.
- 9 It might be useful to keep the
- 10 presentations on the -- on the screen because I
- 11 certainly heard a number of questions at various stages
- 12 of the -- of your presentation, and I'm sure De Beers
- 13 would like the opportunity to respond to those. So
- 14 I'll turn the mic over to De Beers to respond, and then
- 15 discuss between yourselves as you -- you see fit.
- 16 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 17 Chisholm, from De Beers. Yes, thank you very much for
- 18 those presentations. They're much appreciated by De
- 19 Beers.
- There was a lot of questions posed in
- 21 the presentations. And so I'm just wondering as a
- 22 suggestion if -- if we can pose those perhaps one (1)
- 23 at a time to De Beers? This is the first time we've
- 24 had an opportunity to see these presentations. So we
- 25 just would like some time to sort of go through each

- 1 one (1) of those question, so if that would be
- 2 possible.
- 3 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Certainly. Do
- 4 you need time to think about the responses to the
- 5 questions?
- 6 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 7 Chisholm, from De Beers. No, what I'm suggesting is
- 8 perhaps if there's specific questions by ITI or
- 9 Education Culture, that they could maybe just pose them
- 10 to us one (1) at a time. And then -- and then we can
- 11 respond in that way. And then we -- those might
- 12 generate some discussions as well. Thank you.
- 13 MS. JANET GRINSTED: Certainly. Thank
- 14 you. One (1) question was if you would be able to
- 15 share further details on your revised scholarship
- 16 program that I guess was mentioned previously in past
- 17 meetings?
- 18 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: It's Cathie
- 19 Bolstad, from De Beers Canada. De Beers currently has
- 20 scholarships on an annual basis that we provide in --
- 21 in discussions and in response to questions from the
- 22 GNWT. In our most recent meeting I advised the GNWT
- 23 that we were working to update a scholarship strategy
- 24 for the Gahcho Kue Project, that the details of our
- 25 entire human resource development plan for Gahcho Kue

- 1 are part of what we call an operational readiness plan
- 2 for the company. And that operational readiness plan
- 3 moves as we get closer to -- to the project being
- 4 approved.
- 5 The scholarship program is not ready at
- 6 this point in time, but certainly what De Beers is
- 7 looking at in terms of our scholarships for Gahcho Kue
- 8 is leveraging the fact that we have an operating mine
- 9 already in the Northwest Territories, and we're looking
- 10 at seeing how we can link the fact we have an operation
- 11 now to scholarships for Gahcho Kue.
- 12 And part of that comes from hearing from
- 13 people. You know, we don't want to wait to train, but
- 14 we want to have an opportunity to land people into
- 15 training opportunities on a timely basis. And one (1)
- 16 of our learnings from the Snap Lake mine was, prior to
- 17 the approval of the Snap Lake mine, De Beers
- 18 implemented a number of preparation training programs
- 19 and we didn't have an operation up and running to land
- 20 people into those -- into those training opportunities.
- 21 And so we're in a different position now
- 22 as a company, with one (1) mine up and running. And
- 23 we're working to have that scholarship program ready as
- 24 part of the roll out of the Gahcho Kue program. And
- 25 that will -- will probably be ready later this year.

- 1 We had hoped to have that for this spring, but we're
- 2 not quite there yet.
- 3 MS. JANET GRINSTED: Thank you.
- 4 Another question relates to provision of on-site adult
- 5 education. And, in particular, we're asking does De
- 6 Beers plan to staff on-site adult educators as part of
- 7 the on-site training team?

8

9 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 11 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Janet, not being -
- 12 sorry, Cathie Bolstad, from De Beers, and I forgot to
- 13 mention that on the -- the previous response.
- 14 Can I just get clarity from you, because
- 15 you're an educational expert and I am not, what you
- 16 mean when you say an adult educator? What -- what are
- 17 you referring to specifically?
- 18 MS. JANET GRINSTED: I'll ask Laurie
- 19 Morton to respond to that.
- 20 MS. LAURIE MORTON: It's Laurie Morton,
- 21 from ECE. As I -- as I understand, the -- the mines
- 22 have had previous educators on-site who have done some
- 23 training to individuals. So it would be similar to
- 24 that. I'm not quite sure if I'm answering your
- 25 question. Or similar to an adult educator within the

- 1 community that we have now that's employed by Aurora
- 2 College.
- 3 And I -- I think, although I don't know
- 4 all the background from where the question comes from,
- 5 but I think this may have to do with finding it easier
- 6 to train people on-site than it does to bring them back
- 7 to the community. I'm -- do you have something else to
- 8 add?
- 9 MS. JANET GRINSTED: So basically when
- 10 we're talking adult educator or adult education, we're
- 11 also -- we're talking more basic skills rather than job
- 12 related training. So that would be the idea of
- 13 bringing people up to -- so would there -- would there
- 14 be provision for bringing people up to the education
- 15 levels required for -- for the job, rather than just
- 16 job specific training?
- MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad,
- 18 for De Beers. I feel like I'm hunching into this mic.
- 19 Maybe I can talk about what we have at
- 20 the Snap Lake mine specifically, because certainly that
- 21 is what we will put in place at the Gahcho Kue project.
- 22 We have a learning centre at the Snap Lake mine. It is
- 23 fully equipped with computer systems and access to the
- 24 bigger world that we all enjoy. It is staffed by a
- 25 combination of staff there that are involved in

- 1 training, job specific training, coordinating training
- 2 that is delivered by experts on particular matters that
- 3 we are not experts on, and they are currently, at Snap
- 4 Lake, supporting educational opportunities for -- for
- 5 our employees.
- 6 So if we had, for example, a -- an adult
- 7 working on the site who was trying to complete their
- 8 GED, absolutely, the learning instructors on-site in
- 9 the learning centre would be adequate in terms of
- 10 assisting an employee through that. Over and above
- 11 that, De Beers has a policy for our Northwest
- 12 Territories operations that when we have employees that
- 13 are working towards their GED, we actually have a
- 14 policy, we call it the one-on-one. So if the employee
- 15 is putting in an hour on their time, often coordinated
- 16 with the learning instructor in the community that --
- 17 that is in their community home base, De Beers provides
- 18 an hour of our time for the employee to invest in that
- 19 GED.
- 20 That is our policy. It is not often
- 21 taken up. It's -- it's unfortunate, it could be more.
- 22 But the -- absolutely, in terms of the Gahcho Kue
- 23 project, the learning support centre and the staffing
- 24 of it will enable the support for adult education,
- 25 pursuing both on the job training required for their

- 1 job and development toward their GED.
- MS. JANET GRINSTED: Thank you.
- 3 Another question is, In -- given the hiring preference,
- 4 and in recognition of the current NWT labour supply,
- 5 will the proponent -- proponent commit to identifying
- 6 what percentage of the -- of the Gahcho Kue project
- 7 work force will be Aboriginal for each phase of the
- 8 project?

9

10 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 12 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,
- 13 with the panel. And Janet, in the -- in the future
- 14 when you speak, could you state your name prior to
- 15 speaking so we get it accurately on the record.
- 16 Thanks.
- 17 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Sorry, it's Cathie
- 18 Bolstad, from De Beers. The question was -- I just
- 19 want to make sure I understood it, would De Beers
- 20 provide -- okay, do you want to just clarify the
- 21 question? I want to make sure I understood what it --
- 22 what it was.
- 23 MS. JANET GRINSTED: Janet Grinsted,
- 24 ECE. The question was: Would you commit to identifying
- 25 what percentage of the Gahcho Kue project work force

- 1 will be Aboriginal for each phase of the project?
- MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad,
- 3 from De Beers. Janet, it's impossible for De Beers to
- 4 predict that. Who choses to work for De Beers in a
- 5 very competitive workforce is not something we're able
- 6 to predict.
- 7 What we can commit to is a number of
- 8 measures that we've outlined all ready in the EIS, in
- 9 terms of the steps we'll take to promote our jobs in
- 10 the Northwest Territories, to put in place avenues so
- 11 that northerners can participate in those. It's
- 12 impossible pro -- to -- to make a prediction on that.
- 13 Certainly our experience with Snap lake,
- 14 and I was just looking at our numbers from 2011 this
- 15 morning, you know, show us that of our Northwest
- 16 Territories workforce for Snap Lake in 2011, it's over
- 17 fif -- it's -- it's very -- I don't have the percentage
- 18 number here, I thought I did. The -- the Aboriginal
- 19 workforce is half or more -- it's close to half of our
- 20 Northwest Territories workforce.
- 21 Certainly our -- our goal as a company
- 22 is to employ as many Northwest Territories residents
- 23 and as many Aboriginal residents as we can for this
- 24 project. And I think it's important that perhaps Linda
- 25 $\,$ speak to it -- and you did address some of them, some

- 1 of the challenges that we face, but where we're going
- 2 to draw our employment from in terms of what's
- 3 available creates challenges in actually being able to
- 4 predict that over an above the choice issues. So I
- 5 think I'd have Linda expand on that a little bit.
- 6 MS. LINDA HAVERS: Linda Havers, Golder
- 7 Associates. I noted your labour market characteristic
- 8 information on your slide, and certainly don't -- don't
- 9 agree with -- or don't disagree with -- with those
- 10 numbers.
- In -- in the research that we've done,
- 12 we've found that certainly achieving a high school
- 13 graduation diploma is a -- is a major constraint to
- 14 getting into a number of training programs that require
- 15 that. Many trades programs nowadays require Math 30,
- 16 and you know, some pretty extensive requirements, you
- 17 know, unlike the old days.
- 18 So that is -- is a constraint. And --
- 19 and what we see with the -- the Aboriginal population,
- 20 which is more -- more available and is the -- the ready
- 21 labour pool for a project such as this, of that
- 22 population we're looking at about 39 percent that --
- 23 that currently have a high school graduation diploma.
- Now that is improving, but it's
- 25 improving kind of slowly. We -- we're -- we're looking

- 1 at about -- well, less than 1 percent a year, so -- so
- 2 more needs to be done in order to -- to sort of ramp
- 3 that up so that -- so that more people can participate.
- 4 Okay.
- 5 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad,
- 6 from De Beers. Janet, one (1) of the things that maybe
- 7 I'd point you to is our response to Akaitcho Government
- 8 32, because there was a question similar asked of De
- 9 Beers, and I -- and I think it -- you know, the
- 10 government of the Northwest Territories has just done a
- 11 presentation on the value of the diamond industry in
- 12 terms of employment to both Northwest Territories
- 13 residents and Aboriginal residents.
- 14 And the employment impacts that -- that
- 15 are probably important to think about with respect to
- 16 the Gahcho Kue project is it is an open pit mining
- 17 operation and by the time the Gahcho Kue project
- 18 becomes operational the mining activities at Diavik
- 19 Diamond Mine and BHP's Ekati Mine are primarily
- 20 underground operations and there's a tremendous amount
- 21 of skills in Northwest Territory's residents and
- 22 Aboriginal residents that are trained for open pit
- 23 operations. And with the global market being out there
- 24 what it is the ability to retain those skills here in
- 25 the Northwest Territories is an opportunity that the

- 1 Gahcho Kue project provides. And timing is everything,
- 2 of course, when it comes to -- to keeping people.
- 3 So, you know, when -- when we look at
- 4 this, our goal is certainly to continue to work and
- 5 attract as many people and -- and to get the project up
- 6 and running because there's some great skills out there
- 7 that we collectively, Aboriginal communities, the
- 8 government of the Northwest Territories, and De Beers,
- 9 and other mining companies have trained for these very
- 10 mines here. And we're -- we're counting on, as a
- 11 company, that some of those skills are going to come
- 12 and work for us when their mining operations are
- 13 winding down, so.
- 14 MS. JANET GRINSTED: Janet Grinsted,
- 15 ECE. Thank you. Another question was with regard to
- 16 transportation practices for southern hires. And does
- 17 De Beers plan to fly southern workers directly to the
- 18 Gahcho Kue site from Edmonton?
- 19 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: De Beers Canada,
- 20 Cathie Bolstad. Absolutely. The project would be
- 21 viable with southern workers; we need them.
- 22 MS. JANET GRINSTED: Janet Grinsted,
- 23 ECE. De Beers has referenced its apprenticeship
- 24 practices and we're requesting further information on
- 25 the number of apprenticeship positions in place for the

- 1 life of the mine, and some further detail on the types
- 2 of occupations and numbers of positions for each
- 3 occupations.

4

5 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 7 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad, De
- 8 Beers Canada. De Beers will be providing information
- 9 with respect to the number of apprenticeships in the
- 10 life of mine. And I think you asked for details on --
- 11 on the spread of the jobs and those jobs. That is part
- 12 of what we develop as we get closer to the mine and
- 13 through the operational capability plan.
- 14 What I would suggest, perhaps, that
- 15 would -- you know, we will aim for and I'm looking to
- 16 the panel for guidance on this, is that, you know, as
- 17 part of the -- prior to the presentation of the
- 18 technical papers, De Beers will make sure that we put
- 19 that on the record in terms of the number of trainees
- 20 and apprenticeship positions that we would staff for
- 21 the life of mine.
- 22 As you can appreciate one (1) of the
- 23 things we have to do as part of modelling the mine, as
- 24 you're asking for, is determine exactly how many
- 25 positions. And of course, if you have an apprentice

- 1 you have to have a journeyman supervising them. So we
- 2 have to work out all of those details for this specific
- 3 mine model and we're not quite there yet. So -- but we
- 4 can commit to providing that by October.
- 5 Does that satisfy the panel?
- 6 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,
- 7 with the panel. Yes, thanks very much, as a
- 8 commitment. Can I call it something specific?
- 9 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad, De
- 10 Beers. Of course you can call it something specific.
- 11 How about we -- we call it De Beers commitment to
- 12 outline its training and apprentice positions for life
- 13 of mine.

14

- 15 --- COMMITMENT NO. 4: De Beers to outline its
- 16 training and apprentice
- 17 positions for life of mine

- 19 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Thanks very
- 20 much. GNWT can continue.
- 21 MS. JANET GRINSTED: Janet Grinsted,
- 22 ECE. In addition to the apprenticeship we would also
- 23 ask if De Beers could identify specific occupation
- 24 titles, specific qualifications and competencies, even
- 25 job profiles or job descriptions, if possible, related

- 1 to each occupation that will be required in both the
- 2 construction and operation phase, so that training
- 3 agencies and government programs can strive to -- to
- 4 try and address the skills needed in advance of the
- 5 project.

6

7 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 9 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: It's De Beers
- 10 Canada, Cathie Bolstad. Certainly we can commit to
- 11 providing before the submission of technical papers a
- 12 preliminary list. The actual -- the point in time in
- 13 which for this project detailed job descriptions are
- 14 done is -- is a ways away yet. So we can provide a
- 15 preliminary list of that.
- De Beers does provide its job
- 17 information into ECE's labour framework planning. We
- 18 were part of that last year. So, you know, certainly
- 19 we welcome the invitation as you update those models to
- 20 come to De Beers for, you know, all of our NWT jobs
- 21 that we see on the horizon over the next five (5)
- 22 years. We're -- we're always glad to participate in
- 23 that process for you as you plan -- plan for that.
- 24 Similarly, De Beers provides into the
- 25 Mine Training Society, at the point in times where

- 1 they're doing strategic planning at the table with --
- 2 with all of the partners, what we view our needs are
- 3 for -- for labour assessment. But the detail that
- 4 you're asking for, we're -- we're unable to provide at
- 5 this point. We'll provide something preliminary.
- THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Yeah, please
- 7 provide that in a short sentence for us so we can write
- 8 it down correctly.
- 9 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad,
- 10 from De Beers. Prior to the submission of technical
- 11 papers De Beers will table a preliminary outline of the
- 12 jobs that will be at the Gahcho Kue mine, and what job
- 13 category that those fall into.
- 14 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,
- 15 with the panel. Thanks. That's very helpful.
- 16 And, once again, we'll go over these at
- 17 the end of the day to confirm once again. Please
- 18 continue, GNWT.
- 19 MS. JANET GRINSTED: Janet Grinsted,
- 20 ECE. That was all of our questions right now. Thank
- 21 you very much to De Beers for their responses.
- 22 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,
- 23 with the panel. I'd like to open it up to the floor
- 24 then. Other parties that may have questions related to
- 25 the topics brought up by GNWT? And that includes our

124 participant on the telecon as well. 2 3 (BRIEF PAUSE) 5 MS. BRIGITTE MASELLA: Brigitte Masella, with the panel. I'm not at all aware of the parameters of the scholarship program that's currently 7 in place. So I was curious as to what they are, for example, high school graduates or those with the best 10 grades in a given year or those who showed the -- the 11 biggest progress in a year. 12 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad, De 13 Beers Canada. The scholarships that we administer 14 right now are done in partnership with communities that 15 we work with, so there are committees in place that 16 determine specifically what those are, usually on an annual basis. And, in some cases, depending which 17 18 community we are working with, grade -- we are actually 19 helping and encouraging people to complete high school 20 with scholarships. I am in -- in other cases, we are 21 promoting in -- post-secondary education. 22 Throughout all of that, De Beers 23 participates in setting the parameters for that to look 24 for female candidates to ensure we're encouraging 25 female candidates to pursue it. And we provide a look

125 at what are the skill sets that De Beers needs and is -- is struggling to get in the area of our -- our work project. And we encourage people to do that. 3 So that's the -- the general process in how our scholarships work currently. 6 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert, with the panel. Thanks very much for that response. 7 Other questions from GNWT to De Beers or -- or other 9 parties? 10 11 (BRIEF PAUSE) 12 13 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Sorry. Stephanie 14 Poole, Akaitcho IMA implementation office. I have some 15 questions regarding the GNWT presentation, also for De 16 Beers, in regards to socio-economic impact agreements, 17 those already in existence and those being contemplated 18 today. 19 Let's just let it be known that I live in a small isolated community known as Lutsel K'e, and 21 in my community we are considered an impacted 22 community. We already have three (3) operating diamond 23 mines in our territory and -- and this proposal would

Through all this we've -- we've been

24

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be the fourth.

- 1 subject to a number of different types of agreements in
- 2 the permitting of -- of these mines. And I believe
- 3 there are a couple of socio-economic agreements already
- 4 in place with the GNWT and the industry in regards to
- 5 these diamond mines.
- And within these agreements they make
- 7 provisions that are meant to protect the communities
- 8 from negative impacts from these developments. And
- 9 they speak to things specifically like promoting
- 10 education, promoting the graduation from high school
- 11 grade 12, developing, training, and skills towards
- 12 future employment. They're meant to safeguard the
- 13 community from negative impacts from -- from these
- 14 developments, but these agreements have not been ever
- 15 fully implemented. And it's been a number of years
- 16 since they've been enacted.
- In your presentation, you spoke of a
- 18 follow-up program that's been in place since Diavik.
- 19 And it just makes me wonder -- and I have to ask the
- 20 question, If these agreements are in place and you say
- 21 they are being implemented and followed up on, why --
- 22 why is it that our -- our school and our community is -
- 23 is losing funding? Why is it that this next coming
- 24 year we will be losing teachers?
- In the past few years, our school in

- 1 Lutsel K'e has started to offer grades kindergarten to
- 2 grade 12. And in the years since then we have had no
- 3 high school graduates. You have a policy where you
- 4 determine the amount of funding our school will get
- 5 based on attendance in a certain period of time, and --
- 6 and that effects the following school year and our
- 7 funding.
- 8 And -- and because of the impacts of
- 9 industry and the diamond mines in our community, it
- 10 means that some people who work at the mines are making
- 11 more money, and that they can chose to move away from
- 12 the community to places like Yellowknife in order to
- 13 provide their families with better education. It also
- 14 means that young families or adults are leaving the
- 15 community to further their own education with their
- 16 young children, and -- and so those children are
- 17 leaving our school, as well. This is another impact
- 18 from this industry.
- 19 And so this is happening. And it's
- 20 affecting us in a negative way in our community. Yet
- 21 we have these agreements that are supposedly in place,
- 22 and being implemented, that are supposed to protect us
- 23 from these kind of impacts. And they are not. And so
- 24 I guess I want to know from the GNWT why are these
- 25 agreements not being fully implemented? And because

- 1 they already hold one (1) of these agreements for Snap
- 2 Lake, I would also like to know from De Beers why this
- 3 is being allowed to happen as well.
- 4 If these issues are being faced in the
- 5 community of Lutsel K'e, which is the most isolated and
- 6 closest community to this proposal, it could also be
- 7 occurring in other Akaitcho First Nation communities,
- 8 such as Deninu Kue and Dettah and N'Dilo.
- 9 So I would just like to hear from you
- 10 all about -- about that. Thank you.
- 11 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,
- 12 with the panel. Thanks very much for those questions.
- 13 I think -- would GNWT be willing to go first with a
- 14 response?

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16 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 18 MS. JANET GRINSTED: Janet Grinsted,
- 19 ECE. I -- I am aware specifically of the -- the
- 20 question of Lutsel K'e school enrollments this past
- 21 year. So I could perhaps speak to that, although it's
- 22 probably not related to the socio-economic agreements.
- 23 Okay.
- 24 So you're -- you're correct. Funding in
- 25 schools is based on enrollment. And enrollment is

- 1 based on students who are in attendance or excused
- 2 absence for at least 60 percent of the time in the
- 3 month of September. And on the basis of that, funding
- 4 is determined for the next year.
- 5 And what happened in Lutsel K'e this
- 6 past year was a decline in enrollments, a fairly
- 7 significant decline in enrollments. So it did affect
- 8 funding. That is the -- the part of your comments that
- 9 I can address from a school's perspective. Perhaps,
- 10 Juanita can...
- 11 MS. JUANITA ROBINSON: Thank you for
- 12 your question, Stephanie. I know when the Diavik mine
- 13 went through its permitting process there were -- the
- 14 question was asked, would small communities perhaps be
- 15 negatively affected by out-migration because people
- 16 might leave. I don't think in the agreements that
- 17 there's any commitments that are captured that address
- 18 out -- out-migration from small communities.
- The developers have made some
- 20 commitments around money -- money management and some
- 21 commitments to help communities. But I don't -- the
- 22 agree -- the agreements don't deal with out-migration,
- 23 which is what you're looking at from Lutsel K'e.
- Janet has described how the government
- 25 budget process works. In terms of a project, such as

- 1 Gahcho Kue, there's only so much you can expect of the
- 2 project. Perhaps the question that should be asked is,
- 3 what would be reasonable mitigations to put in place if
- 4 this -- if out-migration from a small community is an
- 5 issue.
- 6 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Thank you.
- 7 Stephanie Poole, Akaitcho IMA. I don't think -- well,
- 8 there's a few things being said there. I understand
- 9 the GNWT policy regarding funding for schools. And I
- 10 don't expect you to change that here today.
- 11 Also, I'm not targeting -- I'm not sure
- 12 what -- what was that term you used? But the -- the
- 13 migration of people outside of the community and -- and
- 14 I agree that the socio-economic agreements do not
- 15 specifically say, you know, verbatim that. But they do
- 16 say that there will be best efforts made -- I can't
- 17 remember off the top of my head exactly what the words
- 18 are, but it does speak to ensuring that education is
- 19 promoted up -- up until grade 12, that it is ensured
- 20 that, you know, and promoted and enhanced for -- for
- 21 these communities. And -- and it is -- and it does
- 22 speak to protecting us from negative aspects and
- 23 impacts from these developments. And this is one (1)
- 24 of those negative impacts that we're facing today.
- 25 And to say that this is our -- our

- 1 policy for funding and that's just the way it is, is --
- 2 is not good enough. Because you have these agree --
- 3 agreements in place that are -- so as an impacted
- 4 community, not your average every day community, you're
- 5 supposed to be protecting us from these negative
- 6 impacts and not just offering up, you know, policies as
- 7 excuses as to why they're happening.
- 8 It's my understanding that that's why
- 9 these socio-economic impact agreements are in place to
- 10 add some extra layer of protection to these negative
- 11 impacts that we're facing. And -- and they are
- 12 happening, it is happening to us, we are going to
- 13 suffer next year because of it. And this is just one
- 14 (1) example of how. So I want to know why this is
- 15 happening and why, you know, our school -- if anything,
- 16 should be improving regularly, not, you know, getting
- 17 worse and worse.
- 18 Like, when you extended our school to
- 19 grade 12 it was just like, Okay, you're grade 12 now.
- 20 With no additional infrastructure, little extra
- 21 resources -- I think it was only for one year. And
- 22 now, you know, we're going to possibly lose two (2)
- 23 teachers next year. How are we going to run a
- 24 meaningful high school program in our commun --
- 25 community that way?

- 1 You know, high school students are --
- 2 our high school students want to live in the community,
- 3 but they want to also receive a good education. So,
- 4 you know, they try. And then when it's not meeting
- 5 their needs they're forced to leave and move, usually
- 6 here to Yellowknife, at a -- at a -- their family's own
- 7 expense just to receive this education that you are
- 8 supposed to be offering to us in our community.
- 9 So I don't think your answers were
- 10 sufficient for my questions. I want to hear from the
- 11 GNWT and De Beers on how -- on how these negative
- 12 impacts to our communities are going to be stopped.
- 13 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,
- 14 with the panel. Thanks for bringing it around and back
- 15 to the project at hand at the end there. Well done.
- 16 So would De Beers like to respond?
- 17 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad,
- 18 from De Beers. Thanks, Stephanie. I just want to
- 19 check in with you. I was writing furiously to keep up
- 20 with you. And I heard you say there are three (3)
- 21 safeguards. And I -- and I thought I heard you say,
- 22 promoting education, promoting graduation. And I can't
- 23 read my own writing here. And I've got -- it looks
- 24 like, develop training skills. Can you just confirm
- 25 for me what those three (3) things were that you -- you

- 1 tabled as your concerns?
- MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Well, the --
- 3 that's not a comprehensive list. Those -- a couple
- 4 weeks ago we had a meeting with the South Slave
- 5 Divisional Education Council in our community. And
- 6 during that time I had a quick look at the -- one (1)
- 7 of the existing socio-economic agreements just to see
- 8 what it was they were supposed to be doing. And so I'm
- 9 just kind of working off my vague memory, that is not
- 10 as good as it used to be. I'm getting older.
- So -- but I mean, it wouldn't be
- 12 difficult to -- like, you could just reference the
- 13 already existing socio-economic agreements. You know,
- 14 look them up -- if you need to add them to the public
- 15 registry, and see what they say about this. But they
- 16 do say that they are supposed to -- you know, they
- 17 generally say they're supposed to protect our community
- 18 from negative impacts from these developments, and that
- 19 they are to promote education, the education and
- 20 training of our people in the community.
- I mean, I'm sure the GNWT knows exactly
- 22 what they say. They are their agreements. You have
- 23 one (1) with them, you should know what it says.
- 24 There's another one with Diavik. I mean, I'm hoping
- 25 that you're all fully up to speed on exactly what is

- 1 the content of these agreements.
- MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad, De
- 3 Beers. I certainly am aware of what is in the content
- 4 of De Beers' agreements. And I heard you say, not
- 5 fully implemented. And I can confirm that De Beers is
- 6 honouring its commitments in its socio-economic
- 7 agreement.
- 8 With respect to the things that I did
- 9 hear you mention, in terms of promoting education, for
- 10 example, now De Beers goes into the communities around
- 11 its projects and will continue to do for the life of
- 12 the Gahcho Kue project to promote the importance of
- 13 staying in school, the importance of literacy. To
- 14 provide a -- a tangible example of how we do that
- 15 today, we go into the communities and -- for ten (10)
- 16 years now we've been providing books free to every
- 17 child from preschool to grade 12. And we've brought in
- 18 with us student financial officers from the Education,
- 19 Culture, and Employment where there are high schools,
- 20 so that students can meet face-to-face the support
- 21 person that will help guide them through the paperwork
- 22 to get their -- their applications completed for
- 23 financial assistance for post-secondary education.
- Those are examples of how we, as a
- 25 company, work with the schools. We do support

- 1 graduations, to encourage it, including Lutsel K'e.
- 2 We've been doing that for a number of years. And we do
- 3 work in partnership with the Mine Training Society,
- 4 which has on its board members from the communities, to
- 5 work and plan the development of training programs that
- 6 we place people in at our mine sites. So whether it's
- 7 mineral procent -- proc -- process plant operators or
- 8 security officers or, in the case of Snap Lake,
- 9 underground mine training.
- 10 We are working hard as a company to make
- 11 sure that we are providing those opportunities and
- 12 making those choices available and assisting where we
- 13 can. In 2011, we provided a tool in the adult learning
- 14 centres in the communities for financial management, so
- 15 that people in the communities and their families could
- 16 work on that tool in partnership with De Beers
- 17 providing it and the Education, Culture and Employment
- 18 providing it in the learning centre as a place for them
- 19 to go.
- 20 So, from our perspective as a company,
- 21 those are the things that we can do, are doing. And we
- 22 provide a report. Our -- our 2011 socio-economic
- 23 annual report is close to coming across the finish line
- 24 for our current project. And we report on that both in
- 25 the communities to our successes and our challenges.

- 1 And we invite input. And we talk about what we're
- 2 doing to address challenges, where we'd like to make --
- 3 make improvements for the seizing of those
- 4 opportunities.
- 5 From my perspective, they are being
- 6 monitored. We're reporting the results. We said we
- 7 would. And we're talking about it in communities and
- 8 with government. And where there are collaboration
- 9 opportunities to pursue improvements, we're doing that.
- 10 And -- and that's what implementation of these
- 11 agreements is.
- 12 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,
- 13 with the panel. Thanks very much for that response.
- 14 At the moment, I believe we have somebody on the
- 15 telecon that would -- has been waiting patiently to ask
- 16 a question. So let's go to whoever is on the tel --
- 17 telecon. And please let us know who you are. Thanks.
- 18 MR. TODD SLACK: Hi, Chuck. Todd here.
- 19 And I have three (3) questions for the company there.
- 20 And the first sort of relates to the information that
- 21 was presented by the GNWT there and their response.
- 22 So if -- what I'm trying to understand,
- 23 if the open pits, Ekati and Diavik, are closing, and we
- 24 all know this is happening and that this is a labour
- 25 force that this mine can take up, what I don't

- 1 understand then is why the projected percentage of
- 2 northern employment is so low relative to the other
- 3 mines. Here you have this labour force coming free.
- 4 It would seem that, you know, it would make for a nice
- 5 seque. And shouldn't that number be significantly
- 6 higher? I guess I'd just like to hear their -- their
- 7 sort of response to that.
- 8 MR. GRAEME CLINTON: Graeme Clinton,
- 9 with Impact Economics. Todd, thanks for the question.
- 10 I think one (1) of -- one (1) of the challenges we have
- 11 in -- in making an assumption on -- on local or res --
- 12 NWT resident employment is to understand -- or make --
- 13 understand what's going to happen over the life of the
- 14 project to things that are outside the control of this
- 15 particular project.
- 16 The -- as an example, when -- when we
- 17 began the -- the economic analysis of this project the
- 18 expected mine life at Ekati was to 2021, I believe, or
- 19 2022. We've since learned in -- in -- over the -- the
- 20 last few months that that mine is now for sale. And
- 21 should it not be sold, the -- the life of that project
- 22 would be a lot shorter. So that would have a
- 23 significant impact on the projected labour profile over
- 24 the -- over the course of the project.
- 25 Similarly, if both Ekati and Diavik were

- 1 to be sold to a single company, they would likely then
- 2 alter the -- the production scale -- production
- 3 schedule. And that would again alter what the -- the
- 4 overall labour force -- labour supply and demand would
- 5 be in the territory.
- I think the point that I'm making here
- 7 is that when you try to line up what is going to happen
- 8 with the project -- and that your example was the
- 9 closure of the open pit operations at Diavik. If we
- 10 could count on the start date of this project, and we
- 11 could count on the -- the closure of -- of Diavik's
- 12 open pit, and walk -- walk those labour over into --
- 13 from one (1) project to the other that would be great.
- 14 But we don't have control over those
- 15 things, so what -- what would worry me about that is
- 16 that if there's a short delay in -- in this -- in the
- 17 schedule for Gahcho Kue of -- of -- whether it's six
- 18 (6) months or a year or two (2) years, what happens to
- 19 that idle labour that have left the -- their job at
- 20 Diavik? How long can we expect them to stay in the
- 21 territory in hopes that this project will be approved
- 22 and then they can -- they can take up jobs here?
- 23 What concerns us when we're trying to
- 24 make these -- these estimations, the assumptions of
- 25 local participation, is that some of that labour -- if

- 1 there's -- if there's too much of a gap between the
- 2 closure of one (1) project and the opening of another,
- 3 that labour might leave. And if they leave they might
- 4 not come back.
- 5 These are all sorts -- all of these are
- 6 assumptions that we try to -- we try to assess. And --
- 7 and given the information that we -- that we have at
- 8 the time we make -- we make the -- our most educated
- 9 assumptions as to what will happen, and which results
- 10 in our -- in our number. So that's how we -- we sort of
- 11 do the assessment in terms of how we come up with the
- 12 local labour force in order for -- for our -- to -- to
- 13 continue the analysis.
- 14 I think the other point is that the --
- 15 the number that we use in -- in modelling the -- the
- 16 project isn't a target in the sense that should --
- 17 should 37.6 percent of the labour force be employed at
- 18 the mine and reside in the Northwest Territories that -
- 19 that there would be no other interest in employing
- 20 additional local labour. It's -- it really is an
- 21 assessment of what would be available under a whole --
- 22 whole list of -- of assumptions that generate a single
- 23 number and a single estimate.
- Of course, over time there will be sig -
- 25 there will be changes to -- to the information that

- 1 we have. We'll learn -- we'll learn new things about
- 2 what's happening at other projects. Graduation rates
- 3 might improve, they might -- they might not. We don't
- 4 -- we don't know those things, but all these different
- 5 things factor into -- into what comes up with our
- 6 number.
- 7 But you could -- you can imagine every
- 8 time you change the assumption you end up with a
- 9 different number. So we ultimately have to choose one
- 10 (1) that's a prudent -- a prudent number, that's
- 11 defensible, and that allows us to sort of move forward
- 12 with the analysis. Thank you.
- 13 MR. TODD SLACK: If I can just ask one
- 14 (1) quick follow-up on that. So the -- Graeme, I think
- 15 -- well, sorry. Thanks for that answer. But the risk
- 16 there, if I'm following your logic correctly is that
- 17 the -- the company is proceeding with its schedule as
- 18 laid out.
- 19 Isn't the risk that the workers come out
- 20 of Ekati and Diavik with experience -- northern
- 21 workers, with experience in open pit mining, and then
- 22 there's no jobs for them and they are forced to leave?
- 23 And the company is then employing a great deal of
- 24 southern labour while the northern guys are forced to,
- 25 you know, move to Saskatchewan or, you know, wherever.

- 1 Isn't that a -- a pretty likely scenario in that case?
- MR. GRAEME CLINTON: Graeme Clinton,
- 3 Impact Economics. Thanks, Todd. You're -- you're
- 4 correct that -- that there is risk associated with any
- 5 projection or forecast. And -- and should there be no
- 6 -- no mining at all in the territory, there would be a
- 7 significant out-migration of people. It's -- it's --
- 8 as -- as an economist I would see that as an enormous
- 9 risk.
- 10 But I think that -- so -- so, yeah. I
- 11 think that's -- that's true. I think that the -- the
- 12 presence of the Gahcho Kue project is a mitigation
- 13 against that -- that from happening. Thank you.
- 14 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: If I may, it's
- 15 Cathie Bolstad. Good afternoon, Todd. I think just to
- 16 add to that, De Beers is not in control of what happens
- 17 external to us, other projects, and -- and the choices
- 18 people make.
- 19 What we can control is the adequacy --
- 20 adequa -- my mouth doesn't want to work -- the adequacy
- 21 -- adequacy with which we implement our programs to
- 22 recruit and retain the skill set. And certainly our
- 23 goal and our desire is to see the project permitted
- 24 quickly, and for us to be in a position to seize as
- 25 much of those available skills that are out there. And

MVEIRB - DE BEERS TECHNICAL SESSION 05-24-2012 142 certainly our promotion plans and our recruitment plans are going to be aimed at that. 3 But I think we could spend the whole day deliberating all the things that might be out there that are not in our control. And -- and they are factors that you try and weigh, and take into consideration, and move with. And -- and we will do 7 that with the goal of retraining and keeping and attracting the fabulous skills that are in the Northwest Territories that we have been part of 10 11 developing and training with our first mine. 12 MR. TODD SLACK: Hi, Cathie. 13 thanks for that, and I appreciate the irony as I'm 14 calling in from the south. 15 I guess I -- that's a good sort of seque 16 into my second question, and I'm wondering if Graeme -during -- after he created his initial assumptions, or 17 18 the company for that matter, if he developed a sort of 19 optimum scenario based on those initial assumptions on when project implementation would, by these definitions, maximize the benefits for northern and the 21 22 Yellowknives Dene.

23

24 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 1 MR. GRAEME CLINTON: Graeme Clinton,
- 2 Impact Economics. No, that -- like -- your question is
- 3 a good one, and it comes up a lot. But we tend not to
- 4 try to sort of -- I mean, it's -- it's called data
- 5 mining, I don't -- but we -- we try not to sort of move
- 6 everything around in a way -- sort of in an artificial
- 7 way. There has to be -- has to be a concrete reason to
- 8 change your assumption.
- 9 So once you have an assumption, you
- 10 don't -- you -- you tend not to put a -- sort of a
- 11 probability on -- on every assumption. You say, Well
- 12 there's a 50 percent chance of this happening, and a 75
- 13 percent chance of that happening, and -- and proceed
- 14 that way. Because at the end of the day a project like
- 15 this will either go ahead or it won't. Somebody will
- 16 either apply for a job or they won't.
- 17 There's -- so in -- in coming up with a
- 18 single estimate, there's little value to sort of
- 19 assigning probabilities to everything in an -- in an
- 20 attempt to -- to orchestrate an optima -- something
- 21 optimal in that sense. So thank you.
- 22 MR. TODD SLACK: Clear. Sorry, Todd
- 23 Slack, YKDFN. You -- you didn't analyze any other
- 24 scenarios, like two (2) years later, or anything like
- 25 that, in terms of maximizing the benefits for the --

- 1 the NWT?
- MR. GRAEME CLINTON: Graeme Clinton,
- 3 Impact Economics. No, I didn't.
- 4 MR. TODD SLACK: And then my third
- 5 question is related to what Stephanie started talking
- 6 about in terms of the migration from Lutsel K'e to
- 7 Yellowknife. But what I'm con -- concerned with is the
- 8 creation of a scenario in which there's an economic
- 9 advantage for expertise and money to flow south with
- 10 direct flights and whatnot.
- 11 We -- we all know how expensive it is to
- 12 live in Yellowknife where Edmonton is a much cheaper
- 13 place to live. And if you can achieve the same
- 14 benefits while it's cheaper to live somewhere in the
- 15 south, doesn't that create a scenario in which it's
- 16 advantageous for people to live elsewhere while -- and
- 17 as a result, export money, expertise, and benefits out
- 18 of the NWT to other provinces?

19

20 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Hi, Todd. It's
- 23 Cathie Bolstad. Thanks for that question. The first
- 24 point I guess I'd like to make in response to that is
- 25 again there are factors outside of the company's

- 1 control. And in -- in Canada people can live and work
- 2 wherever they want to live and work, that's a reality
- 3 of our country.
- 4 Our commitment as a company in terms of
- 5 hiring priorities is to look for the skills we need for
- 6 our jobs and to match, from the Northwest Territories
- 7 and from the aboriginal people from the Northwest
- 8 Territories, to those skills and those jobs available.
- As a company, and we've -- we've put
- 10 this in our EIS and they are our policies today, our
- 11 way of doing our part to encourage people to live here
- 12 and work for us are through the relocation packages
- 13 that we offer when we offer employment, to encourage
- 14 them to move into the Northwest Territories, through
- 15 the picking up of people from their place of residence
- 16 in the Northwest Territories so that they can chose to
- 17 live where they want to live and still work for us.
- 18 And it's through the attractive
- 19 allowances that we position ourselves competitively
- 20 within the marketplace that is global to encourage
- 21 people to live for us and work for us here. And those
- 22 allowances address that it is costly to live here. And
- 23 they are excellent allowances, they are competitive
- 24 allowances. And that's what we do as a company to
- 25 ensure that the opportunities that we are providing as

- 1 a company are facilitated for availability to people
- 2 who live in the Northwest Territories and chose to work
- 3 for De Beers.
- 4 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,
- 5 with the panel. Thanks very much for that response.
- 6 And thanks, Todd, for being on the line. Do you have
- 7 anything else before we let you continue, I guess, on
- 8 vacation or -- or where exactly are you?
- 9 MR. TODD SLACK: No, I'm good, Chuck.
- 10 Thanks.
- 11 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Thanks very
- 12 much for your participation then. Bye-bye.
- Okay, it's about 2:30, we can continue
- 14 for a few more questions on the topic if anybody's
- 15 willing and interested in asking further questions.

16

17 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 19 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Stephanie Poole,
- 20 from Akaitcho IMA. I have a few questions here. I
- 21 think one's been answered already and it was: Will De
- 22 Beers fly employees directly to and from Lutsel K'e and
- 23 Deninu Kue? But I believe in your last answer you said
- 24 you'll fly them into work from wherever they live in
- 25 the Northwest Territories.

