MACKENZIE VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL

IMPACT AND REVIEW BOARD

GAHCHO KUE PROJECT

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW HEARING

Mackenzie Valley Review Board:

Chairperson	Darryl Bohnet
Board Member	Rachel Crapeau
Board Member	James Wah-Shee
Board Member	Peter Bannon
Board Member	Richard Mercredi

HELD AT:

Lutsel K'e, NT December 3, 2012 Day 2 of 6

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3	Simon Toogood)
4	Shannon Hayden)
5	Stacey Menzies)
6	Carol Luttmer)
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8	Alan Ehrlich)
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13	Terry Kruger)
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7 --- Upon commencing at 11:08 a.m. 1 2 3 (FIRE CEREMONY/OPENING PRAYER) 4 5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much. 6 The next item on the agenda is welcoming comments from 7 the Chief, Dora Enzoe. So, Dora...? 8 9 WELCOME BY CHIEF DORA ENZOE: 10 CHIEF DORA ENZOE: Hello. I'd like to 11 welcome everybody for coming to our community, the 12 Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board, and De Beers, 13 and other people that I'm not aware of. I'm just 14 meeting everybody today. I'd just like welcome you to 15 our community and our homeland. We are here to discuss the Gahcho Kue 16 17 project. Most of the members that are here are aware 18 that Lutsel K'e is the closest community to the 19 project. We are 140 kilometres away from the project, what is -- which is 86.5 miles from Gahcho Kue, which 20 21 means Lady of the Falls is 71 kilometres, 44 miles away 22 from the project. Gau -- the project is also next to 23 our proposed park, Thaydene Nene, which Lutsel K'e Dene 24 First Nation is proposing. It's 4 kilometres away. 25 We are here to discuss the project. Our

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members are aware that De Beers also own the Snap Lake 1 project. I'm aware that my members here in the 2 community have outstanding concerns with how the Snap 3 Lake project has been currently running. 4 5 I just want to state that the project is within our traditional territory. I know as we proceed 6 7 there's going to be definitions of "stakeholders". Т just want to clarify that we're landowners. 8 As 9 landowners we need to ensure that the land, the environment, the water is protected. It's our way of 10 11 life. It's our well-being. 12 But before I state any other comments, I 13 just want to leave it as this -- as it is for now until 14 we hear from De Beers and I hear from my membership. Ι 15 will state more towards the closing of the meeting, but 16 I think our councillors have some comments, as well. 17 MR. JAMES MARLOWE: Good morning. My 18 name is James Marlowe, councillor of the Lutsel K'e 19 Dene First Nation. I'd like to welcome the Land and 20 Water Board to our community and to our land, and also 21 De Beers Canada to our -- welcome to our land and our 22 community. 23 I'd just like to say that we're here to 24 protect our traditional territory, the wildlife, water, 25 and animals. We had a meeting here on Saturday in

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preparation for this event today, and we like to hear
 what De Beers has to say on this proposed diamond mine
 within our traditional territory.

Again, I'd like to thank everybody for showing up this morning and hope that we have a good information-sharing. I'd like to thank you for coming here again. Thank you.

8 MS. EMILY SAUNDERS: Good morning. My 9 name is Emily Saunders. I'm a sub Chief, as well as 10 councillor. I want to welcome each and every one of 11 you here.

And again, when it comes to our land, it's a big concern for us, for our membership. So it'll be good -- be good to hear -- see what De Beers have to say today. And I hope we have a good meeting today.

17 And I want to welcome all our Elders 18 here, our membership. And the youth will be here this 19 afternoon. I think it's very important -- this meeting 20 is very, very important because -- because the -- the 21 land, the water, the overall, the whole aspects of the 22 -- the land is our big concern. So I want to welcome each and everyone of you, and thank you for being here. 23 24 Masi.

25

MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Thank you. My

name is Stephanie Poole, and I am a member of the
 Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation council. I too would like
 to welcome you all here to our community of Lutsel K'e
 today.

5 And what I would like to say now in the 6 beginning is that this proposal that we're discussing 7 is right in the homeland of our territory of the Lutsel K'e Dene and that although some people might think that 8 9 you, or Canada, will make the final decision regarding 10 this proposal, I'm sure you've been told before, and I 11 would just like to remind you, that it is the Lutsel 12 K'e Dene that will make the final decision regarding 13 what is being proposed here today.

Today you will be able to hear from the members of our community here in Lutsel K'e. And I want to encourage everyone to feel free to come forward and talk about your concerns regarding this proposal. And at the end of the day I believe we will have some closing remarks for you. Thank you.