- 1 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Hi, Stephanie.
- 2 It's Cathie Bolstad. De Beers will have pickup points.
- 3 And I think there is an IR -- and if my team can help
- 4 me in terms of the IR on pickup points. We will have
- 5 pickup points in the Northwest Territories, they will
- 6 be the same as Snap Lake. And our commitment as a
- 7 company is to always look at where we are drawing our
- 8 employees from and have a combination of pickup points
- 9 and allowances that make it easy for them to come and
- 10 work for De Beers.
- 11 Getting to De Beers to work for us from
- 12 a community in the Northwest Territories will not be a
- 13 barrier to choosing employment. The greatest barrier
- 14 we actually face is matching the skill set and getting
- 15 people trained for the right skills.

16

17 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 19 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad.
- 20 The response on that in terms of pickup points is in
- 21 GNWT number 8 IR.
- 22 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Could -- could
- 23 you just tell me if you're going to pick up people from
- 24 Lutsel K'e and Deninu Kue.
- MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Yes, Stephanie.

148 1 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Thank you. Stephanie Poole, Akaitcho IMA Office. 3 Next question. The GNWT provided a presentation on economic benefits to the territory as a whole, but has not broken down by region or community. De Beers or the GNWT should be asked to provide a breakdown for the Akaitcho communities of the following: contribution to the GDP of the Akaitcho communities, I believe that's gross domestic product; labour income for the Akaitcho communities; royalty 10 11 revenue to the Akaitcho communities; and employment in person years. So I guess I need to know if the GNWT 13 and De Beers can commit to providing this info. 14 15 (BRIEF PAUSE) 16 17 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert, 18 with the panel. Thanks very much th -- that question 19 with multiple parts to it. I'll give GNWT and De Beers a minute or so to respond. Thanks. 21 22 (BRIEF PAUSE) 23 24 MR. GRAEME CLINTON: Graeme --25 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica

- 1 Chisholm, from De Beers. I don't plan to scoop you on
- 2 economics. I do plan on addressing Stephanie's
- 3 question directly. No, we cannot provide those
- 4 commitments. And I want to explain -- I'm going to
- 5 have the team explain why. So I'll have Graeme start
- 6 with GDP and why that's difficult for us to do, if not
- 7 impossible. Go ahead, Graeme.
- MR. GRAEME CLINTON: Graeme Clinton,
- 9 Impact Economics. Thanks for your question, Stephanie.
- 10 GDP is -- is the summation of labour income profits,
- 11 capital consumption allowance and indirect tax on
- 12 production. If you were to -- to try to assess the --
- 13 the contribution of Akaitch -- of Lutsel K'e to the
- 14 Territories' GDP you'd have to determine all those four
- 15 (4) components that occur on a domestic level as
- 16 opposed to a national level. So you're following
- 17 Akaitcho pe -- Lutsel K'e people wherever they go and
- 18 wherever they work.
- 19 So if you're looking at a gross domestic
- 20 product it means that a individual or business from the
- 21 Akaitcho, they're working outside the Akaitcho, will be
- 22 included in Akaitcho's gross domestic product. If you
- 23 break that down to a community level, if a community
- 24 business was servicing another community business -- or
- 25 another community, that would be included in your gross

- 1 domestic product.
- 2 The -- the ac -- the -- but on the
- 3 larger scale, like the capital consumption allowance
- 4 profits, indirect taxes occur at the mine site, like
- 5 the actual location of the mine site. So they don't
- 6 actually incur in any of the communities. They incur
- 7 in the -- the greater region or the Akaitcho region.
- 8 So, in that sense, the -- the GDP impact
- 9 in Akaitcho is the value of the mine because it's --
- 10 the Aka -- or within -- within the -- the region that
- 11 it occurs. So if it's -- if it -- whether it's Tlicho
- 12 or Akaitcho territory it's occurring in the North Slave
- 13 region. So the vast majority of -- of the GDP impacts
- 14 are centred on where the mine is located. To break it
- 15 down into what each com -- community contributes in
- 16 terms of the components of GDP would be impossible.
- MS. LINDA HAVERS: Linda Havers,
- 18 Golder. Hi, Stephanie. I just wanted to address your
- 19 question about labour income and -- and predicting
- 20 employment in person years to Akaitcho communities.
- 21 And the -- the reason why we're not able
- 22 to do that is -- is largely because recruitment is
- 23 across the Territories. It's very broad. And we're
- 24 not able to predict how many people will be employed
- 25 from any given community, so we're not able to then

- 1 calculate person years or labour income that -- that
- 2 can then be attributed to -- to that community.
- I also -- just following up from -- from
- 4 what Graeme had just said, employment in -- in person
- 5 years and labour income is -- is predicted at the level
- 6 of the territory, which is the -- the study area for
- 7 the economic impact assessment. That's the data that's
- 8 put into the input/output model. So that's, you know,
- 9 that's how we -- we come up with the prediction.
- 10 And also, I just wanted to add do --
- 11 perhaps clarify that the -- the communities don't --
- 12 are -- are residential and administrative units, they
- 13 don't have economies of their own, so it's very
- 14 difficult to predict exactly what the economic benefit
- 15 would be to either a cultural community or a -- or a --
- 16 a small community.
- 17 MR. GRAEME CLINTON: Graeme Clinton,
- 18 Impact Economics. So I'll respond to the -- the
- 19 question on royalties. It's -- it's not economics,
- 20 it's really -- it's -- it's a matter of the fiscal
- 21 arrangement the Akaitcho territory has with the --
- 22 whether it's the federal government or the GNWT. As I
- 23 understand now, you -- you collect no resource
- 24 royalties under the current arrangement.
- MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Thank you.

- 1 Stephanie Poole, Akaitcho IMA Office. Well, at least
- 2 you could answer one (1) of those questions. Thank
- 3 you.
- And I -- and I just wondered, when there
- 5 is a community that does not have an economy, what --
- 6 what technical term would you give that community?
- 7 MR. GRAEME CLINTON: Graeme Clinton,
- 8 Impact Economics. I think that maybe the -- that it
- 9 was taken a little too literally, that -- of course,
- 10 Lutsel K'e has an economy. There is -- it is -- it is
- 11 a place where buyers and sellers meet and -- and
- 12 there's transaction -- transactions, financial
- 13 transactions. I think the -- the point is that -- that
- 14 in -- on the wage based economy that the -- the -- in
- 15 this case, the Gahcho Kue project isn't located within
- 16 Luts -- the town of Lutsel K'e, so that activity
- 17 doesn't take place there.
- 18 The -- the -- anybody who participates
- 19 or any business that -- from Lutsel K'e that
- 20 participates in this project would of -- would, of
- 21 course, on a -- on a gross domestic product basis be
- 22 contributing to -- to that community's overall GDP.
- 23 The -- the point we're making is that we can't quantify
- 24 that, because we don't know the capital consumption
- 25 allowance of that business. We don't know the in --

- 1 the percentage of indirect taxes that apply to that
- 2 specific community.
- I mean, we could -- if -- if you -- if
- 4 you were able to determine currently how many people
- 5 are employed in Lutsel K'e, and -- and list all of the
- 6 businesses that are associated or operating out of
- 7 Lutsel K'e, you could develop a gross national product
- 8 estimate of what Lutsel K'e is contributing to the --
- 9 the economy of the Northwest Territories.
- MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Thank you.
- 11 Stephanie Poole, Akaitcho IMA. So it sounds like, you
- 12 know, before you were saying it was impossible to
- 13 provide us with this information, and now it sounds
- 14 like it may be possible and that you could maybe try to
- 15 do so.
- 16 Before I move along with my questions,
- 17 perhaps I could just hear from the GNWT on whether or
- 18 not they would be able to answer my four (4) questions.
- 19 Thank you.
- 20 MS. AMY LIZOTTE: It's Amy Lizotte,
- 21 with the GNWT. And for the very reasons that De Beers
- 22 has stated, we -- we aren't able to provide that
- 23 information as well. We don't -- we don't have the
- 24 information available and the -- the economic
- 25 information that we used in that report was derived

154 from the environmental impact statement that De Beers provided. 3 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Thank you. Stephanie Poole, Akaitcho IMA. You can't even answer the question on providing a breakdown for the Akaitcho communities of royalty revenue to the Akaitcho communities? 7 8 9 (BRIEF PAUSE) 10 11 MS. AMY LIZOTTE: Well -- Amy with --12 Amy Lizotte with the GNWT. The Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada would be best to answer 13 14 that question as they collect royalty. 15 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Thank you, 16 Stephanie Pool, Akaitcho IMA office. I just want to go back to the negative effects on our communities, and 17 18 I'm not just speaking about Lutsel K'e; I'm speaking 19 about all of the Akaitcho communities. And -- and as Todd had highlighted that it's also a concern for the Yellowknives. 21 22 And -- and when I say that people leave 23 the communities, it doesn't just mean that they are 24 going to Yellowknife. They're going other places, as 25 well. And, you know, the mines, the industry, they

- 1 encourage, you know, the -- the best and the brightest
- 2 of our -- our citizens to -- to work for them. And,
- 3 you know, they want -- they want people to educate
- 4 themselves, and they -- they want people to get
- 5 training so that they can become good employees for
- 6 their industry. They promote that.
- 7 And -- and then at the same time there
- 8 are GNWT policies that also become a barrier to people
- 9 being able to stay in their communities once they do
- 10 acquire this -- this employment. You know, there are
- 11 housing policies that make it impossible to -- to pay
- 12 your rent when you -- when you have a job, when you're
- 13 earning an income.
- 14 So between the two (2) of you, you're
- 15 effectively forcing people to leave their -- their
- 16 hometowns, to leave their communities. And I just want
- 17 that noted for the record.
- 18 Also, De Beers responded by saying that
- 19 they can encourage people to live in the North by
- 20 setting high quotas for northern and Aboriginal hires,
- 21 and -- and actually adhering to them. But, you know,
- 22 certainly people can live and work wherever they want,
- 23 but De Beers can do a much better job at setting better
- 24 goals regarding their northern and Aboriginal hiring
- 25 practices.

156 And then I think this will be my final question, for now. And in this example, I'll -- I'll give you an example from Lutsel K'e. In the community of Lutsel K'e, they have done eight (8) years of peer reviewed academic research on the impacts of the mining economy on the social and cultural fabric of the community. This research has shown that: 7 8 A family where a spouse works at 9 a mine is much more likely to break 10 up, creating more single parent 11 families. 12 Families where an adult works at 13 a mine are less likely to transmit 14 cultural and land based knowledge to 15 youth, and get out on the land less. 16 3. Adults from these families 17 volunteer less and participate less 18 in their community, such examples 19 would be leadership, coaching, et 20 cetera, then other people in the 21 community. 22 And 4. Families with an adult that 23 work at a mine are more likely to 24 leave the community. Examples would 25 be they can't buy a house, as GNWT

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157
1
                      programs don't allow them to as they
2
                      make too much money."
3
                   So how does De Beers propose to mitigate
   these effects?
5
 6
                          (BRIEF PAUSE)
                   MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad,
    from De Beers. I just want to go back to your preamble
10
   and correct a couple of things that you said we said
   that we actually didn't say.
11
12
                   So I don't think -- in fact I'm
13
   confident I did not say setting quotas and adhering to
14
   them was how we were going to achieve numbers. What I
15
   did say was putting in place policies and procedures to
16
   encourage and incent people to work for us and to live
17
   here is how we will achieve recruiting and retraining
18
  northerners.
19
                   I don't believe for a minute that
    setting a number for the sake of setting a number
21
   achieves anything at all. Producing and being
22
   transparent about our numbers and how we're doing,
23
   we're absolutely committed to. We are committed to
24
   reporting as we do for the Snap Lake nin -- mine now,
   on where we are hiring from, where people live in the
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- 1 Northwest Territories when they work for us. And in --
- 2 in accordance with the hiring priorities, how we're
- 3 doing as a company for that, we will absolutely update
- 4 our reporting systems and report for all of our NWT
- 5 mines, both the Snap Lake and Gahcho Kue.
- 6 Could you clarify, please, Stephanie,
- 7 you cited a number of things. You said "they"; who is
- 8 "they," just so I can be clear on what report you're
- 9 citing and where that -- that information is coming
- 10 from?
- MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Sorry for that
- 12 confusion. It's Stephanie Poole, from the Akaitcho
- 13 IMA.
- 14 I think it's -- what I had -- what I was
- 15 trying to say is that De Beers, and you Cathie, had
- 16 said in response to something that people can live and
- 17 work wherever they want. And in response to that what
- 18 I am saying is that De Beers can encourage people to
- 19 live in the North by setting high quotas for northern
- 20 and aboriginal hires and actually adhering to them.
- 21 Certainly people can live and work wherever they want,
- 22 but De Beers can do a much better job at setting better
- 23 goals regarding their northern and Aboriginal hiring
- 24 practices. I hope that's clear.
- The research is the community based

- 1 monitoring done through the West Kitikmeot/Slave Study
- 2 under Dr. Brenda Parlee .
- 3 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad.
- 4 Thanks, Stephanie. Just to be clear, I think setting a
- 5 goal of hiring as many Northwest Territories Abor --
- 6 aboriginal residents as we can is a very good goal and
- 7 we aim to achieve that all the time in everything that
- 8 we do
- 9 You raised a few things and you talked
- 10 about family breakdowns, you talked about getting out
- 11 on the land, and you talked about add -- adult
- 12 volunteers and families leaving their communities. In
- 13 2009 De Beers participated with Ekati Diamond Mine,
- 14 Diavik Diamond Mine, and the GNWT Bureau of Statistics
- 15 and we surveyed all of the mine workers, regardless of
- 16 where they lived. And one (1) of the things we were
- 17 trying to understand as partners in that process was
- 18 how do we work together to encourage people to stay in
- 19 the Northwest Territories, to come to the Northwest
- 20 Territories when they -- when they want to work for us.
- 21 And we learned that the number 1 reason people either
- 22 leave or come is proximity to family. Family plays a
- 23 very important role.
- What De Beers does, in terms of
- 25 retaining and recruiting Northwest Territories

- 1 residents and people from the communities, is provide
- 2 allowances that make it attractive for them to live
- 3 here. We provide relocation allowances to make it
- 4 attractive for those who want to take a job here, to
- 5 come here and live here and contribute to society here.
- In terms of getting out on the land, our
- 7 feedback from our employees tells us that getting out
- 8 on the land with a two (2) and two (2) rotation is a
- 9 wonderful opportunity to have an income, to have the
- 10 money that affords the ability to get out on the land
- 11 in those two (2) weeks off and do the things that bring
- 12 people closer to their cultural activities.
- And we have a volunteer program in place
- 14 that actually encourages and is a mitigation measure to
- 15 address the volunteer issue that you have. So for our
- 16 employees that volunteer in their communities and
- 17 contribute to their communities, the company has a
- 18 program where they can apply and ask us to match,
- 19 through the hours they've put in, contributions to the
- 20 things that are important to them in their communities.
- 21 Those are the kind of things we can do
- 22 as a company to mitigate the kinds of things that
- 23 you're talking about. And a number of those are
- 24 outlined in the EIS.
- MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Stephanie Poole,

- 1 Akaitcho IMA. You're talking about an employer survey
- 2 to their employees that happened one (1) time. I'm
- 3 talking about academic research that's been peer
- 4 reviewed, so there's a big difference.
- 5 And when I read through just briefly the
- 6 EIS and this section, I understand that that's your
- 7 opinion, that you think that there are no negative
- 8 effects in regards to -- to these areas. But our peer
- 9 reviewed academic research shows that -- that, yes,
- 10 indeed this is what is happening. And so it's not
- 11 appropriate for you just to say, In our opinion this is
- 12 what we think. We want to know from you -- we're
- 13 telling you these are the issues, and we want to know
- 14 from you how do you propose to mitigate these things.
- 15 And if it's just through incentives and all of the
- 16 things that you've mentioned a couple of times now,
- 17 then -- then maybe just say so and you won't have to
- 18 repeat all of those same things again. Thank you.
- 19 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Thanks, Stephanie.
- 20 To be clear, I'm -- I'm confident that De Beers has
- 21 outlined all of the steps it'll take to mitigate those
- 22 in the EIS and in our response.
- 23 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,
- 24 with the panel. It's getting to be about ten (10) to
- 25 3:00. Stephanie, if I can ask you to repeat the name

- 1 of that study. And can I request that that study
- 2 perhaps -- or can I ask Akaitcho IMA if they would like
- 3 to have that study on the public registry?
- 4 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: It is the
- 5 community-based monitoring done through the West
- 6 Kitikmeot Slave study under do -- Dr. Brenda Parlee.
- 7 And you might as well throw it up on the public
- 8 registry. I mean, why not. The more information the
- 9 better.
- 10 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Thanks very
- 11 much. We look forward to receiving that document from
- 12 you, and we will put it up. So perhaps now is a good
- 13 time to take about a fifteen (15) minute break. Thanks
- 14 very much, everybody, for your questions and answers
- 15 and -- and attention so far. Let's meet again in
- 16 fifteen (15) minutes.

17

- 18 --- Upon recessing at 2:50 p.m.
- 19 --- Upon resuming at 3:05 p.m.

20

- 21 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Good
- 22 afternoon, everybody. If we can take our seats. And
- 23 we'll get started in one (1) minute, please.

24

25 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Welcome back,
- 2 everybody. It's Chuck Hubert, with the Gahcho Kue
- 3 panel. I'd like to continue with the discussion that
- 4 we had started earlier this afternoon. I think that it
- 5 -- it's a good topic to continue with.
- 6 I'd like to invite Akaitcho IMA, or
- 7 Lutsel K'e, if they could, to continue where they left
- 8 off for a few minutes. And after -- maybe I'll repeat
- 9 myself. I'd like to invite Akaitcho IMA and Lutsel K'e
- 10 to finish off with their questions for a few minutes,
- 11 and then I'd like to go to the Tlicho Government. So,
- 12 please, go ahead.
- MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Thank you.
- 14 Stephanie Poole, Akaitcho IMA Office. Regarding my
- 15 questions, I had asked the question -- the four (4)
- 16 questions regarding the peer reviewed academic research
- 17 on the impacts of the mining economy and the social and
- 18 cultural fabric of the community. I listed out four
- 19 (4) things that the research has shown and then I had
- 20 asked, you know, how does De Beers propose to mitigate
- 21 these effects. And we heard their opinion on that.
- I just wondered if the GNWT wanted an
- 23 opportunity to talk about how they might propose to
- 24 mitigate those effects? And then, unless I have any
- 25 follow-up questions, I should be done for now.

164 (BRIEF PAUSE) 1 2 3 MS. AMY LIZOTTE: Sorry for the delay. This is Amy Lizotte with the GNWT. And essentially, at this time we're -- we are not prepared to answer that question. We don't have an answer at this time. 7 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert, with the panel. Okay, thanks. Lutsel K'e First Nation, and I'd like to 9 10 turn the mic over to the Tlicho government around 3:30, so questions, please. 11 12 MR. MIKE TOLLIS: Thanks, Chuck. 13 Mike Tollis from the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation. 14 had talked a little about -- about this already, but I 15 -- I just wanted to propose a question to De Beers. 16 Regarding De Beers' responses to Lutsel K'e's Information Request number 11, De Beers suggested 17 18 it's not possible to conduct an assessment of the project's effects on a community by community nature, given the nature of the available data. De Beers goes 21 on to say that they interviewed local workers in the 22 areas of economic development, education and training, health and wellness and culture. But two (2) of the 24 three (3) of the mentioned interviewees were -- were 25 just staff. They -- they weren't in a management role

- 1 and no longer reside in the community, and the third is
- 2 retired.
- 3 Not that they didn't have any relevant
- 4 information to offer, but to get a better picture of
- 5 the socio-economic state of the community it would
- 6 probably be better if De Beers engaged the chief and
- 7 council of the community, as I think they are clearly
- 8 the contacts who would be able to provide the best
- 9 information.
- 10 Their Information Request response also
- 11 goes on to say that some of the LSA communities are
- 12 residential and administrative communities that do not
- 13 have economies of their own. And we touched on this at
- 14 -- it was taken a little bit too literally, I quess.
- 15 But the -- I think that statement is false. Lutsel K'e
- 16 clearly has an economy as -- as Graeme suggested.
- I mean, I struggle with the capital
- 18 aspect of the community trying to fund our concerned
- 19 community members to -- to come here. And I -- I
- 20 talked to AANDC about our participant fat -- our
- 21 participation funding not nearly being enough to
- 22 meaningfully participate in the regulatory process.
- 23 But that's neither here nor there. What I'm saying is
- 24 that there is information available and Stephanie
- 25 referenced the -- the peer review journal article by

- 1 Dr. Brenda Parlee, as well as engaging with Chief and
- 2 council De Beers can better understand the economic
- 3 situation in the community.
- 4 So my question was: Is -- is De Beers
- 5 willing to go to the community of Lutsel K'e to
- 6 investigate such topics as social disparities, family
- 7 and community cohesion, and long-term social/cultural
- 8 impacts of the proposed project?
- 9 The resources are available there. And
- 10 we don't think that that Information Request was -- was
- 11 really satisfied. So, thank you.

12

13 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad, De
- 16 Beers Canada. I just want to clarify we did submit,
- 17 both, to the communities in October when we brought the
- 18 communities all together here at the Prince of Wales
- 19 museum, and we presented to the panel in November, and
- 20 again in Lutsel K'e on February 15th, our community
- 21 engagement plan.
- 22 All of those plans start with De Beers
- 23 starting point being with chief and council. We always
- 24 ask permission to come into the community. We always
- 25 offer, and when invited accept, to make a presentation

- 1 on the project to address any issues that are important
- 2 to chief and council and to the community when -- when
- 3 we're in there.
- In terms of De Beers next steps, in
- 5 terms of our 2012 engagement plan, we have a letter out
- 6 at this point inviting site visits for -- for people to
- 7 come to Gahcho Kue, and we've proposed in our
- 8 engagement plan coming back to the community in 2012.
- 9 Our approach is always to work through chief and
- 10 council to set the agenda for what needs to be
- 11 discussed. So the short answer is yes, but that's our
- 12 approach.
- 13 MR. MIKE TOLLS: Thanks, Cathie. Mike
- 14 Tolls, from Lutsel K'e. I guess what -- what we're
- 15 really trying to avoid here with Stephanie and I
- 16 suggesting these things is a situation like with the
- 17 Victor Diamond Mine in -- in Attawapiskat. And I think
- 18 everyone is aware of the situation in that community
- 19 and how our -- our question about that was: How -- how
- 20 can the community be so close to a diamond mine like
- 21 that and not have any real economic benefits in the
- 22 community?
- 23 And that's just the situation that's
- 24 we're trying to avoid. So we want to help you get a
- 25 better picture of our community before -- before you --

- 1 you know, you make your -- your commitments to economic
- 2 opportunities within Lutsel K'e. Thank you.
- MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad, De
- 4 Beers. I would be pleased tomorrow to share with you
- 5 an update on the economic benefits flowing from De
- 6 Beers' Victor Mine to the communities close by.
- 7 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,
- 8 with the panel. We'll take that as a task for De Beers
- 9 to present it to us tomorrow. Thanks.
- 10 Just so we have clarity can we restate
- 11 that task, please.
- 12 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: In response to the
- 13 assertion that there are no economic benefits flowing
- 14 from the Victor Mine, De Beers will clarify what
- 15 economic benefits are flowing from the De Beers Victor
- 16 Mine to the Attawapiskat.
- 17 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert.
- 18 Thank you very much.
- 19 If Lutsel K'e would like to continue. A
- 20 couple more questions before we go to the Tlicho
- 21 Government.
- 22
- 23 (BRIEF PAUSE)
- 24
- THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Thank you. We

- 1 -- I believe we have Henry Zoe with us from the Tlicho
- 2 Government. If you could, yeah, introduce yourself and
- 3 some questions, please.
- 4 MR. HENRY ZOE: Thanks, Chuck. Henry
- 5 Zoe, with the Tlicho Government. I have four (4)
- 6 questions I'd like to pose. The first one is for GNWT.
- 7 Can the GNWT representative --
- 8 representatives here tell us about the ways that SEMAs
- 9 have been effective adapting programs or services based
- 10 on the socio-economic changes that have been noted
- 11 through monitoring?
- 12 The second question is: How would
- 13 another SEMA be helpful in the north?
- 14 Third, what new data do we need to
- 15 collect in the north?
- 16 And the fourth question: Will the GNWT
- 17 allocate funds to make adaptive changes? Thank you.
- 18 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hu --
- 19 Chuck Hubert, with the panel. Thanks. We'll let GNWT
- 20 try with the first couple and if they weren't able to
- 21 write fast enough, we might get you to repeat the -- a
- 22 couple of them. We'll see how they -- how they do.
- 23 Thanks.
- 24 MS. JANET GRINSTED: Can you repeat?
- MR. HENRY ZOE: Okay. Can the GNWT

- 1 tell us the ways that SEMAs have been effective
- 2 adapting programs or services, based on the socio-
- 3 economic changes that have been noted through
- 4 monitoring?
- 5 MS. JUANITA ROBINSON: Juanita
- 6 Robinson, GNWT. Some of the impacts that are being
- 7 seen through a report like Communities and Diamonds
- 8 cover a lot of departments, so we may need to get back
- 9 with a more complete answer. But there are some
- 10 changes that have happened since 1996, for -- and I'll
- 11 give just a couple of examples.
- So new family violence legislation was
- 13 introduced. Homelessness is being looked at, and
- 14 there's a homelessness coalition with the participation
- 15 of multiple departments. And there's been specific ST
- 16 -- sexually transmitted infection strategies,
- 17 including, I believe, one (1) in the Tlicho. There
- 18 will be a representative from Health and Social
- 19 Services here tomorrow. So those are some examples.
- 20 If we didn't have the follow-up programs
- 21 in place we would not have information about the
- 22 procurement and employment at the mines. We would --
- 23 traditionally, we haven't had that type of information
- 24 public. So that's one (1) thing that helps us better
- 25 understand if those impacts are related to the mines.

- 1 And we wouldn't have the public
- 2 reporting because Communities and Diamonds is only --
- 3 we wouldn't have the reporting of trends either,
- 4 because Communities and Diamonds is only triggered
- 5 because there are socio-econ -- socio-economic
- 6 agreements. That's a partial answer, hopefully.
- 7 MR. HENRY ZOE: Henry Zoe, here again,
- 8 Tlicho government. Is -- I'm not sure, but I can't
- 9 recall -- but is the GNWT and the proponent going to be
- 10 signing another SEMA for this project, specifically for
- 11 that project, or -- or are you going to expand the one
- 12 that currently have what -- at De Beers? Thank you.
- 13 MS. JUANITA ROBINSON: Juanita
- 14 Robinson, GNWT. I see in one of the Tlicho response --
- 15 responses to a Tlicho IR, where there's a commitment
- 16 table produced that De Beers has committed to a socio-
- 17 economic agreement. I think it's too soon to know
- 18 exactly what form that -- shape that would take. And
- 19 the -- the process will inform what the agreement act -
- 20 finally -- what shape it finally takes.
- 21 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad,
- 22 from De Beers. Juanita, can you just point us --
- 23 sorry, I'm talking too close to that. Can you point us
- 24 to the IR that you are referring to.
- MS. JUANITA ROBINSON: It's the one

172 with the commitment table. I believe it's 18, perhaps. I don't have it open in front of me. 3 (BRIEF PAUSE) 5 6 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Just for clarity, I'd like you just to point to me what you're looking 7 at, so I can see what you're looking at. 9 10 (BRIEF PAUSE) 11 12 MS. JUANITA ROBINSON: Juanita Robinson. I believe it was on the third -- there was a 13 re -- reference to it on the third line of the 15 commitment table. Eighteen (18). 16 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Thanks, Henry, and nice to see you by the way. Cathie Bolstad from De 17 18 Beers. De Beers' understanding is that the GNWT, as 19 you look at the mandate of the GNWT and it articulates it, is that it does require a socio-economic agreement 21 for projects in the Northwest Territories as a 22 mechanism for monitoring and follow-up programs. 23 Beers has certainly indicated to the GNWT that we are 24 ready and willing to enter into such an agreement. 25 MS. JUANITA ROBINSON: Juanita

- 1 Robinson, GNWT. I wouldn't use the word "require,"
- 2 because the -- the -- it's the panel that will make the
- 3 decisions about the terms and -- or make the
- 4 recommendations for the terms and conditions of the
- 5 project. And -- and management of resources doesn't
- 6 rest with GNWT. So we'll look to the panel to -- to
- 7 see whether the follow-up program is required or not.
- 8 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert
- 9 with the panel. Yeah, the panel will do that. Thanks.
- 10 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad, De
- 11 Beers. So I'd like to just seek clarification from
- 12 GNWT then. So if this is -- or from the panel. If
- 13 this is a decision that is made by the panel, is the
- 14 anticipation then that this would be an agreement
- 15 entered into after a particular place in the process
- 16 and -- and it would be issued in the decision report?
- 17 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: The panel
- 18 encourages the developer and GNWT to work together to
- 19 the development of such an -- an agreement. And if --
- 20 it -- it has the option of including as a measure in
- 21 its report as a means of reducing significant adverse
- 22 impacts to an acceptable level, should it chose.
- 23 But during this phase, the -- the panel
- 24 certainly encourages the -- the -- GNWT and De Beers to
- 25 work together to come up with the types of meaningful

174 measures and -- and res -- resolution of issues that -that can be made. Thanks. MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad, De 3 Beers. Then just perhaps for further clarity, if it is not a requirement of the GNWT, and the panel is looking for us to work together, is -- is the GNWT -- what is the GNWT's expectation with respect to to a socioeconomic agreement then? 9 MS. JUANITA ROBINSON: 10 Robinson, GNWT. As the presentation indicated, for a project such as this, a follow-up -- socio-economic 11 12 follow-up program would be advisable. So we -- as the 13 presentation indicates, we are recommending it. 14 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad. 15 Thank you. 16 17 (BRIEF PAUSE) 18 19 MR. HENRY ZOE: Henry Zoe, Tlicho Government. Could I ask another question in regards to the SEMA. 21 There's different types of SEMA out there 22 with the different mining companies. What are you 23 proposing -- are you going to have a board or is it 24 going to be -- how is it going to be set up for your monitoring, for your agreement -- monitoring agreement?

- 1 MS. JUANITA ROBINSON: Juanita
- 2 Robinson, GNWT. I think suggestions from the public
- 3 that arise during the process would be interesting and
- 4 we'll take -- we would be -- we would take them under
- 5 advisement and consider all of them.
- 6 MR. HENRY ZOE: Henry Zoe here, Tlicho
- 7 Government. Are you suggesting that we could make
- 8 recommendations to you then, for -- for -- if we want
- 9 to see a board in place, or a committee, or -- how is
- 10 this going to work? That's -- that's the question I
- 11 was asking. Has that been considered yet? Thank you.
- 12 MS. JUANITA ROBINSON: Juanita
- 13 Robinson, GNWT. At this point I don't have any
- 14 information about what that -- what a se -- SEMA would
- 15 look like, or SEA. But the panel would consider any
- 16 technical recommendations from any Intervenor. And
- 17 that information would be available for consideration.
- THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,
- 19 with the panel. I believe De Beers was going to speak
- 20 more tomorrow on a monitoring model that had been
- 21 presented in a document on Tuesday. So we look forward
- 22 to that further discussion for sure.
- 23 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 24 Chisholm, from De Beers. Just to clarify the
- 25 clarification we're going to provide tomorrow, that is

- 1 on the environmental monitoring and management
- 2 framework document. And that did not include socio-
- 3 economic. We look at that as a separate mechanism, so.
- 4 So that expectation -- that we're not mixing those two
- 5 (2).
- 6 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert.
- 7 Wow, am I bad for mixing the two (2). Sorry. It's
- 8 good to clarify that though. You can continue, Henry.
- 9 MR. HENRY ZOE: Okay, I want to move on
- 10 to something else, the recruiting plan for De Beers.
- 11 For the last -- a year and a half -- a year now, since
- 12 I've been the liaison person for Tlicho Government
- 13 working with the mining industry, I note that although
- 14 all the mining companies have a recruitment plan,
- 15 there's still a lot of problems in your recruiting
- 16 plans, especially when people are asked for medical --
- 17 for the medical to be done. In some cases, for some
- 18 reason, I don't know why, but they're not being done at
- 19 the nursing stations at the communities. The clients
- 20 are asked to go to Yellowknife to get their medical
- 21 done and all their drug and alcohol testing and stuff
- 22 like that.
- 23 So that seems to be a major problem in -
- 24 for the mining industry, in -- in my view, because
- 25 I've been dealing with all the HR departments, from

177 Diavik, BHP, even De Beers, that this is still a recurring thing that's happening at the community level. How -- how is De Beers going to mitigate these 3 effects that's happening right now? Thank you. 5 6 (BRIEF PAUSE) Cathie Bolstad, De MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: 9 Beers Canada. Henry, thanks for that. This is the 10 first I've ever heard of that. In my eight (8) years working for De Beers that has never ever come up in a 11 12 community meeting. It has never come up in our 13 meetings with any of the communities with our HR 14 department. So that's -- that's news to me. 15 And because it's news to me it's not 16 something I actually have followed in terms of detail 17 about how we handle our medicals because it's never 18 come up as an issue. So I -- I think what I can -- can 19 say to you is ple -- please let me step back and pro -tomorrow just come back to you and ter -- let you know 21 how De Beers does handle that. I am not aware that has been an issue at all. 22 23 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,

with the panel. We will list that as a task and go

25 over these towards the end of the day.

- 1 MR. HENRY ZOE: On another issue, if I
- 2 could ask De Beers in regards to -- in regards to doing
- 3 things for their employees at the community level. I
- 4 believe De Beers has undertaken to do a money
- 5 management course at a community level. I think it was
- 6 done in the Tlicho region. Could you tell us how
- 7 successful this -- this course was and whether they
- 8 think they are working or not? Thank you.
- 9 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Thanks, Henry.
- 10 It's Cathie Bolstad, from De Beers. De Beers
- 11 implemented in 2011 in partnership with Education,
- 12 Culture, and Employment, the rolling out in the
- 13 community centres -- and, yes, the Tlicho communities
- 14 were all included -- a program on -- on the computers
- 15 in the learning centres.
- 16 And the program is to provide a tool for
- 17 the community learning centre so that employees and/or
- 18 their families or -- or members from the community can
- 19 come in. And through the -- the learning centre that's
- 20 in the community, work through a module.
- 21 And the basics of the module -- and it's
- 22 been probably about a year since I've actually gone
- 23 through the module myself, so I'm trying to remember
- 24 what -- what is all in it. But the basics of the mod -
- 25 model is really to help people understand, you know,

- 1 the impact of credit cards, when you put too much on
- 2 credit cards, how interest work -- works on that. How
- 3 to plan a family budget and put that together and
- 4 manage the payments that you have with your income.
- I don't have handy the number of people
- 6 who have participated in that program. It's -- the
- 7 program is about a year old now. I believe it's in one
- 8 (1) of our IRs and it may be in the IR to you. I don't
- 9 know if the team can help me out here. In terms of
- 10 whether that's working or not, it's young and we've
- 11 only implemented it for a year. And we need to do a
- 12 touchstone to see how that's working for people and how
- 13 they're using -- using it.
- 14 One (1) of the things we did do was --
- 15 with the government of the Northwest Territories, and
- 16 it was the -- the three (3) diamond mines at the table,
- 17 is De Beers did provide and show that tool to the
- 18 Department of Education, Culture, and Employment last
- 19 year, because ECE was looking at developing a program
- 20 that would be in all NWT communities. And, of course,
- 21 people want to avoid duplication. So they were looking
- 22 at that program with the view of rolling that out with
- 23 the supports that ECE has, if that was possible. And
- 24 I'm not sure where -- where -- I know the module has
- 25 been developed. I don't know the status of what ECE is

- 1 doing that.
- In the meantime, we provide that there,
- 3 but we don't run the community learning centres and
- 4 we're not there. So I -- I can provide you some
- 5 anecdotal numbers of people that are using that. And
- 6 we can undertake, certainly, to see from the community
- 7 learning centres, you know, what -- what they're
- 8 hearing about that. That -- that's a turnaround time,
- 9 of a wee bit to -- to get that information. But it's -
- 10 it's a very young pilot program.
- I'm just -- I'm being pointed that --
- 12 it's a response about the numbers to that, is in Tlicho
- 13 government 39. And perhaps the GNWT can update us on
- 14 their money management program that they were
- 15 developing and what the plan is for that in
- 16 communities. Oh, I should mention that we do offer it
- 17 in our learning centre at the Snap Lake mine and it is
- 18 supported by the adult learning instructor there.
- 19 MS. LAURIE MORTON: This is Laurie
- 20 Morton, from ECE. We are developing financial literacy
- 21 modules for the ALBE program, so it's the adult
- 22 learning and basic education program. There will be
- 23 eleven (11) modules. It will be delivered in community
- 24 learning centres. It can be delivered by career
- 25 development officers. It will be part of the package

- 1 of the ALBE program as well as to be delivered
- 2 separately.
- 3 Each module -- and I'm sorry, I don't
- 4 remember the -- the time. Each module is at least a
- 5 week or two (2). And it covers areas such as -- as
- 6 what Cathie was saying, sort of money management and
- 7 things like that. It also covers how to set up a bank
- 8 account, loans, mortgages. And it talks about in a --
- 9 those, what are those companies in town that lend money
- 10 quickly? What are they called? It talks about that.
- 11 So it touches on all areas.
- 12 And that, we've got -- the first module
- 13 has been piloted in -- in the South Slave, and in one
- 14 (1) more area which I can't remember. I think it's in
- 15 the Beaufort by the career development officers. All
- 16 the modules should be completed by -- and I think it's
- 17 October. And we're going to be training the adult
- 18 educators from Aurora College on how to deliver that.
- 19 And we should be delivering all of those within the
- 20 community learning centres as students require,
- 21 beginning in about January, 2013 -- February. That's
- 22 where we're at.
- 23 MR. HENRY ZOE: Thank you. Can I get
- 24 back to recruiting again? About recruiting barriers?
- 25 I know that De Beers has a lot of contractors that are

- 1 working for them. And I assume it's going to be the
- 2 same for this project, where you're going to have site
- 3 services and catering and housekeeping, et cetera.
- 4 Are you planning to go that -- that
- 5 route as you currently are doing now?
- 6 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Thanks, Henry.
- 7 It's Cathie Bolstad. As -- I don't know if you were
- 8 here earlier when we talked about an operational
- 9 readiness plan that De Beers has. It's a -- it's the
- 10 process, I guess, by which as -- as you get closer to a
- 11 project becoming a reality, you have milestones of
- 12 things you need to put in place. And one (1) of those
- 13 milestones is making the determination from an -- an
- 14 execution of the project point of view of which
- 15 components of your project will be contracts and which
- 16 will be in-house. We have not made that -- those
- 17 decisions yet.
- 18 MR. HENRY ZOE: Thank you. I was
- 19 leading up to a question in regards to that. No, the
- 20 reason I'm asking is that right now with your -- your
- 21 De Beers operation at Snap Lake you're currently using
- 22 contractors for catering and housekeeping and site
- 23 services and so forth.
- 24 Where -- we're seeing problems where our
- 25 community frontline workers, our career development

- 1 officers that help our Tlicho citizen apply for jobs at
- 2 the -- within the mining industry, they're -- they're
- 3 having difficulty, I guess, dealing with various
- 4 contractors. We -- we don't know who they are, or who
- 5 looks after HR in a specific contract. Like for
- 6 instance, if I recall right -- Snap Lake right now,
- 7 their housekeeping and catering is Bouwa Whee Catering.
- Now, it'll be nice if -- if the
- 9 frontline workers at the community level could -- could
- 10 at lest meet the HR people from those contractors so
- 11 that they get to know face to face who they are and to
- 12 work closely with them to find out how their systems --
- 13 what type of system they're using and stuff like that.
- 14 The reason I'm saying that is that --
- 15 because we -- we did a workshop with BHP, and it worked
- 16 out really well with the HR people from BHP and our
- 17 community frontline workers, or career development
- 18 officers, because BHP has online -- they do everything
- 19 online with their applications. And -- and they got a
- 20 tracking system and everything. So they learnt
- 21 everything -- we had a one (1) day workshop with our --
- 22 with our career development officers and BHP HR, their
- 23 re -- their recruiters. And they learned a whole
- 24 system. And they got all the kinks out, all the
- 25 problems that they noted were worked out between --

- 1 between both -- both groups. And they're starting to
- 2 work very closely together now.
- 3 So I was wondering if -- if that type of
- 4 thing could occur with this project also. If we -- if
- 5 you go that route, where you have contractors doing
- 6 your housekeeping, or catering, or site services, if --
- 7 if those HR departments from those contractors could at
- 8 least have workshop with our career development
- 9 officers at the community level so they get to know
- 10 them face to face. And -- and you know, they can pick
- 11 up the phone and say, you know, what happened to Joe
- 12 Blow's application that I sent you, or email each
- 13 other. Thank you.
- 14 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Thanks, Henry. I
- 15 think that's a fabulous recommendation. You know, I'll
- 16 -- I'll use an example of -- of -- you know, how we
- 17 have worked like that in the past when -- when --
- 18 you'll recall when Snap Lake had its -- its shutdown in
- 19 2008 and into 2009, and -- and the slowdown.
- 20 One (1) of the things we did as we
- 21 ramped back up to production in 2010, is we actually
- 22 brought together -- and we used technology to do it.
- 23 You've suggested face-to-face. And we're open to all
- 24 kinds of suggestions. And we actually brought together
- 25 employment officers from Education, Culture, and

- 1 Employment. We met with Aboriginal communities to
- 2 actually explain to them what all our policies were,
- 3 what the jobs were that we were ramping back up for,
- 4 all about our transportation of employees, our
- 5 apprenticeship programs, all those things.
- And I think in terms of, you know,
- 7 preparing for the Gahcho Kue project, as we get into
- 8 the finer detail in -- in the preparation, as we call,
- 9 you know, the HR strategy to recruit and retain
- 10 northerners, I think it's a great recommendation that
- 11 for those elements where we have contractors that we're
- 12 -- we're involving the HR people of those contractors
- 13 in the ramp-up plan for Gahcho Kue.
- 14 So thank you for that suggestion. We'll
- 15 absolutely take it into consideration in our plans.
- 16 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert
- 17 with the panel. Thanks. And we'll leave that for
- 18 future discussions between De Beers and Tlicho
- 19 government.
- 20 I suspect there may be one (1) or more
- 21 person on the telecom. And so, if that's the case,
- 22 please state your name and ask a question, if -- if
- 23 you'd like to participate.
- 24 MS. GINGER GIBSON: Chuck...?
- THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Yes, go ahead.

- 1 MS. GINGER GIBSON: It's Ginger Gibson
- 2 from the Tlicho government. I wanted to just follow on
- 3 some of Henry's questions, if that's okay?
- THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Yes, please
- 5 proceed.
- 6 MS. GINGER GIBSON: Thank you for the
- 7 discussion about the socio-economic agreement. And I'm
- 8 really grateful to hear that there's an opportunity and
- 9 openness to -- to thinking about how that plays out and
- 10 what it looks like.
- In order to get -- I'm wondering if
- 12 people could talk about whether it would be useful to
- 13 actually evaluate what has happened. We've had a range
- 14 of agreements that have -- each of them has played out
- 15 little bit differently, the -- the structures have
- 16 played out a little bit differently. And -- and what's
- 17 happened because of them has also been quite -- you
- 18 know, I think it's been quite different.
- 19 And -- and the question in the Tlicho
- 20 Government is -- is: Do -- you know, should we be --
- 21 should there be another socio-economic agreement,
- 22 should it look the same? And I think it would be -- it
- 23 might be useful to have a little bit of an evaluative
- 24 exercise at this point. So I'm wondering if -- if
- 25 maybe, Juanita, if you could reflect on that. And --

- 1 and Cathie if you -- you could let us know if --
- 2 internally in De Beers, if you've done any thinking
- 3 about or looked at the other agreements just to us give
- 4 some information about what kind reflection has been
- 5 done on this.

6

7 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 9 MS. JUANITA ROBINSON: Juanita
- 10 Robinson, GNWT. Thank you for your question, Ginger.
- 11 I believe that was also a -- a similar recommendation
- 12 to that was made in the environmental audit. And it's
- 13 -- it's a -- you know, it's a question that takes a --
- 14 a careful answer. So I don't have an answer today. We
- 15 could offer to get back with, you know, a short -- a
- 16 short evaluation.
- 17 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,
- 18 with the panel. Thanks. Is that something that you
- 19 can provide a more comprehensive answer to tomorrow
- 20 afternoon perhaps?
- 21 MS. GINGER GIBSON: Juanita, I -- I
- 22 think it would be wonderful for you to provide more --
- 23 an answer from the GNWT. And -- and then maybe we
- 24 could discuss -- collectively discuss whether -- you
- 25 know, to me it wouldn't be a bad idea to have a -- both

- 1 on -- I think we'll talk about this more tomorrow with
- 2 respect to the environmental monitoring.
- But it -- it seems with both kinds of in
- 4 -- in social and environmental monitoring that it would
- 5 be really useful to be reflective right now before
- 6 we're creative again. And -- and I think there's lots
- 7 of different ways for that to happen. I think it could
- 8 happen by a workshop. It could happen through an
- 9 evaluative exercise where somebody holds a pen and and
- 10 does some interviewing.
- I think there's different ways to have
- 12 that flow, so that there is a really -- an -- an
- 13 instrument -- what -- whatever new instrument or
- 14 whatever new framework is developed is actually based
- 15 in -- in learning from the past.
- 16 And I think a lot of people have a --
- 17 intuitions and feelings about what's been successful
- 18 about, for example, DCAB, and about the -- the
- 19 different agreements that have -- have matured through
- 20 the years. But it would be wonderful to be reflective
- 21 right now and then creative again. So I'd like -- I'll
- 22 look forward to hearing your thoughts about this
- 23 tomorrow.
- 24 Cathie from De Beers, Cathie Bolstad, do
- 25 you have any thoughts about this? Have you done any

- 1 internal reflection? Or Veronica Chisholm?
- MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Good afternoon.
- 3 Cathie Bolstad, from De Beers. And, hi, Ginger. Nice
- 4 to hear your voice.
- 5 Absolutely I have reflected on this
- 6 because this is an agreement we live by and we report
- 7 on all the time. And De Beers' reflection on this is
- 8 that we are reporting all of the things that we said we
- 9 would do in an annual report. Now we are sitting in
- 10 front of the standing committee of economic develop for
- 11 the Government of the Northwest Territories annually to
- 12 discuss all of the data that we are providing with the
- 13 view of, how can we improve, where are our challenges,
- 14 how can we work together.
- We do go out to the communities and
- 16 present these results and share these results with
- 17 them. And in some communities we have more detailed
- 18 results specific to them that we actually sit at the
- 19 table together and work through. And my reflection on
- 20 it is that the follow-up and the monitoring is taking
- 21 place face-to-face between our company and the people
- 22 that are -- are working with us, whether it's the
- 23 government or -- or communities.
- 24 And certainly each of those groups has a
- 25 different perspective. And those things are

- 1 functioning very well. It doesn't mean we don't have
- 2 challenges and that -- that we aren't, you know, trying
- 3 to improve. So my re -- my reflection is we have good
- 4 follow-up programs when we come through this process
- 5 and we look at the commitments.
- 6 The company has already stated we will
- 7 continue to provide transparency around the commitments
- 8 that we've made and how we're performing, and we will
- 9 continue to make ourselves available. And we'll
- 10 continue to do our best to provide how we're responding
- 11 and -- and to recommendations and improving. And --
- 12 and that's our view of the world and, you know, whether
- 13 you need an agreement to do that or a commitment from
- 14 the company to report and do those things on an annual
- 15 basis, you know, I -- I think our perspective is you --
- 16 you don't necessarily need an agreement to do that.
- 17 But if that's what's important for the
- 18 government or the panel, we'll absolutely -- we're --
- 19 we're willing and ready to do that. But we will report
- 20 and we will engage with communities and engage with
- 21 government on our success and our challenges.
- MS. GINGER GIBSON: Thank you very
- 23 much. Ginger Gibson, from Tlicho Government. I just
- 24 wanted to thank De Beers for the -- I think there was
- 25 quite an extensive set of Information Requests that was

- 1 put -- that were put in to the company. And -- and
- 2 we're really grateful for the in-depth and thoughtful
- 3 respo -- responses that came through.
- I do want to follow up on another
- 5 question from Henry Zoe with respect to money
- 6 management courses. This is an ongoing issue in
- 7 communities, the money management issue. It relates to
- 8 the social inequity issues as well. But I wanted to
- 9 ask specifically, to follow up on a GNWT comment, that
- 10 there's courses being developed.
- 11 And I'm wondering if -- also if De Beers
- 12 or GNWT have put some thought into providing -- making
- 13 sure that those courses have an -- a closure component
- 14 to them in the sense that money management for people
- 15 who are dealing with a boom/bust economy may need to
- 16 consider. I mean, we saw -- we saw the closure of Snap
- 17 for a number of years, where many people were -- needed
- 18 to harbour their -- their resources and their -- and
- 19 their -- they didn't have wages for a while.
- 20 So I -- I'm wondering if there is both
- 21 commodity -- reflection in the money management courses
- 22 on that commodity reality and on how to deal with post-
- 23 mining as an -- as a reality. Thank you.
- 24 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: It's Cathie
- 25 Bolstad. Ginger, just to clarify, Snap Lake was not

- 1 closed for a number of years. We had a temporary
- 2 shutdown for six (6) weeks. So I just -- just want to
- 3 make sure that that's clear.
- In terms of the modules themselves --
- 5 and it's difficult for me to remember the detail of the
- 6 modules that De Beers is using, but the -- the --
- 7 certainly the planning and the approach is to get
- 8 people to learn to understand that a revenue stream is
- 9 an important part of managing your money. And that
- 10 comes with income. And that, you know, income has to
- 11 come from a source, and -- and at the end of a job what
- 12 is your income.
- As a company, when we've had -- had the
- 14 temporary shutdown we worked with our employees
- 15 specifically. We did not use a module like that. We
- 16 worked with our employees to help them understand what
- 17 the impact would be on them and their families
- 18 personally. And the company worked with them to make
- 19 sure we had a plan in place to bridge them through that
- 20 by helping them prepare for the shutdown financially.
- In terms of the modules themselves, I
- 22 don't think we've given specific thought to closure. I
- 23 think it's a good suggestion to think about to make
- 24 sure that we're helping people realize all revenues are
- 25 finite and come from a source, and we need to plan our

- 1 lives around where our incomes are coming from. So
- 2 good suggestion.
- 3 MS. LAURIE MORTON: Laurie Morton, from
- 4 ECE. I agree with Cathie. It's a very, very good
- 5 suggestion. I know we talk about -- in our financial
- 6 planning modules we talk about saving for the future.
- 7 But I am not sure that it -- it talks about should
- 8 there be a closure or should your -- your stream of
- 9 funding stop. So again, it is a very good suggestion.
- 10 And when I get back to the office I will check on it.
- MS. GINGER GIBSON: Ginger Gibson,
- 12 Tlicho Government. Another -- one (1) of the primary
- 13 barriers we see to Tlicho people getting in -- getting
- 14 jobs right now is criminal record checks. Not -- not
- 15 the criminal record check itself, but when people have
- 16 a criminal record they have to receive a pardon if they
- 17 are able to get that. There's a really -- it's a
- 18 really tough thing to get the awareness in communities
- 19 that pardons are an option.
- 20 And then the second biggest barrier is -
- 21 is actually addictions and -- and the problems if
- 22 people -- if people have any addiction issues.
- 23 I'm wondering if you can speak -- if
- 24 anyone can speak, either De Beers or the GNWT, about
- 25 tackling those barriers head on? It's been an -- I

- 1 mean, there's been a tonne of progress on this issue
- 2 over the years, but it continues to be -- those
- 3 continue to be -- to be the two (2) biggest barriers to
- 4 getting Tlicho people in -- from the communities into
- 5 the mines. Thank you.
- 6 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad, De
- 7 Beers. Thanks, Ginger. I just -- I'll -- I'll address
- 8 pardons from De Beers' perspective. What I heard you
- 9 say was people have to have a pardon to get a job. At
- 10 least, that's what I thought I heard you say.
- So I just want to clarify. And we say
- 12 this when we are in the communities whenever criminal
- 13 records come up, that every job application, every
- 14 employee that is matched to a particular job, every
- 15 employee -- sorry, let me back up. Every employee is
- 16 required to go through a criminal records check. One
- 17 (1) of the -- the important foundations of our company
- 18 is trust. And so we tell people when they're applying,
- 19 every job is measured in terms of the risks to our
- 20 employees and to the company.
- 21 But employees do work for De Beers that
- 22 have criminal record checks, and employees do not
- 23 require a pardon to work for De Beers. De Beers does
- 24 go into communities -- and we have brought our
- 25 protective services officers into communities where

- 1 this has surfaced as an issue and we need to deal with
- 2 the perception, to actually help people understand what
- 3 a pardon is and how it can be helpful for them for all
- 4 employment choices.
- 5 But, as a company, a criminal record is
- 6 looked at based on the job that they're required to do
- 7 and the risk of that particular record that it has.
- 8 What we expect is that people will be transparent with
- 9 us and tell us that they have it, because when the
- 10 check is done we don't want to find out something
- 11 that's opposite of what they've told us. Because our
- 12 relationship with our employees and -- and the product
- 13 that we mine, we need to have trust.
- 14 So, you know, in terms of what can we do
- 15 as a company? We make people available to help people
- 16 in the communities understand what De Beers needs or
- 17 doesn't need. We help, and have provided help, on
- 18 attaining pardons where that can help people who that's
- 19 a barrier for them, they'd like to get rid of, and they
- 20 can. We've provided that help. I think it's a big
- 21 perception issue that we have a lot of work to deal
- 22 with. And we -- we deal with that by talking face-to-
- 23 face in the communities and explaining that.
- In terms of the second biggest barrier
- 25 that you -- you identified in terms of addictions, De

- 1 Beers has programs for its employees. And -- and our
- 2 commitment is that when we have employees who have
- 3 issues that need help, we have help for the employees.
- And when we have an employee that
- 5 encounters difficulty in doing their job and meeting
- 6 their commitments to their -- their employment contract
- 7 with De Beers, and when it's determined with that
- 8 employee that the issue is indeed an addiction or -- or
- 9 a potential for an addiction, De Beers provides the
- 10 opportunities to the employee. And the employee needs
- 11 to make choices about whether they will accept that
- 12 help or not. But the company is there to stand by them
- 13 and to put them through those programs that we make
- 14 available to help them with that.
- So those -- those are the things that I
- 16 can speak to. Those things are -- are in place now,
- 17 and they will be in place for the Gahcho Kue project.
- MS. GINGER GIBSON: Those are great
- 19 answers. I really appreciate the knowledge about the -
- 20 what was it? The position, the person that goes into
- 21 the communities with you?
- 22 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: It -- it could be
- 23 any of a De Beers employee, but in the past because
- 24 it's our security people that are perceived by the
- 25 communities as -- as, you know, the protective services

- 1 people. That's who we've brought in. And they are
- 2 also often the knowledgeable people about the process,
- 3 because they've worked in those those processes.
- 4 MS. GINGER GIBSON: Thank you.
- 5 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: It's Chuck
- 6 Hubert, with the panel. Thanks very much for your
- 7 questions, Ginger. Do -- possibly do you --
- 8 MS. GINGER GIBSON: That's it for me
- 9 now. I'll have more tomorrow.
- 10 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Okay, thanks.
- 11 We look forward to your questions tomorrow, then.
- 12 That's tomorrow afternoon. I also believe I heard on
- 13 our telecon NSMA sign on? Cheryl, are you there?
- 14 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Stephanie Poole,
- 15 Akaitcho IMA. I just have one (1) follow-up question
- 16 to what Ginger had asked regarding criminal record
- 17 checks.
- 18 I wondered if De Beers could tell us if
- 19 anyone has ever been not allowed to participate in a
- 20 site visit due -- due to a criminal record. And do
- 21 people who go on a site visit have to have a criminal
- 22 record check as well?
- 23 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Thanks, Stephanie.
- 24 To my knowledge, when we invite people to the site for
- 25 a site visit with us I am not aware of anyone that has

- 1 been denied on the basis of a criminal records check,
- 2 to my knowledge. We do not do a criminal records check
- 3 on people when we are inviting them and hosting them to
- 4 site. They are accompanied by a De Beers manager on
- 5 site. Thanks.

6

7 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 9 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 10 Chisholm from De Beers. Stephanie, are you aware of an
- 11 incident at De Beers where -- where someone was denied
- 12 a site visit or -- or -- I'm pretty sure criminal
- 13 checks aren't done. So if -- if there's some
- 14 experience you'd like to share with us, we're open to
- 15 listening to that.
- 16 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: I -- I just think
- 17 it's something that is possible. And I think it's some
- 18 -- a concern that community members have had in the
- 19 past. And I'm -- I'm not sure which site visit so
- 20 that's why I asked. But I could do some research and
- 21 maybe that'll form an Information Request later on.
- 22 Thank you.
- 23 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: De Beers Canada,
- 24 Cathie. Maybe if I just clarified. When De Beers does
- 25 do site visits there are forms we require. And they

- 1 are usually a site waiver form and usually an
- 2 opportunity for us to take your picture and keep your
- 3 picture at site. So there are paperwork we require.
- 4 But it is our employees and our contractors working at
- 5 site that go through the criminal records check because
- 6 they are on site, and they're overnight, and they're
- 7 living in a remote community together.
- 8 So -- and -- and just to clarify the
- 9 process for a site visit, when De Beers extends an
- 10 invitation to communities to come on a site visit, De
- 11 Beers always leaves the choice of who comes on the
- 12 visit to the communities. And they provide us with the
- 13 names and we host them.
- 14 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert
- 15 with the panel. Thanks very much. I'd like to try
- 16 once again for anybody who is on the teleconference.
- 17 Please speak.
- 18 MR. TODD SLACK: Hi, Chuck. Todd here.
- 19 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Hi, Todd. Go
- 20 ahead.
- 21 MR. TODD SLACK: I have a -- again a
- 22 follow-up after some of the things that we've heard in
- 23 subsequent questions. And I'm wondering what the
- 24 company's response in terms of mitigation for the
- 25 communities' ability, both in terms of funding and in

- 1 terms of capacity for monitoring of social, cultural,
- 2 and economic effects.
- 3 We heard -- Graeme was talking about how
- 4 it's difficult to tease some of this economic
- 5 information out to -- Stephanie was inquiring about the
- 6 -- the benefits to the community. And it was difficult
- 7 to have that because of the information collected from
- 8 GNWT stats, I assume, is his primary source. And the
- 9 GNW -- GNWT wasn't able to answer some of her questions
- 10 either.
- 11 And then the report that was submitted
- 12 and -- just a few weeks ago, sorry. Naturally I don't
- 13 have it here. The environmental impact benefits; well,
- 14 that only looked at the positive impact -- cost of --
- 15 provided by the development. It didn't consider any of
- 16 the negative impacts to social, infrastructure,
- 17 environmental.
- 18 So I think what we're hearing is for the
- 19 communities -- or the company and the government are
- 20 saying, Well we don't have this information. The
- 21 communities are saying, Well this is part of the
- 22 information that we need to adequately raise our
- 23 concerns. So there's a real disconnect there in terms
- 24 of the communities' ability to go out and get that
- 25 information because obviously the government isn't

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doing it.
2
                   So I'm wondering what mitigation the
   company is proposing. And this is directly out of
3
   Section 4.17 in the terms of -- terms of reference,
   bullet 2 there, that there -- the EIS was supposed to
   address this. Now I -- I don't remember what the EIS
7
   said about this, but I'd be real interested in hearing
   what mitigations are available.
                                     Thanks.
9
10
                          (BRIEF PAUSE)
11
                  MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Hi, Todd.
12
13
   Cathie. You asked about what are the mitigations.
14
   mitigations that De Beers has outlined throughout the
15
   EIS are, you know, how we're going to employ, how we're
16
   going to train to ensure that there are positive
   benefits flowing through employment, how we're going to
17
18
   contract, the training that we're going to do, the
19
   mitiga -- and all of those things are things that we
   have said we will report on. So those are our
21
   mitigations. And -- and we will report those --
22
                  MR. TODD SLACK:
                                     Specifically, I'm
23
   looking towards a lack of capacity within the
24
   communities and the community governance. I don't see
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how your -- the response provides mitigations to the

- 1 ability of the -- the Yellowknives, for instance, to be
- 2 able to go out and get information that's missing to
- 3 provide you with better monitoring information.
- 4 The resources aren't available
- 5 internally. And I don't see how either a contracting
- 6 or a hiring policy would necessarily provide that.
- 7 Now, maybe I'm missing the -- the drift that you're --
- 8 or the direction that you're going, but, yeah, those
- 9 are the kind of mitigations that I'm trying to
- 10 understand what's available for First Nations, such as
- 11 the Yellowknives, to go out and get that information,
- 12 open -- being open to working with the company, but
- 13 understanding that there's no ability to generate this
- 14 information internally with current level of resources
- 15 or the current staffing or however the project would be
- 16 completed. At this point, clearly it isn't there
- 17 because we're missing the information right now.
- 18 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Todd, it's Cathie,
- 19 from De Beers Canada. Our commitment as a company is
- 20 to monitor that data that is in our control that is
- 21 project-specific. Community-based data and monitoring
- 22 is a government responsibility. So the company is
- 23 prepared to monitor and to report on those things that
- 24 are in our control, that are the mitigation measures
- 25 that we are taking. And that's where our obligation

203 And so perhaps the government wants to respond stops. on the community-specific component of that. 3 (BRIEF PAUSE) 5 6 MS. JUANITA ROBINSON: Juanita Robinson, GNWT. I'll just recap the ways that 7 monitoring is done under the socio-economic agreements that we have. I me -- I mentioned, Communities and 10 Diamonds, and that's been mentioned in other places, 11 so. In -- under the socio-economic agreements, for the 12 government's part, it's -- it issues a report that 13 looks at trends for community indicators that are often 14 -- often affected by -- or thought to be affected by 15 mining. In the socio-economic agreements they also provide for an on site survey of employees so that we can understand if employees are -- if mining is 17 18 affecting employees or if they're reacting somehow 19 differently than people in communities are. 20 The Communities and Diamonds was always 21 meant to be triangulated also with community data. 22 each socio-economic agreement deals with that part 23 differently. In the BHP agreement feedback is sought from communities through regular community visits where 24

communities can bring forward the impacts that they're

- 1 seeing and have a discussion with the company and the
- 2 government.
- 3 The Diavik socio-economic agreement has
- 4 a board, a community board that's been struck. GNWT
- 5 and Diavik have funded the board for, I guess, eleven
- 6 (11) years now. And that board, through the funding it
- 7 gets, has the capacity to do surveys. They're working
- 8 on new surveys for the coming three (3) years, and they
- 9 have done them in the past as well. So through the
- 10 funding that board gets there's some capacity for the
- 11 community representatives on it to do research.
- 12 In the Snap Lake socio-economic
- 13 agreement it provides for a board, although the board
- 14 hasn't come into effect. And the Mackenzie Gas socio-
- 15 economic agreement provides, if I recall, for regional
- 16 groups as well as a board. And in Prairie Creek
- 17 there's a committee of affected communities. And if
- 18 the committee doesn't happen then the BHP model would
- 19 be followed where meetings are held throughout the
- 20 Dehcho Region.
- So each of the agreements approaches it
- 22 differently. And depending on how they approach it, in
- 23 some cases communities have some capacity to do some of
- 24 -- some research on their own as well.
- THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Chuck Hubert,

- 1 with the panel. Thanks very much for that response.
- 2 Does De Beers have anything further to comment on on
- 3 that subject? No, I'm getting the nod.
- We're nearing 4:15, so I'll give --
- 5 Todd, if you have one (1) more question, please go
- 6 ahead.
- 7 MR. TODD SLACK: No, Chuck. I think
- 8 that answers that line of inquiry pretty well.
- 9 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Thanks, Todd.
- 10 And we very much appreciate your participating and
- 11 taking the time. So we'll --
- 12 MR. TODD SLACK: Thanks a lot.
- THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: And perhaps --
- 14 since actually it's not quite 4:15, we'll give one (1)
- 15 further question for a lucky person in the -- in the
- 16 audience here if -- if there is one.

17

18 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 20 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: If not, then
- 21 what we will do is go over some of the commitments from
- 22 today and a couple of the tasks just so that we have
- 23 some clarity and consistency on those.
- 24 Undertaking number 3 was actually
- 25 directed at Akaitcho IMA, that was for the Akaitcho IMA

- 1 office to provide the panel with a map with the Water
- 2 sur -- Survey of Canada stations on it, which has
- 3 already been done, as well as a letter with rationale
- 4 for sub -- submission of that document.
- 5 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: A commitment
- 6 was made by De Beers to provide a flow mitigation plan.

7

- 8 --- COMMITMENT NO. 5: De Beers to provide a
- 9 conceptual flow mitigation
- 10 plan

- 12 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: A second
- 13 commitment from De Beers was to work with the Akaitcho
- 14 IMA and Lutsel K'e on -- on a monitoring program for
- 15 flow in particular around the project site.
- 16 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Chuck -- Cathie
- 17 Bolstad. Can you -- can you just go back to -- what
- 18 you called -- after Undertaking number 3, the first
- 19 task, and -- and clarify what specifically that was?
- 20 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Under -- after
- 21 Undertaking number 3? Sorry? There was a commitment.
- 22 And that was for the flow mitigation plan. You mean
- 23 the one after that?
- 24 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 25 Chisholm, from De Beers. Just to clarify, maybe we'll

- 1 go one at a time and -- and do that, if that's okay,
- 2 just to make sure.
- 3 So it was a -- a conceptual downstream
- 4 flow mitigation plan that we would commit to providing
- 5 in September, correct? Okay.
- THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Yes, that's
- 7 correct.
- 8 THE FACILITATOR MERCREDI: Commitment
- 9 number 3, De Beers to outline apprenticeship training
- 10 positions for the life of mine for October. And I
- 11 believe that's a preliminary outline of a presim --
- 12 training positions for the life of mine. And that's
- 13 for October.
- 14 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: A fourth
- 15 commitment was a list of job descriptions. Again, I
- 16 guess, to -- to be more -- to expand on that, a
- 17 preliminary outline of job descriptions for the project
- 18 prior to submission of the technical reports. Does
- 19 that make sense?
- 20 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad.
- 21 Chuck, what we committed to do was a primar --
- 22 preliminary outline of the jobs that would be available
- 23 and by job category.
- 24 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: I like it.
- 25 That's good. Thanks.

- 1 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: And it -- and,
- 2 Cathie Bolstad. And it was by October in advance of
- 3 the technical reports.
- 4 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Thank you.
- 5 That's much more specific.
- 6 Following that there were a couple tasks
- 7 that De Beers will complete for tomorrow. One (1) was
- 8 an update from De Beers on economic benefits flowing
- 9 from the Victor mine to the nearest community, or
- 10 communities. Yeah.
- MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Yeah.
- 12 MS. CATHIE BOLSTAD: Cathie Bolstad.
- 13 It was to Attawapiskat.
- 14 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: To that
- 15 Attawapiskat specifically, okay.
- 16 And another task was for De Beers to
- 17 describe how they handle medicals in the communities.

18

19 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- 21 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Go ahead.
- 22 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: And that's all
- 23 I have for -- for -- to sum up today. If there's
- 24 anything else that I may have -- we may have missed.
- 25 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica

- 1 Chisholm, from De Beers. I think one (1) of the tasks
- 2 was -- Stephanie Poole was going to provide a copy of
- 3 the Parlee report that she was referencing in some of
- 4 her questions. The peer reviewed report.
- 5 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Thanks very
- 6 much. Yes, that was a task as well, for the Akaitcho
- 7 IMA is -- is to provide -- provide that report which we
- 8 have, and Stephanie says, yes, that will be done. And
- 9 so we've got that on the registry. We got it, yeah,
- 10 thanks.
- 11 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 12 Chisholm, from De Beers. Just to clarify, there were
- 13 three (3) commitments, you have three (3) commitments
- 14 for today?
- 15 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: I have one (1)
- 16 undertaking and four (4) commitments.
- 17
- 18 (BRIEF PAUSE)
- 19
- 20 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: The first
- 21 undertaking was -- or first commitment was the flow
- 22 mitigation plan; the second commitment was a flow
- 23 monitoring program, yeah?
- 24 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica
- 25 Chisholm, form De Beers. The commitment, this is one

210 (1), is for a conceptual flow mitigation plan to be delivered by the end of September. 3 (BRIEF PAUSE) 5 6 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica Chisholm from De Beers. I believe the commitment was that we would work with the communities to look at monitoring areas that were recommended by Lutsel K'e First Nations, and that we would meet with the 10 11 communities to discuss those monitoring locations. I think that was the commitment. 13 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: That wording 14 is -- is okay with me. Does Steve have anything to say 15 maybe on that? 16 MR. MIKE TOLLIS: Can you repeat it? 17 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica 18 Chisholm, from De Beers. The commitment was to meet with Lutsel K'e Dene First Nations to review monitoring locations, and discuss potentially new monitoring locations as part of the AEMP process. 21 22 Is that correct? 23 MR. MIKE TOLLIS: No. 24 THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Thanks. Let's

go with that one as the official commitment. No,

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211
   that's -- that's good. It's worth doing.
 2
 3
   --- COMMITMENT NO. 6: De Beers to meet with
                               Lutsel K'e Dene First
 5
                                Nations to review
 6
                                monitoring locations, and
 7
                                discuss potentially new
                               monitoring locations as
 9
                                part of the AEMP process
10
11
                   THE FACILITATOR HUBERT: Is that it
12
   then?
13
                  Okay. Thanks everybody for attending,
14
   and thanks for your patience and tolerance, and really
15
   it's -- it's valuable to have every -- everybody out.
16
   Everybody makes a contribution. Thanks again.
17
   Tomorrow at 9:00 we will start on caribou. We'll
18 continue with more socio-economic tomorrow afternoon.
19 So that's it for today. See you guys tomorrow.
20
21
   --- Upon recessing at 4:18 p.m.
22 Certified correct,
23
24
25 Lorraine Douglas, Ms.
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267				
\$	120:22	11:40 91:16	29:20 38:2	184:21
\$17 102:15	128:1	111 99:13	39:17	2011 48:22
\$8 102:9	130:23	44 40 10 00	42:24	54:20
40 102.9	131:14	11-13 12:22	56:20 59:5	80:14,18
	133:6,23	12 105:12	66:11	116:14,16
	137:10	106:9	73:21	135:13,22
<s></s> 57:23	138:13	126:11	76:12	178:11
	139:2	127:2	78:17 79:3	2012 1:20
0	140:10,14	130:19	99:22	54:18
0.01 13:14	152:2	131:19	100:25	80:16
	156:8	134:17	131:22	167:5,8
0.05 38:1	159:16,21	121 8:5	138:18	
0.23 16:4	162:23 170:17,24		143:24	2013 181:21
0.4 37:18	179:8,14	13.6 29:12	155:14 156:12	2021 137:18
0.4 3/:18	181:14	137 104:17	160:8,11	
005 21:11	182:12	14 7:8	164:23	2022 137:19
07SC002	183:21	14 /:0	176:5,7	206 8:7
22:25	184:20	15 11:9	181:5	211 7:13
	185:20	101:25	194:3	8:12
07SC004	193:12	162:13,16	201:5	
18:15 21:8	194:17	15th 34:17		23 15:8
07SC005	197:15	75 : 21	2:30 146 : 13	24 1:20
18:15	205:5,14	166:20	2:50 162 : 18	25 40 10
	208:7		20 35:25	25 49:13
1	209:1,15	17 42:22	69:24	102:1
1 15:3,18	210:1	17,000 102:6	78:15	267 104:13
16:3,17	1) time 161:2	18 172:1,15		27 104:13
22:22 23:3			2003 23:22	
24:3,16	1,450 13:11	19 9:11	2004 21:23	
26:14 35:4	1:00 68:14	1930s 22:2	23:4	3
37:25		1940s 22:3	2004/2005	3 1:21 9:7
38:18	1:05 91:17		21:21	11:12
39:5,14,22	10 40:11,18	1944 35:15		19:5,10
49:5	45:20	1949 35:15	2006 21:23	48:24
56:5 , 9	78:15		23:8,11	49:21 50:9
58:7 , 9	134:15	1962 35:15	86:8	51:5 52:10 101:18
65:16	161:24	1978 23:7,10	2008	101:18
69 : 15	10.2.7 80:17	1995 23:21	13:13,17	125:22
73:18,19			184:19	132:20,25
76:14 77:1	10.9 80:18	1996	2009 104:20	136:19
83:5,21	10:10 49:16	101:16,22,	159:13	156:16
84:2,3,5,2	10:24 49:17	25 102:3	184:19	164:24
0 87:24		170:10		179:16
88:13	100 46:6		2010 12:21	204:8
89:25	11 9:6 52:25	2	13:19	205:24
108:25	164:17	2 9:3 10:5	21:10,13,2	206:18,21
109:22	180:23	11:3,12,19	4 22:3	207:9
110:1,10,1	204:6	,22,24	23:8 29:12	209:13
4		12:5	80:16	
111:15,22	11.13-7	18:14,16	90:15	3.10-2 11:1
118:1,6	12:23 13:9	27:14	102:3	
		41.14		

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267				
3:00 161:25	51 102:4	8.2.10 80:17	193:17	accommodated
3:05 162:19	55 105:9	800 38:8	200:9	24:15
3:30 164:10	59 16:14		202:2	accommodatio
		9	Abor 159:5	ns
30 69:24 117:15	5's 99:13	9 7:6	aboriginal	90:11,12,1
		9.14 80:15	79:18 90:2	5
300 37:13	6		104:3,15	accompanied
30s 22:2	6 8:8 58:15,17	9:00 211:17	105:10 107:1,8	198:4
32 118:8	138:18	9:04 10:1	108:13	accordance
34,000 102:8	192:2	94 21:23	115:7	158:2
36.8 104:17	211:3	96 7:10,11	116:1,18,2 3 117:19	according 40:17
37.6 139:17	60 129:2	96.5 105:10	118:13,22	
	63 103:1		119:7	account
39 117:22 180:13	65 76:22	A	145:7	181:8
100:13	78:16	a.m 10:1	154 : 12	accrue
4		49:16,17	155:20,24	105:14
4 1:21 8:3	7	91:16	158:20,23 159:6	accumulating
61:10	7 7:3 13:9	A1 58:14	185:1	62:1
121:15	55:1,2,6,1	AANDC 3:19	absence	accumulation
149:15	0,20,22	92:21,23	129:2	61:23
153:18	56:4,19	165:20		accurate
156:22	57:2,3,9,1 0,16 58:15	ability	absolutely 14:19 26:7	61:21,22
163:15,19 169:5	59:1,14	64:22	81:22	accurately
209:16	7.9 80:16	84:18	82:17 89:2	115:15
		118:24	90:21	achieve
4,847 105:7	73 102:5	160:10 199:25	114:8,22	144:13
4.17 201:4	734,000	200:24	119:20	157:14,17
4:15	13:15	202:1,13	157:23 158:3	159:7
205:4,14	74 103:2	able 14:17	185:15	achieved
4:18 211:21	75 143:12	55:8 58:5	189:5	103:1
40s 22:2	78 15:9	62:21,25	190:18	achieves
410	21:22	63:22	ac 150:2	157:21
29:2,3,17,		66:9,10,12	academic	achieving
18 39:3	8	,14 67:4,7 82:8 84:4	156:5	108:3
40:7 60:23	8 4:8 7:4	82:8 84:4 86:9	161:3,9	117:12
	39:1	106:15	163:16	acquire
5	40:9,10,21	110:14	accept	155:10
5 8:6 69:7	41:12,17	116:5	166:25	across
101:15	56:19	117:3	196:11	135:23
122:21	58:15 59:10	150:21,24, 25	acceptable	150:23
206:8	147:21	153:4,18,2	82:4,12,13	act 34:9
50 80:25	156:4	2 155:9	173:22	68:20 69:5
143:12	177:10	165:8	access 75:14	78:2,19 99:14
500 38:7	8.15 80:15	169:20	113:23	100:13

	BEERS TECHNICA.	L SESSION 05	-24-2012	Page 214 of
267				
171:19	195:2	150:18	159:11	31:11,12
	205:14,24	160:15	180:18,21	44:2 129:7
acting 92:9	203:14,24	167:1	181:17	44.2 129.7
action 64:25	adapt 62:21	194:7	101:1/	affected
65:10	63:6	201:6	adults	129:15
	adapting	201:0	127:14	203:14
active 29:24	169:9	addressed	156:16	204:17
35:11,13	170:2	27:23,24	advance 90:2	affecting
activities		48:23	108:1	127:20
118:18	adaptive	addresses	122:4	203:18
160:12	100:4	59:10	208:2	
	169:17			affects
activity	add 27:19	addressing	advanced	43:14
18:7 55:6	31:25 35:5	149:2	97:7	affiliated
152:16	48:19	adequa	103:14,19,	92:2
actual 80:24	113:8	141:20	21	
122:12	131:10		advantage	affiliation
150:5	133:14	adequacy	144:9	96:7
	141:16	141:19,20,		afforded
actually	151:10	21	advantageous	33:18
11:7 14:7	159:11	adequate	144:16	
18:24		46:16	adverse	affords
21:4,10,20	addiction	114:9	45:14	160:10
,21	193:22		84:19 85:7	afternoon
23:1,14,16	196:8,9	adequately	173:21	74:13
,19 24:22	addictions	200:22		91:20,21
25:9	193:21	adhering	advice 71:15	95:4,8,23
26:21,25	195:25	155:21	100:8	103:11
38:24		157:13	advisable	141:15
39:23 51:3	addition	158:20	100:17	162:22
61:21,22	86:12 98:9	-4	174:12	163:4
62:9 66:12	102:17	adjacent	advised	187:20
68:19	121:22	21:11		189:2
77:4,25	additional	22:20	110:22	197:12
78:20 84:6	27:11 34:8	40:6,22	advisement	211:18
91:25	48:24	administer	175:5	afterwards
114:13	51:13,16,2	124:13	advisor 92:9	
117:3	1 52:2	administrati	adv1301 32.3	59:9
124:18	71:15	ve 151:12	advocate	against 58:5
147:14	131:20	165:12	97:25	100:22
150:6	139:20		advocates	141:13
155:21		admit 77:25	97:20	agencies
157:11	address	ado 10:19		107:24
158:20	14:18		AEMP 8:12	122:3
160:14	26:12 27:22,25	adopted	26:1 27:2	
177:16	35:2 46:23	87:16	210:21	agenda 14:6
178:22	63:24 79:9	adult	211:9	51:6 53:24
184:21,24		106:11,14	aerial 41:8	67:11 , 14
185:2	107:25	112:4,6,16		68:11
186:13	116:25	,25 113:10	Affairs	167:10
188:14	122:4	114:6,24	97:12	ago 90:12
189:18	129:9,17	135:13	154:12	133:4
193:21	136:2	156:12,22	affect	
	145:22		Į.	