20 MR. RON FATT: Hello. Good afternoon, 21 good morning. I'd like to say thank you for coming to 22 Lutsel K'e traditional territory. When we meet here 23 today, you're going to hear a lot of comments from our 24 people about this industry.

25 And I'd like to say that when we say our

traditional territory, we have a strong connection 1 spiritually to our land, to our waters, to our 2 wildlife. That's one of our main food that comes from 3 the land. And people depend on this for thousands of 4 years, even before the White -- White people came here. 5 6 And we still have the strong tradition that still exists today amongst our people here. And the Elders 7 make sure that this tradition lives on. 8 9 And I also want to thank the members 10 from De Beers come -- coming here, you know. Before the end of the day, we're going to have a lot of 11 12 closing remarks with people. I want to say masi for 13 coming here today. My name is Ron Fatt. 14 15 OPENING COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRPERSON: 16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, Chief and council, for your opening and welcoming 17 18 comments to the panel. Very much appreciated. We also 19 very much appreciate the community doing the fire 20 ceremony. I think it was very appropriate to begin a 21 hearing like this with -- with a fire ceremony, so 22 thank you very much. 23 Welcome to this community hearing in Lutsel K'e. My name is Darryl Bohnet. I am the Chair 24 25 of the Gahcho Kue panel. We are here to listen to what

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you have to say about the Gahcho Kue diamond project. 1 2 The Developer, De Beers Canada Limited. De Beers propose -- proposes to construct, operate, and close an 3 open-pit diamond mine at Kennady Lake. 4 5 Today's agenda this morning is as We'll have a presentation from De Beers, and 6 follows. 7 then we will have lunch. The agenda this afternoon will be statements from members of Lutsel K'e, with 8 9 breaks in the afternoon. If -- if we go late in the 10 afternoon, it's planned that we will stop at 6:15 and I will have closing remarks. And at 6:30 plan -- we plan 11 12 to have dinner with you, and then dinner will be served 13 at 6:30. A copy of the agenda is available at the 14 table over there. 15 Today the panel wants to hear the views 16 and opinions that you may have regarding the project. We are interested in your views on the environmental, 17 18 social, economic, and cultural impacts of the mine, and 19 your opinion on the potential significance of these 20 impacts. 21 The panel will full -- fully consider these views while it is deliberating on its decision in 22 23 the Environmental Impact Review. Once the decision is 24 made, the panel will prepare a report and send it to 25 the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern

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Development. The panel will produce an official
 transcript of this hearing. This transcript will be
 available on our website earlier next week.

I would like to introduce our panel 4 5 members and then introduce counsel, technical advisors, and staff. Our panel members are Richard Mercredi. 6 He's from Fort Smith, a Metis hunter. Peter Bannon, 7 from Yellowknife, has lived and worked in there with 8 9 the territorial and federal government for over forty 10 (40) years, recently retired. James Wah-Shee, former minister of the GNWT, from Behchoko. And Rachel 11 12 Crapeau, from Dettah, involved in environmental work at 13 the band level. I am from Fort Smith originally. I'm 14 a Metis. I lived in -- in Yellowknife for the past 15 forty (40) years working for the federal government, 16 territorial government, and a diamond mine.

17 Our legal counsel is John Donihee. I'm 18 going to introduce our staff. Community liaison worker 19 at the back, Stacey Menzies. Our intern, Cailin Maki, 20 where -- there you are. Environmental Assessment 21 Officers, Shannon Hayden, by the door; Simon Toogood; 22 Carol Luttmer. The Project Manager is Chuck Hubert. 23 Manager of the Environmental Assessment, Alan Ehrlich. 24 And we have Kathy Racher here as well. She's on loan 25 to us from the Land and Water Board, and she

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specializes and is very knowledgeable about water 1 2 issues. Where's Kathy? There she is. 3 This panel of the Review -- of the 4 Review Board is a co-management body established by the 5 Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act that makes its 6 decision by consensus. Our members are Northerners 7 nominated by First Nations and by the Tlicho, territorial, and federal government. Our goal is to 8 make decisions that will benefit the North for all 9 residents and for future generations. 10 11 After the presentation from De Beers 12 this morning, we have scheduled the rest of the day for 13 statements for community members. The panel wants to hear directly from members of the community and the 14 15 public. In particular, women and youth are encouraged 16 to participate. 17 Panel staff at the front table are 18 preparing a list of names of people who would like to 19 speak today. Please identify yourself to our staff so 20 that they can help you. I -- I will call you to the 21 microphone when it is your turn to speak. Please come 22 to the front table to speak directly to the panel 23 If you are more comfortable speaking from members. 24 where you are standing, a roving microphone will be 25 given to you by the staff.