	EERS TECHNICA.	L SESSION 05	-24-2012	Page 215 of
267				
200:12	159:7	ALBE 180:21	55:12,23	180:5
agreement	aimed 108:2	181:1	57:13 , 17	angle 42:19
74:10	142:2	alcohol	59:21	
99:7,10	air 11:1,2	176:21	alway 34:15	Anne 5:21
100:9,20	71:13	alive 89:8	am 96:24	54:2,6,22 55:17
101:10	72:21,22	90:9	112:15	57:7,21
134:7	73:5 75:13		124:20	58:1,20,21
171:17,19		allocate	128:19	74:22
172:20,24	aircraft	169:17	134:3	
173:14,19	11:2	allow 16:11	158:18	Anne's 58:25
174:8,25	airport	55:10 57:9	176:7	Annex 39:11
186:7,21	35:20	58:18	177:21	annual
189:6	Aka 150:10	96:17	193:7	12:14,23,2
190:13,16 203:22,23		98:11	197:25	5 37:18
203:22,23	Akaitch	157:1	amend 58:17	110:20
5	149:13	allowance		124:17
	Akaitcho 4:7	149:11	amended	135:23
agreements	9:7 17:5	150:3	18:12	189:9
97:3,5	19:10	152:25	ammonia	190:14
98:10	38:14	allowances	63:21	annually
101:1,15,2	40:21	145:19,22,	amongst 24:6	· -
0,21	41:12 42:7	23,24	_	
102:11,18	43:13	147:9	amount 55:24	
125:16 126:1,3,6,	50:20 52:2	160:2,3	118:20	14:16
14,20	83:20,24		127:4	48:16
127:21,25	118:7	allowed	Amy 3:5 4:22	51:11
128:1,22	125:14 128:7	128:3	94:15	140:15 146:23
129:16,22	130:7	197:19	95:17	152:2
130:14	146:20	allowing	97:11	153:18
131:3,9	148:2,7,8,	66:7 74:11	153:20	154:4,13
133:7,13,2	10,11	allows	154:11,12	164:5,6
2 134:1,4	149:17,21	140:11	164:3,4	167:11
136:11	150:7,9,12	-1	analysis	170:9
171:6	,20 151:21	already 44:3 50:21	12:17	171:6
186:14	152 : 1	50:21 57:3,5	55:12	187:14,19,
187:3	153:11	111:9	57:18	23 200:9
188:19	154:4,5,6,	125:17,22	59:22	answered
203:8,11,1	16,19	126:3	79:11	146:21
5 204:21	158:12	128:1	101:11	
ahead 15:1	161:1	133:13	137:17	answering
54:24	162:2	146:21	139:13	112:24
143:15	163:6,9,14	164:14	140:12	answers 84:6
149:7	197:15	190:6	analyze	109:6
163:12	205:25	206:3	143:23	132:9
185:25	206:13	alter	and/or	162:14
199:20	209:6	138:2,3	178:17	196:19
205:6	Akaitcho's			205:8
208:21	149:22	altering	Andrew 94:7	anticipate
aim 120:15	Alan 2:2	43:24	anecdotal	16:18
		alternatives		

MARIKD DE D		L SESSION 05		rage 210 OI
267			_	
anticipated	183:19	y 60:19	59:1,2,10,	15:18 83:5
29:13,15		_	14	85:8
31:12	applied	approval	60:3,7,12,	130:22
	62:10	99:19	14,15,18,2	
anticipating	apply 143:16	111:17	5 71:17	assertion
60:20	153:1	approvals	72:13	168:13
anticipation	160:18	101:24	77:18 78:8	assess 21:4
173:14	183:1		79:2 86:17	34:6 139:6
		approved	125:2	149:12
anybody	applying	111:4	151:6	
67 : 18	194:18	138:21	181:14	assessed
152:18	appreciate	aquatic 7:8		29:22 32:2
199:16	36:21	14:3 29:11	areas 18:12	100:22
anybody's	46:25	30:22	20:14 27:8	assessment
146:14	52 : 19		80:4 104:5	10:13
	71:10,17	aquatics	161:8	15 : 12
anyone 26:2	75:5 79:8	28:5,11	164:22	28:6,8,11
193:24	85:24	60:12	181:5,11	29:10
197:19 , 25	120:22	80:19	210:9	32:12,13
anything	142:13	aquifers	aren't 16:9	34:4,5,9,1
27:18 36:4	196:19	18:21	88:1	2,25 39:11
56:7 59:13	205:10		153:22	47:2 54:21
68:13		arctic		60:15,18
69:11	appreciated	70:19,20,2	190:2	61:1
70:15,22,2	109:18	1,22 71:1	198:13	78:2,19
3 73:1,3,6	apprentice	area 17:25	202:4	79:15,24
131:15	8:4 120:25	18:2	arise 175:3	80:5,11
143:24	121:12,16	20:10,19,2	arm 17:12,15	82:18,19
146:7		2 22:5	18:2,14	93:11
157:21	apprenticesh	25:10,11,1	20:12 33:2	98:20,21
205:2	ip	3,19		99:16,23
203:2	107:11,12	28:7,12,21	50:13,14	1
210:14	119:23,25	29:6,8,9,1	arrangement	100:12,13,
	120:20	6,25 30:5	151:21,24	15 101:23
anyway 36:8	121:22	31:10,18	article	104:5
71:4	185:5	32:4,6,20	165:25	106:1,18
anywhere	207:9	37:20	103:23	123:3
69:18	apprenticesh	38:16 39:1	articulates	139:11,21
	ips 120:9	40:8,9,10,	172:19	151:7
apparently	1ps 120.9	21,22	artificial	164:18
49:6	approach	41:12,13,1	143:6	assessments
APPEARANCES	97:20,21,2	5,17,18,21		33:22
2:1 3:1	5 167:9,12	42:2,6,11,	Artillery	46:11
4:1 5:1	192:7	16	17:14 18:3	80:19
6:1	204:22	43:6,21,25	22:8 35:8	98:17,23
	approaches		Ash 3:9	
appears 57:8	204:21	44:5,18		assigning
application		46:15 55:1 2 6 1	aside 87:11	143:19
79 : 23	appropriate	55:1,2,6,1	88:14	assistance
184:12	50:24	0,20,22,23	aspect 85:19	103:20
194:13	83:10	, 25	107:4	134:23
	161:11	56:4,19	165:18	
applications	appropriatel	57:2,3,10,		assistant
134:22	appropriacer	16	aspects	97:7

	LERS TECHNICAL	I SESSION 03	-24-2012	Page ZI/ OI
267				
103:13	assure 46:25	117:3,20	176:7	39 : 25
	75:12	135:12	187:25	41:1,15
assisting		139:21		81:19
106:8	assured 25:5	141:25	Bain 5:4	113:9
114:10	attaining	145:8	95:25	
135:12	195:18	153:24	103:17	basics
associated	Attawapiskat	164:20	ball 64:20	178:21,24
30:1 34:7	167:17	165:24	bank 181:7	basin 47:24
35:1 47:5	168:16	166:9		66:7,17
141:4	208:13,15	175:17	bar 60:9	basis 13:1
153:6	•	190:9	Barnston	20:14 87:8
Associates	attempt	195:15	21:12	110:20
2:25	143:20	196:14	barrier 15:9	111 15
3:2,3,4,5,	attendance	201:8	16:5,8	124:17
6,7,8,9,10	127:5	202:4,10	147:13	129:3
,11,12,13	129:1	207:22	155:8	152:21
12:10	attending	avenues	193:20	190:15
15:11	211:13	116:10	195:19,24	198:1
19:21 20:8		average		beat 25:20
23:16 28:4	attention	131:4	barriers	
31:17	77:24		15:23 16:8	Beaufort
35:13 37:2	78:24	avoid	181:24	181:15
38:23 39:9	162:15	167:15,24	193:13,25 194:3	Beaulieu
40:19	attract	179:21	194.5	21:25
41:15	119:5	aware 20:9	base 114:17	Beck 4:23
48:21 49:5 53:12	attracting	105:15	based 55:13	93:1
54:18	142:9	124:6	88:23	
60:11	attractive	128:19	104:20	become 58:18
62:16 80:7	145:18	134:3	105:25	81:19
92:8 93:5	160:2,4	167:18	106:23	155:5,8
94:4,10,12	•	177:21	127:5	becomes
,14,16,20,	attributed	197:25	128:25	118:18
22 95:3,9	151:2	198:10	129:1	becoming
117:7	audience	awareness	142:19	182:11
association	205:16	193:18	152:14	bedrock 41:3
48:25	audit 187:12	away 57:25	156:14 158:25	
		58:12	169:9	Beers 1:6
assume 182:1	Aurora 113:1	122:14	170:2	2:15
200:8	181:18	127:11	188:14	8:3,6,8
assumption	authorities	awesome 32:9	195:6	9:3 10:22
137:11	100:16	49:11		11:24 12:5
140:8	authority	10.11	baseline	13:25 14:15
143:8,9,11	83:2 100:6		21:14,20 23:3,10	16:20
assumptions		B	39:10	17:13
80:12	availability 146:1	background	60:22 64:7	18:5,15,22
138:24		60:8		21:21
139:6,9,22	available	101:14 113:4	basic 113:11	22:23 23:1
142:17,19	16:2 23:10		180:22	25:9,18
assurances	104:25	backup 59:5	basically	26:14
33:4,12	105:20	bad 88:1	22:10	27:3,21
,	106:13			

DIGI-TRAN INC. 1-800-663-4915 or 1-403-276-7611 Serving Clients Across Canada

	SEERS TECHNICAL	SESSION US	-24-2012	Page 218 of
267				
34:2,13,22	148:6,13,1	209:1,12,2	151 : 14	194:3
36:12,19,2	9 149:1	5 210:7,18		195:24
2 46:16,22	153:21	211:3	benefits	
48:24 51:9	153:21	211:3	82:5 104:2	Bill 2:24
52:18 53:1	155:18,23	bees 27:17	105:13 , 25	42:8 44:15
	· ·	beginning	107:1	47:10,12,1
55:14	157:3,9	69 : 8	142:21	3 48:15,22
71:9,12,14	158:15,18,	70:7,8	143:25	billion
75:2,9,13	22	79:6 82:20	144:14,17	102:9,15
79:8 81:21	159:13,24		148:4	102:9,13
86:14,24	161:20	83:7 181:21	167:21	Billiton
87:23	163:20	101:21	168:5,13,1	101:19
88:20	164:15,16,	behalf 79:15	5 200:6,13	
89:1,2,9,1	17,20	97:15 , 17	201:17	74:22
2 93:3	165:6	103:7	208:8	90:18
94:6,8,18,	166:2,4,16	behind 28:18		
24 95:5,7	,22 167:4		best 124:9	bit 11:5
101:16,19	168:4,6,8,	Bele 23:2	130:16	20:24
102:21,23	14,15	believe 17:1	154:13	21:22
106:13,15,	171:12,16,	21:20	155:1	23:13
25	22	23:2,21	165:8	24:22
107:10,18	172:18,23	27:18 42:8	190:10	33:24
108:15	173:11,24	43:18	bet 52:21	51:12
109:12,14,	174:4	48:19 52:2	65 : 17	54:24
17,19,23	175:19,24	59:25 60:4	better 24:22	61:25
110:7,19	176:10	68:15	62:24	65:23 69:6
111:6,17	177:1,3,9,	71:23 76:6	63:20	76:17
112:6,12	11,21	126:2	107:13	78:10
113:18	178:2,4,10	136:14	107:13	84:10
114:11,17	179:17	137:18	155:23	88:23
115:18,19	181:25	146:23	158:22	89:14
116:3,4	182:9,21	148:9	162:9	117:5
118:6,9	185:18	157:19		165:14
119:8,17,1	187:2	169:1	165:4,6	180:9
9,23	188:24	170:17	166:2	186:15,16,
120:8,18	189:3,7	172:1,13	167:25	23
121:10,11,	190:24	175:19	170:24	Black 4:11
15 , 23	191:11	178:4	202:3	
122:9,16,2	192:6	179:7	beyond 85:18	
0,24	193:24	187:11	BHP 101:19	93:2
123:10,11,	194:7,8,21	197:12	177:1	bless 90:14
21	,23 195:16	207:11	183:15,16,	
124:13,22	196:1,7,9,	210:7	18,22	Blow's
125:1,8,16	23 197:18		203:23	184:12
128:2	198:4,10,1	Ben 4:25	204:18	blue 25:15
132:11,16,	1,23,24	5:12 95:21		blurb 15:4
18	199:9,11	103:19	BHP's 118:19	
134:3,4,5,	201:14	beneath	bigger	board 1:3,11
10 135:16	202:19	37:12,13	113:24	2:9 10:14
141:16	205:2	•		11:20
146:3,22	206:6,8,13	benefit	biggest 56:4	12:19,20
147:2,10,1	,25 207:9	87:25 88:5	64:15	17:21
1	208:7,8,16	102:11	124:11	24:21 31:1
	1	104:5,24	193:20	

	BEERS TECHNICA.	L SESSION 03	-24-2012	Page 219 OI
267				
33:20 64:3	201:12	36:16,25	155:1	78:10
69:13	202:18	38:11,20		
81:10,21	206:16,17	44:11	Brigitte 2:9	_
82:3	207:20	45:17	92:7 124:5	58:4,8
83:1,11,14	208:1,2,12	48:13	bring 35:19	97:22
92:16	books 134:16	53:9,19	39:12 67:1	built 56:13
135:4		59:17	68:8 77:23	59:8 65:9
174:23	boom/bust	62:13	78:23	76:17
175:9	191:15	65:12,20	79:13,24,2	bullet 201:5
204:4,5,6,	borders	67:20	5 80:3	
10,13,16	23:17	68:1,5	83:7,17	Bureau
Board's 81:6		71:20	113:6	159:14
	bore 86:2	74:24	160:11	Bushee 93:24
Bolstad 2:17	bound 28:8	92:11,18	203:25	business
88:19,20	boundaries	93:18 94:1	bringing	97 : 23
95:4,5	36:22	95:13	90:2	149:20,24
110:18,19		96:18	113:13,14	152:19,25
112:11,12	boundary	103:23	132:14	· I
113:17 115:17,18	23:17 28:7	108:21	Brittany	businesses
116:2	35:24	112:9	4:21 92:24	102:5,10,2
118:5	Bouwa 183:7	115:10 120:5		0,25 153:6
119:19,20	box 54:12	120:5	broad 150:23	buy 70:22
120:7		124:3	broken 148:5	156:25
121:9	Boyan 3:23	125:11	brother	buyers
122:9,10	92:22	128:16	69:15	152:11
123:9	Brady 4:17	142:24	70:17	
124:12	95 : 10	144:20		Bye-bye
132:17	break 17:2	146:17	brought	146:12
134:2	45:21	147:17	52:14	
141:14,15	49:13	148:15,22	78:24	C
144:22,23	74:16	154:9	79:22 80:5	C002 23:6
147:1,2,19	149:23	157:6	123:25	C004 25:17
,25 157:8	150:14	162:25	134:17 166:17	
159:3	156:9	164:1	184:22,24	C005 25:17
161:19	162:13	166:13	194:24	C02 12:13,15
166:15	breakdown	168:23	197:1	cables 44:17
168:3,12	148:7	172:4,10		
171:21	154:5	174:17	Bruce 5:24	calculate
172:6,16,1		177:6	15:1,2	151:1
7 173:10	breakdowns	187:7	16:15	Cam 3:11
174:3,14	159:10	198:7	52:22,23	94:19
177:8 178:9,10	Brenda 159:2	201:10	53:12,22	
182:6,7	162:6	203:4	58:23,24 59:19	camps 71:2
184:14	166:1	205:18		Canada 1:6
188:24	bridge	208:19 209:18	budget	2:15 3:17
189:2,3	192:19	210:4	129:25	4:11 5:19
191:24,25			179:3	9:8 13:19
194:6	brief 10:8	briefly	build 55:4	17:17,23
196:22	14:23	161:5	56:7,23,24	19:12
197:23	19:25 20:5	brightest	58:13	20:10
198:23	31:14	_		23:2,6,23
	-		-	-

267				
24:3 25:14	179:1,2	Cathie 2:17	caucus 44:14	Certified
35:14		88:19,20		211:22
49:24	career 106:6	91:2,12	caucusing	
50:12,19	107:6	95:4,5	45:21	cetera 28:2
51:20 54:7	180:24	110:18	caw 70:19,20	64:21 82:2
70:3 78:2	181:15	112:11,12	centre 28:18	156:20
93:3 98:17	182:25	113:17		182:3
110:19	183:17,22	115:17	113:22	chains 39:3
119:19	184:8	116:2	114:9,23	Chair 12:10
120:8	careers	118:5	135:18	Chair 12:10
122:10	106:10	119:19,20	178:17,19	challenges
124:13	careful	120:7	180:17	104:22
145:1	36:3,5	121:9	centred	117:1,3
154:13	187:14	122:9,10	150:14	135:25
166:16	10/:14	123:9	centres	136:2
177:9	caribou	124:12	135:14	137:10
198:23	87:21	132:17	178:13,15	189:13
202:19	211:17	134:2	180:3,7,24	190:2,21
206:2	carpenter	141:14,15	181:20	chance
	69:10	142:12	101:20	143:12,13
Canadian		144:22,23	ceremony	
100:13	carries	147:1,2,19	87:3	change 64:22
candidates	66:18	,25 157:8	certain	82:4 83:23
124:24,25	carry 102:21	158:15	127:5	101:8
capability	_	159:3		130:10
120:13	carryover	161:19	certainly	140:8
120:13	54:24	166:15	36:20	143:8
capacities	carry-	167:13	51:11	changed 37:7
108:5	through	168:3,12	71:14	
capacity	100:2	171:21	109:11	changes
59:4 64:21		172:6,16,1	110:3,13	68:19,20
66:10	case 91:8	7 173:10	111:6	100:22
97:22	135:8	174:3,14	113:20	139:25
200:1	141:1	177:8	116:13,21	169:10,17
201:23	152:15	178:9,10	117:8,12	170:3,10
201:25	185:21	181:6	119:4	changing
3	cases	182:6,7	122:10,18	62:21
	124:17,20	184:14	134:3	
capital	176:17	187:1	141:22	channels
149:11	204:23	188:24	142:1	41:4
150:3	catch 36:20	189:2,3	155:22	Chapman 3:13
152:24	Catch 30:20	191:24	158:21	94:3
165:17	catchment	193:4	172:23	characterist
capture	37:19	194:6	173:24	ic 117:7
50:16	category	196:22	180:6	IC 11/:/
	123:13	197:23	189:24	characterist
captured	207:23	198:23,24	192:7	ics 20:20
51:4		201:12,13	certainty	characterize
129:17	catering	202:18	97:21	d 64:17
carbon 12:25	182:3,22	206:16	98:19	
13:12,16	183:7	207:20		characterizi
cards	184:6	208:1,2,12	Certificate	ng 22:9
Carus		• •	7:13	

MVEIRB - DE	BEERS TECHNICA	L SESSION 05	-24-2012	Page 221 of
267				
cheaper	85:23	161:23	191:25	Clipperton
144:12,14	95:6,7	163:2	194:11	3:10
1	109:16,17	164:7,12	199:8	15:10,11
check 132:19	110:6,7	168:7,17	206:19,25	
193:10,15	148:25	169:4,18,1	209:12	close 90:13
194:16	149:1	9 173:8		116:19
195:10	175:23,24	175 : 18	clarifying	135:23
197:22	189:1	176:6	50:9	167:20
198:1,2	198:9,10	177:23	clarity	168:6
199:5	206:24,25	185:16,24	112:14	171:23
checks	208:11,21,	187:17	168:10	closed 192:1
193:14	25	197:5	172:6	closely
194:22	209:1,11,1	199:14,18	174:4	183:12
197:17	2,24,25	204:25	205:23	184:2
198:13	210:6,7,17	205:7	classificati	
chemical	, 18	206:16	on 30:12	closer 111:3
66:13	choice 117:4	207:21		120:12
	199:11	cited 158:7	clean	160:12
chemistry			69:13,14,1	182:10
54:12,15	choices	citing 158:9	5,18,25	closest
63:19	135:12	citizen	70:5,14	128:6
Cheryl	141:17	183:1	71:13	1
197:13	195:4		clear 22:16	closing
	196:11	citizens	31:9 45:23	136:23
chief 165:6	choose 140:9	155:2	46:1,12	closure
166:1,23		clarificatio	60:2	11:11
167:2,9	choosing	n 9:4	82:3,6,10,	37:22 38:4
child 134:17	147:13	11:14,16,2	15,16	66:19
children	Chorley 3:2	5 23:20	143:22	70:7,8
127:16	36:13 37:1	27:25	158:8,24	138:9,11
	42:12 93:4	46:20	159:4	139:2
CHIPEWYAN	chose 127:11	51:10,23	161:20	191:13,16
71:25	145:16	52:19	192:3	192:22
Chisholm	146:2	108:14	clearly	193:8
2:19	173:22	109:1	59:21	CO 12:7
10:21,22		173:11	165:7,16	
12:4,5	choses 116:4	175:25	202:16	coaching
13:24,25	Chuck 1:13	clarificatio		156:19
14:14,15	2:3 10:14	ns 13:22	client 77:2	coalition
16:19,20	20:2 52:11		clients	170:14
26:13,14	84:9 92:5	clarified	176:19	coffee 49:14
27:20,21	96:8	198:24	Climbon 2.14	
34:1,2	108:19,23	clarify	Clinton 3:14	Correr 55:4
36:11,12,1	115:12	22:21	94:25 137:8	57:14 59:8
8,19	121:6	49:10,20,2	141:2	cohesion
46:21,22	123:14,22	2 115:20	141:2	166:7
51:8,9,18	125:6	151:11	144:2	
52:17,18	128:11	158:6	144:2	cold 33:10
65:16	132:13	166:16	149:8	collaboratio
71:8,9	136:12,18	168:14	151:17	n 136:8
75:1,2	146:4,9	175:24	152:7	colleagues
79:7,8	148:17	176:8	102.1	Correagues

	BEERS TECHNICAL		-24-2012 •	rage ZZZ OI
267				
49:5	167:8	8,25 211:3	126:7	104:20
collect	193:1	commitments	128:7	106:22
151:23	204:8	7:3 8:1	129:14,18,	107:8
151:25	commencing	26:15	21 130:21	113:1,7
169:15	10:1	75:16,18	132:12	114:16,17
103:12	TO:T	•	134:10,15	124:18
collected	comment	100:22	135:4,14,1	125:20,21,
54:19	19:19	101:3,11	5,25 136:7	
200:7	27:22	109:6	148:7,9,10	
collecting	40:24 41:1	129:17,20,	,11	127:9,12,1
64:6	46:25 51:7	21 134:6	150:6,20	5,20
	55:15 75:6	149:4	151:11	128:5,6
collectively	77:8,9	168:1	154:6,7,17	1
119:7	80:2 191:9	190:5,7	,19,23	131:4,25
187:24	205:2	196:6	155:9,16	132:2,8
College	comments	205:21	159:12	133:5,17,2
113:2	14:13,15,1	209:13,16	160:1,16,1	
181:18	8 36:21,23	commits	7,20	148:5
	8 36:21,23 58:25	102:21	165:11,12	149:23,24,
com 150:15	58:25 71:10 75:3	committed	166:17,18	25
combination	71:10 /5:3 76:5,10	89:3,17	168:6	150:15,25
102:13	76:5,10 79:3,8	89:3,17 90:21	170:7	151:2,15,1
113:25	79:3,8 81:19 91:6	90:21 99:2,25	171:2,4	6 152:5,6
147:8		·	176:19	153:2
	129:8	106:7	177:13	156:3,7,18
combined	commit	157:23 171:16	178:13	,21,24
22:13	108:11	1/1:16 207:21	179:20	158:25
comes 39:22	115:5,24		180:16	163:18
67:6	116:7	committee	185:1	164:19
111:12	121:4	175:9	189:15,17,	
113:4	122:10	189:10	23 190:20	18,19
119:2	148:13	204:17,18	191:7	166:3,5,7,
140:5	207:4	committees	193:18	20,24
143:3	commitment	124:15	194:4,12,2	· ·
192:10	25:9 26:17		4,25	,20,22,25
199:11	27:3,9	commodity	195:16 , 23	177:2,12
comfort	34:22	191:21,22	196:21,25	178:3,5,13
33:10	90:25	common 77:7	199:10,12,	,17,18,20
	121:8,11,1		25	180:3,6,23
comfortable	5 145:4	commun	200:19,21,	
41:9	147:6	131:24	24 201:24	182:25
coming 31:10	171:15	communicatio	203:9,19,2	
44:9 46:7	172:1,15	n 107:5	0,24,25	184:9
50:19	190:13	communities	204:17,23	198:18
61:20	196:13		208:10,17	199:7
68:15	202:19	34:16,19 88:25	210:8,11	200:6
71:23 76:6	206:5,8,13	88:25 89:7,19	community	201:24
126:23	,21	90:8,13	24:5,6	203:13,21,
135:23	207:8,15	90:8,13 101:6,7		24
137:3	209:21,22,		27:5 75:22	20/1•/1 11
143:17	25	105:10	76:1 79:18 86:6 87:19	208.0
158:9	210:7,12,1	119:7 124:14	86:6 87:19	community-
		124:14	90:19	Communitey-
	-		-	-

MARIKR - DE R	EERS TECHNICA.	L SESSION 05.	-24-2012	Page 223 of
267				
haaad		150:16	46:13 72:2	53:7
based	comparison			53:7
162:5	21:18	182:15	144:7	conformity
202:21	comparisons	comprehensiv	165:18	48:23
community's	13:1	e 11:6	concerns	confusion
9:9 19:13	compensation	63:18,25	26:3,9	158:12
49:24	68:21	100:11,15	32:16 35:3	130.12
50:14	00.21	133:3	50:5 59:11	connected
152:22	compete	187:19	73:15,21	40:24
community-	108:8	compromising	83:18	connection
specific	competencies	57:15	133:1	56:21
203:2	107:20		138:23	
	121:24	computer	200:23	cons 72:16
companies		73:17	CONCLUDED	consequence
119:9	competitive	113:23	74:18	55:21 57:5
174:22	116:5	computers		consider
176:14	145:23	178:14	concludes	19:4 25:18
181:9	competitivel		108:17	73:8 81:15
company	y 145:19	comul 29:23	conclusions	82:4 83:16
79:12,16		con 72:16	30:20	100:7
89:5,16	compety	144:7		175:5,15
111:2,22	107:20	conc 32:16	concrete	191:16
116:21	compiling	cone 32:16	143:7	200:15
119:11	27:11	conceivable	condition	
134:25	complete	23:9	99:7	considerate
135:10,20	12:8 55:18	concentratio	100:19	72:17
136:19	84:5 114:7	n 76:24	conditions	consideratio
138:1	124:19	80:24	37:22	n 26:9
140:17,23	170:9	00:24	37:22 60:22	34:6
142:18	208:7	concentratio	62:21 66:4	
145:4,9,24		ns 61:20	67:4 99:19	81:13
146:1	completed	concept	173:4	142:7
147:7	11:19 39:6	66:1,5,7,1	1/3:4	175:17
158:3	66:21	6,25 67:2	conduct	185:15
160:17,22	134:22	0,23 07.2	164:18	103.13
189:21	181:16	conceptual	conducted	consideration
190:6,14	202:16	8:6	100:12	ns 98:9
191:1	completeness	15:15,16		considered
192:13,18	84:1	16:21,23	confident	17:20
194:17,20		206:9	34:10,11,2	21:20
195:5,15	completing	207:3	4 157:13	24:15
196:12	86:7	210:1	161:20	25:13
200:19	Compliance	concern	confined	26:4,19
201:3	101:1	15:13	29:15	29:10 30:9
202:12,19,		17:24		32:17 33:8
22 204:1	component	24:5,22	confirm 53:4	46:17
	28:6 42:13	45:23 46:6	54:13	47:1,10
company's	191:13	52:13,16	98:12	50:24 52:7
144:25	203:2	85:17	123:17	60:16 98:8
199:24	components	154:20	132:24	125:21
comparable	29:11	198:18	134:5	175:11
102:25	98:11		confirmation	
	149:15	concerned		consistency
				!

267				
205:23	99:12	160:5,17	Corporation	161:16
consistent	contingencie	contributes	4:9	168:20
12:17,20	s 67:3	98:5	correct 12:5	169:20,22
61:1 98:13		150:15	23:18	170:11
101:10	contingency		33:18	205:22
	66:3	contributing	41:25	208:6
constraint	continue	152:22	54:18	course 83:25
117:13,18	27:2,9	153:8	128:24	119:2
construct	34:21 47:7	contribution	141:4	120:25
55:4	86:14	30:9 32:7	157:10	121:10
57:8,14	119:4	34:14	207:5,7	137:24
construction	121:20	43:10	210:22	139:24
11:9	123:18	148:8	211:22	152:9,21
56:5,10	134:11	149:13		178:5,7
103:2	139:13	211:16	correction 10:22 11:3	179:20
104:12	146:7,13	contribution	10:22 11:3	courses
107:23	163:3,5,7	s 34:8	correctly	191:6,10,1
122:2	168:19	160:19	123:8	3,21
	176:8		140:16	3,21
consultant	190:7,9,10	control 66:9	Corso 2:23	cover
2:9 96:25	194:3	137:14	55:16	80:19,20
consultants	211:18	138:14	57:19,20,2	170:8
78:25	continued	141:16,19	3 59:19	covered
consultation	75 : 14	142:5	65 : 22	104:6
15:16	105:1	145:1	93:16	covers 14:1
	continues	202:20,24	cost 56:8	181:5,7
consuming	194:2	controlled	58:8	
72:16		66:6,17	200:14	Craig 2:21
consumption	continuing	controlling		93:2
149:11	16:9 75:25	42:24	costly	create
150:3	continuously		145:22	144:15
152:24	35:15	convinced	Cott 5:25	
contacts		55:13	68:23	created
165:8	contract	cooperation	couch 81:1	142:17
	183:5	107:8	couch 81:1	creates
contain 66:6	196:6 201:18	cooperative	council	117:3
contaminants	201.10	99:3	133:5	creating
61:23	contracting		165:7	156:10
cont'd 3:1	202:5	coordinated	166:2,23	
4:1 5:1	contractors	114:15	167:2,10	creation
6:1	181:25	coordinates	count	144:8
	182:22	101:5	138:10,11	creative
contemplated	183:4,10	coordinating		188:6,21
19:2	184:5,7	90:1 114:1	counting 40:14	credit
125:17	185:11,12		119:10	179:1,2
content	199:4	coordination		· ·
134:1,3	contracts	97:2	country	creek 41:22
CONTENTS 7:1	182:15	coordinator	145:3	101:17
CONTENTS /:I		103:19	couple 126:3	204:16
context	contribute	copy 209:2	133:3	criminal
22:13 81:1	32:21,25	20 py 209.2	157:10	193:14,15,
L	1		<u> </u>	l

	BEERS TECHNICA.	L SESSION 03	-24-2012	Page 225 of
267				
		000	0.7	
16	124:8	202:20,21	87:22	163:20
194:12,16,	current	203:21	88:20	164:15,16,
22 195:5	54:15	database	89:1,2,9,1	1
197:16,20,	108:10	29:21	2 93:2	165:6
21	115:4		94:5,8,17,	1
198:1,2,12	135:24	datas 88:14	23 95:5,7	1
199:5	151:24	date 15:22	101:16,19	168:3,5,8,
critical	202:14,15	35 : 15	102:21,23	14,15
48:1 58:10		106:3	106:13,15,	1
	currently	138:10	25	22
criticality	30:3	daab.ka	107:10,18	172:17,18,
58:12	44:16,23	daughter	108:15	22
crosses 30:7	105:8	35:19	109:12,14,	1
	110:19	Dave 2:10	17,18,23	174:3
crossing 56:21	114:3	day 1:21 7:6	110:7,19	175:19,24
	117:23	10:17	111:6,17	176:10
cu 29:23	124:7	27:16 58:9	112:5,12	177:1,3,8,
cubic 16:3,4	125:5	90:2 96:24	113:18	11,21
	153:4	123:17	114:11,17	178:2,4,10
cultural	171:12	131:4	115:18,19	179:17
78:3	182:5,21	142:3	116:3,4	181:25
98:6,8	cut 69:13	143:14	118:6,8	182:9,21
151:15		177:25	119:8,17,1	
156:6,14		183:21	9,23	187:2
160:12	dam 44:19		120:7,8,18	1
163:18	55:4 57:14	days 117:17	121:9,11,1	
200:1	59:8	DCAB 188:18	5,23	190:24
culture		de 1:6 2:15	122:9,16,2	1
77:22	damage 73:24	8:3,6,8	0,24	192:6
87:14 90:9	damaged 74:7	9:3 10:22	123:10,11, 21	1
97:9,17		11:24 12:5	124:12,22	194:6,8,21
103:7,15	Damian 94:21	13:25	125:1,8,15	1
110:9	Daniel 2:22	14:15	128:2	195:10,23
134:19	93:14	16:20	132:11,16,	
135:17	darker 24:23	17:12	18	198:4,10,1
164:23	darker 24.25	18:5,15,22	134:2,4,5,	1
178:12	data	21:20	10 135:16	199:9,10
179:18	17:16,22	22:23 23:1	141:16	201:14
184:25	20:25	25:9,17	146:3,21	202:19
Cultured	21:17 22:2	26:14	147:2,10,1	
96:1	23:10,25	27:3,21	1	206:6,8,13
	25:14	34:2,13,21	148:6,13,1	
cumulative	46:15	36:12,19,2	9 149:1	208:7,8,16
18:5	50:19,20	2 46:16,22	153:21	209:1,12,2
27:13,23	54:13 64:7	48:23 51:9	154:1	5 210:7,18
29:10,23 30:19,21	76:20	52:18 53:1	155:18,23	211:3
30:19,21	104:20	55 : 14	157:3 , 9	deactivated
33:7	143:4	62 : 15	158:15,18,	21:24
34:4,9,24	151:7	71:9,11,14	22	
	164:20	75:2 , 9,13	159:13,24	deal 63:10
curious	169:14	79:8 81:21	161:20	66:3
	189:12	86:14,24		74:8,9

	BEERS TECHNICAL	L DESSION 05	-24-2012	Page 226 OI
267				
129:22	21:15	164:13	4	129:4
			descriptions	
140:23	55:24 56:1	210:19	107:21	196:7
191:22	83:10	211:4	121:25	determining
195:1,21,2	definition	denied	122:13	104:5
2	60:11 77:9	198:1,11	207:15,17	
dealing			design 47:11	Dettah 128:8
176:25	definitions	Deninu 5:9	65:25	develop 47:7
183:3	142:21	76:8 82:1	66:16	73:25
191:15	Dehcho	93:9 128:8	100:5	83:22
	204:20	146:23	100.5	120:12
deals 66:2		147:24	designed	132:24
203:22	delay 138:16	Denis 4:24	16:11	153:7
dealt 33:20	164:3	Denie 4.24	desire	189:10
deart 33.20	deliberating	department	141:23	
death 33:13	142:4	5:24 93:13	141:23	developed
46:3		96:25	detail 12:18	15:14 88:2
Deb 5:4	delineated	97:15,17	34:11	142:18
95:25	60:19	98:1	107:15	179:25
	delineation	102:18	120:1	188:14
103:17	39:10	103:7,15	123:3	191:10
Debbie 4:19	40:17	177:14	177:16	41
93:20	40:17	179:18	185:8	developer
December	delineations		192:5	84:13 99:5
December	41:10	departments		101:10
90:13	deliver	170:8,15	detailed	173:18
decision	97:14	176:25	23:25	developers
83:22		184:7	122:13	129:19
84:4,18	106:22	depend 84:1	189:17	
173:13,16	181:18	_	details 75:5	developing
•	delivered	depending	106:16	16:21
decisions	114:2	124:17	110:15,24	34:25
106:7	180:23,24	204:22	120:10	126:11
173:3	181:1	depends 84:4		142:11
182:17	210:2	_	121:2	179:19
decline		depth 43:10	deter 105:16	180:15,20
129:6,7	delivering	depths 59:10	determinant	development
	181:19			30:1
deemed 30:18	demand	deputy 97:7	105:16	37:6,16,21
deep 37:11	104:21,24	103:13	determinatio	
42:14 43:2	138:4	derived	n 81:11	98:2,4,11
		153:25	83:3,15	99:17
deeper 59:10	demands		84:14 85:2	100:11
deep-rooted	107:15	describe	182:13	101:5,13
88:6	Dene 5:6 8:8	208:17		102:20
	49:21,22	described	determine	103:18
defensible	50:11	52:4	15:9 55:24	105:23
140:11	68:18 72:7	129:24	120:24	110:25
define 20:13	82:2 83:24		124:16	115:1
25:19 78:7	86:6	description	127:4	135:5
	89:11,22	8:2 9:2	149:14	154:13
defined 29:9		10:25 31:2	153:4	164:22
40:14 41:2	92:14	55:17	determined	173:19
78:2	93:7,23	77:15	60:14	180:25
definitely	142:22		100:17	181:15
actini cety			100:1/	

	EERS TECHNICAL	PESSION 03.	-24-2012	Page 227 of
267				
182:25	93:1	dike 47:10	55 : 11	133:5
183:17,22		48:5	57:11 63:2	
184:8	Diavik 70:10	55:4,5		document
200:15	100:12,15	56:5,7,10	discharges	54:14 77:5
da1	101:16,19	57:8	63:3	78:6
developments	118:18	58:4,8,13,	disconnect	85:5,10
29:22,24 98:12	126:18 129:12	14,16	200:23	162:11 175:21
126:8,14	133:24	70:14	discuss 8:10	
130:23	136:23	dikes 45:6,9	27:3,7	206:4
133:18	137:25	46:24	34:15 70:6	
	138:9,20	47:19,20,2	109:5,15	documents
dewater 55:2	140:20	1,23	187 : 24	73:12
56:25	159:14	48:6,7,9,1	189:12	76:12
57:16 58:5	177:1	1	210:11,20	dog 88:9
dewatered	204:3,5	dioxide	211:7	domain 98:18
55:3,23	Diavik's	12:25	discussed	
57:5	138:11	13:12,16	15:5 24:5	domestic
dewatering		·	25:8 57:3	148:9
53:6 55:10	difference	diploma	68:22	149:15,19,
56:15 58:3	161:4	117:13,23	167:11	22 150:1
Deze 32:19	differences	direct 39:25	discussion	152:21
	20:23,24	104:13	7:8,10	Don 3:2
DFO 15:3,16	different	144:10	14:3 15:3	36:13 37:1
16:14	20:21 60:6	directed	16:21 50:5	42:12 93:4
52:24,25	64:18	205:25	65:24	done 15:22
58:25	77:22		77:11	16:1 18:23
68:19,24	78:13	direction	96:5,11,15	l I
70:3	81:6,7	37:5,8,24	,20 163:3	45:21 47:4
diagram	88:11	98:15	175:22	56:11
27:19	111:21	202:8	186:7	59:7 , 14
diamond 1:6	126:1	directly	204:1	65:6 76:19
13:7	140:4,9	17:17 18:1	discussions	112:22
45:5,10	174:21,22	98:21	24:7 25:25	117:11
48:5 74:4	186:18	101:22	110:12,21	118:2,10
100:12	188:7,11,1	108:16	185:18	122:14
118:11,19	9 189:25	119:17		124:14
125:22	differently	146:22	disparities	132:15
126:5	186:15,16	149:3	166:6	156:4
127:9	203:19,23	201:3	distance	159:1
159:13,14	204:22	director	72:22	162:5
167:17,20	difficult	93:7	diversified	163:25 176:17,18,
179:16	63:9 81:10	103:21	105:24	21 178:6
diamonds	133:12	disagree		187:2,5
85:16 88:8	149:6	117:9	divide 22:17	188:25
101:6,7	151:14	di gamaaman	divides	195:10
102:16	192:5	disagreement 83:4	41:10	198:13
170:7	200:4,6		division	203:8
171:2,4	difficulty	disagreement	101:4	204:9
203:10,20	183:3	s 82:23		206:3
Diana 4:23	196:5	discharge	Divisional	209:8

	BEERS TECHNICA.	L SESSION US	-24-2012	Page 228 of
267				
dot 23:12	179:21	ec 16:14	151:13	114:4
Douglas	during 11:6	52 : 25	165:13	educator
211:25	21:5 32:15	68:14	economist	112:16,25
	37:3,5,16,	ECE 95:21,24	141:8	113:10
downstream	17,22 53:3	96:2		
14:6,11	66:11	106:4,19	economy	educators
15:4,12,13	82:9,24	108:2	152:5,10,1	106:14
,24 16:22	83:9 103:2	112:21	4 153:9	112:6,22
17:7 29:16	104:12,15	115:24	156:6	181:18
30:17	133:6	119:15,23	163:17	effect 47:16
32:25 39:3	142:17	121:22	165:16	77:13,15
40:7 53:4	173:23	123:20	191:15	78:9,14,18
61:12,13	175:3	128:19	ecosystem	,22 101:18
207:3	dust 69:13	179:19,23,	43:24	204:14
Dr 24:19		25 180:20	Edmonton	effective
25:20	72:21	193:4	108:17	169:9
30:25 31:8	duties 10:15		119:18	170:1
60:1 61:5	dye 18:23	ECE's 122:17	144:12	
64:2 81:24	28:1	ecological	144:12	effectively
159:2	20:1	98:5,9	educate	155:15
162:6		economic	155:3	effectivenes
166:1	E		educated	s 99:18
draft 18:11	EA 61:16,20	46:10 82:5 91:22	88:3 139:8	100:1
drait 10:11	earlier			
drain 20:11	52:11 59:3	98:6,7	education	effects
31:6	60:3 86:19	137:17 144:8	95:25	14:7,11
drainage	163:4	144:8	97:8,9,17	18:5 22:19
39:25 40:6	182:8	151:7,14	103:7,14,1	24:23
41:1,16		151:7,14	5,19,21	27:13,23
	early	164:22	104:4,8,10	28:9,10
drained	56:11,13	166:2	105:17,23	29:10,16,2
77:19	65 : 3	167:21	106:1,9,11	3
draining	91:7,8,9	168:1,5,13	107:2	30:9,17,19
77:17	earning	,15 170:3	110:9	,21 31:19
	155:13	,15 170:3 171:17	112:5	32:1,3,7,2
drains 41:17		174:8	113:10,14	1,25 33:7
draw 117:2	easier 113:5	174:3	114:24	34:4,9,25
drawing	east	189:10	124:21	45:14
147:7	17:12,15	200:2,4	126:10	60:5,17,18
	18:2,14	204:15	127:13,15	,21 61:12
drawn	20:11 33:1	204:13	130:18	77:10
13:18,19	42:21		132:3,7,22	
drift 202:7	50:14	economics	133:5,19	100:3
	easy 147:9	3:14 95:1	134:9,18,2	
drug 176:21	_	137:9	3 135:17	154:17
dry 22:11	eat	141:3	164:22	157:4
57:9 , 15	72:9,10,13	143:2	178:11	161:8
due 17:2	88:10	144:3	179:18	163:21,24
101:8	EBA 2:24	149:2,9	180:22 184:25	164:19
197:20	44:15	151:18,19		177:4 200:2
	47:13	152:8	educational	
duplication		economies	112:15	effluent
L	I .		<u> </u>	I

	EERS TECHNICAL	TO NOICCEE L	-24-2012	rage 229 OI
267				
61:20,23	72:1	employed	118:12,14	105:2
effort 105:1	elders 24:3	113:1	126:12	190:20
	70:17	139:17	134:19	engaged 86:5
efforts	90:13	150:24	135:17	165:6
97:2 , 22		153:5	137:2,12	
130:16	element	employee	145:13	engagement
Ehrlich 2:2	100:4	114:10,14,	147:13	166:21
eight 15:8	elements	18	148:11	167:5,8
38:8 105:6	185:11	194:14,15	150:20	engaging
156:4	elevation	196:4,8,10	151:4	166:1
177:10	20:23 43:8	,23	155:10	engineering
			170:22	2:24 44:16
Eighteen	elevations	employees	178:12	47:13
172:15	42:23 43:7	89:18	179:18	65:24
EIS 12:21	eleven	90:3,14	184:25	
26:17	180:23	114:5,12	185:1	engineers
27:24 28:6	204:5	146:22	195:4	46:23
29:12		147:8	196:6	ENGLISH
54:19	Elmar 5:9	155:5	201:17	71:25
76:16,21,2	76:6,7	160:7,16	enable	
2	81:16,17	161:2	114:24	enhanced
77:4,15,25	93:8	178:3,17	enacted	130:20
79:10 80:8	else 63:15	185:4	126:16	enjoy 113:24
86:2	91:7 113:7	192:14,16	120:10	
101:11	146:7	194:20,21,	encompass	enormous
116:8	176:10	22 195:12	67 : 3	141:8
145:10	208:24	196:1,2,3 199:4	encompasses	ENR 5:12
160:24	elsewhere	203:16,17,	82:18	enrollment
161:6,22	144:16	18		128:25
201:5,6,15			encounter	
either 83:7	email 12:19	employer	63 : 7	enrollments
143:15,16	50:22	161:1	encounters	128:20
151:15	184:12	employers	196:5	129:6,7
151:15	emailed	104:22	encourage	ensue 25:25
171:3	52:11	107:2	99:3 125:3	ensure 100:2
193:24			135:1	104:2
200:10	emerging	employing	145:11,13,	104:2
202:5	100:3	139:19	20	103:3,22
	emissions	140:23	155:1,19	124:24
Ekati 69:7	12:12,13,2	employment	157:16	145:25
70:7	4 13:6	96:1	158:18	201:16
101:16	emitted	97:9,18,23	159:18	
118:19	12 : 15	101:25		ensured
136:23		102:4,7	encouraged	130:19
137:18,25	emphasize	103:8,15	85 : 6	ensuring
140:20	34:24 65:9	104:4,8,10	encourages	76:1
159:13	emphasized	,14	160:14	106:4,19
elaborate	76:14	105:3,16,2	173:18,24	130:18
84:9		4 106:2		
elder 35:18	employ	107:1,14	encouraging	enter 96:5
69:4 71:23	116:22	108:3,4,8	124:19,24	172:24
09:4 /1:23	201:15	117:2	engage 76:1	entered

	LERS TECHNICAL	T SESSION US	-24-2012 . 	Page 230 OI
267				
173:15	30:15,18	187:16	171:18	125:17
entering	equally 99:2	evaluative	example 24:9	existing
47:24	equipped	186:23	60:8 62:25	20:9 29:21
enters 41:17	113:23	188:9	66:20	101:12
		eventually	79:19	133:7,13
entire 22:11	equivalent	22:6	89:20 90:1	exists 22:5
30:16	13:9,13	26:23,24	114:6	35:6 64:8
110:25	equivalents	45:11	124:9	76:15
entry 108:3	12:25	everybody	131:14	expand 117:5
envir 97:8	13:16	10:17 15:1	134:10,14 137:16	171:11
	Erin 3:22	49:13 54:2	137:16	207:16
environment		70:2,4	156:2,3	
5:19 7:8	especially 20:22	91:13,20	184:16	expansion
13:19 14:3 29:11	72:18	96:14	188:18	30:2 31:21
30:22 54:7	176:16	97:18		expect 33:24
61:13 65:4		162:14,22	examples	65:6
82:18 83:6	essentially	163:2	89:5 90:10	130:1,10
93:13	164:4	211:13,15,	134:24	138:20
104:9,19	established	16	156:18,24 170:11,19	195:8
•	21:10,12	everybody's	,	expectation
environmenta	estimate	14:18	exceed 60:7	174:7
1 1:2	37:16,24	67:16	104:25	176:4
10:13 28:8 29:9	139:23		excellent	expected
32:11,13,1	143:18	everyone	31:2	28:9,10
52.11,13,1	153:8	10:4,11 33:16 69:9	108:19	98:25
33:16,19,2		75:8,9	109:8	137:18
2 34:3	estimated 12:13	167:18	145:23	
78:2,19	13:10,14		exchange	expecting
79:15,20,2	38:7	everything	82:5,13	11:11
3 81:5	104:11	14:1 36:5	·	expects
82:19		64:6 66:24	excused	102:24
84:16	estimates	72:22 73:9 88:16	129:1	expense
85 : 25	12:15 13:5	119:1	excuses	132:7
86:18	estimations	143:6,19	131:7	expensive
93:11	138:24	159:7	executing	144:11
97:10,12	et 28:2	183:18,20,	41:7	•
98:17,20,2	64:21 82:2	21	execution	experience
1,23	156:19	evidence	182:14	64:13
99:16,17,2 3 100:3,13	182:3	81:13,15		73:16
101:23	evaluate	·	exercise	89:13,14
106:18	21:6 79:25	exact 82:8	62:7 91:24	105:12 116:13
154:1	186:13	exactly	186:24	140:20,21
176:1		64:12	188:9	198:14
187 : 12	evaluating	81:12	exist 21:14	
188:2,4	29:22 99:16	89:10	32:6 64:9	experiences
200:13,17		120:24	existed	88:24
environmenta	evaluation	130:17	21:22	experiencing
1ly	79:14	133:21,25	existence	104:22
	103:18	146:8	EVI2 CELICE	expert
		151:14		

267 112:15	159:12 178:18 192:17 family 156:8 159:10,22 166:6 170:12 179:3 family's 132:6 fashion 107:7 fast 169:21 faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20 February
expertise 33:9 49:11,19 209:5,15,2 144:9,17 extra 64:21 50:8,25 0 experts 131:10,20 52:9,21 210:13,24 79:13,16 131:10,20 52:9,21 211:11 79:13,16 53:21 66:20 14:2,3 58:22 66:20 explain 59:24 61:3 91:23 47:10 65:14,17 65:14,17 fabric 156:6 67:9,22 facing 163:18 68:3,7,25 130:24 131:11 142:9 74:20 76:3 142:9 81:4,22 34:16 71:11 86:25 34:16 71:11 86:22 111:8,10 195:23 147:14 96:4,12 157:12 explor 18:7 183:11 108:18,23	178:18 192:17 family 156:8 159:10,22 166:6 170:12 179:3 family's 132:6 fashion 107:7 fast 169:21 faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20
### and the state of the state	192:17 family 156:8 159:10,22 166:6 170:12 179:3 family's 132:6 fashion 107:7 fast 169:21 faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20
33:9 extinct 33:5 49:11,19 209:5,15,2 144:9,17 extra 64:21 50:8,25 0 experts 131:10,20 52:9,21 211:11 79:13,16 53:21 53:21 53:21 14:2,3 66:20 91:23 65:14,17 65:14,17 66:20 65:14,17 67:9,22 66:20 65:14,17 67:9,22 66:20 68:3,7,25 130:24 131:11 142:9 131:11 65:14,17 68:3,7,25 130:24 131:11 142:9 14:6,22 74:20 76:3 76:3 71:11 82:17 84:8 71:11 86:22 117:1 92:15 11:8,10 157:12 157:12	family 156:8 159:10,22 166:6 170:12 179:3 family's 132:6 fashion 107:7 fast 169:21 faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20
144:9,17 extra 64:21 50:8,25 0 experts 131:10,20 52:9,21 210:13,24 79:13,16 53:21 53:21 56:20 141:2,3 53:21 66:20 51:23 explain F 65:14,17 66:20 51:23 149:4,5 163:18 65:14,17 66:20 51:23 explained 163:18 68:3,7,25 130:24 131:11 explaining 142:9 74:20 76:3 131:11 explaining 82:17 84:8 71:11 86:22 57:17 130:24 131:11 86:22 explaining 142:9 74:20 76:3 34:16 52:13 131:11 86:22 11:11 195:23 147:14 96:4,12 11:8,10 explor 18:7 183:11 108:18,23 11:8,10	159:10,22 166:6 170:12 179:3 family's 132:6 fashion 107:7 fast 169:21 faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20
experts 131:10,20 51:16,24 210:13,24 79:13,16 14:2,3 53:21 53:21 66:20 explain 59:24 61:3 91:23 66:20 91:23 47:10 149:4,5 163:18 65:14,17 66:20 91:23 explained 163:18 68:3,7,25 130:24 131:11 explained 74:20 76:3 130:24 131:11 explaining 74:20 76:3 62:17 84:8 71:11 explaining 82:17 84:8 71:11 86:22 131:11 96:4,12 11:8,10 157:12 explor 18:7 183:11 108:18,23 65:24 66:20 91:23 130:24 131:11 11:11 82:17 84:8 71:11 86:22 11:18,10 108:18,23 130:24 11:8,10 157:12	159:10,22 166:6 170:12 179:3 family's 132:6 fashion 107:7 fast 169:21 faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20
79:13,16 eye 64:20 53:21 facility 66:20 91:23 explain F 65:14,17 47:10 fabric 156:6 67:9,22 facing 149:4,5 163:18 68:3,7,25 130:24 185:2 fabulous 71:6,22 131:11 explained 142:9 74:20 76:3 fact 25:5 57:17 184:15 82:17 84:8 71:11 explaining 82:17 84:8 71:11 52:13 117:1 92:15 111:8,10 195:23 147:14 96:4,12 157:12 explor 18:7 183:11 108:18,23 factor 140.5	166:6 170:12 179:3 family's 132:6 fashion 107:7 fast 169:21 faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20
eye 64:20 by a first of the state of the stat	170:12 179:3 family's 132:6 fashion 107:7 fast 169:21 faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20
114:2,3 58:22 66:20 explain F 65:14,17 91:23 47:10 fabric 156:6 67:9,22 facing 149:4,5 163:18 68:3,7,25 130:24 185:2 fabulous 71:6,22 131:11 explained 142:9 74:20 76:3 fact 25:5 81:4,22 34:16 71:11 explaining 82:17 84:8 71:11 52:13 117:1 92:15 111:8,10 195:23 147:14 96:4,12 157:12 explor 18:7 183:11 108:18,23 5extor 140.5	179:3 family's 132:6 fashion 107:7 fast 169:21 faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20
explain F 59:24 61:3 91:23 47:10 fabric 156:6 65:14,17 facing 149:4,5 163:18 68:3,7,25 130:24 185:2 fabulous 71:6,22 131:11 explained 142:9 74:20 76:3 fact 25:5 57:17 184:15 81:4,22 34:16 explaining 82:17 84:8 71:11 52:13 117:1 92:15 111:8,10 195:23 147:14 96:4,12 157:12 explor 18:7 183:11 108:18,23 factor 140.5	<pre>family's 132:6 fashion 107:7 fast 169:21 faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20</pre>
47:10 149:4,5 185:2 explained 57:17 explaining 52:13 195:23 explor 18:7 47:10 65:14,17 67:9,22 68:3,7,25 130:24 131:11 68:3,7,25 68:3,7,25 68:3,7,25 68:3,7,25 68:3,7,25 130:24 131:11 68:22 131:11 65:14,17 67:9,22 68:3,7,25 68:3,7,25 130:24 131:11 68:22 131:11 86:22 111:8,10 157:12	132:6 fashion 107:7 fast 169:21 faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20
149:4,5 163:18 68:3,7,25 130:24 185:2 fabulous 71:6,22 131:11 explained 142:9 74:20 76:3 fact 25:5 57:17 184:15 81:4,22 34:16 explaining 82:17 84:8 71:11 71:11 52:13 117:1 92:15 111:8,10 195:23 147:14 96:4,12 157:12 explor 18:7 183:11 108:18,23 factor 140.5	<pre>fashion 107:7 fast 169:21 faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20</pre>
explained fabulous 71:6,22 131:11 57:17 142:9 74:20 76:3 fact 25:5 explaining 82:17 84:8 71:11 52:13 117:1 91:1,19 86:22 195:23 147:14 96:4,12 157:12 explor 18:7 183:11 108:18,23 52-tor 140.5	107:7 fast 169:21 faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20
explained 142:9 74:20 76:3 fact 25:5 57:17 184:15 81:4,22 34:16 explaining 82:17 84:8 71:11 52:13 117:1 91:1,19 86:22 195:23 147:14 96:4,12 11:8,10 explor 18:7 183:11 108:18,23	<pre>fast 169:21 faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20</pre>
57:17	<pre>faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20</pre>
explaining face 57:24 82:17 84:8 71:11 52:13 117:1 91:1,19 86:22 195:23 147:14 96:4,12 11:8,10 explor 18:7 183:11 108:18,23 57:12	<pre>faster 61:24 62:1 fat 165:20</pre>
52:13 117:1 91:1,19 86:22 195:23 147:14 96:4,12 157:12 explor 18:7 183:11 108:18,23 52:4	62:1 fat 165:20
52:13 195:23 explor 18:7 117:1 147:14 183:11 108:18,23 51:1,19 92:15 92:15 96:4,12 108:18,23	fat 165:20
195:23 147:14 96:4,12 157:12 108:18,23 110:5	
explor 18:7 183:11 157:12 108:18,23 57:40.5	
100:10,23	H'ADYII 2 WII
ovnloration 184:10 110.3 factor 140:5	_
105.22	34:17,18
10:7 ractors 98:8	75:20
	166:20 181:21
explosives faces 91:22	181:21
63:22 face-to 128:11 Faht 93:22	federal
export 195:22 132:13 fair 80:21	151:22
144.17	feedback
face-to-face	75 : 22
exported	160:7
102:16 184:23 140:17 129:6	203:23
exposing 189:21 161:25 162:10,21 Faithful	feeding
89:17 facilitate 163:1 2:25	42:10
express 89:2 99:3 164:7 12:6,9	
168:7,17,2	feel
expressed 5 169:18 27:22 28:3	87:15,25
173:8,17 31:7,16	88:12
extend 20:17 facilitating 175:18 48:19,20	113:18
10:16 176:6 53:11 co. 10:10	feelings
131.18	188:17
1:12,13	female
extends 10:3,10,15 186:4 fall 82:21	124:24,25
199:9 11:21 187:17 83:13	
extensive 13:21 197:5,10 123:13	femoral
33:11 14:4,19,25 199:14,19 falls 37:19	40:16
117:16 16:15,24 201.20	field 15:22
190:25 19:3,17 205:9,13,2 false 165:15	16:6
extent 28.10 20.1 20.7 20.5 10.0 families	fif 116:17
20.5 20.15 27:13 32:8 27:13 14	
60.5 16 30:9 307.6 0.14 135:15	fifteen 11:9
156:11.12.	162:13,16
external 45:19 ,24 16,22	

MARIKR - DE R	EERS TECHNICA.	L SESSION 05	-24-2012	Page 232 of
267				
fifty 80:25	first 5:9	5:25 68:20	210:1	190:4
10.00	8:9 10:16	e: .h:	£1	197:15
figure 19:22	14:5,10,21	fishing	flowing	199:22
28:4,15,18	33:19	87:20	35:22,23	
42:21,22	42:25	fit 109:15	37:4 40:18	
43:7 52:11	49:21,23	6:1 56.0	50:13	72:8,9,13,
figured	50:11	fits 76:9	168:5,13,1	16
89:24	58:15	five 38:7	5 201:17	footprint
	68:18	69:7	208:8	20:15,16
fill 58:19	77:12,13	101:14	flows	22:18
filled	78:8,25	122:21	15:6,13,19	
104:14	79:18 82:2	flexibility	,20,21	force
6: 1 01 11	83:20,24	_	16:1 17:14	105:3,8
final 81:11	85:24 86:6	55:10	18:18,21,2	115:/,25
83:2,15	89:11,12	63:10 66:2	5 21:6	130:25
84:24 85:9	91:25	67:4,7	22:5,10,19	137:3
156:1	92:14	flexible	29:3 30:23	138:4
finalized		62:20	38:15 39:2	1 3 9 • 1 7 . 1 /
84:24 86:9	93:23,25 99:22	flights	44:7 46:4	forced 132:5
finally	109:1,23	111ghts 10:24	60:13	140:22,24
80:17	128:7,13			
171:20	136:20	11:4,7,9,1 2 144:10	fly 82:9	forcing
1/1:20	142:11	2 144:10	108:15	155:15
financial	144:23	floor	119:17	fore 67:1
85:18	164:9,13	14:9,21	146:22,24	forecast
134:18,23	169:6,20	16:25	fly-in	11:1 141:5
135:14	177:10	25:23	101:25	11:1 141:3
152:12	181:12	53:25		foreseeable
180:20	202:10	68:12	fly-out	30:1,4
193:5	206:18	69:2,14,18	101:25	31:18,22
financially	200:10	70:15 76:5	focus 53:16	forgive
192:20	210:10,19	123:23	folks 75:23	88:23
finding	211:4	flow 8:7	follow-up	forgot
113:5	fiscal	15:4,15,17	16:16	112:12
113.3	151:20	16:3,4,11,		112,12
findings	131:20	22 17:17	26:10	forgotten
61:1 98:19	fish	23:19 29:2	50:22 53:22	87:11
fine 9:6	15:13,21,2	31:24	58:23 61:4	form 99:6
11:17 12:2	5	37:3,4,11,	65:15	100:9
66:20	16:2,5,8,1	12,14,22	67:10,13	171:18
	0,12	38:2,6	99:6,14,15	198:21
finer 22:15	29:14,19	40:16	,22	199:1
185:8	30:13,23	42:12,25	100:5,7,8,	209:25
finish 23:23	46:8	43:3,10,14	14,18	
55:19 70:4	53:17,24,2	44:2,8	126:18	formal
135:23	5 54:4	45:24	140:14	100:21
163:10	67:12	49:7,8	163:25	105:17
finished	68:12 , 21	144:9	170:20	forms 198:25
70:4	72:3,18	188:12	170:20	formulate
	73:23	206:6,9,15	173:7	82:8
finite	77:19	,22 207:4	174:11,12	
192:25	Fisheries	209:21,22	189:20	formulating
			103.20	

67:16 11:4,8,10 193:6 13:5 47:22 forth 182:23 Friday B4:11					-
forth 182:23 Friday 84:11 forthcoming 57:18 Gachcho 1:6 (Sahcho 1:6 172:2 2) 101:1:7 (204:14 2) George 4:3 (36:20 69: 71:9 3) 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:17, 21 gets 26:5 5 204:7, 10 36:17 3 36:17, 21 3 36:17, 21 3 36:17, 21 3 36:17, 21 3 36:17, 21 3 36:17, 21 3 36:17, 21 3 36:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 36:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 36:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 36:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 38:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 38:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 38:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 38:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 38:15 3 37:17 7 37:13 3 38:15 3 37:17 7 37:13 3 38:15 3 37:17 7 37:13 3 38:15 3 37:17 3 38:15 3 37:17 3 38:15 3 37:13 3 38:15 3 37:17 3 38	267				
forth 182:23 Friday 84:11 forthcoming 57:18 Gachcho 1:6 (Sahcho 1:6 172:2 2) 101:1:7 (204:14 2) George 4:3 (36:20 69: 71:9 3) 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:20 69: 71:9 3 36:17, 21 gets 26:5 5 204:7, 10 36:17 3 36:17, 21 3 36:17, 21 3 36:17, 21 3 36:17, 21 3 36:17, 21 3 36:17, 21 3 36:17, 21 3 36:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 36:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 36:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 36:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 38:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 38:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 38:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 38:15 3 37:17 7 37:17 3 38:15 3 37:17 7 37:13 3 38:15 3 37:17 7 37:13 3 38:15 3 37:17 7 37:13 3 38:15 3 37:17 3 38:15 3 37:17 3 38:15 3 37:13 3 38:15 3 37:17 3 38	67:16	11:4,8,10	193:6	13:5	47:22
forthcoming forthcoming 57:18 front 73:17 12:2 189:10 Gabcho 1:6 13:23 gate 55:3 36:20 69: 71:9 204:14 27:6 35:1 36:20 69: 71:9 27:6 35:1 36:20 69: 71:9 35:20 69: 71:9 35:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 36:20 69: 71:9 36:17 71:9 36:17 71:9 36:17 71:13 36:17 72:17 36:18 72:17 36:18 72:17 36:31.0 72:17 39:10 36: 37: 10 38:11, 23 31:16 74: 13 38:11, 23 31:16 74: 13 38:11, 23 31:16 74: 13 38:11, 23 31:16 74: 13 31:16 74: 13 38:11, 23 31:16 74: 13 38:11, 23 31:16 74: 13 31:16 74: 13 31:16 74: 13 31:16 74: 13 31:16 74: 13 31:16 74: 13 31:16 74: 13 31:16 74: 13 31:16 74: 13 31:16 74: 13 31:16 74: 13 31:16 74: 13 31:16 74: 14 31:16 74: 14 31:16 74: 14 31:16 74: 14 31:16 74: 14 31:17 74: 13 31:17 74: 13 31:17 74: 13 31:17 74: 13 31:17 74: 13 31:17 74: 13 31:1					
forthcoming front 73:17 Galch o 1:6 gate 55:3 36:20 69: fortunate 172:2 Galch o 1:6 gate 55:3 36:20 69: fortunate 189:10 10:12,20,2,2 gather 81:13 71:9 forty-seven 182:25 16:17 gather 81:13 84:17,21 gets 26:5 forward frozen 26:10,11 gathered getting 63:17 43:17,23,2 35:25 36:3,10 88:15 27:17 71:15 54:15 36:3,10 45:20 51:6 Gauch 44:14 133:16 75:25 45:4 45:20 51:6 Gauch 44:14 133:16 Gauch 44:14 133:16 80:15 10:24,25 full 105:20 69:21 Galch 68:22 Gauch 44:14 133:10 159:10 148:8 147:11,14 133:10 159:10 148:8 147:11,14 133:10 160:6,7 Gull 48:8 149:11,14 133:10 160:6,7 Gull 48:8 149:11,14 149:6,10,1 193:13 414:11 149:6,10,1 193:13 414:12	forth 182:23	Friday 84:11			_
fortunate 17:19 17:22 10:12,20,2 gather 81:13 71:9 fortunate 189:10 4 13:23 84:17,21 gets 26:5 204:7,10 forty-seven 182:25 16:17 85:1 204:7,10 forward frozen 26:10,11 88:15 27:17 63:17 5 44:5 36:3,10 89:11,23 137:14 71:15 45:4 45:20 51:6 Gaucho 44:14 131:16 75:25 full p57:17 90:16 92:6 Gaucho 44:14 33:10 13:10 80:14,5,8 fully 57:17 90:16 92:6 Gavin 5:15 147:11,14 86:15 113:23 108:12,16 GDP 148:8 160:6,7 86:15 113:23 108:12,16 GDP 148:8 161:24 140:11 127:25 111:7,11,2 4 194:6,10,1 193:13 162:11 127:25 111:7,11,2 4 194:4 194:4 15:21 134:2 119:15 6 15:6,25 19:14 19:14 <th< th=""><th>forthcoming</th><th>front 73:17</th><th></th><th></th><th></th></th<>	forthcoming	front 73:17			
fortunate 189:10 4 13:23 384:17,21 gets 26:5 forty-seven 182:25 16:17 85:1 204:7,10 forward frozen 26:10,11 gathered getting 63:17 5 44:5 36:3,10 88:11,23 117:14 71:15 5 44:5 45:20 51:6 Gauch 44:14 133:10 79:24, 25 full 105:20 69:21 Gavin 5:15 131:16 82:12 105:1, 19 104:6 Gavin 5:15 147:11,14 86:15 113:23 108:12, 16 Gulk 75:8 110:24, 25 86:15 113:23 108:12, 16 GDP 148:8 161:24 140:11 126:15 110:24, 25 111:7, 11, 2 150:8, 13, 1 160:6, 10 175:21 134:5 114:22 6 152:22 GDP 148:8 161:24 140:11 126:15 110:24, 25 114:9:6, 10, 1 193:13 175:21 134:5 114:22 6 152:22 6 152:22 GP 4:21 150:8, 13, 1 20:3:13	57:18	172:2		gate 55:3	
75:23 frontline 14:12 84:17,21 gets 26:5 20:7;10 forty-seven 183:9,17 19:18 85:1 20:7;10 20:7;10 forward frozen 26:10,11 88:15 27:17 74:13 63:17 5 44:5 36:3,10 89:11,23 117:14 75:25 45:4 45:20 51:6 Gaucho 44:14 133:10 79:24,25 full price 69:21 Gaucho 44:14 133:10 133:10 80:15 113:23 100:12,16 Gavin 5:15 147:11,14 86:15 113:23 108:12,16 GDP 148:8 160:6,7 86:15 113:23 108:12,16 GDP 148:8 160:6,6 140:11 127:25 111:7,11,2 4 193:13 194:4 161:21 133:25 111:7,11,2 4 193:13 194:4 175:21 134:5 142:22 6 47:21 185:2,4 189:22 190:1 119:1,18 18:1,18 19:1,18 18:1,4 <th>fortunate</th> <th>189:10</th> <th></th> <th>gather 81:13</th> <th>/1:9</th>	fortunate	189:10		gather 81:13	/1:9
forty-seven 182:25 16:17 gathered getting forward frozen 26:10,11 gathered getting 63:17 43:17,23,2 35:25 gathering 117:14 74:13 71:15 45:4 45:20 51:6 Gaucho 44:14 133:10 74:13 79:24,25 full 105:20 69:21 Goutho 44:14 133:10 159:10 80:4,5,8 fully 57:17 90:16 92:6 Goutho 44:14 133:10 159:10 86:15 113:23 106:12,16 GDP 148:8 160:26,7 159:10 96:15 126:15 10:24,25 413:21 149:6,10,1 193:13 140:11 126:15 110:24,25 413:21 150:8,13,1 20:3 183:22 134:5 114:22 6152:22 6152:22 6152:22 197:11 funded 21:21 130:1 general 18:12 194:8 194:17 funded 21:21 130:1 general 195:11 196:16 10:16 12:24		frontline		84:17,21	gets 26:5
105:6				85:1	204:7,10
forward frozen 26:10,11 88:15 27:17 forward 43:17,23,2 35:25 35:25 35:25 35:25 71:15 44:5 36:3,10 31:71 74:13 71:15 45:4:5 45:20 51:6 63:3,10 89:11,23 131:16 33:10 131:13 131:16 33:10 131:11 131:16 33:10 131:11 131:10 6aucho 44:14 133:16 6aucho 44:14 133:10 140:11 127:25 111:17:14	_			gathered	getting
forward frozen 25:17,11 35:25 gathering 74:13 63:17 43:17,23,2 35:25 36:3,10 89:11,23 117:14 75:25 45:4 45:20 51:6 69:21 69:10 147:11,14 133:10 160:6,7 160:11 133:10 160:6,7 160:12 149:6,10,1 180:12 149:6,10,1 193:13 194:4 194:4 194:4 193:13 194:4 194:4 194:4 194:4 194:4 194:4 194:4 194:4 194:4 194:4 194:4 194:4 195:22 6152:22 6152:22 6152:22 6152:22 6152:22 6152:22	105:6	·		_	
63:17	forward		·		
Tili	63:17				
75:25 79:24,25 79:24,25 79:24,25 80:4,5,8 82:12 105:1,19 104:6 80:15 113:23 108:12,16 113:23 108:12,16 1140:11 127:25 1117:11,2 162:11 133:25 114:22 197:11 175:21 133:25 114:22 197:11 188:22 197:11 190:1 115:6,25 190:1 190	71:15			89:11,23	
79:24,25 full 105:20 69:21 Gavin 5:15 147:11,14 80:4,5,8 fully 57:17 90:16 92:6 93:10 159:10 86:15 105:1,19 104:6 GDP 148:8 161:24 96:15 113:23 108:12,16 149:6,10,1 193:13 140:11 127:25 111:7,11,2 4 193:13 162:11 133:25 111:7,11,2 4 194:4 155:21 134:5 114:22 6 152:22 Gibson 6:3 188:22 197:11 functioning 115:16,725 ge 47:21 185:24 188:22 199:1 190:1 18:16,17 GED 106:10 186:1,6 199:11 functioning 119:1,18 114:8,13,1 187:21 foundations fund 165:18 123:12 9 115:1 190:22,23 194:17 funded 21:21 134:12 9 115:1 190:22,23 194:17 funding 141:12 40:14 80:2 197:4,8 125:24 funding 142:2 37:4	75 : 25	45:4		Gaucho 44:14	
80:4,5,8 82:12 105:1,19 86:15 96:15 113:23 108:12,16 140:11 127:25 111:7,11,2 150:11 133:25 175:21 134:5 188:22 197:11 190:1 190:12 118:16,17 203:25 190:1 190:1 191:18 123:12 194:17 160:11 122:4,25 118:16,17 194:17 194:17 194:17 194:17 194:17 194:17 194:17 195:24 196:16 125:24 169:16 125:24 169:16 125:24 169:16 125:24 169:16 125:24 169:16 125:24 169:16 125:24 169:16 125:24 169:16 125:24 169:16 125:24 169:16 125:24 169:16 126:23 127:4,7 158:5 128:19 138:17 138:17 127:4,7 158:5 128:14 129:18 130:9 185:7,13 133:17 196:17 166:21 176:2 188:14 199:25 188:14 199:25 188:14 199:25 188:14 199:25 188:14 199:25 188:14 199:25 188:14 199:25 188:14 199:25 188:14 199:25 190:4 130:9 18:14 199:25 190:4 130:9 18:14 190:22,23 190:1 159:10 160:16,7 150:8,13,1 150:8,13,1 150:8,13,1 150:8,13,1 150:8,13,1 150:8,31,3,1 150:8,31,3,1 150:8,31,3,1 166:52:22 Gibson 6:3 186:12 199:15 113:12 190:22,23 186:14 190:22,23 188:17 130:1 190:22,23 188:14 190:22 188:14 190:25 110:12 193:11 196:18 197:4,7,8 166:18 197:4,7,8 166:18 197:4,7,8 166:18 197:4,7,8 166:18 197:4,7,8 166:18 197:4,7,8 166:18 197:4,7,8 169:16 137:3 18:14 190:22 190:4 139:20 190:4 139:20 190:18 190:22 18:14 190:25 115:3 164:20 190:22 189:21 150:8,13,1 150:18 185:24 188:22 186:10 188:16,7 188:16 190:10 188:16,7 188:17 190:12 193:11 190:12 193:11 190:12 193:11 190:12 193:11 190:12 1	79:24 , 25	full 105:20		Carrin 5.15	
82:12	80:4,5,8	fully 57.17			
86:15 113:23 108:12,16 149:6,10,1 193:13 140:11 127:25 111:7,11,2 150:8,13,1 194:4 162:11 127:25 111:7,11,2 150:8,13,1 205:3 175:21 133:25 114:22 6 152:22 Gibson 6:3 188:22 190:1 118:16,17 GED 106:10 186:1,6 194:17 funded 165:18 123:12 9 15:1 190:22,23 194:17 funded 21:21 130:1 general 193:11 fourth 23:3 204:5 138:17 33:23 197:4,8 125:24 funding 141:12 40:14 80:2 Ginger 6:3 207:14 127:4,7 158:5 generally 185:24 framework 128:24 163:2 37:4 64:17 187:10,21 framework 130:9 185:7,13 133:17 190:22,23 188:14 199:25 generally 186:1,6 176:2 193:9 135:7 133:17 190:22,23 188:14 199:25 game 89:25 110:12 193:11 137:3					160:6,7
96:15 140:11 127:25 111:7,11,2 133:25 134:5 188:22 197:11 functioning 203:25 190:1 190:1 119:1,18 114:8,13,1 190:22,23 194:17 funded 21:21 125:24 169:16 207:14 126:23 127:4,7 158:5 129:3,8 16:19 129:3,8 86:19 129:3,8 86:19 129:3,8 86:19 129:3,8 86:19 120:3 130:9 86:19 120:21 130:9 185:7,13 133:17 190:22,23 185:24 Gibson 6:3 185:24 GED 106:10 114:8,13,1 190:22,23 197:11 190:22,23 193:11 190:22,23 197:4,8 Giper al 190:1 130:1 134:12 134:12 134:12 130:1 134:12 134:12 130:1 130:1 130:1 130:1 14:8,13,1 190:22,23 197:4,8 169:16 126:23 152:15 125:4 Ginger 6:3 185:24 186:1,6 130:1 185:24 Ginger 6:3 185:24 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 193:11 190:22,23 197:4,8 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 193:11 190:22,23 197:4,8 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:10,21 193:11 190:22,23 197:4,8 186:1,6 187:10,21 186:1,6 187:24 GED 106:10 186:10 186:1,6 187:21 190:22,23 197:4,8 190:22,23 197:4,8 186:1,6 187:11 190:22,23 197:4,8 186:1,6 187:11 190:22,23 197:4,8 186:1,6 187:21 190:12 188:14 190:22,23 197:4,8 186:1,6 187:11 190:22,23 197:4,8 186:1,6 186:1,0 187:21 190:12 193:11 190:12 193:11 190:12 193:11 196:18 133:17 190:22,23 190:1 18:14 190:22,23 190:1 18:14 190:22,23 190:1 18:14 190:22,23 190:1 18:14 190:12 190:	86:15				161:24
140:11					193:13
162:11					194:4
175:21					205:3
188:22			114:22	6 152:22	Gibson 6:3
19::11		functioning	115:6,25	ge 47:21	
foundations fund 165:18 119:1,18 114:8,13,1 187:21 foundations funded 21:21 130:1 9 115:1 190:22,23 194:17 funded 21:21 130:1 general 193:11 fourth 23:3 204:5 138:17 33:23 197:4,8 125:24 funding 141:12 40:14 80:2 197:4,8 169:16 126:23 152:15 125:4 Ginger 6:3 207:14 127:4,7 158:5 generally 185:24 186:1,6 framed 98:10 128:24 163:2 37:4 64:17 187:10,21 framework 130:9 185:7,13 133:17 199:22,23 86:19 131:1 196:17 generate 191:25 176:2 193:9 game 89:25 110:12 193:11 199:25 90:4 139:22 194:7 Francis 3:21 funds 169:17 games 89:22 202:13 196:18 137:3 furiously 15:7,20 33:4 71:13 16 <tr< th=""><th></th><th>=</th><th>118:16,17</th><th>GED 106·10</th><th></th></tr<>		=	118:16,17	GED 106·10	
foundations fund 165:18 123:12 9 115:1 190:22,23 194:17 funded 21:21 130:1 general 193:11 196:18 125:24 funding 141:12 40:14 80:2 Ginger 6:3 169:16 126:23 152:15 125:4 Ginger 6:3 207:14 127:4,7 158:5 generally 185:24 framed 98:10 128:24 163:2 37:4 64:17 187:10,21 framework 130:9 185:7,13 133:17 189:3 86:19 131:1 196:17 generate 191:25 176:2 193:9 185:7,13 133:17 190:22,23 188:14 199:25 game 89:25 110:12 193:11 188:14 199:25 90:4 139:22 194:7 Francis 3:21 204:6,10 games 89:22 202:13 196:18 137:3 furiously 15:7,20 33:4 71:13 16 137:4 future 30:1 25:13,16,1 63:21 15:3	203:25		119:1,18		1
fourth funded 21:21 130:1 general 193:11 fourth 23:3 204:5 funding 134:12 33:23 196:18 125:24 funding 141:12 40:14 80:2 197:4,8 169:16 126:23 152:15 125:4 Ginger 6:3 207:14 127:4,7 158:5 generally 185:24 framed 98:10 128:24 163:2 37:4 64:17 185:14 framework 129:3,8 167:7 80:9 189:3 86:19 131:1 196:17 80:9 189:3 122:17 165:21 game 89:25 110:12 193:11 176:2 193:9 90:4 139:22 194:7 Francis 3:21 204:6,10 game 89:25 110:12 193:11 137:3 furiously 90:3 generations 197:4,7,8 137:3 furiously 15:7,20 33:4 71:13 16 18:14 93:6 future 30:1 25:13,16,1 63:21 10	foundations	fund 165:18	123:12		190:22,23
fourth 23:3 204:5 134:12 138:17 138:17 141:12 138:23 17:4,8 196:18 197:4,8 125:24 funding 169:16 207:14 127:4,7 158:5 126:23 152:15 125:4 Ginger 6:3 185:24 185:24 186:1,6 framed 98:10 framework 86:19 122:17 176:2 193:9 131:1 196:17 176:2 193:9 188:14 199:25 188:14 199:25 188:14 199:25 188:14 199:25 188:14 199:25 110:12 193:11 196:17 193:11 196:17 193:11 196:18 197:4,7,8 generate 191:25 193:11 196:17 193:11 196:18 197:4,7,8 16 free 134:16 funds 169:17 93:6 93:6 future 30:1 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 98:22 145:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 98:22 174:13 76:2 98:22 175:13 16:15 13 126:12 gaps 23:24 199:1 124:10 193:15 13:15 13 126:12 gaps 23:24 199:25 116:25 13:15 13 126:12 gaps 23:24 199:25 115:13 16:25 13:15 13 126:12 gaps 23:24 199:25 115:13 16:25 13:15 13 126:12 gaps 23:24 199:25 115:13 16:25 13:15 13 126:12 gaps 23:24 15:13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 126:12 gaps 23:24 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15 13 16:25 13:15	194:17	funded 21:21			193:11
125:24 funding 138:17 40:14 80:2 197:4,8 169:16 126:23 152:15 125:4 Ginger 6:3 207:14 127:4,7 158:5 generally 185:24 framed 98:10 128:24 163:2 37:4 64:17 187:10,21 framework 129:3,8 167:7 80:9 189:3 86:19 131:1 196:17 189:3 189:3 122:17 165:21 game 89:25 110:12 193:91 176:2 193:9 90:4 139:22 194:7 Francis 3:21 204:6,10 games 89:22 202:13 196:18 free 134:16 funds 169:17 90:3 generations 197:4,78 137:3 furiously 15:7,20 33:4 71:13 16 93:6 future 30:1 25:13,16,1 63:21 103:25 freeze 44:23 45:12 9 139:1 63:21 124:10 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 98:22 gaps 23:24 63:19 150:25 freezing 107:14 garage 69:9 geochemistry 150:25 freight 126:12 Gary 3:9 30:15 102:22	fourth			_	196:18
169:16 126:23 152:15 125:4 Ginger 6:3 207:14 127:4,7 158:5 generally 185:24 framed 98:10 128:24 163:2 37:4 64:17 186:1,6 framework 129:3,8 167:7 80:9 187:10,21 86:19 131:1 196:17 80:9 189:3 122:17 165:21 game 89:25 110:12 193:21 176:2 193:9 90:4 139:22 194:7 Francis 3:21 204:6,10 games 89:22 202:13 196:18 free 134:16 funds 169:17 90:3 generations 197:4,7,8 137:3 furiously 15:7,20 33:4 71:13 16 93:6 future 30:1 15:7,20 33:4 71:13 103:25 45:5 45:12 9 139:1 geochemical 13:25 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 gaps 23:24 63:21 124:10 43:25 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 164:20 43:25 126:12 Gary 3:9 30:15 gives 22:12		funding			197:4,8
132:14		_			Ginger 6:3
framed 98:10 128:24 138:2 163:2 37:4 64:17 186:1,6 framework 130:9 185:7,13 133:17 189:3 189:3 86:19 131:1 196:17 80:9 189:3 190:22,23 176:2 193:9 game 89:25 110:12 193:11 193:11 188:14 199:25 games 89:22 202:13 196:18 Francis 3:21 204:6,10 games 89:22 202:13 196:18 free 134:16 funds 169:17 90:3 generations 197:4,7,8 137:3 furiously 15:7,20 33:4 71:13 16 93:6 future 30:1 15:7,20 33:4 71:13 63:21 given 85:11 freeze 44:23 45:12 9 139:1 63:21 15:3 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 gaps 23:24 63:21 139:7 freezing 107:14 garage 69:9 geochemistry 150:25 43:25 115:13 Gary 3:9 Gary 3:9 10:25 10:22 <t< th=""><th>207:14</th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th>_</th></t<>	207:14				_
framework 129:3,8 167:7 80:9 189:3 86:19 131:1 196:17 133:17 190:22,23 176:2 193:9 193:9 193:11 190:22,23 188:14 199:25 90:4 139:22 194:7 Francis 3:21 204:6,10 games 89:22 202:13 196:18 free 134:16 funds 169:17 90:3 generations 197:4,7,8 137:3 furiously 15:7,20 33:4 71:13 16 93:6 future 30:1 25:13,16,1 63:21 103:25 freeze 44:23 45:12 9 139:1 geochemical 15:3 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 98:22 gaps 23:24 63:21 124:10 freezing 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 164:20 43:25 115:13 Gary 3:9 30:15 gives 22:12	f				
framework 130:9 185:7,13 133:17 189:3 86:19 131:1 196:17 133:17 190:22,23 176:2 193:9 189:3 190:22,23 188:14 199:25 90:4 139:22 194:7 Francis 3:21 204:6,10 games 89:22 202:13 196:18 free 134:16 funds 169:17 90:3 generations 197:4,7,8 137:3 furiously 15:7,20 33:4 71:13 16 93:6 future 30:1 25:13,16,1 63:21 103:25 freeze 44:23 45:12 9 139:1 geochemical 139:7 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 gaps 23:24 63:19 150:25 freezing 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 164:20 43:25 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 164:20 freight 126:12 Gary 3:9 30:15 gives 22:12	Framed 90:10				1
86:19 131:1 196:17 133:17 190:22,23 176:2 193:9 199:25 110:12 193:11 188:14 199:25 90:4 139:22 194:7 Francis 3:21 204:6,10 games 89:22 202:13 196:18 free 134:16 funds 169:17 90:3 generations 197:4,7,8 137:3 furiously 15:7,20 33:4 71:13 76:2 78:17 16 Freeman 5:6 132:19 18:14 geochemical 63:21 103:25 15:57,20 18:14 geochemical 63:21 103:25 15:3 15:13 9 139:1 geochemistry 139:7 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 gaps 23:24 63:19 150:25 freezing 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 164:20 43:25 107:14 30:15 192:22 freight 126:12 Gary 3:9 30:15 gives 22:12		· ·			
122:17 165:21 193:9 game 89:25 110:12 193:11 188:14 199:25 90:4 139:22 194:7 Francis 3:21 204:6,10 games 89:22 202:13 196:18 free 134:16 funds 169:17 90:3 generations 197:4,7,8 137:3 furiously 15:7,20 76:2 78:17 given 85:11 93:6 future 30:1 25:13,16,1 63:21 103:25 freeze 44:23 45:12 9 139:1 63:21 124:10 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 gaps 23:24 63:19 150:25 freezing 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 164:20 43:25 107:14 Gary 3:9 30:15 gives 22:12				133:17	190:22,23
176:2 193:9 199:25 110:12 193:11 Francis 3:21 204:6,10 games 89:22 202:13 196:18 free 134:16 funds 169:17 90:3 generations 197:4,7,8 137:3 furiously 15:7,20 76:2 78:17 given 85:11 93:6 future 30:1 25:13,16,1 63:21 103:25 freeze 44:23 45:12 9 139:1 geochemical 63:21 124:10 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 gaps 23:24 63:19 150:25 freezing 43:25 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 30:15 164:20 freight 126:12 Gary 3:9 30:15 gives 22:12				generate	191:25
Francis 3:21		193:9	_	110:12	193:11
free 134:16 funds 169:17 90:3 generations 197:4,7,8 137:3 furiously 15:7,20 33:4 71:13 76:2 78:17 given 85:11 93:6 future 30:1 25:13,16,1 63:21 103:25 freeze 44:23 45:12 9 139:1 9 139:1 63:21 124:10 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 78:22 78:27 78:27 78:27 139:7 freezing 107:14 107:14 103:25 107:14 103:25 107:14 103:25 1	188:14	199:25	90:4	139:22	
free 134:16 funds 169:17 gap 12:17 33:4 71:13 16 137:3 furiously 15:7,20 76:2 78:17 given 85:11 93:6 future 30:1 25:13,16,1 63:21 103:25 freeze 44:23 45:12 9 139:1 9 139:1 124:10 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 78:22	Francis 3:21	204:6,10	games 89:22	202:13	
137:3 furiously 15:7,20 33:4 71:13 76:2 78:17 93:6 future 30:1 25:13,16,1 geochemical 103:25 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 98:22 gaps 23:24 63:19 150:25 freezing 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 164:20 freight 126:12 Gary 3:9 30:15 given 85:11 33:4 71:13 71:13 76:2 78:17 76:2 78:17 given 85:11 103:25 115:3 124:10 63:21 124:10 139:7 139:7 150:25 164:20 30:15 192:22	free 134.16	funds 169·17	90:3	generations	197:4,7,8,
Freeman 5:6 132:19 15:7,20 76:2 78:17 given 85:11 93:6 future 30:1 25:13,16,1 63:21 103:25 freeze 44:23 45:12 9 139:1 geochemical 124:10 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 gaps 23:24 63:19 150:25 freezing 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 164:20 15:13 Gary 3:9 30:15 192:22 gives 22:12			gap 12·17	_	16
Freeman 5:6 132:19 18:14 geochemical 93:6 future 30:1 25:13,16,1 63:21 115:3 freeze 44:23 45:12 9 139:1 geochemical 124:10 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 gaps 23:24 63:19 150:25 freezing 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 164:20 15:13 126:12 30:15 192:22		-			given 85:11
freeze 44:23 future 30:1 25:13,16,1 63:21 115:3 45:5 48:4 71:13 76:2 gaps 23:24 geochemistry 139:7 freezing 43:25 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 30:15 164:20 freight 126:12 Gary 3:9 30:15 gives 22:12		132:19		geoghomi as 1	103:25
freeze 44:23 45:12 9 139:1 geochemistry 139:7 freezing 98:22 gaps 23:24 63:19 150:25 freight 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 164:20 freight 126:12 30:15 192:22		future 30:1		_	
freezing 98:22 gaps 23:24 63:19 150:25 43:25 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 164:20 freight 126:12 Gary 3:9 30:15 gives 22:12		45:12			
freezing 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 164:20 freight 126:12 Gary 3:9 30:15 gives 22:12	45:5 48:4	71:13 76:2	~~~ ~~~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~		
43:25 107:14 garage 69:9 geographic 164:20 192:22 126:12 Gary 3:9 30:15 gives 22:12	freezing			63:19	
freight 115:13 Gary 3:9 30:15 192:22 gives 22:12	_		<pre>garage 69:9</pre>	geographic	
126:12 gives 22:12			Gary 3:9	30:15	192:22
185:18 gas 12:24 geomembrane	rreignt		_	geomembrane	gives 22:12
		185:18	gas 12:24	geomemorane	

MVEIRB - DE	BEERS TECHNICAI	L SESSION 05	-24-2012	Page 234 of
267				
33:10 58:7	172:18,19,	22 95:2,9	127 : 2	196:18
	23	117:6	130:19	
giving	173:1,6,12	150:18	131:19	greater
74:1,15	,18,24		134:17	150:7
glad 55:19	174:5,6,10	gone 61:15		greatest
122:22	175:2,13	69:24	grades	105:16
glean 55:8	180:13	178:22	124:10 127:1	147:13
_	187:10,23	goods 102:9		greenhouse
Glenn 4:14	191:9,12	governance	gradient	12:24 13:5
global	193:24	201:24	37:7 , 8	
118:23	200:8,9	government	graduates	Greg 4:11,17 95:10
145:20	203:7	6:2 70:3	124:9	95:10
GNW 200:9	204:4	96:17 99:4	127:3	Grinsted 5:3
	GNWT-ECE	101:24	graduation	95:23 , 24
GNWT 4:14	4:25	103:16	117:13,23	97:7,16
7:11 92:25	5:2,3,4	106:23	126:10	103:6,9,13
93:1,11,13 ,21	GNWT-ITI	107:24	132:22	,25 110:13
95:11,16,1	4:20,21,22	118:7,10	140:2	112:3,18
8,20,22,24	,23,24	119:8	graduations	113:9 115:2,23
96:1,3,22	GNWT's 98:2	122:3	135:1	119:14,22
97:2		129:24		121:21
98:3,7	106:1 174:7	136:8	Graeme 3:14	123:19
99:5,12,23		151 : 22	94:25	128:18
101:12,13	goal 116:21	163:11	137:8	169:24
104:2,9	119:4	164:10	140:14	
105:13,15,	141:23	168:21	141:2 142:16	gross 148:9 149:19,22,
22 110:22	142:8	169:2,5	142:16	25 152:21
121:20	159:5,6	171:8 174:20	144:2	153:7
123:18,25	goals 155:24	175:7	148:24	
125:8,15	158:23	176:12	149:5,7,8	ground
126:4	Golder 2:25	179:15	151:4,17	41:5,8
127:24	3:2,3,4,5,	180:13	152:7	43:17,19,2
128:13 130:9	6,7,8,9,10	185:19	165:16	0,23
132:11	,11,12,13	186:2,20	200:3	44:16,17,2 3 45:3
133:21	12:10	189:11,23	grandfather	48:4
136:21	15:11	190:18,21,	88:7	
147:21	19:21 20:8	23 193:12		grounded
148:3,6,12	23:16 28:4	200:19,25	grateful	98:1,2
, 19 151:22	31:17	202:22	186:8	groundwater
153:17,21	35:12 37:2	203:1	191:2	27:13 28:1
154:12	38:23 39:9 40:19	204:2	great 19:8	36:13
155:8	41:3,15,25	government's	20:12 51:4	37:3,4,11,
156:25	48:21 49:5	203:12	55:15 65:6	14 38:6,15
159:14	53:12	grab 49:14	82:23,25	42:9,12,25
163:22	54:18	73:1	87:8,15,24	•
164:4	60:11		88:5 91:22	54:8,10,16
169:6,7,16	62:16 80:7	grade 105:12	105:18	groups 82:1
,19,25	93:4	106:9	119:6 138:13	184:1
170:6	94:4,10,11	124:18	140:23	189:24
171:9,14	,14,16,19,	126:11	185:10	204:16
L			100:10	

	EERS TECHNICA.	BESSION 03	24 2012	
267				
grow 88:4	176:11	39:24	199:22	192:20,24
_	hand 89:21	55:12	200:3	helps 170:24
guess 25:24	90:3,4	89:24	hearing	neips 170:24
34:2 56:17 57:12 60:2	90:3,4	170:23	18:22 82:7	Henry 6:2
61:7	132:15	Havers 3:12	83:8,10	169:1,4,25
	132:13	95:2 117:6	109:2,3,5	171:7
62:3,6 64:4 68:20	handle	150:17	109:2,3,3	172:16
70:21 71:4	67:4 , 7		180:8	174:19
79:12 80:1	80:9	having 47:9	188:22	175:6
110:16	177:17,21	57:5 , 16	200:18	176:8,9
127:24	208:17	58:8 63:2	201:7	177:9
137:6	handy 179:5	64:21 66:2		178:1,9
142:15	_	183:3	hearings	181:23
144:24	Hanna 5:24	Hayden 2:5	83:18	182:6,18
146:7	15:2 52:23	_	85:10	184:14
148:12	58:24	head 32:24	heart 90:17	191:5
165:14	happen 33:10	47:23 130:17	heartfelt	Henry's
167:14	37:6 53:2		91:2	186:3
182:10	63:8 128:3	193:25	91:2	Herrell 3:3
183:3	137:13	heading	heavy 41:3	54:17
204:5	138:7	38:25	heck 89:24	
207:16	139:9	heads 40:7		herring
	188:7,8		Heisler 4:15	32:19
guidance 120:16	204:18	headwater	held 1:17	he's 74:15
120:16	happened	28:13 62:4	204:19	
guide 134:21	61:18	health 17:2	helicopter	Hey 96:8
Guidelines	64:10	46:10	11:5,8,11	hi 68:17
98:3	129:5	87:19		136:18
	161:2	164:23	help 51:2	142:12
guys 64:24	170:10	170:18	77:8 87:13	144:22
65:6 70:4	184:11	hear 26:9	106:25	147:1
73:17	186:13,17	27:8 71:10	129:21	150:18
81:25	happens	83:12	134:21	189:3
85:21	138:18	90:22	147:3	199:18,19
87:4,7,14	141:16	97:18	167:24	201:12
88:15,17 140:24		128:9	178:25	high 16:3
211:19	happier	132:10	179:9	30:14
211.19	90:17	134:9	183:1	56:17
	happiness	137:6	192:16	104:21
H	87:18	153:17	195:2,15,1	117:12,23
ha 48:3	happy 69:19	186:8	7,18,20 196:3,12,1	124:9,19
habitat		189:4	4	126:10
15:14	harbour	heard 51:19		127:3
29:14	191:18	96:5	helpful	131:24
30:24	hard 135:10	109:11	58:19 82:1	132:1,2
53:25 54:5		132:20,21	123:15	134:19
59:10	Harry 32:22	134:4	169:13	155:20
67 : 12	harvest	163:21	195:3	158:19
68 : 12	75 : 15	177:10	helping	higher 23:14
	haven't	194:8,10	10:14	137:6
half 72:14	10:18	197:12	124:19	
116:19	10.10	· · -		highest

	EERS IECHNICAL			rage 230 OI
267				
33:17	134:6	121:6,19	c 30:2	107:18
35:16		123:6,14,2	31:20	121:23
	hood 70:23	2 125:6		
highlight 24:7,8	hope 83:12	128:11	hydrologic	identifying 108:11
64:4 80:21	86:11	132:13	66:13	115:5,24
	158:24	136:12	hydrological	
highlighted	hoped 112:1	146:4,11	20:20	idle 138:19
154:20		148:17	hydrology	I'll 10:4,16
highly 77:22	hopefully	161:23	53:24 54:4	11:3 13:3
78:4,8	171:6	162:10,21	60 : 25	14:25
79:1	hopes 138:21	163:1,2	62:25	26:11
hired 76:11	hoping 52:7	164:7	67:11	35:9,19,20
	133:24	168:7,17,2 5	68:11	36:8 47:9
hires 108:15	horizon	169:18,19	hydrometric	50:21 69:1
119:16	122:21	173:8,17	21:1	79:9 80:14
155:20 158:20		175:18		91:5 92:6
	Horne 2:24	176:6		109:14
hiring 108:9	44:15	177:23	IBAs 102:12	112:18
115:3	47:12,13	185:16,25		148:19 149:5
145:5	48:15,22	186:4	I'd 10:17	151:18
155:24	host 199:13	187:17	75:7 96:17	156:2
157:25	hosting	197:5,6,10	109:1	163:8
158:2,23 159:5	198:3	199:14,19	117:5	170:10
202:6		204:25	118:7	184:15,16
	hour	205:9,13,2	123:23	188:21
historical	114:15,18	0	137:6 144:24	194:7
20:10	hours 160:19	206:5,12,2	163:3,6,9,	197:9
hit 56:11,14	house 69:8	0	11 164:9	203:7
58:7	156:25	207:6,14,2	169:6	205:4
hits 39:3		4 208:4,14,2	172:7	I'm 10:13,14
	housekeeping 10:20	200.4,14,2	173:11	12:6 17:15
Hoarfrost	182:3,22	209:5,15,2	188:21	18:4 19:17
21:9	183:7	0	199:15	27 : 21
Hodgson 3:6	184:6	210:13,24	201:7	33:2,18
94:11		211:11	idea 18:17	36:12
Hodson 5:20	housing	huge 89:22	113:12	41:20
	155:11	_	187:25	45:25
hold 31:21	HR 176:25	human 46:10	ideas 70:16	46:22
71:14 88:4 90:4 128:1	177:13	110:25		48:15 49:2
	183:5,10,1	hunching	identified	52:6 54:7 55:1,18
holding 59:4	6,22 184:7	113:18	15:23	59:2 60:6
holds 188:9	185:9,12	hundred	108:10	61:7,14
home 114:17	Hu 169:18	38:7,8	195:25	62:3,5,6
110me 114:1/	i l	104:16	identifies	72:11
	Hubert 1.13	104.10		· -
homelessness	Hubert 1:13 2:3 84:8,9	105:6	99:21	73:6,16
homelessness 170:13,14	2:3 84:8,9	105:6		· ·
	2:3 84:8,9 91:19 92:5	105:6	identify	
170:13,14	2:3 84:8,9	105:6 hunting 69:23	<pre>identify 15:12</pre>	74:2,5,6,8
170:13,14 hometowns	2:3 84:8,9 91:19 92:5 96:4,12	105:6	identify	74:2,5,6,8 ,9,12

103:13 109:12,21 109:12,21 110:7 163:6,9,14 112:24 113:7,18 120:15 124:6 130:11 133:8,10,2 1,24 136:22 138:6 140:16 101:1 162:2 153:5 84:19 86:23 88:14 91:11,22 89:19,23 96:11,16 99:2 106:21 104:1 107:4 118:14 116:24 126:8,13 127:8,23 139:23 130:23,24 160:20 132:12 190:17	11:4,7 18:12 20:18 44:21,24 53:4 100:4 104:7 176:2 4ncluded 21:13 34:4 51:14,19 77:6 85:25 86:21 149:22,25 178:14
103:13 109:12,21 109:12,21 110:7 163:6,9,14 112:24 113:7,18 120:15 124:6 130:11 133:8,10,2 1,24 136:22 138:6 140:16 161:1 162:2 53:5 84:19 86:23 88:14 91:11,22 89:19,23 96:11,16 99:2 106:21 104:1 118:14 116:24 126:8,13 127:8,23 139:23 130:23,24 160:20 138:6 60:23 132:12 190:17	11:4,7 18:12 20:18 44:21,24 53:4 100:4 104:7 176:2 Ancluded 21:13 34:4 51:14,19 77:6 85:25 86:21 149:22,25
103:13 109:12,21 109:12,21 110:7 163:6,9,14 112:24 113:7,18 205:25 120:15 124:6 130:11 133:8,10,2 1,24 136:22 138:6 140:16 140:16 161:1 46:10 47:5 53:5 84:19 86:23 88:14 91:11,22 89:19,23 96:11,16 99:2 106:21 104:1 107:4 118:14 116:24 126:8,13 127:8,23 159:23 130:23,24 160:20 132:12 190:17	11:4,7 18:12 20:18 44:21,24 53:4 100:4 104:7 176:2 Ancluded 21:13 34:4 51:14,19 77:6 85:25 86:21 149:22,25
109:12,21	18:12 20:18 44:21,24 53:4 100:4 104:7 176:2 Included 21:13 34:4 51:14,19 77:6 85:25 86:21 149:22,25
110:7	20:18 44:21,24 53:4 100:4 104:7 176:2 Ancluded 21:13 34:4 51:14,19 77:6 85:25 86:21 149:22,25
112:24 197:15 91:11,22 89:19,23 113:7,18 205:25 96:11,16 99:2 120:15 206:14 99:24 106:21 124:6 209:7 104:1 107:4 130:11 imagine 45:9 126:8,13 118:15 1,24 140:7 127:8,23 159:23 136:22 immediately 130:23,24 160:20 138:6 56:25 59:9 131:6,11 167:1 140:16 60:23 132:12 190:17	44:21,24 53:4 100:4 104:7 176:2 included 21:13 34:4 51:14,19 77:6 85:25 86:21 149:22,25
113:7,18	53:4 100:4 104:7 176:2 Included 21:13 34:4 51:14,19 77:6 85:25 86:21 149:22,25
120:15 124:6 130:11 133:8,10,2 1,24 136:22 138:6 138:6 140:7 140:16 1206:14 109:24 106:21 107:4 118:14 116:24 126:8,13 127:8,23 159:23 130:23,24 160:20 131:6,11 140:16 140:16 150:23 132:12 190:17	104:7 176:2 Included 21:13 34:4 51:14,19 77:6 85:25 86:21 149:22,25
124:6 130:11 133:8,10,2 1,24 136:22 138:6 140:7 140:16 156:25 159:9 131:6,11 167:1 179:4 118:14 116:24 126:8,13 127:8,23 159:23 130:23,24 160:20 131:6,11 140:16	176:2 Included 21:13 34:4 51:14,19 77:6 85:25 86:21 149:22,25
130:11 imagine 45:9 118:14 116:24 133:8,10,2 140:7 126:8,13 118:15 1,24 127:8,23 159:23 138:6 56:25 59:9 131:6,11 167:1 140:16 60:23 132:12 190:17	1ncluded 21:13 34:4 51:14,19 77:6 85:25 86:21 149:22,25
133:8,10,2 1,24 136:22 138:6 140:7 126:8,13 127:8,23 130:23,24 130:23,24 140:16 140:16 126:8,13 127:8,23 130:23,24 160:20 131:6,11 167:1 140:16	21:13 34:4 51:14,19 77:6 85:25 86:21 149:22,25
133:8,10,2 1,24 136:22 138:6 140:7 140:7 126:8,13 127:8,23 130:23,24 160:20 131:6,11 140:16 132:12 190:17	21:13 34:4 51:14,19 77:6 85:25 86:21 149:22,25
1,24 136:22 immediately 127:8,23 159:23 130:23,24 160:20 138:6 56:25 59:9 131:6,11 167:1 140:16 60:23 132:12 190:17	51:14,19 77:6 85:25 86:21 149:22,25
138:6 56:25 59:9 131:6,11 167:1 140:16 60:23 132:12 190:17	77:6 85:25 86:21 149:22,25
138:6 56:25 59:9 131:6,11 167:1 140:16 60:23 132:12 190:17	86:21 149:22,25
140:16 60:23 132:12 190:17	149:22,25
	178•14
144 F	T / O • T 4
146.0	includes
32:15 imposed	30:22
149:4 33:16,20 163:17 99:19	123:25
154:18 34:4 39:11 166:8 impossible	123:23
1 4/:8 68:21	including
161:2,20 79:20 81:5 173:22 63:9	11:10 27:5
165:23 82:18,19 200:16 116:3,12	53:5 55:22
171:8,23 84.16 203:25 149:7	56:4 86:6
178:23 85:25 95:1 impatient 150:16	90:22 97:3
179:24 98:20 27:17 153:12	104:3,15
180:11 101:3 155:11	106:25
181:3 implement improve	135:1
182:20 99:1 140:3	
141.21	170:17
106.7.11.0	173:20
i 131.9 implementati 190.3 i	inclusive
101.11 20 13/:9,23 on 9/:4 improvements	23:22
102 22 136.3.9 136.3.9	102:3
143:2 125:14	
100.00	income 97:8
199:23 149:9 142:20 117:24,25	103:14,20
201:2,22 150:8 implemented 131:16	148:10
151:/,18	149:10
205:3 152:8 111:18 126:15,21 inability	150:19
15/11	151:1,5
17:5 19:10 179:1	155:13
192.17 134:5 inactive	160:9
200.13 14 1/8:11 23:21	179:4
1/9:11	192:10,12
importance importance	
125:21 64.5 23	ncomes
131:3 incent	193:1
157.16	incorporate
130:7	26:15 27:5
140.20	75:19
148:2 20:15,16 important 161:15	85:21 89:6
152:1 21:7 29:13 26:2 33:13 incident	00:21 09:0
$\begin{bmatrix} 153:11 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 30:13 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 47\cdot18 & 65\cdot2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 100\cdot11 \end{bmatrix} $	incorporated
154:4,16 34:6,7 70:1	21:2 24:10

	EERS TECHNICA.	T DESCION OD	-24-2012	rage 238 OI
267				
54:20	108:6	119:24	90:7 136:1	201:7
86:20	industry	120:8	input/output	interesting
incorporatin	95:10,20	122:17	151:8	40:21
g 86:16	96:25	136:20		175:3
_	97:12,15,1	139:7,25	<pre>inputs 54:16 62:5</pre>	interests
increase 108:5	9,22 101:4	153:13,23,	63:18,21	98:13
	102:18	24 , 25 158:9	•	104:9
increased	103:3	162:8	inquiring	
105:22	106:24	164:17	200:5	internal
increasing	118:11	165:4,9,10	inquiry	189:1
62:1	126:4	,24 166:10	205:8	internally
incur 150:6	127:9,18	170:21,23	installed	187:2
	154:25	175:14,17	22:22,25	202:5,14
indeed	155:6 176:13,24	180:9	23:1,6,7	INTERPRETATI
161:10	183:2	187:4		ON 74:18
196:8		190:25	installing	
in-depth	inequity	198:21	25 : 18	INTERPRETED
191:2	191:8	200:5,7,20	instance	71:25
indicate	inexpensive	,22,25	183:6	INTERPRETER
19:6	56:23	202:2,3,11	202:1	74:15
23:23,24	infection	,14,17	institutions	interrelated
101:24	170:16	informative	107:9	63:25
indicated		108:25	instructor	interrupting
16:2 29:24	inflows	informed	114:16	24:20
30:12	62:23 66:7	83:22	180:18	24.20
172:23	influence	84:18		Intervenor
174:10	101:8	106:6	instructors	175:16
	info 148:13	infrastructu	114:8	interviewed
indicates		re 131:20	instrument	164:21
174:13	inform 98:22 171:19	200:16	188:13	interviewees
			integrated	164:24
indication	information	in-house	66:24	
12:23	12:16,19,2	182:16	integrating	interviewing
indicators	1 13:19	initial	24:17	188:10
101:7	16:14	142:17,19		introduce
203:13	18:20 20:9 22:15 24:2	initially	intended	169:2
indirect	26:18	41:6	80:23	introduced
149:11	27:6,12	initiated	84:16 100:3	170:13
150:4	48:24 52:5	86:8	100:3	introduction
153:1	54:15,19			s 91:24
individual	58:1	initiatives	interact	
149:20	65:7 , 8	96:25	30:5 31:19	intuitions
	83:21	101:4	interest	188:17
individuals	84:17,21,2	<pre>inlet 40:23</pre>	106:19	invest
112:23	3 85:1	41:13,21	139:19	114:18
industrial	86:25	inlets 39:6	179:2	investigate
96:24	105:25	40:11,19	interested	166:6
101:4,12	106:2,5,12	•	106:4	
industries	107:11	input 34:20	146:15	investigated
	117:8	35:2 89:7		

	EERS TECHNICAL	T PEPPION 00.	-24-2012	Page 239 of
267				
45 : 15	178:1	54:11,17,2	143:4	178:22
Tarrachment	191:6,7	2 55:1,23	144:14,15,	
Investment 95:11,20	194:1	56:8,9,20,	22 145:18	
97:1,13,16	195:1,21	22	146:13	J
,19 101:5	196:8	58:16,20	147:2	Jackson 3:21
102:19	issued	61:25 62:4	150:9,11,1	James 5:20
102:19	173:16	63:24	2,23	Janet 5:3
		64:9,14	151:13,19,	95:23,24
invitation	issues 57:2	66:23	20,22	97:6
122:19	63:25	67:1 , 2	153:20	103:9,12,2
199:10	72:17	68:23	154:20	5 110:13
invite 136:1	76:12	69:23 , 25	158:12 , 14	112:3,11,1
163:6,9	82:21	70:22	161:10,15,	8 113:9
197:24	83:13	71:1,3	24 163:2,5	115:2,13,2
	96:16	73:25	164:12,18	3 116:3
invited	117:4	75:9,12	171:17 , 25	118:6
75:24	128:4	76:12,15,2	172:1	119:14,22
89:13	161:13	1 77:1,18	173:2	121:21
90:13	167:1	78:3,4,11,	176:7	123:19
166:25	174:1	13,14,17,2	177:15 , 17	128:18
inviting	191:8	1	178:10,21	129:24
167:6	193:22	80:6,11,12	179:6,7,10	169:24
198:3	196:3	,13,15,17	180:9,10,1	
involved	203:12	81:7,17,25	2,21	January
113:25	it'd 88:17	82:1,24	181:14,16	181:21
	item 14:5,11	83:9,25	182:1,7,9	jargon 109:4
involving	51:6 53:24	84:1,9	185:10	JDS 2:22,23
185:12	67:11,13,1	85:15 86:8	186:1,18	55:16
IR 52:25	4 68:11	87:3,8,21,	187:12,13	57:20
147:3,4,21		25 88:13,15,2	189:22	65 : 22
171:15,24	ITI 95:18	0,23 89:22	191:24 192:5,23	93:15,16
179:8	110:8	91:22	192:3,23	·
irony 142:13	it'll 161:21	108:25	5 195:20	Jerry 80:6
	183:8	109:4	196:7,24	job 47:4
IRs 179:8	it's 10:25	110:18	197:5	65:6 70:15
isn't 38:24	12:16,25	112:20	198:17	76:19
64:19 65:9	17:12	114:21	200:4	105:12
139:16	18:19	115:17	201:12	107:20,21
140:19	21:22	116:3,11,1	202:18	113:11,15,
141:1	25:21 26:2	6,17,19,24	203:12	16
152 : 15	28:13,17	117:24	205:12	114:1,25
200:25	32:14	122:9	211:1,15	115:1
202:16	33:13	126:15		121:25
isolated	35:16	127:19	I've 28:4	122:13,16
125:20	37:12,14	128:21	50:21 55:8 57:13 72:1	123:12
128:5	38:7	131:8		138:19
	41:2,3	132:4	73:19 74:2	143:16
issue 16:9	44:6 45:24	135:6	86:12,13	155:12,23
24:4 48:23	47:18	138:17	88:24 132:23	158:22
130:5	52:10,12,1	139:20	176:12,25	160:4
			1/U.14,43	192:11
160:15 177:18,22	5 53:16	141:7,14	177:10	194:9,13,1

MVEIRB - DE B	BEERS TECHNICAI	L SESSION 05.	-24-2012	Page 240 of
267				
4,19 195:6	175:1,12	146:22	kilometre	125:19,20
196:5	186:25	147:24	39:17	Kris 4:16
207:15,17,	187:9,21	149:13,17	kilometres	
23	203:6	152:10,16,	29:20	Kristine 3:7
jobs 116:9	judge 79:17	19		94:9
120:11		153:5,7,8	kilotonnes	Kruger 2:16
122:20	judgement 79:17	154:18	12:24 13:12	Kue 1:6 5:9
123:12		156:3,4 163:7,9		10:12,20,2
138:22	judgment	164:9,13	Kim 4:15	4 13:23
140:22	79:24	165:15	kindergarten	14:12
145:6,8	judgments	166:5,20	127:1	16:17
183:1 185:3	79:21 80:1	167:14	kinds 160:22	19:18
193:14		168:2,19	184:24	26:10,11
207:22	K	206:14	188:3	35:25
	Kasey 3:10	210:9,19	King 3:16	36:3,10
Joe 184:11	15 : 10	211:4	_	44:14 45:20 51:6
John 2:25	16:20	Kelsi 3:8	kinks 183:24	54:1 68:22
3:16	Kate 5:17	94:13	Kirk 22:6	69:21 76:8
12:6,9		Ken 62:15	29:4 30:8	82:1 90:16
19:20	Kathy 2:13 24:19		40:7 60:24	92:6 93:9
27:21 28:3	24:19	Kennady 7:8	Kitikmeot	104:6
31:1,7,16 32:9 39:12	30:25	14:3,7,11 15:24	162:6	108:12,16
48:19,20	31:8,17	20:22	Kitikmeot/	110:24,25
53:11	59:24	28:13,20	Slave	111:7,11,2
60:3,10	60:1,11	29:1,17,18	159 : 1	4 113:21
80:3	61:5 62:16	30:7,13,16		114:22
95:8,9	64:2 76:15	38:16,17,2	knew 79:4	115:6,25 118:16,17
John's 39:12	81:23,24	3	88:7	119:1,18
	Kathy's	39:2,4,7,1	knowledge	123:17
Johnson 2:22	83:19	4,25	24:8,9,17	128:8
4:16 93:14	K'e 4:2 8:8	40:4,9,12,	26:16 27:5	130:1
joint 56:18	34:18	17 42:4	34:15	134:12
87:14	49:21,22	49:7,9 53:6 59:12	71:16 75:18	138:17
Jones 4:12	50:11	61:11,12	79:13	141:12
journal	68:18	•	85:14,15,1	146:23
165:25	69:5,16	K'e's 164:17	6,18,21	147:24
	70:18,24	key 22:4	86:1,7,15,	152:15 158:5
journeyman 121:1	75:20 82:2	48:10	16,20,23	163:2
	85:13 86:6	62:18	87:2,7,10,	167:7
Juanita 4:20	87:2 88:25 89:11	85:10	16,20	185:7,13
95:19	92:14	104:4	88:13,16	196:17
96:23,24	93:23,25	107:2	156:14	Kyle 3:6
103:10,12 129:10,11	125:20	keyed 47:22	196:19 197:24	94:11
170:5	127:1	Khouri 5:14	197:24	J - • - + -
171:13,22,	128:5,20	93:12		
25	129:5,23	killed 77:20	knowledgeabl	L
172:12,25	135:1		e 197:2	labelling 86:3
174:9	144:6	kilo 13:15	known	00:3

	EERS TECHNICAL	BESSION 05	-24-2012	Page 241 OI
267				
labour	56 : 22	156:14,15	leadership	199:11
104:9,19,2	59:11,12	159:11	156:19	
1	60:23,24	160:6,8,10		leaving
105:2,5,8,	61:11,15,1		leading	127:14,17
9,11	7,24	lands 93:7	182:19	159:12
108:10	62:4,18	land's 74:7	Leah 2:20	legislation
115:4	70:10		94:17	99:21
117:7,21	76:23,24	Langhorne		170:12
122:17	77:17,19	3:5 94:15	learn 140:1	
123:3	89:15,16	language	192:8	legislative
136:24	90:1,5,12	70:20	learned	99:12
137:3,23	101:17,20	large	62:7 , 18	lend 181:9
138:4,12,1	102:22	43:6,15	63:16 87:4	LeRossignol
9,25	103:1	45:8 48:6	137 : 19	3:8
139:3,12,1	111:16,17	63:24	159:21	94:13,14
7,20	113:20,22		183:23	
140:24	114:4	largely	learning	less 29:20
148:10	116:13,16	150:22	_	56:20
149:10	128:2	larger 39:22	62:8,19 87:4,8	102:1
150:19	135:8	40:6,15	113:22	105:11
151:1,5	147:6	150:3		118:1
·	157:24		114:8,9,16	156:13,15,
lack 201:23	158:5	last 16:6	,23 135:13,18	17
laid 140:18	180:17	46:24 61:6		lessons
	182:21	89:12,20	178:15,17, 19	62:6,19
lake 7:8	183:6	122:18	180:3,7,17	·
14:3,7,12	184:18	137:20	,18,22,24	lest 183:10
15:24	191:25	146:23	181:20	let's 70:8,9
17:14 18:3	204:12	176:11	188:15	71:3
20:12,22		179:18		125:19
22:6,8	lakes	Lastly 100:2	learnings	136:16
26:21,25 27:2	25:10,11,1	late 54:7	111:16	162:15
	2 29:2		learnt	210:24
28:13,20	37:19,20	84:11	183:20	letter
29:1,2,3,4	38:2,8	later 46:9		
,17,18	39:18 40:1	71:3	least 129:2	51:3,19
30:8,13,16 31:5,24	42:20 43:6	111:25	152:1	167:5 206:3
32:24 35:8	53:2,4,13, 15	143:24	181:4	
38:3,16,17	13	198:21	184:8	level 33:17
,23	land 24:20	Laura 4:12	194:10	76:25
39:2,3,5,7	41:4,23		leave 55:3	82:4,13
,14,25	64:3	Laurie 5:2	72 : 14	103:3
40:4,7,9,1	70:14,18	96:2	129:16	108:3
2,17	71:12 72:3	103:20	132:5	149:15,16,
41:17,20,2	73:1,6,23	112:18,20	139:3	23 151:5
1	74:1	180:19	140:22	173:22
42:4,5,6,1	75:13,16,1	193:3	154 : 22	177:3
1,13,19,20	7 76:2	lawyer 69:6	155:15,16	178:3,5
,25 43:4,5	77:14 78:9	lay 87:23	156:24	183:9
48:6,7	87:22 88:7	_	159 : 22	184:9
49:7,9	90:19	layer 131:10	185:17	202:14
53:6,15	97:11	lead 87:18	leaves	levels 42:17
55.5,10	111:14,19	2000 07.10		

MVEIRB - DE	BEERS TECHNICAL	L SESSION 05.	-24-2012	Page 242 of
267				
64:25	150:17	65:23	60:3,12,14	
65:10	line 30:7	69:6,9	, 25 105:3	97:9,10
102:25	67:17	76:17	137:11	Lorraine
105:17,22	135:23	78:10 79:1	138:25	211:25
113:15	138:7	88:22	139:12,20	
leveraging	146:6	89:14 91:3	164:21	lose 131:22
111:8	172:14	105:12	located	losing
	205:8	117:5	28:22 35:7	126:23,24
LGL 76:8		131:20	38:18	
81:17 93:8	liner 47:22	143:18	150:14	lot 18:7
liaison	lines 2:15	152:9	152:15	23:22 41:5
176:12	58 : 25	164:14		62:5,17
	94:23	165:14	location	63:5
licence		186:15,16,	23:13	72:12,23
18:22	link 102:13	23	150:5	75:3
life 8:4	111:10	live 72:14	locations	76:15,18,2
33:13 46:2	linked 98:21	73:4 78:5	8:10,11	0 77:3
107:13	101:22	125:19	44:20	80:8
108:5	Lionel 3:19	132:2	210:11,20,	87:3,11
120:1,10,2	92:20	144:12,13,	21 211:6,8	88:3
1	92:20	14,16	,	109:20
121:12,17	Lisa 5:22	145:1,2,11	Lockhart	137:22
134:11	list 7:3,4	,17,21,22	22:7	143:3
137:13,18,	8:1 9:1	146:2,24	28:14,23	170:8
21	80:14	155:19,22	33:1 35:7	176:15
207:10,12	122:12,15	157:16,25	49:8,9	181:25
light 25:15	133:3	158:16,19,	logic 140:16	188:16
_	139:22	21 160:2,5	long 22:7	195:21
light's	153:5	189:6	33:14 35:6	205:12
57:21	177:24		44:4,5	lots
likely 15:24	207:15	lived 159:16	61:16	70:20,25
20:15,21		lives 193:1	64:19	71:2 188:6
30:4 33:1	listed 80:12	living 199:7	69:16	love 89:23
84:22 85:4	163:18	11 ving 199:7	72:22	
138:1	listen 34:14	Lizotte 4:22	74:12	low 30:14
141:1	75:10	95:17	77:11,21	37:15
156:9,13,2		97:11	78:17	42:14
3	listening	153:20	138:20	47:23 60:8
	198:15	154:11,12		137:2
likewise	literacy	164:3,4	longer	lower 16:4
32:2	134:13	lo 29:7	21:3,22	28:16
limitations	180:20		78:15	53:17
80:13	literally	loans 181:8	165:1	Lowman 5:22
limited 32:7	63:14	local	longest	LOWINAII 5:22
93:9	152:9	20:13,22,2	35:16	LSA 29:20
	165:14	5 28:7,21	long-term	30:8
Linaker 5:12		29:5,8,9,1	47:3	165:11
Linda 3:12	little	5,25	78:14,18	lucky 205:15
95:2	23:12,13	30:5,14	105:24	_
116:24	24:22 31:3	31:18 32:6	166:7	lunch 68:8
117:5,6	33:24	40:16		91:7,8,9,1
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	54:7,23	41:16 42:2	Loretta 4:18	4
		. –		L

MARIKR - DE I	BEERS TECHNICAL	SESSION US	-24-2012	Page 243 of
267				
Luts 152:16	main 15:18	38:24	98:25	110:9
Luts 152:16			90:23	
Lutsel 4:2	17:13	39:12	Math 117:15	113:19
8:8 34:18	39:19 55:9	40:23	Matheson	118:6
49:21,22	maintain	49:24		152:8
50:11	55:6 68:8	50:12	4:19	153:14
68:18		206:1	93:20,21	161:17
69:5,15	major 39:16	mapping 41:6	matter	163:8
70:18,24	80:10		142:18	186:25
75:20 82:2	97:20	maps 17:8	151:20	187:23
85:13 86:6	100:10	March 34:19		198:21,24
87:2 88:25	117:13		matters	202:7
89:11	176:23	Marcinkoski	114:2	206:25
92:14	majority	3:19	matured	210:15
93:23,25	16:12	92:20,21	188:19	McMillan
· ·	105:11	market		5:19
125:20 127:1	150:13	104:9,19	maximize	
		117:7	106:25	mean 26:1
128:5,20	manage 21:6	118:23	142:21	40:15 44:7
129:5,23	179:4		maximized	62:23
135:1	management	marketplace	104:3	63:7,12
144:6	55:14,21	145:20	105:4	65:6 81:6
146:22	56:1	marks 29:5		82:11 89:6
147:24	59:4,6		maximizing	112:16
149:13,17	86:18	Marlowe	143:25	133:11,21,
152:10,16,	89:17	4:3,4	maximum 28:9	24 143:4
19	99:14	35:18	60:4,7,16	153:3
153:5,7,8	129:20	36:10	105:13	154:23
154:18	135:14	69:3,4		162:8
156:3,4		71:7 72:1	may 1:20	165:17
163:7,9	164:25	74:21	17:17	190.1
164:9,13,1	173:5	75:10	19:23 25:3	101.16
6 165:15	176:1	Marlowe's	35:5 40:15	194:1
166:5,20	178:5	76:10	46:16	206.22
167:14	180:14		48:22 63:6	
168:2,19	181:6	Mary-Anne	67:5 101:8	
206:14	191:6,7,14	92:3	106:10	84:6
210:9,19	,21	Masella 2:9	113:5	131:24
211:4	manager	92:7,8	123:24	173:25
	93:10	124:5,6	141:14	meaningfully
	198:4		153:14	165:22
machines		Mason 3:7	170:8	
	managing	94:9	179:8	meanings
75:3	192:9	match 145:6	185:20	81:7
Mackenzie	mandate	160:18	191:15	means 43:8
1:2,11	172:19		208:24	46:3 59:1
24:20 31:1	man-made	matched	maybe 31:3	99:15,24
64:3 81:5		194:14	35:25 46:9	1
99:14	44:1	matching	55:3 57:13	
101:17	manner 64:1	147:14	67:12	173:21
204:14	81:1 98:13		70:23 71:4	
	man 0 - 0	material		
magnitude	map 9:9	102:23	72:6,9	126:7,12
30:14	18:13	materialize	73:7	203:21
	19:12		82:7,15	

MVEIRB - DE .	BEERS TECHNICAL	L SESSION 05	-24-2012	Page 244 of
267				
meantime	70:2 84:20	11:21	130:13	15
	109:3	13:21	144:6	167:17,20
180:2	110:22	14:4,19,25		168:6,14,1
measure	132:4	16:15,24	Mike 3:3	6 180:17
44:17			54:17	
160:14	133:4	19:3,17	68:15 , 17	195:13
173:20	177:12	20:1 26:7	92:13	207:10,12 208:9
measured	196:5	27:15 32:8	164:12,13	208:9
	meetings	36:9	167:13	mineral
194:19	82:24	44:13,25	210:16,23	135:7
measurements	84:11	45:19	1 25.25	
87:5	106:17	46:19	miles 35:25	mines 13:2,7
measures	110:17	48:17	milestones	45:6,11
	177:13	49:11,19	182:11,13	48:5 87:5
99:19	204:19	50:8,25	mind 28:17	101:25
116:8		51:16,24		102:4,9
174:1	meets 40:6	52:9,21	38:5 44:9	112:21
202:24	98:4	53:21	68:14	119:10
mechanic	melt 42:1	58:22	86:13	125:23
69:11	members 24:6	59:24 61:3	minds 24:13	126:2,5
mechanism		65:14,17	mine 8:5	127:9,10
172:22	89:17	67:9 , 22	18:6 36:2	137:3
176:3	135:4	68:3,7,25	37:21	154:25
1/0:3	165:19	71:6,22	55:11	158:5
mechanisms	178:18	74:20 76:3	61:21	170:22,25
86:20	198:18	81:4,22	62:23	179:16
Mediator	memories	82:17 91:1	64:15 65:9	194:5
99:9	75 : 4	92:15,16	69:7 90:4	minimum
	memory 133:9	207:8	100:12	55:24
medical	_	mercury 46:8	101:16,17,	mining
176:16,17,	mention 35:5	- 	18 102:22	37:6,7,18
20	51:19 75:7	met 185:1	106:8	55:6 101:8
medicals	112:13	method	107:13	105:20
177:17	134:9	34:5,6	111:8,16,1	
208:17	180:16	metre 16:3	7,22	119:9,12
medicine	mentioned		113:20,22	140:21
	16:20	metres 16:4	118:19	141:6
72:25 73:2,7,23	26:14	37:13	120:1,10,1	
13:2,1,23	48:18	56:20	2,21,23	156:5
medicines	57 : 13	mic 10:19	121:3,13,1	
75:15	103:12	14:21	7 122:25	174:22
meet 8:8	106:17	16:25	123:12	176:13,14,
50:4 88:21	110:16	25:21	129:12	24 183:2
101:2	161:16	27:16	135:3,6,9	191:23
105:20	164:24	68:16 76:4	136:25	203:15,17
134:20	203:9,10	109:14	137:18,20	1
152:11	mentioning	113:18	139:18	minister
162:15	24:4	164:10	142:11	97:7
183:10		Michael 4:2	150:4,5,9,	103:13
210:10,18	Menzies 2:7	MICHAEL 4.2	14	minute 10:5
211:3	Mercredi	microphone	156:9,13,2	45:21
	1:12 2:8	103:6	3 157:24	49:13
meeting 15:6	10:3,10,13	migration	159:13,14,	148:20
L	, ,		l	

	EERS TECHNICA.	U DEDDION 05	-24-2012	rage 245 OI
267				
157:19	70:22	8:9,11	116:15	
162:13,23		9:10		N
minutes	mod 178:24	17:10,25	mortgages 181:8	narrow
162:16	model 80:12	18:10,13,1		15:7,20
163:8,10	100:10	6 19:6,15	Morton 5:2	
	121:3	20:19 21:3	96:2	Nathan 3:4
misplaced	151:8	22:14	103:21	20:7 22:24 23:15
87:11	175:20	25:2,18,25	112:19,20	26:23
missed 36:19	178:25	26:4,16,19	180:19,20	28:23
208:24	204:18	27:4,8	193:3	35:5,9,11,
	modelling	33:3,11	Mountain	12 38:22
missing	54:14 61:9	34:25	32 : 22	39:8
98:16,24	80:11	35:6,7,12,		40:13,19,2
202:2,7,17	120:23	13 41:7	mouth 27:18	5
mitiga	139:15	47:3,7	141:20	41:2,14,24
201:19	models 66:15	49:25	move 27:16	49:2,4
mitigate	122:19	50:15 53:1	37:20 51:5	60:24
157:3		64:7	53:23 92:6	
160:22	moderately	75:17,19,2	127:11	Nation 5:10
161:14,21	16:3	2,25 76:1	132:5	49:22,23
163:20,24	module	86:16,18	140:11,25	50:11
177:3	178:20,21,	101:9,12	142:7	68:18
	23 179:24	159:1	143:5	79:18 82:2
mitigation	181:3,4,12	162:5	145:14	89:12
8:7	192:15	169:11	153:16	92:14
15:5,15,17		170:4	176:9	93:25
16:11,22	modules	172:22	movement	128:7
100:5	180:21,23	174:25	16:5 29:19	164:9,13
141:12	181:16	175:20 176:1	47:16	national
160:14 199:24	192:4,6,21	188:2,4	movements	13:15 90:2
201:2	193:6	189:20	15:25	97:10
201:2	moment 44:14	200:1	13:23	149:16
202:24	136:14	202:3,21	moves 111:3	153:7
200:0, 3, 22	money 127:11	203:8	moving 63:17	Nations 8:9
209:22	129:20	206:14	_	77:12,13
210:1	144:9,17	209:23	Mukluks	78:8,25
	157:2	210:9,11,1	70:23	83:20,24
mitigations	160:10	9,20	multiple	86:6 93:23
99:1,25	178:4	211:6,8	148:19	202:10
100:1	180:14	·	170:15	210:10,19
130:3	181:6 , 9	month 129:3	museum	211:5
201:8,13,1	191:5,7,14	months	166:19	natives
4,21,25	, 21 192:9	137:20		87:13,23
202:9	monitor	138:18	MVEIRB 2:2	88:3
mitigative	66:12	Moore 93:10	MVLWB 2:13	
99:18	202:20,23		MVRMA 100:6	natural 3:16
mitts 70:23	monitored	morning 10:4,11		15:23 41:21 44:6
mixing	18:9 35:9	11:15 17:4	myself 69:8	56:17,22
176:4,7	136:6	35:18 49:7	73:13 91:4 163:9	66:6 93:13
·		52:5 54:11	163:9 178:23	97:11
moccasin	monitoring	88:19	1/0:23	
		50.15		I

	EERS TECHNICA	L SESSION US	-24-2012	Page 246 OI
267				
naturally	172:17	105:14	72 : 5	184:4
45:4 57:10	183:8	106:23		
200:12	189:3	111:9	NWT 4:7	occurred
		114:11	97:24	62:9
naturally-	Nicole 2:6	116:10,15,	102:20	occurring
occurring	nin 157:24	20,22	104:3,8,14	128:7
15:25		118:10,12,	,23	150:12
nature 52:13	nitrates	21,25	105:3,5,18	
164:19,20	63:21	119:8	106:19	occurs
·	nod 205:3	139:18	108:7,10	150:11
N'Dilo 128:8	non 63:20	142:10	115:4	Oceans 5:25
nearest	1011 03.20	145:6,7,14	122:20	o'clock
208:9	non-	,16	137:12	68:10
nearly	significan	146:2,25	144:1,18	91:10,12,1
165:21	t 78:21	147:5,12	158:4	3
	nor 165:23	153:9	179:20	
necessarily		158:1		October
64:8 65:5	north	159:5,19,2	0	121:4
80:23	17:11 , 18	5 172:21	objectives	166:17
190:16	18:2 20:11	179:15	98:6	181:17
202:6	22:6 23:19	189:11	. 1. 1	207:10,13
necessary	33:18 39:1		obligation	208:2
59:6	50:12,13	note 84:12	202:25	offer 127:1
100:17	150:12	102:20	observation	145:13
	155:19	176:13	40:24	165:4
negative	158:19	noted 117:7	61:19	166:25
30:14	169:13,15	155:17	obtaining	180:16
126:8,13	northeast	169:10	106:10	187:15
127:20	37 : 5	170:3		
130:22,24		183:25	obvious	offering
131:5,10	northern	nothing	77:18	131:6
132:11	101:25	68:10	obviously	132:8
133:18	102:1,3,5,	90:17	21:13	office 9:7
154:17	7,10,25		76:19	17:5 19:10
161:7	107:1	November	200:25	38:14
200:16	137:2	12:18 85:4		50:20
negatively	140:20,24	166:19	occasions	125:14
129:15	142:21	nowadays	34:17	148:2
negligible	154:13 155:20,24	117:15	occupation	152:1
negligible 30:20	155:20,24		107:17,19,	154:16
	·	np	22 121:23	163:14
negotiated	northerners	2:2,4,5,16	122:1	193:10
101:15,22	116:11	,18 3:21	occupations	206:1
negotiation	157 : 18	4:15,16	107:16	officer
97:4	185:10	5:13,19,20	120:2,3	10:13
	Northwest	NPMO 5:17	,	
neither	12:15	NSMA 197:13	occur 28:11	officers
165:23	13:2,8,11		29:17 33:1	134:18
news	78:3 96:18	NT 1:19	53:13	135:8
177:14,15	102:16	nursing	60:17	180:25
	103:16	176:19	149:15	181:15
nice 88:21	104:19		150:4	183:1,18,2
137:4	,	nutrient		2 184:9,25

MVEIRB - DE E	BEERS TECHNICAL	SESSION US	5-24-2012	Page 24/ of
267				
194:25	online	118:18	199:2	outlet 22:8
	183:18,19	120:13		25.0
official		182:8	opposed 55:3	38:18,24
109:5	onset 60:15		149:16	39:5 40:3
210:25	onsite 44:18	operations	opposite	58:14
oh 56:19	106:11,14	11:6	195:11	
93:20		66:11,21		outline 8:3
180:16	on-site	103:3	optima	52:3,6
- 1 10 10	112:4,6,7,	104:16	143:20	121:12,15
okay 10:10 17:1 20:3	22 113:6	114:12	optimal	123:11
31:8 38:9	114:8	118:20,23	143:21	207:9,11,1
42:18,19	onto 81:19	119:12	optimum	7,22
49:19	88:4	138:9	142:19	outlined
53:23 54:2	open	operators		86:17
57:20 61:6	53:3,14,25	135:7	option	116:8
64:3 67:9	58:10	opinion	173:20	160:24
68:7 69:1	68:10,12	79:21	193:19	161:21
71:22	69:1 107:7	82:14 85:6	options	201:14
80:15	118:16,22	161:7,11	55:14	outlines
81:16	123:23	163:21		50:22
91:13	136:23		orchestrate	
96:14	138:9,12	opinions	143:20	outlining
97:18	140:21	84:12	order 35:2	9:9 19:13
115:20	172:2	opportunitie	55:6 57:15	
118:4	184:23	s 97:23	83:22 85:1	50:14
128:23	198:14	104:14	107:13	out-
131:19	202:12	105:4	118:2	migration
146:13	opened 90:11	106:6,21	127:12	129:15,18,
164:8	opened 90:11	107:6,22	139:12	22 130:4
169:25	opening	111:15,20	186:11	141:7
176:9	139:2	114:4	organization	outside
186:3	openness	135:11	s 107:9	25:10 32:6
197:10	186:9	136:4,9		51:13 66:8
207:1,5		145:25	originally 23:7	69:18
208:15	operated	168:2	23:7	130:13
210:14	23:1,7	196:10	ought 57:12	137:14
211:13	35:13	opportunity	ourselves	144:25
old 73:9	operating	27:4 36:19		149:21
74:13	100:6	55:19	145:19	
117:17	111:8	75:10,21	190:9	overall 97:2
179:7	125:22	84:20,25		104:5
	153:6	85:11	outcomes	105:19
older 133:10	operation	96:18	97:21	138:4
one-on-one	21:5	103:10	98:25	152:22
114:14	107:23	108:8	outfall	overnight
ones 32:23	111:10,19	109:13,24	60:23	199:6
46:8 74:5	118:17	111:14	outflow	overview
	122:2	118:25	40:22	104:7
one's 146:21	182:21	160:9	41:12	
ongoing 24:7		163:23		over-winter
99:4 191:6	operational	186:8	outflows	59:9
	111:1,2		66:9	
	-		•	•

	EERS TECHNICAL	T DEBOTON 05	-24-2012	rage 248 OI
67				
	199 : 15	participate	partners	PAUSE 10:8
P	205:1	32:13	107:2	14:23
p.m 91:17	206:1	89:13	123:2	19:25 20
162:18,19		116:11	159:17	31:14
211:21	panel's 26:8	118:3		36:16,25
211:21	81:13	122:22	partnership	38:11,20
package	84:14	156:17	106:24	44:11
180:25	paper 73:13	165:22	124:14	45:17
packages		185:23	135:3,16	48:13
145:12	papers 75:4	197:19	178:11	53:9,19
	120:18		partnerships	59:17
Page 7:2 8:2	122:11	participated	106:22	62:13
9:2	123:11	33:21,22	107:5	
Panayi 94:21	paperwork	159:13		65:12,20
ranayı 94.21	134:21	179:6	party 101:2	67:20
panel 9:8	199:3	participates	pas 73:15	68:1,5
16:18		124:23	-	71:20
19:4,11	paragraph		pass 49:2	74:24
49:23	13:3	152:18,20	passage	92:11,18
50:12 52:7	parameter	participatin	15:21,25	93:18 94
79:22 81:9	80:24	g 205:10	16:2,8,12	95:13
83:11,15		_	10:2,0,12	103:23
84:9,24	parameters	participatio	passenger	108:21
85:5,6	124:7,23	n 97:23	11:10	112:9
92:6,9	pardon	138:25	passionate	115:10
100:6	193:16	146:12	88:22	120:5
108:19,24		165:21	88:22	122:7
115:13	194:9,23	170:14	past	124:3
120:16	195:3	particular	72:11,23,2	125:11
121:5,7	pardons	29:25	5 73:5,16	128:16
	193:19		106:17	142:24
123:15,23	194:8	31:20,24	110:16	144:20
124:6	195:18	52:16	126:25	146:17
125:7		67:13	128:20	147:17
128:12	parent	106:13	129:6	148:15,2
132:14	156:10	112:5	184:17	154:9
136:13	park	114:2	188:15	157:6
146:5	35:22,24	137:15	196:23	162:25
148:18	36:3,7,22	173:15	198:19	164:1
161:24		194:14	204:9	
163:3	Parlee 159:2	195:7		166:13
164:8	162:6	206:15	<pre>patchy 22:2</pre>	168:23
166:19	166:1	particularly	paths 40:16	172:4,10
168:8	209:3	36:21	pacins 40.10	174:17
169:19	partial	98:17	patience	177:6
173:2,6,9,	171:6	102:14	211:14	187:7
12,13,17,2		102:14	patiently	198:7
3 174:5	partially	parties		201:10
175:15,19	23:3 55:9	83:17	136:15	203:4
177:24	57:16	84:12,17,2	Paul 1:12	205:18
185:17	narticinant	5	2:8 10:12	208:19
187:18	participant	85:4,5,10	19:21	209:18
190:18	124:1	123:24	25:21	210:4
197:6	165:20	125:9	92:8,15	
191.0			/	pay 73:25

	EERS TECHNICAL	T DESCION OS	-24-2012	rage 249 OI
267				
87:22 , 23	156:20	195 : 2 , 21	permitted	1 76:13
90:19	157:16,25	performance	141:23	
155:11	158:16,18,	100:21	permitting	phone 184:11
payments	21		126:2	phonetic
179:4	159:18,21	performing	129:13	70:17 74:1
	160:1,12	190:8		92:3
pe 149:17	167:6	perhaps	persistence	93:22,24
peak 11:13	176:16	18:15 24:1	59:11	physical 9:5
peaks 11:13	178:25 179:5,12,2	45 : 12	<pre>person 73:1</pre>	11:17 12:1
_	1 /9:5,12,2	46:14	89:13,15	physically
peer 156:4	183:10,16	84:25 86:2	102:7,8	56:6
161:3,8	185:12	109:22	104:13	
163:16 165:25	186:12	110:8	134:21	physicians
209:4	188:16	116:24	148:12	72:24
	189:21	120:14 128:21	150:20	pick 147:23
pen 188:9	191:14,17	129:9,14	151:1,4 176:12	184:10
people	192:8,24	130:2	185:21	picking
46:3,11	193:13,15,	151:11	196:20	145:15
69:22 70:8	22	153:17	205:15	pickup
72:7,12,24	194:4,9,18	162:2,12		147:2,4,5,
,25 73:4	195:2,8,15	172:1	personally	8,20
76:11 78:5	, 18 196:24	174:4	192:18	
79:25 81:7	197:1,2,21	180:13	persons	picture
82:15	,24 198:3	187:20	104:4,15	102:12
88:22,25	203:19	203:1	perspective	165:4
89:11,18,2	per 11:7,12	205:13	77:23	167:25
2 105:14	16:3,5	perimeter	79:18 81:6	199:2,3
111:13,14,	perceived	48:9	129:9	Pierre 4:4
20 113:6,13,1	196:24		135:20	72:1 74:21
4 118:3		<pre>period 35:14 44:6 53:3</pre>	136:5	75:10
119:2,5	percent	44:6 53:3 77:21	189:25	76:10
124:19	13:10,14	102:15	190:15	pilot 180:10
125:3	37:18,25 38:1 46:6	127:5	194:8	piloted
127:10	102:1,2,5,		Pete 5:25	181:13
129:15	6 103:2	perm 48:3	53:21	
130:13	104:13,17	permafrost	68:23 69:1	pit 44:18
133:20	105:9,10	37 : 13	Peter 3:13	118:16,22
135:6,15	117:22	42:15	94:3	138:9,12
141:7,18	118:1	43:2,11,14		140:21
144:16	129:2	44:4 46:23	phase 11:1	pits 58:10
145:1,7,11	139:17	47:10,22	66:21	136:23
,15,21	143:12,13	48:3,8,10,	107:23 108:13	PK 9:6 11:17
146:1	percentage	11,25	108:13 115:7	12:2 66:20
147:15,23 149:17	108:12	permeabiliti	116:1	placed 88:16
150:24	115:6,25	es 37:15	122:2	<u> </u>
153:4	116:17	permeability	173:23	placement
154:22	137:1	42:14		30:6
155:3,4,8,	153:1		phases 84:15	places
15,19,22	perception	permission	philosophica	127:12
, ,	F	166:24		154:24
				•

MVEIRB - DE	BEERS TECHNICA	L SESSION 05	-24-2012	Page 250 of
267				
203:10	Plate 5:9	175:13	146:19	possible
	76:7	182:14	147:22	42:10
placing 48:7	81:16,17	186:24	148:1,2	45:13
<pre>plainer 31:3</pre>	93:8	202:16	151 : 25	56:6,8
plan 8:7	play 89:25	pointed	152 : 1	59:21
15:5,15,17		28:23 49:6	153:10,11	109:7
,18	played	180:11	154:3,4,15	110:2
16:11,22,2	186:14,16		158:11 , 12	121:25
3 17:25	plays 159:22	pointer	160:25	153:14
18:10 56:1	186:9	23:12	162:4	164:18
57:8 62:19	ple 177:19	points 77:11	163:13,14	179:23
106:13	pie 177:19	147:2,4,5,	197:14	198:17
108:15	please	8,20	198:16	possibly
110:25	96:7,20	policies	209:2	131:22
111:1,2	123:6,17	108:2	poor 74:6	197:7
112:6	136:17	131:6	population	post 38:3
119:17	158:6	145:10	117:19,22	191:22
120:13	162:23	155:8,11	·	
122:23	163:12	157:15	populations	post-closure
135:5	164:11 168:11	185:2	59:12	37:22
149:1,2 166:21	169:3	policy	portion	post-
167:5,8	177:19	98:2,3,7,1	28:16,22	secondary
176:10,14	185:22	1,14	32:12 68:9	124:21
179:3	186:4	101:13	91:20	134:23
180:15	199:17	114:11,14,	pose 109:22	potential
182:9	205:5	20 127:3	110:9	15:13
185:13	pleased	130:9	169:6	20:16 21:6
192:19,25	168:4	131:1	posed 36:14	29:23 34:7
206:6,10,2		202:6	109:20	35:3 44:1
2 207:4	plots 54:12	pond 59:4		62:23
209:22	plus 105:7	pool 117:21	<pre>position 17:13</pre>	104:1
210:1	point 15:8	154:16	24:25	196:9
planned	16:7 26:20		111:21	potentially
12:12	49:6 56:9	Poole 4:7	141:24	8:10 30:5
planning	65:24,25	10:23	145:19	31:19
122:17	75:24	17:4,5	196:20	210:20
123:1	77:12 82:9	22:21 23:5 24:1 25:7	positions	211:7
182:4	83:9 99:10	32:10	8:4 63:2	power 25:22
192:7	111:6	38:13,14	107:12,16	pract 57:1
193:6	118:7	39:4	119:25	
plans	122:12,25	40:10,20	120:2,20,2	practical
24:10,18	123:5	41:11,19	5	56:3 57:2
108:2	138:6	42:5 , 7	121:12,17	practice
142:1	139:14 144:24	43:12,13	207:10,12	100:4
166:22	152:13,23	45:2,22	positive	practices
176:16	166:23	50:6,17	200:14	107:11
185:15	167:6	52:1 83:19	201:16	108:15
plant 44:19	171:22,23	125:13,14	possibility	119:16,24
135:7		130:6,7	hossiniiită	155:25
133.7	172:7	122.2	45.12	133.23
155.7	172:7	133:2	45:12	155.25

MARIKR - DE R	EERS TECHNICAL	SESSION U	5-24-2012	Page 251 of
267				
158:24	preferred	8,21,24	158:2	51:14 53:6
Prairie	9:10 19:14			79:21
101:17	49:25	presented	priority 104:2	82:10,21,2
	50:14	28:21 52:4	104:2	4 83:6,10
204:16		105:25	pro 22:13	86:11
pray 87:24	preliminary	136:21	30:1 53:12	98:22
90:14	14:13,15	166:19 175:21	99:11	100:16,21
prayer	122:12,15	1/3:21	116:12	101:23
87:3,21	123:5,11 207:11,17,	preserve	177:19	102:14
•	207:11,17,	57 : 16	probabilitie	122:23
pre 59:1		59:1,14	s 143:19	125:4
preamble	preparation	presim		129:13,25
157 : 9	111:18	207:11	probability 143:11	135:7
precedes	185:8	presumptuous		159:17
60:24	prepare	79:16	probably	165:22
	192:20		43:5 55:18	
precipitatio	prepared	pretty 32:18	· ·	173:15
n 37:18	106:20	39:9 61:21		175:3
predict 60:7	164:5	63:13	77:10,12	182:10
63:9,10	202:23	117:16	78:11,12,1	190:4
64:6 65:5		141:1	6 85:3	197:2
80:24	preparing	198:12	88:23	199:9
116:4,6	185:7	205:8	111:25	210:21
117:4	preschool	previous 7:6	118:15	211:9
150:24	134:17	28:15	128:22	processes
151 : 14		29:21	165:6	197:3
predicted	presence	112:13,22	178:22	procurement
47:5 61:25	141:12	previously	problem	102:1,21,2
62:2 64:18	<pre>present 37:3</pre>	106:17	64:19 77:2	
99:24	80:9 83:11	110:16	176:23	
104:16	97:16		problems	produce 9:7
151:5	103:6,11	primar	176:15	19:11 43:6
	168:9	207:21	182:24	49:23
predicting	189:16	primarily	183:25	50:11
150:19	presentation	20:23	193:21	64:16
prediction	7:11	118:19		produced
116:12	96:19,22	primary	proc 135:7	171:16
151:9	97:14	20:18	procedures	Producing
predictions	104:7	20:18 193:12	157:15	157:21
47:8	108:17	200:8	proceed	
61:14,17	109:2,12		06.20	product
62:8,10	118:11	Prince 70:17	98:12	148:9
66:13,14	120:17	166:18	143:13	149:20,22
80:8,9,22	125:15	prior 29:24	186:5	150:1 152:21
81:2	126:17	111:16		152:21
101:11	148:4	115:14	proceeding	195:12
preference	166:25	120:17	140:17	
115:3	174:10,13	123:10	procent	production
113:3	presentation	207:18	135:7	138:2
preferences	s 108:25	priorities	process 8:12	149:12
108:9	109:8,10,1	145:5	15:14	184:21
	, ,	T-10.0	17.14	

	EERS TECHNICAL	L SESSION 03	-24-2012	Page 252 OI
267				
productive	111:18	65 : 25	4,15 184:4	107:5
105:23	117:14,15	66:1,16,21	185:7	142:1
	122:3	68:22	196:17	
profile	135:5	71:16	202:15	properties
137:23	141:21	77:14,16	206:15	9:5 11:17
profiles	157:1	78:22	207:17	12:2
107:21	169:9	79:14 82:5		proponent
121:25	170:2,20	85:8 86:8	projected	99:1
	170:2,20	90:17	19:22	106:2,7
profits	185:5	90:17	29:17	108:11
149:10	190:4	99:8,20	53:13	115:5
150:4		·	137:1,23	171:9
program	196:1,13	100:3,19	projection	
25:25 26:4	progress	101:17	141:5	proponents
27:3,7	105:18	104:1,6,7,		104:11
35:1,2	124:11	24	projector	105:1
47:3	194:1	105:14,21	28:22	proportion
53:2,13	progressing	106:5,20	projects	12:14
99:6,11,15	40:4	107:6	31:10,23	
,22		108:1,5,8,	32:6 47:15	proposal
100:5,7,8,	progressive	12,13	64:14	17:7 32:14
18 101:12	66:19	109:6	97:20	43:15 46:5
103:18	project 1:6	110:24	101:13	99:17
106:16	10:12,24,2	111:3	134:11	125:23
110:16	5 11:1	113:21	140:2	128:6
111:5,23,2	12:11,12,1	114:23	141:17	propose
4 124:7	3 13:6	115:6,8,25	172:21	157:3
126:18	15:20	116:1,24		161:14
131:24	17:18 18:1	117:21	project's	163:20,23
160:13,18	20:14,16	118:16,17	164:19	164:15
173:7	21:18	119:1,5,20	Projects	
174:12	22:5,6,18	122:5,13	32:22	proposed
178:14,16	23:13,16	125:3		12:12
179:6,7,19	24:10	129:25	project-	33:25
,22	25:1,10,11	130:2	specific	38:16
180:10,14,	28:9,10	132:15	202:21	68:20
21,22	29:16	134:12	promote	86:19
181:1	30:3,9,12,	135:24	116:9	166:8
206:14	17,22	137:14,15,	133:19	167:7
209:23	31:6,11,18	17,21,24	134:12	proposing
	,20,21,22	138:8,10,1	155:6	45:8
programs	32:2,3,4	3,21		174:23
21:1,3	34:7,16,19	139:2,16	promoted	201:3
22:14 23:3	,20 35:3	141:12,23	130:19,20	protect
26:16,19	38:9,16	142:20 143:14	promotes	75:13 76:2
27:4 41:7	39:6 43:21	152:15,20	108:2	126:7
47:7 75:19	44:21,24	166:8	promoting	127:22
86:17	47:6,8	166:8	124:21	133:17
87:9,12	48:10,11	171:10,11	126:9,10	
88:2	49:1 56:12	171:10,11	132:22	protecting
100:14	60:5,16	174:11	134:9	130:22
106:23	61:16,17	182:2,11,1		131:5
107:25	62:11	102.2,11,1	promotion	protection
	<u>. </u>			

	BEERS TECHNICAL	T PEPPION 00	-24-2012	Page 253 of
267				
131:10	57 : 11	170:24	quantify	197:15
	100:23	171:1	152:23	205:5,15
protective 194:25	106:2	175:2		minations
194:25	108:7	publication	quantity	questions 7:6
	135:13	101:6	29:14 46:4	14:8,16,18
<pre>provide 8:6</pre>	148:3		47:1,2,6	,21
9:3	154:2	pull 63:22	queen 61:8	17:1,3,6
11:5,14,16	195:17,20	purchased	question	20:3 27:12
,24 16:13	200:15	102:10	12:7,11,17	
17:21	provides		36:14 41:1	45:1 46:8
21:16	12:23 63:5	purchases	43:13	47:15
27:25 32:3	114:17	102:5	46:23	50:23
33:12	119:1	purple 24:24	48:16	51:11,13,1
50:18,20	122:24	25:16	52:25	7,21
51:22	196:9	26:22,23	54:8,23	52:3,4,15
79:17 85:6	201:25	purpose 55:9	59:25 61:6	54:1,4
89:21	204:13,15		68:19	67:10,14,1
97:20		purposes	83:20	7,18,23,24
98:19	providing	15 : 3	85:20,24	68:13,15
110:20	28:25 47:5	pursue	110:1,14	69:2
115:20	120:8	124:25	112:4,25	76:5,13
122:14,16	121:4	136:9	113:4	84:7
123:4,5,7	122:11		115:3,18,2	109:6,11,2
124:25	134:16	pursuing	1,24 118:8	0
127:13	135:11,17,	114:25	119:15	110:5,8,21
134:14 135:22	18 145:25 148:13	putting	126:20	123:20,24
148:6	154:5	114:15	128:20	125:8,15
149:3	189:12	157:15	129:12,14	128:12
153:13,22	191:12		130:2	132:10
160:1,3	207:4	Q	136:16	136:19
165:8		qualificatio	137:9	146:14,15,
175:25	Province	ns 107:19	142:16	20 152:2
178:16	32:22	121:24	143:2	153:16,18
179:17	provinces		144:5,23	162:14
180:2,4	144:18	qualify	148:3,18	163:10,15,
187:19,22	provision	106:20	149:3,9	16,25
190:7,10	112:4	quality	150:19	164:11
199:12	113:14	29:14,16	151:19	168:20
202:3,6		30:13,23	154:5,14	169:3,6
203:16	provisions	35:16	156:2	186:3
206:1,6,8	100:14	45:25	163:15 164:6,15	197:7,11
209:2,7	126:7	46:5,14	166:4	199:23 200:9
provided	proximity	47:1,2,6	167:19	200:9
12:16,18,2	159:22	53:16,17,2	169:12,16	
0,21,25	prudent	4	174:20	quick 52:25
17:16 27:6	140:10	54:4,9,20	175:10	104:18
29:12 32:1		57:11	182:19	133:6
34:11	<pre>public 82:7</pre>	60:8,13,20	185:22	140:14
46:16	99:4	67 : 12	186:19	quickly
48:22 49:1	102:23	68:11	187:10,13	18:25
50:21	133:14	quani 29:14	191:5	141:24
	162:3,7	<u> </u>		

	EERS TECHNICAL	L SESSION US	-24-2012	Page 254 of
267				
181:10	95 : 15	191:22,23	75:22 84:3	26:3,6,8
	97:10		106:5	35:14
quite 20:24	rates 140:2	realize	132:3,7	45:23
33:1 34:24	rates 140:2	37:10	193:16	46:13,17
41:9 61:25	rather	192:24	receives	48:18
76:8,9,10	47:24,25	really	41:25	67:23
78:20 112:2,24	56:21	33:11,14	41:25	76:18
121:3	113:11,15	36:5	receiving	79:22
186:17,18	rationale	38:6,17	65 : 4	81:9,14,18
190:25	51:1	53:14 59:6	162:11	,20 82:6
205:14	52:12,16	63:16 65:1	recent	86:10
	206:3	67 : 2	105:12	115:15
quotas		82:3,10	110:22	120:19
155:20	re 7:8,10	85:8,14,15		155:17
157:13	14:3 52:5	87:15 88:6	recently	193:14,15,
158:19	54:4 58:9	139:20	34:17	16 194:22
	87:9 96:11	151:20	recessing	195:5,7
R	172:14	166:11	49:16	197:16,20,
Ra 97:9	183:23 190:3	167:15	91:16	22
	190:3	178:25	162:18	records
rabbit	react 64:12	183:16	211:21	23:23
70:19,20,2	reacting	186:8	reclamation	101:24
1,23 71:1	203:18	188:5,12	66:19	194:13,16
Racher 2:13		191:2		198:1,2
24:19	reactivated	193:17,18 196:19	recognition	199:5
25:20,21	21:23,24	211:14	108:10	recruit
30:25 31:8	22:3 23:8	211;14	115:4	141:22
60:1 61:5	reacts 46:5	reason 20:18	recognize	185:9
64:2 81:24	64:15,18	63:23	47:19	
radio-marked	readily	143:7	recommendati	recruiters
29:19	104:25	150:21	on 184:15	183:23
		159:21	185:10	recruiting
rainfall	readiness	176:18	187:11	104:23
42:1	111:1,2	182:20		157:17
raise 91:7	182:9	183:14	recommendati	159:25
200:22	ready 10:18	reasonable	ons 100:24	176:10,15
raised 159:9	111:5,23,2	130:3	173:4	181:24
	5 116:8	reasonings	175:8,16	recruitment
ramp 118:2	117:20	55 : 22	190:11	142:1
ramped	172:24		recommended	150:22
184:21	190:19	reasons 56:4	100:23	176:14
ramping	ready-made	87:12	210:9	
185:3	105:19	153:21	recommending	recurring
		recall 28:14	174:13	177:2
ramp-up	real 69:14	171:9		red 18:23
185:13	167:21	183:6	recommends	23:12
Randy 5:6	200:23	184:18	99:5,12	32:18
93:6	201:7	204:15	reconvene	57 : 22
range 186:13	reality	recap 7:6	91:10	redrawn
	145:2	203:7	record 21:22	17:19
Ransom 4:18	182:11		23:25	
		receive 53:5	20.20	reduced

	BEERS TECHNICA.	r session os	-24-2012	Page 255 OI
267				
15:12,19	191:21	204:15	137:2	63:3
reducing	reflective	registry	relatively	report 39:10
173:21	188:5,20	102:24	105:18	54:10
		133:15		85:3,9
reduction	regard 44:9	162:3,8	relevant	101:6
37:17	48:25	209:9	106:22	135:22,23,
reestablishe	50:5,23		165:3	24 153:25
d 38:3	84:7 98:19	regular	reliance	158:4,8
refer 12:22	119:15	203:24	20:25	170:7
73:18	regarding	regularly	relies 58:4	173:16,21
	12:11	131:16		189:6,9
reference	15:16 17:6	regulators	relocation	190:14,19
9:10 13:18	24:7	63:3	145:12	200:11
19:14	27:13,22		160:3	201:20,21
25:10,12	35:6 43:14	regulatory	rely 47:20	202:23
26:21,25	52:14 59:1	100:16	48:11	203:12
27:1 47:14	75:17 79:9	101:23	maluina 40.0	209:3,4,7
49:25	83:19,22	102:14	relying 48:8	reported
50:14	84:19	165:22	remain 39:5	81:18
133:12	108:14	reiterate	remains	
172:14	125:15	86:24	104:21	reporting
201:4	130:9	relate 54:8		100:25
referenced	155:24		remedial	101:1,3
107:10	158:23	related	99:18	136:6
119:23	163:14,16	36:14 46:8	remember	157:24
165:25	164:16 197:16	52:25 97:2	69:16 75:4	158:4 171:2,3
referencing	197:16	106:17,21	87:10 88:7	171:2,3
10:25	regardless	107:22	89:10	
209:3	159:15	108:8	130:17	reports
	regards 17:7	113:12	178:23	101:2
referred 39:1 40:8	45:24	121:25 123:24	181:4,14	207:18
39:1 40:8	125:16	123:24	192:5	208:3
referring	126:4	144:5	201:6	representati
28:24	161:8	170:25	remind 10:17	ve 169:7
32:11	174:20		33:15	170:18
112:17	178:2	relates	35:19,20	representati
171:24	182:19	104:8	36:5	ves 169:8
refill 57:10	regime	112:4	remote 199:7	
refilled	33:3,11	136:20		
41:22 59:8	43:3	191:7	remove 72:19	
41:22 39:0		relation	renewal	38:2
reflect	region 22:11	55 : 1	61:15	representing
54:15	30:21	relations	rent 155:12	92:14
186:25	35:17	87:17	Tenc 100:12	ronrosonts
reflected	148:5	90:19	repeat 50:7	represents 28:12,15
189:5	150:7,10,1 3 178:6		161:18,25	20:12,13
reflection	204:20	relationship	163:8	request
187:4		99:4	169:21,24	16:14
189:1,7,19	regional	195:12	210:16	24:11
190:3	20:13	relative	repeatedly	28:25 63:3
1,00.0	22:9,12		Ī	162:1
•	•		•	•

	BEERS TECHNICA.	L SESSION 05	-24-2012	Page 256 of
267				
164:17	198:20	30:19	205:1	104:23
165:10	204:11,24	51:10	responses	159:25
166:10	reside	60:22,24	81:21	retired
198:21	139:18	61:17 88:6	100:23	165:2
requested	165:1	118:15	110:4	
83:21		120:9	123:21	retraining
106:12	residence	134:8	164:16	142:8
107:12,15,	145:15	174:7	171:15	157:17
18 108:14	resident	188:2	191:3	rev 33:17
	137:12	191:5		
requesting		respects	responsibili	revenue
24:14	residential	87:22 , 23	ty 102:17	148:11
119:24	151:12	88:17	202:22	154:6
requests	165:12		responsible	192:8
84:23	residents	respo 191:3	97:1	revenues
190:25	97:24	respond	102:19	192:24
	98:14	36:13		
requi 92:2	104:3,15,2	109:13,14	rest 27:16	reversible
require 24:2	3 106:20	110:11	173:6	30:15
45:4 83:20	107:2	112:19	restate	78:11,14
100:17	108:7	132:16	168:10	review
117:14,15	116:22,23	148:20		1:3,11 8:9
172:20	118:13,21,	151:18	restored	10:14
173:1	22 159:6	203:1	77:21	17:20,21
181:20	160:1		restrict	32:12,15
194:23	resides	responded	15:24	33:16,17,2
198:25	105:9	155:18	result	0,24 76:11
199:3	105:9	responding	30:19,21	79:20
required	residual	190:10	144:17	81:5,10
15:21	30:11	response		82:20
107:23	resolution	16:13	resultant	84:16
113:15	82:22	45:20	100:21	86:11
114:25	83:4,13	48:21 49:1	resulted	92:16
122:1	174:1	53:1 84:2	97:22	98:20
173:7		110:21		99:17
194:16	resource	110:21	results	165:25
195:6	98:4 99:14	118:7	30:11	210:19
	100:11	125:7	34:10	211:5
requirement	110:25	128:14	136:6	reviewed
92:2 174:5	151:23	136:13,21	139:9 189:16,18	34:19
requirements	resources	137:7	•	156:5
107:6,14	3:16 93:13	144:24	resuming	161:4,9
117:16	97:11	146:5	49:17	163:16
res 137:11	104:25	147:20	91:17	209:4
174:1	131:21	158:16,17	162:19	revised
	166:9	161:22	retain 58:9	106:16
research	173:5	165:10	118:24	110:15
117:11	191:18	168:12	141:22	
156:5,7	202:4,14	171:14	185:9	richer 74:5
158:25	respect 11:8	180:12		rid 195:19
161:3,9	12:24	199:24	retaining 47:25	
163:16,19	28:11	201:25	4/:23	risk
L	•			

MARIKR - DE 1	BEERS TECHNICAL	L SESSION US	-24-2012	Page 25/ of
267				
140.15.10	151 10 04	scale 22:15	131:15,18,	206.12
140:15,19 141:4,9	151:19,24		131:15,18, 24 132:1,2	206:12 209:22
195:7	royalty	38:25 138:2	134:13	
	148:10	150:3		seconds
risks 194:19	154:6,14		schools	27:14
River	rudely 24:20	scales 87:6	107:24 128:25	section
21:9,12,19	ruin 73:23	scared 73:6	130:9	12:22
,25	run 33:14	scary 89:15	134:19,25	29:12
22:7,25	131:23	scenario	school's	80:10,11,1
23:21 28:14,23	180:3	141:1	129:9	2,15,16,18 99:13
33:1 35:7		142:19		161:6
	running 21:2 111:19,22	144:8,15	scienti	201:4
Robinson 4:20	111:19,22	scenarios	24:12	sections
95:19,20		143:24	scientific	80:21
96:23,24	run-off		31:2 34:5	86:1,3
129:11	41:22 42:1	schedule 56:12,14	scientists	sectors
170:5,6	Russell 2:20	57:2,15	25:3	104:22
171:13,14,	94:17	58:4,7	scoop 149:1	
25	Ryan 2:18	91:12	Scott 4:25	security
172:12,13,	94:5	138:3,17	95:21	97:8
25 173:1		140:17	103:19	103:14,20 135:8
174:9,10 175:1,2,12	S	scheduled		100 04
,13	Sabet 90:18	85:4	screen 19:23 109:10	
187:9,10	safe 56:23	Schmidt 3:4		sediment 53:16
203:6,7		20:7 22:24	screening	
Rodier 2:18	safeguard 126:12	23:15	80:23	seeing 55:12
94:5		35:11,12	scrutiny	111:10 182:24
role 97:1	safeguards	38:22 39:8	33:25	204:1
159:23	132:21	40:13,19,2	se 175:14	
164:25	safety 56:9	5	SEA 100:20	seek 173:11
	sake 157:20	41:2,14,24 49:3,4	101:3	seem 59:6
roll 111:24	sale 137:20	·	102:4,9,13	137:4
rolling		scholarship	175:15	seems 45:3
178:12	Sam 93:24	106:16 110:15,23	SEAs 101:18	57 : 12
179:22	Sarah 5:13	111:5,23	season 53:14	61:24 67:2
Ron 93:22	Sarah-Lacey	124:7	58:6	102:14
room 46:14	5:19			176:23 188:3
91:24	Saskatchewan	scholarships 110:20	seat 106:8	
rope 43:20	140:25	111:7,11	seats 10:5	seen 102:6
_		124:13,20	162:22	170:7
ropes 43:20	satisfied 166:11	125:5	second	segments
rotation		school 106:5	16:4,5,17	105:2
160:8	satisfy	117:12,23	84:22	segue 137:5
round 84:23	121:5	124:9,19	99:25	142:15
route 182:5	saving 193:6	126:10,22,	142:16	seize 141:24
184:5	saw 69:13	25	169:12 193:20	
royalties	191:16	127:3,4,6,	195:24	seizing
10,410163		17 128:20	1,,,,,,	

MVEIRB - DE BE	ERS TECHNICAL	SESSION 05-	-24-2012	Page 258 of
267				
136:3	79:11	short 21:10	significant	199:1,3,5,
	91:21	69:5 97:14	30:16,18	6,9,10
sellers		123:7	65:1	203:16
152:11	sessions 1:5	138:16	77:13,15,2	
SEMA 169:13	81:7,12	167:11	2 78:4,7,9	
171:10	83:16	187:15,16	79:1 129:7	Sices J. II
174:21	sets 100:20	•	137:23	19:15
175:14	125:1	shorter	141:7	32:20 48:2
SEMAs 169:8	setting 20:2	137:22	173:21	49:25
170:1	124:23	short-term	aimaifi aanti	50:15 135:6
	155:20,23	20:25	significantl	133:0
send 11:19	157:13,20	108:4	y 137:5	sitting
sense	158:19,22	showed	signing	73:11,12
24:12,13	159:4	124:10	171:10	74:2,6
139:16			similar 13:6	189:9
143:21	seven 15:8	showing	25:11 42:2	
150:8	57:9	23:12	100:14	46:3 166:3
191:14	seventeen	shown 28:15	112:23,25	167:16,18,
207:19	102:6	105:5	118:8	23
sent 184:12	several	156:7	187:11	situations
Sent 104.12	34:17	163:19		
sentence	75:16 83:5	shows 18:24	Similarly	63:6
123:7		28:6	122:24	six 11:7
separate	sexually	104:18	137:25	58:15
61:6 176:3	170:16	161:9	Simon 2:4	138:17
	Shafic 5:14		simple 67:2	192:2
separately 181:2	93:12	shutdown	_	sixty-five
181:2	Shannon 2:5	184:18	single 38:24	76 : 22
separating	Silamion 2:5	192:2,14,2	105:15	78:16
55:5	shape	0	138:1	aitaaa
September	171:18,20	Shuwera 4:21	139:22,23	sixty-seven 104:12
16:23	share 71:16	92:24,25	143:18	104:12
129:3	72:8 86:22	sick 72:6	156:10	size 42:6
207:5	87:6,25	73:1,8	sit 189:18	skill 69:13
210:2	88:12		site 21:1,5	107:6,14,2
series 79:12	106:15	sidebar	22:13 38:9	
Series /3:17	110:15	82:24	44:19 48:6	
services	168:4	sides 91:3	63:7,14,20	
102:10	189:16	sig 139:24	71:17 90:4	
169:9	198:14	_	106:8	skilled
170:2,19	shares 71:12	sign 10:18	108:16	104:24
182:3,23		197:13	114:7	104:24
184:6	Sheldon 4:5	significance	119:18	
194:25	85:12,23	77:10	150:4,5	skills
196:25	87:1 88:20	78:1 , 19	167:6	107:25
servicing	91:2	79:9 , 17	182:2,22	113:11
149:24	shop 69:17	81:6,11	184:6	118:21,24
session	shore	82:13	197:20,21,	119:6,11
10:12	17:12,18	83:3,5	24,25	122:4
12:18	18:2	84:13,19	198:4,5,12	126:11
± +	± U • 2		10 05	132:24
32:16 68:9		85:2 , 7	, 19 , 25	141:25

	EERS TECHNICA.	E SESSION 00	-24-2012	rage 259 OI
267				
142:9	90:1,4,12	171 : 5	144:14	50:13
145:5,8	101:16,20			133:4
147:15	102:22	socioeconomi	Sorenson	142:14
	103:1	c 101:15	4:14	144:9,15
skinning	111:16,17	102:18	sorry 14:20	181:13
87:21	113:20,22	socio-	25:21	
Slack 5:7	113:20,22	economic	40:13	southern
96:8,9	116:13,16	7:10	50:6,13	108:15,16
136:18	128:1	96:11 , 16	91:13	119:16,17,
140:13	135:8	97:3,4	112:12	21 140:24
142:12	147:6	98:9,10,18	115:17	southwest
143:22,23	157:24	99:6,7,10,	125:13	37:24
144:4	158:5	11	140:15	
146:9	180:17	100:8,9,18	143:22	sparkly 88:9
199:18,21	182:21	,20	158:11	spatial
201:22	182:21	101:1,9,20	164:3	22:15
205:7,12	184:18	,21 125:16	171:23	
·	191:16,25	,21 125:16 126:3	176:7	speak 12:6
Slave 20:12	204:12	128:22	181:3	15:1 35:10
133:4		130:14	194:15	37:2 54:2
150:12	snapshot	130:14	200:12	71:23
162:6	104:18	133:7,13	206:12	75:21
181:13	snow 42:1	134:6		115:14
sleep 74:13		134:6	sort 21:17	116:25
_	social	165:5	25:2 28:16	
slide 104:18	98:6,7	169:10	37:4 41:4	128:21
109:1	156:6	171:5	61:18	130:18,22
117:8	163:17	172:20	66:25 80:1	
slopes 20:11	166:6	174:11	109:25	193:23,24
slow 37:14	170:18	186:7,21	118:2	196:16
38:6 44:5	188:4	203:8,11,1	136:20	199:17
30:0 44:3	191:8	5,22	137:7	speaking
slowdown	200:1,16	204:3,12	139:10	73:16
184:19	social/	211:18	140:11	115:15
slower 44:7	cultural		142:15,18	154:18
	166:7	sold 137:21	143:4,5,6,	specialist
slowly		138:1	10,18	97:12
117:25	society	somebody	181:6	103:18
small 28:16	122:25	96:5	sorts 139:5	
30:10 32:5	135:3	136:14	sought	specific
42:2,13	160:5	143:15	203:23	11:13
43:5 105:9	socio 46:9	188:9		50:23
125:20	68:14	somehow	sound 27:17	107:19
129:14,18	91:21	203:18	soundness	110:8
130:4	170:2		99:16	113:16
151:16	171:16	someone 90:3		114:1
smaller 42:3	174:7	198:11	sounds 153:11,13	121:2,8,10 ,23,24
	176:2	somewhat		153:2
Snap 31:5,23	204:14	78:13	source	170:15
32:24	socio-ec	somewhere	192:11,25	183:5
61:15,17,2	68:9 91:11	11:11 26:6	200:8	189:18
4 62:18 70:10	socio-econ	11.11 20:0	south 41:18	192:22
70:10				

MARIKR - DE	BEERS TECHNICAL	L SESSION US-	-24-2012	Page 260 of
267				
208:5	112:6	190:6	36:14	161:21
	113:25		38:13,14	167:4
specifically	120:20	statement	39:4	
80:22	164:25	79:10	40:10,20	Sterenburg
112:17		82:6,9,16	41:11,19	3:20
113:20	staffed	85:25	42:5,7	Steve 210:14
124:16	113:24	154:1	43:12,13	Stevens 3:11
126:9	staffing	165:15	44:25	94:19
128:19	114:23	statements	45:2,22	94:19
130:15	202:15	82:3 91:3	46:20,24	stop 44:8
171:10	stage 30:4	states 13:4	47:12,13	193:9
191:9	Stage 30.4	106:7	50:3,6,17	stopped
192:15	stages	100:7	51:19,25	132:12
201:22 206:19	109:11	station	52:1,14,20	
	stakeholders	18:16	83:18,19	stopping
208:15	79:19	21:11,21	125:13	75 : 8
speed 133:25		22:1,8,25	129:12	stops 203:1
spelled	stand 196:12	23:8,11,21	130:6,7	_
59:21	standard	25 : 18	132:18	storage
	34:5	35:7,12,13	133:2	55:25 57:4 64:21
Spencer 2:6	standards	stations	144:5	64:21
spend 142:3	98:5	18:13 19:6	146:19	store 63:1
		20:10	147:1,22,2	66:10
spent 41:5	standing	22:22	5 148:1,2	strategic
spirit 87:24	189:10	35:17	149:9	123:1
spiritual	start 19:2	176:19	150:18	
88:24	23:23	206:2	151 : 25	strategies
89:10	57:10	statistics	152:1	102:22
	91:11,12	88:14	153:10,11	170:16
spoke 126:17	138:10	159:14	154:3,4,15	strategy
spoken 74:21	149:5	159:14	,16	110:23
_	166:22	stats 200:8	158:6,11,1	185:9
sponsored	211:17	status	2 159:4	
89:9		179:25	160:25	stream 41:21
sponsorship	started 10:6		161:19,25	56:21 192:8
89:21	92:1 127:1	stay 106:5	162:4	
spouse 156:8	144:5	138:20	163:13,14	193:8
_	162:23 163:4	155:9	165:24	streams
spread	100:4	159:18	167:15	15:24
120:11	starting	staying	197:14,23	40:1,15
spring 15:19	23:4	134:13	198:10,16	66:8
16:10,12	166:23	step 177:19	200:5	stress
112:1	184:1	scep 177.13	209:2,8	64:10,22
	starts 39:15	Steph 48:18	Stephanie's	71:11 98:1
square 39:17		Stephanie	19:22	strive
St 4:24	state 44:6	4:7 10:23	149:2	
170:15	91:25 98:3	17:3,4,5	Stephen 2:15	107:25 122:3
Stacey 2:7	115:14	19:4 20:8	94:23	144:3
28:4	165:5	22:21 23:5		stronger
	185:22	24:1,21	steps 84:10	77:5 78:6
staff 1:11	stated	25:7 27:12	101:2	struck 204:4
106:14	153:22	32:9,10	116:9	
	-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		

MARIKR - DE E	BEERS TECHNICAL	SESSION US	-24-2012	Page 261 of
267				
structure	40:18	121:1	171:8	64:8,12,14
58:11,16,1			175:22	,18 88:18
8 59:3	success	supplement	179:24	183:13,20,
	190:21	54:19	191:13	24
structures	successes	80:17	192:3,19,2	
47:23	135:25	supply	4 193:7	systems
48:1,2		105:5,9,11	198:12,19	63:17
186:15	successful	108:11	207:2	113:23
struggle	178:7	115:4		158:4
165:17	188:17	138:4	surface	183:12
	suffer		18:19	
struggling	131:13	support	22:19	T
125:2	sufficient	48:21	30:23 43:6	table 7:1
student		69:21 98:4	60:12,13	10:25 11:1
134:18	132:10	102:20	surfaced	12:22
students	suggest	103:4	195:1	13:4,8
	19:5,21	114:23,24		75 04
129:1	120:14	134:20,25	surprisingly	79:14
132:1,2	suggested	supported	61:22	82:21
134:20	164:17	83:23	survey 9:8	83:14
181:20	165:16	180:18	17:16,23	123:1,11
stuff 26:1	184:23	supporting	19:12	171:16
64:16		114:4	20:10	172:1,15
176:21	suggesting	114:4	23:2,6,22	179:16
183:13	110:7	supports	24:2 25:14	189:19
sub 206:4	167:16	106:12	35:14	
	175:7	179:23	49:24	tabled 133:1
subject	suggestion	supposed	50:12,19	tackling
67:24 79:5	15:3 26:20	127:22	51:20	193:25
126:1	109:22	131:5	104:20	tag 65:23
205:3	185:14	132:8	161:1	_
submission	192:23	133:8,16,1	203:16	taking 28:17
16:23 19:7	193:2,5,9	7 201:5	206:2	72:3
51:20	suggestions		surveyed	189:20
80:15,16,1	27:8 90:23	supposedly	159:15	202:25
8 85:9	175:2	127:21		205:11
122:11	184:24	sur 206:2	surveys 41:8	talk 18:18
123:10		sure 26:5	204:7,8	36:4
206:4	sum 208:23	39:11	suspect	46:9,10
207:18	summarize	41:20 46:1	185:20	70:8,13,18
submit 85:5	99:21	48:15 50:8	sustainable	,25 71:3
166:16		56:2,7	98:2,11	73:18,19
	summary 32:9	57 : 25	101:13	74:11,12
submitted	54:11	59:15,20	108:3	75:24
86:10	77:17	60:6 81:15		84:10
200:11	summation	109:12	sweep 69:14	88:22
submitting	149:10	112:24	70:15	113:19
16:18	summer 64:25	115:19,21	switch 52:24	136:1
subsequent		120:18		163:23
199:23	Superintende	130:11	system 28:14	186:12
199:43	nt 90:18	133:21	37:11,12	188:1
substantial	supervising	135:11	49:8,9	193:5,6
			63:13	

MARIKR - DE B	BEERS TECHNICAL	_ SESSION U5-	-24-2012 .	Page 262 of
267				
			105.55	
talked 61:10	209:1	techniques	120:19	158:1
64:23,24	tax 149:11	87:4	129:25	159:5,19,2
159:9,10,1	1.50.4	technology	134:9	0,25
1 164:14	taxes 150:4	184:22	139:11	172:21
165:20	153:1		143:25	179:15
182:8	teach	tel 136:16	144:6	189:11
talking	90:3,19	telecom	145:4	territory
35:21,22	teachers	67 : 17	147:4,20	125:23
36:7 38:15	126:24	185:21	150:16	138:5,21
42:8 46:2	131:23	telecon	159:24	141:6
61:11	131:23		160:6	148:4
69:19	team 10:20	124:1	167:4,5	150:12
72:3,5	13:23	136:15,17	173:3,4	151:6,21
73:5,12	14:12,17	197:13	177:16	
74:10 89:3	16:17	teleconferen	179:9	Territory's
113:10,11	19:18	ce 67:18	185:6	118:21
136:7	26:10,11	96:6	192:4,21	Terry 2:16
144:5	36:10	199:16	194:19	_
160:23	44:14	.	195:14,24,	testing 28:2
161:1,3	45:21 51:6	temperature	25	43:22
171:23	54:1 63:24	44:16	199:24,25	176:21
195:22	65:15 69:2	temperatures	200:1,23	tests 18:23
200:3	89:17	44:17	201:4	19:1
	106:15	+	terrestrial	Tetra 2:10
talks	112:7	temporary	80:19	letta 2:10
181:8,10	147:3	192:1,14		th 148:18
193:7	149:5	ten 40:11,18	territorial	thank
Taltson 30:2	179:9	45:20	98:6,14	13:20,21
31:20	teams 88:9	78:15	Territories	14:5 16:24
	teams oo:9	134:15	12:15	19:2,3,23
tancent 74:1	teary 88:23	161:24	13:2,8,11	20:8 22:20
tangible	tease 200:4	tend 75:3	78:3 96:18	27:10 32:8
89:4		143:3,10	102:16	
134:14	L1- 0 10			33.25
	tech 2:10			33:25
	27:17	ter 177:20	103:16	36:8,9,22,
target	27:17	ter 177:20	103:16 104:19	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13
target 139:16	27:17 technical	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11	103:16 104:19 105:15	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10
	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8	103:16 104:19	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9
139:16	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11 14:17	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8 35:6,16	103:16 104:19 105:15 106:24	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9 46:18,19
139:16 targeted 53:1	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8 35:6,16 78:18	103:16 104:19 105:15 106:24 111:9 114:12	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9 46:18,19 49:12,19
139:16 targeted 53:1 targeting	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11 14:17 32:16 68:9 70:2 79:16	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8 35:6,16 78:18 100:18	103:16 104:19 105:15 106:24 111:9 114:12 116:10,16,	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9 46:18,19 49:12,19 51:2,9
139:16 targeted 53:1 targeting 16:22	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11 14:17 32:16 68:9 70:2 79:16 84:11,20	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8 35:6,16 78:18 100:18 130:12	103:16 104:19 105:15 106:24 111:9 114:12	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9 46:18,19 49:12,19 51:2,9 52:7,18,20
139:16 targeted 53:1 targeting 16:22 130:11	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11 14:17 32:16 68:9 70:2 79:16	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8 35:6,16 78:18 100:18 130:12 152:6	103:16 104:19 105:15 106:24 111:9 114:12 116:10,16, 20,22 118:10,12,	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9 46:18,19 49:12,19 51:2,9 52:7,18,20 54:11,23
139:16 targeted 53:1 targeting 16:22 130:11 task 12:8	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11 14:17 32:16 68:9 70:2 79:16 84:11,20 85:3,9 91:20	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8 35:6,16 78:18 100:18 130:12 152:6 terms 29:22	103:16 104:19 105:15 106:24 111:9 114:12 116:10,16, 20,22 118:10,12, 25 119:8	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9 46:18,19 49:12,19 51:2,9 52:7,18,20 54:11,23 58:2,20,22
139:16 targeted 53:1 targeting 16:22 130:11 task 12:8 81:11	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11 14:17 32:16 68:9 70:2 79:16 84:11,20 85:3,9 91:20 103:20	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8 35:6,16 78:18 100:18 130:12 152:6 terms 29:22 30:16	103:16 104:19 105:15 106:24 111:9 114:12 116:10,16, 20,22 118:10,12,	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9 46:18,19 49:12,19 51:2,9 52:7,18,20 54:11,23 58:2,20,22 65:10 67:7
139:16 targeted 53:1 targeting 16:22 130:11 task 12:8 81:11 168:8,11	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11 14:17 32:16 68:9 70:2 79:16 84:11,20 85:3,9 91:20 103:20 109:2,3	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8 35:6,16 78:18 100:18 130:12 152:6 terms 29:22 30:16 34:23 47:4	103:16 104:19 105:15 106:24 111:9 114:12 116:10,16, 20,22 118:10,12, 25 119:8 139:18 142:10	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9 46:18,19 49:12,19 51:2,9 52:7,18,20 54:11,23 58:2,20,22 65:10 67:7 68:25
139:16 targeted 53:1 targeting 16:22 130:11 task 12:8 81:11 168:8,11 177:24	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11 14:17 32:16 68:9 70:2 79:16 84:11,20 85:3,9 91:20 103:20 109:2,3 120:18	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8 35:6,16 78:18 100:18 130:12 152:6 terms 29:22 30:16 34:23 47:4 61:22	103:16 104:19 105:15 106:24 111:9 114:12 116:10,16, 20,22 118:10,12, 25 119:8 139:18 142:10 145:6,8,14	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9 46:18,19 49:12,19 51:2,9 52:7,18,20 54:11,23 58:2,20,22 65:10 67:7 68:25 71:5,6,9,1
139:16 targeted 53:1 targeting 16:22 130:11 task 12:8 81:11 168:8,11	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11 14:17 32:16 68:9 70:2 79:16 84:11,20 85:3,9 91:20 103:20 109:2,3 120:18 122:11	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8 35:6,16 78:18 100:18 130:12 152:6 terms 29:22 30:16 34:23 47:4 61:22 78:22	103:16 104:19 105:15 106:24 111:9 114:12 116:10,16, 20,22 118:10,12, 25 119:8 139:18 142:10 145:6,8,14 ,16	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9 46:18,19 49:12,19 51:2,9 52:7,18,20 54:11,23 58:2,20,22 65:10 67:7 68:25 71:5,6,9,1
139:16 targeted 53:1 targeting 16:22 130:11 task 12:8 81:11 168:8,11 177:24 206:19 208:16	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11 14:17 32:16 68:9 70:2 79:16 84:11,20 85:3,9 91:20 103:20 109:2,3 120:18 122:11 123:10	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8 35:6,16 78:18 100:18 130:12 152:6 terms 29:22 30:16 34:23 47:4 61:22 78:22 111:7	103:16 104:19 105:15 106:24 111:9 114:12 116:10,16, 20,22 118:10,12, 25 119:8 139:18 142:10 145:6,8,14 ,16 146:2,25	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9 46:18,19 49:12,19 51:2,9 52:7,18,20 54:11,23 58:2,20,22 65:10 67:7 68:25 71:5,6,9,1 7 74:11,14,2
139:16 targeted 53:1 targeting 16:22 130:11 task 12:8 81:11 168:8,11 177:24 206:19	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11 14:17 32:16 68:9 70:2 79:16 84:11,20 85:3,9 91:20 103:20 109:2,3 120:18 122:11 123:10 152:6	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8 35:6,16 78:18 100:18 130:12 152:6 terms 29:22 30:16 34:23 47:4 61:22 78:22 111:7 114:9,22	103:16 104:19 105:15 106:24 111:9 114:12 116:10,16, 20,22 118:10,12, 25 119:8 139:18 142:10 145:6,8,14 ,16 146:2,25 147:5,12	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9 46:18,19 49:12,19 51:2,9 52:7,18,20 54:11,23 58:2,20,22 65:10 67:7 68:25 71:5,6,9,1 7 74:11,14,2
139:16 targeted 53:1 targeting 16:22 130:11 task 12:8 81:11 168:8,11 177:24 206:19 208:16 209:6	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11 14:17 32:16 68:9 70:2 79:16 84:11,20 85:3,9 91:20 103:20 109:2,3 120:18 122:11 123:10 152:6 175:16	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8 35:6,16 78:18 100:18 130:12 152:6 terms 29:22 30:16 34:23 47:4 61:22 78:22 111:7 114:9,22 116:9	103:16 104:19 105:15 106:24 111:9 114:12 116:10,16, 20,22 118:10,12, 25 119:8 139:18 142:10 145:6,8,14 ,16 146:2,25 147:5,12 149:14	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9 46:18,19 49:12,19 51:2,9 52:7,18,20 54:11,23 58:2,20,22 65:10 67:7 68:25 71:5,6,9,1 7 74:11,14,2 0 75:2,7,11
139:16 targeted 53:1 targeting 16:22 130:11 task 12:8 81:11 168:8,11 177:24 206:19 208:16	27:17 technical 1:5 10:11 14:17 32:16 68:9 70:2 79:16 84:11,20 85:3,9 91:20 103:20 109:2,3 120:18 122:11 123:10 152:6	ter 177:20 term 21:3,11 22:8 35:6,16 78:18 100:18 130:12 152:6 terms 29:22 30:16 34:23 47:4 61:22 78:22 111:7 114:9,22	103:16 104:19 105:15 106:24 111:9 114:12 116:10,16, 20,22 118:10,12, 25 119:8 139:18 142:10 145:6,8,14 ,16 146:2,25 147:5,12	36:8,9,22, 23 38:13 41:10 43:12 44:9 46:18,19 49:12,19 51:2,9 52:7,18,20 54:11,23 58:2,20,22 65:10 67:7 68:25 71:5,6,9,1 7 74:11,14,2

MVEIRB - DE	BEERS TECHNICAI	SESSION 05.	-24-2012	Page 263 of
267				
84:7,8	90:25	19:4 20:17	148:9	68 : 10
88:18	96:12,13	22:1 23:17	149:6	70:20
91:1,2	108:18,24	24:14,25	151:7,8,9	76:20
96:4,23	109:7	25:6 27:23	158:24	77:19,20
103:8,9,10	115:16	28:5,21	161:3,6	78:21
,21 109:17	121:7,19	29:18 30:3	165:23	82:22
110:12,13	123:15	31:21	167:11,23	83:13
112:3	125:7	34:21	170:24	87:19
115:2	128:12	35:8,11	171:6	88:3,11
119:15	132:14,18	36:6 40:25	175:10	91:5 110:8
123:20	136:13,17	41:25	177:2,4,14	118:20
128:10	137:9	46:7,16	178:19	119:6
129:11	140:15	48:18	179:10 , 12	129:17
130:6	141:3	50:1,24	180:8	130:1,8
140:12	142:13	53:13	181:21	133:24
141:13	144:23	54:18 56:2	184:15	138:16
143:21	146:5,6,10	57:1,5,18,	185:21	139:1
148:1	,11	24 59:20	186:3	140:22
151:25	148:18,20	60:7 , 25	190:12 , 17	143:12,17,
152:2	149:9	63:15	192:3	18 144:8
153:10,19	159:4	64:10	194:10	152:12
154:3,15	161:19	65:1,2,8	195:11 , 18	161:4
161:18	162:10,13	68:24	197:1,8,12	•
163:13	164:8,12	69:22	198:20	171:15
166:11	167:13	70:20,24	202:2,25	174:21
168:2,18,2	168:9	71:5	203:10	176:15
5 169:17	169:4,19,2	73:4,8,16	204:4	186:8
171:12	3 172:16	74:1,2,9,1	207:1,6,11	•
174:15	173:9	2 76:20	,12,25	191:10
175:11	174:2	77:7,8,18,	208:5,22	193:17
177:4 178:8	177:9,25 178:9	19 78:1 80:1 81:20	211:1,19	194:1 198:13
181:23	182:6	82:14,23,2	themselves	200:23
182:18	184:14	5 83:1	87:13	200:23
184:13	185:17	85:8,14	155 : 4	202:13
185:14	187:18	86:10	192:4,21	204:10,17
186:6	194:7	87:24	there'll	
187:10	197:6,10,2	105:7	37:8,17	thermosiphon
190:22,24	3 198:5	109:4	there's 16:5	s 44:22,24
191:23	199:15	113:1	17:10	47:14
194:5	201:8	123:15	18:6,14	48:4,8
197:4	205:1,9,12	124:7	25:2,16	thermosyphon
198:22	207:25	125:4	39:9	43:16
208:4	209:5,10	126:18	40:3,18	they'd 11:12
thanks	210:24	131:1,8	42:24	195:19
14:1,18	211:13,14,	133:3	43:18,19	
27:14 28:4	16	136:10	46:14	they'll
31:17	that'll	139:10	56:3,19	37:23
51:23 53:7	11:22	140:10	59:13	they're
55:17 57:7	198:21	141:11	62:16	39:25
59:19,23		142:15	63 : 23	47:20 48:1
60:11	that's 12:5	145:2,24	64:9,11	61:25
	15:22 16:1			

MARIKO - DE E	BEERS TECHNICA.	r session os.	-24-2012	Page 264 OI
267				
72:6,15	threw 32:19	65:7,8	211:17,18,	toward 115:1
81:3		70:1	19	
109:18	throughout	73:5,7		towards
123:1	34:18	97:6	tonne 194:1	17:11
126:12	44:19	103:17	tonnes 13:16	37:21
131:7	82:20	125:18	Managed 2.4	83:14
132:5	124:22	130:10,24	Toogood 2:4	106:9
133:17	201:14	134:15	tool	114:13
149:21	204:19	145:10	135:13,16	126:11
154:24	through-	187:14	178:16	177:25
176:18	talik	205:22	179:17	201:23
179:13	43:1,7,9	208:23	top 32:24	town 152:16
180:7	throw 162:7	209:14	43:19	181:9
183:2,13		211:19	130:17	tracking
184:1	tific 24:13	today's 14:6		183:20
194:18	timely	coday S 14:0	topic 17:1,2	
195:6	106:22	Todd 5:7	91:21	tracks 101:7
199:6	107:7	96:8	96:15	Tracy 4:24
203:18,25	111:15	136:18	146:14	_
204:7		137:9	163:5	Tracz 3:23
they've	tip 65:3	140:13	topics 52:24	92:22
82:12	titles	141:3,15	104:6	trades
126:16	107:19	142:12	123:25	117:15
160:19	121:24	143:22	166:6	traditional
195:11	Tlicho 6:2	144:4,22	topographic	24:7,9,17
197:3	150:11	146:6,9	56:17	26:15
+1	163:11	154:20		34:14 72:9
third 144:4	164:10	199:18,19,	topography	75:18
165:1 169:14	168:20	21 201:12,22	41:2 66:6	85:13,14,1
172:13,14	169:1,5	201:12,22	total 12:23	6,18,20
	170:17	202:18	13:10,15	86:1,7,15,
thirty 69:24	171:8,14,1	12	38:1 102:7	16,19,23
thirty-four	5 174:19		touch 87:13	87:2,16,19
102:8	175:6	tolerance		88:12 , 18
	176:12	211:14	touched	traditionall
thirty-seven	178:6,13	Tollis 4:2	165:13	y 170:23
104:17	180:12	68:15,17	touches	_
thoroughly	183:1	92:13	181:11	traffic 11:1
45:15	185:18	164:12,13	touchstone	train 111:13
thoughtful	186:2,19	210:16,23	179:12	113:6
191:2	190:23	Tolls		201:16
	193:12,13	167:13,14	tough 193:18	
thoughts	194:4	107.13,14	Tourism	trained
73:14	tobacco	tomorrow	95:11 , 20	118:22 119:9
188:22,25	87:23	168:4,9	97:1,12,15	147:15
thousand	90:20	170:19	,19 101:5	
102:6,8	today 26:18	175:20,25	102:19	trainees
105:6	50:21	177:20	103:4	120:19
thresholds	51:12	187:19	tournament	training 8:3
65:1	55:19 58:1	188:1,23	90:4	104:4,8,10
	64:8	197:9,11,1 2 208:7	50.1	105:17
		2 200:1		

MARIKR - DE R	EERS TECHNICAL	L SESSION 05.	-24-2012	Page 265 of
267				
106:1,15,2	transparent	67:3 80:25	107:15	136:22
1,25	107:7	122:4	120:1	137:1,12,1
107:3,24	157:22	132:4	126:1	3 151:23
111:15,18,	195:8	138:7	173:25	159:17
20		139:6	174:21	161:6
112:7,23	Transport	142:6		166:2
113:12,16	4:11	143:4,5	typical	170:25
114:1,25	transportati	149:12	87:20	178:25
117:14	on 108:14	153:14	typically	192:8,16
121:12,16	119:16	169:20	64:14	195:2,16
122:2,25	185:4	199:15	Tyson 2:10	202:10
126:11		 15 10	Tyson 2.10	203:17
132:24	trappers	trying 15:19		
133:20	72:12	55:4 64:25	U	understandin
135:3,5,9	travel 72:24	74:8 114:7	ultimate	g 32:14
142:11	travels	136:22	84:14	50:1,10
155:5	72:22	138:23	ultimately	62:24
164:22	•	158:15	81:9 83:14	63:17,18,2
181:17	Treaty 4:8	159:17	140:9	0 01.
201:18	tremendous	165:18		86:9 88:11
207:9,12	118:20	167:15,24	un 105:2	131:8
trans 92:3		178:23	unable 123:4	172:18
trans 92:3	trends 101:7	190:2		202:13
transaction	171:3	202:9	uncertaintie	understandin
152:12	203:13	Tuesday	s 77:6	gs 88:6
transactions	triangulated	175:21	uncertainty	understood
152:12 , 13	203:21	turn 10:19	61:7,8	115:19,21
Transcript	Tribal 4:8	14:20	76:15,18,2	
7:13		16:25	0 77:3	undertake
	tributaries	25:22	80:4,10,13	180:6
transcriptio	39:16,20	73:10 76:4	, 20	undertaken
n 92:4	40:16 42:3	103:5	underground	178:4
transferrabl	triggered	109:14	18 : 21	undertaking
e 108:6	78:20	164:10	42:9,10	11:18,22,2
2 100.0	171:4	turnaround	44:2	4 19:5,10
transition	triggers	180:8	45:7 , 11	49:21
30:7	78:18		118:20	50:2,4,9,1
translate		twenty 69:24	135:9	8
75 : 8	trophics	78:15		51:5,10,15
	53:17	twenty-five	under-	52:10
translator	trout 59:11	49:12	represente	83:21
74:21			d 105:2	84:2,3,5
transmission	true 5:13	two-hundred	understand	205:24
30:7	141:11	104:12	17:12	206:18,21
transmit	trust 76:17	type 11:2	24:21	209:16,21
156:13	78:10	72:17	45:13	
	194:18	83:23	52 : 10	Undertakings
transmitted	195:13	170:23	63:12	7:4 9:1
170:16	truthing	183:13	78:20 89:5	undertook
transparency	_	184:3	107:14	16:6 34:3
190:7	41:6	types 83:17	112:21	
	try 16:7		130:8	unemployed
		100:25		

	EERS TECHNICAI	SESSION 05-	-24-2012	Page 266 of
267				
105:7	199:1	verify 66:14	violence	55:13
unforseen		verifying	170:12	wasn't 22:2
66:3		99:23,24	visit	51:12
unfortunate	vacation	100:1	197:20,21,	200:9
114:21	146:8	verklempt	25	water 9:8
	vague 133:9	91:4	198:12,19	17:7,13,1
units 13:13	vague 133:9		199:9,10,1	,17,23
151 : 12	validate	Veronica	2	18:6,13,1
unknown	47:7	2:19 10:21	visited	,19,21,22
64:15	Valley	12:4 13:24	75:20	24,25
unless 91:6	1:2,11	14:14		10.12
163:24	24:20 31:1	16:19	visits 90:16	20:10,24
	64:3 81:5	26:13 27:20 34:1	167:6 198:25	21:5 22:1
unlike	99:14	36:11,18	203:24	23:2,6,22
117:17	valuable	46:21		24:2,21
unprecedente	77:5 91:23	51:8,18	voice 189:4	25 : 13
d 97:24	211:15	52:17	volume 56:2	29:13,16
unsure 51:12		65:16 71:8	volunteer	30:13,23
52:19	value 21:17 71:14	75:1 76:4	156:17	35:14,22,2
	86:24	79:7 81:8	160:13,15,	3 40:19
update 55:9	88:18	82:11	16	41:13 42:10,16,1
66:15	118:11	85:23 95:6		7 43:15
110:23 122:19	143:18	109:16	volunteers	44:2,7,8
158:3	150:9	110:6	159:12	45:24,25
168:5		148:25	Vos 62:15	46:4,14
180:13	valued 29:10	175:23		47:1,2,6,
208:8	values 71:12	189:1		6,24,25
	86:14 88:4	198:9	wa 57:4	49:24
updated	Vandenberg	206:24 208:11,21,		50:18
54:13	80:6,7	200:11,21,	wage 152:14	51:20
Upon 10:1	variability	209:11,24	wages 191:19	53:3,5,14
49:16,17	60:22	210:6,17	wait	16,24
91:16,17	62:24	·	70:9,11,12	54:4,8,20
162:18,19		via 12:19	111:13	55:7,11,1
211:21	variety	viable		,21,25
upset 66:3	59:12	119:21	waiting	56:20 57:
upstream	various	vicinity	136:15	58:9 59:3,5
14:6,11	84:15 85:7	31:23	waiver 199:1	60:8,13,2
17:6 58:9	109:11		Waldron	62:23 63:3
	183:3	Victor 167:17	21:19	64:3
useful 83:17 96:19	vast 150:13	168:6,14,1	22:25	66:8,10
109:9	vehicle	5 208:9	23:20 27:1	67:11
186:12,23	72:20		Wales 166:18	68:11
188:5		view 65:25		70:14
	Velma 3:20	123:2	walk 138:12	71:12 72:
usually	venture	176:24	wall 17:9	73:23
18:19	87:14	179:22	28:18	75:14
124:16	verbatim	182:14	warning 10:5	206:1
132:5	130:15	189:13 190:12	_	water-
	100.10	190.14	warranted	

	EERS TECHNICAL	PESSION 02.	-24-2012	Page 26/ of
267				
retaining	11:4,7,10,	we're	192 : 24	144:10
58:16,18	12 181:5	11:11,17	198:14	
59:2		14:16 16:9	200:18	Whee 183:7
	weeks 11:19	22:15	201:15,17,	whenever
watersh	133:4	24:14	18 202:17	194:12
28:20	160:11	34:10,24	205:4	
watershed	192:2	35:21,22		wherever
17:11,19	200:12	36:2,7	west 42:21	87:17
18:5,6,17	weigh 142:6	41:9 48:7	159:1	140:25
22:17	_	50:9 58:25	162:5	145:2
23:17	weighed		wet 22:11	146:24
24:24	79:22 98:8	60:20	56:7,13	149:17,18
26:23,24	weights 87:6	61:11	·	155:22
27:1	_	62:19 63:1	we've	158:17,21
28:13,23	welcome	69:19 70:4	15:5,14,15	whether
·	10:11	78:16 81:2	21:1,2	22:10
29:2,4,8,1	91:19	87:17	26:17	26:22 28:1
9 30:17	96:13,14	89:3,6	39:15 40:8	33:8 48:15
31:6,11,25	122:19	90:1 92:9	44:16,18	51:12
34:8 35:21	163:1	96:14	51:4 59:3	76:25
39:2,10,12	welding	109:5	61:14	82:23 84:4
,21,24	69:11	111:9,21,2	63:13,15	100:7
40:5		3 112:1,5	64:19	135:6
41:9,16	we'll	113:10,11	75 : 17	138:17
45:14	10:5,19	116:5	86:17	150:17
50:12,13	11:18	117:1,22,2	87:4 , 5	151:22
53:2	14:10	5	109:23	153:17
watersheds	16:25 19:2	119:10,24	116:8	173:17
17:8,16	20:3	121:3	117:11 , 12	178:7
18:8	27:9 , 25	122:22	125:25	179:10
20:17,21	44:13	123:4	134:16,17	186:12
22:20	45:20	124:24	135:2	187:24
24:25 29:1	53:23,25	130:24	137:19	
30:8 42:3	59:20	131:11,22	145:9	189:22
53 : 15	67:6,17	136:1,6,7,	167:7	190:12
	68:8,10,12	9 138:23	179:10	196:11
Wayne 2:23	84:3,10	150:21,23,	181:12	whisker
55:16	91:8 116:9	25 152:23	186:13	54:12
57:19 , 23	123:5,16	157:22,23	190:8	whisper
59:19	140:1	158:2	192:13,22	26:23
65:22	162:23	161:12	195:20	
93:16	168:8	164:5	197:1	white 72:12
ways 24:16	169:19,22	167:3,14,2	199:22	whoever
122:14	173:6	4 175:25	209:9	136:16
169:8	175:4	176:4		
170:1	185:14,17	180:4	whatever	whole 43:21
188:7,11	188:1	181:17,22	55:5 59:8	66:1,5
203:7	190:9,18	182:24	62 : 19	77:4
we'd 16:22	205:11,14	184:23	69:17	139:21,22
87:6 136:2	206:25	185:11,12	70:14	142:3
0/:0 130:2	211:17	188:6	87:12	148:5
wee 180:9	wellness	190:8,10,1	188:13,14	183:23
week	164:23	8,19 191:2	whatnot	Wilkinson
	101.20			

MVEIND DE	BEERS TECHNICA.	L SESSION OS	-24-2012	Page 200 OI
267				
92:8	184:3	183:12	179 : 2	12:7,11
	186:11,24	184:2		14:9 25:8
Williams	191:11,20	189:14,19	workshop	54:24
94:7	193:23	194:21,23	183:15,21	55:17
willing	199:23	195:21	184:8	61:10
34:14,15	201:2	206:13	188:8	64:23
128:13		210:8	world 113:24	
146:15	worded 50:2		190:12	88:21
166:5	wording	worked 87:5		
172:24	49:22	183:15,25	worry 138:15	
190:19	50:10 77:2	184:17	worse 131:17	65:9 89:25
	210:13	192:14,16,		105:20
Wilson 5:21		18 197:3	worth 56:20	112:2
54:6,22	work 15:22	workers	211:1	121:3
57:7 , 21	16:1,6,9		Wow 176:7	122:14
58:20,21	43:22	104:23,25		127:20
winding	46:15	108:16	wrestling	175:11
119:13	69:6,8,12,	119:17,21	55 : 2	182:17
	15,17,18	140:19,21	write 123:7	
Winston	85:22	159:15	169:21	yield 38:1
32:22	89:1,18	164:21		yields 20:24
wish 71:16	90:8,24	182:25	writing	21:5
	92:8	183:9,17	132:19,23	YKDFN 96:9
wit 41:7	102:14	workforce	written 26:5	143:23
Witherly	105:8	105:19,24	51 : 2	
5:17	106:9	108:12	wrong 33:19	you'll 39:17
wom 70:24	115:7,25	116:5,16,1	"20119 33.13	146:24
WOIII 70.24	116:4	9,20		184:18
women	119:4,12	working	X	young
70:21,24	121:2	63:13 93:9	X4 37:9,20	127:14,16
wonder 17:10	124:15	106:8	x6 37:9,20	179:10
18:10,20	125:2,5	110:23		180:10
19:1 25:12	127:10	111:23		yours 77:23
126:19	134:25	114:7,13	Y	yours //:23
	135:3,5,16	124:18	Yamkovy 4:5	yourself
wondered	141:20	133:9	85:12 87:1	96:6 169:2
18:8 51:22	145:1,2,12	135:10	Yaxley 3:22	yourselves
152:4	,17,21	149:21	_	109:15
163:22	146:2,24	176:13	Yellowknife	
197:18	147:10,11	177:11	1:19	youth 90:19
wonderful	149:18	178:8	127:12	106:4
88:24	155:2,22	179:10,12	132:6	156:15
89:14	156:23	182:1	144:7,12	you've 25:22
160:9	157:16	189:22	154:24	43:22 59:9
187:22	158:1,17,2	199:4	176:20	76:19
188:20	1	202:12	Yellowknives	161:16
wondering	159:18,20	204:7	5:6 93:7	184:23
18:4 19:18	167:9	works 56:1	142:22	187:2
59:2 62:6	173:18,25	66:15 89:5	154 : 21	
81:25	174:6	106:24	202:1,11	
109:21	175:10	106:24	yesterday	
142:16	178:20	156:8,12	10:20,23	Zoe 6:2
142.10	179:2	10.0,12	10.20,25	169:1,4,5,
	•			