Statements must be made with a 1 microphone so that every -- everyone can hear and the 2 translators can translate properly. And I want to add 3 to that, please try to speak slow and distinct. 4 It 5 helps the translator. And the other thing is, please 6 identify yourself when -- before you start to speak. 7 Please remember to sign in at the front Signing in helps our transcriber and gives the 8 door. 9 panel a good record of how many people attended the hearing. We have simultaneous -- simultaneous 10 translation in Chipewyan and I guess we only have --11 12 I'm not sure what channel it is, I'm sorry. Somebody 13 tell me. Channel 2, thank you. 14 So let's proceed this morning with the 15 presentation from De Beers Canada. And I believe 16 Veronica Chisholm is in charge and will take the lead. The other day in Dettah I did -- I didn't do very well 17 18 with her last name, so I think I got it right today. 19 So over to you. 20 21 PRESENTATION BY DE BEERS CANADA INC.: 22 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Thank you, Mr. 23 Chair. But before I -- we start our presentation, I'd 24 like to introduce the team we have here today. My name 25 is Veronica Chisholm. I'm the Permitting Manager for

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the Gahcho Kue project. To my right I have Cathie 1 Bolstad. She's External and Community -- Corporate 2 Affairs. I forget titles sometimes. 3 Andrew Williams is our project manager 4 5 for the Gahcho Kue project. Stephen Lines is 6 Superintendent of Environment Assessment and 7 Permitting. In behind we have Elizabeth, or Sabet, Biscaye, who is Superintendent for Communities. I have 8 9 Leah Russell, who's our document control specialist at 10 De Beers. 11 In behind, and I'd ask them to stand, 12 John Virgil. He's with Golder Associates, specializing in wildlife. John Faithful, from Golder Associates. 13 14 He's a water quality specialist and the technical lead. 15 I've Wayne Corso, from JDS Engineering. Dan Johnson, from JDS Engineering. And Bill Horne, from EBA 16 17 Engineering. 18 And to my left is Craig Blackie, 19 Superintendent of Aquatics. And Terry Kruger, who is in the audience. I'll ask him to raise his hand. He's 20 21 with -- in communications. So that's the De Beers and 22 our consulting team here today. 23 It's our pleasure to be in Lutsel K'e. 24 We really enjoyed the fire ceremony, so we'd like to 25 thank Lutsel K'e for providing that today. We have a

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1 very short presentation because, as mentioned by the 2 Chair, this is the time for the folks in Lutsel K'e to 3 present their concerns to the panel who are sitting at 4 the front. So my presentation is about forty-five (45) 5 minutes in length.

6 Just a brief outline. I'm going to do a 7 bit of the project ove -- overview, and I'm going to speak to the benefits of the project first. That will 8 9 be followed by about a sixteen (16) minute video that 10 will be played in Chipewyan and English. I'm going to 11 also play -- I'm also going to describe where we are in 12 the Environmental Impact Review process, or how we've 13 gotten to the public hearings and why we're here to 14 day.

And finally I'm going to talk about what we heard, what we assessed, and how we included that in our monitoring and mitigation plans for the project. And specifically I'm going to speak to wildlife, water and fish, and socioeconomics.

The proposed Gahcho Kue project will bring stability to the North at a time when other mines are nearing their initial downsizing. And although Gahcho Kue is not the same size as Ekati or Diavik, we believe it's an important project to the North. As such, this will be the fourth diamond mine in the

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Northwest Territories, and the second for De Beers in 1 the Northwest Territories. 2 3 The project timeline, it will take approximately two (2) years to construct the project. 4 5 The operating period will be approximately eleven (11) 6 years. And the closure and post-closure is eight (8) 7 plus years. 8 At our Friday mee -- community meeting 9 in Dettah, we heard a lot about jobs and the job opportunities that this project will provide. We've 10 also heard that quite a bit in Lutsel K'e. I've been 11 12 to Lutsel K'e a few times, and it's an issue that's 13 come up quite a bit. So I want to talk about that 14 briefly. 15 There will be approximately six hundred 16 and ninety (690) jobs during construction, about three hundred seventy-two (372) jobs during operation, and a 17 18 little less than a hundred (100) during closure. 19 Hearing the concerns about jobs in the 20 communities leading up to these hearings, De Beers 21 wanted to be proactive about talking about those jobs. 22 So we submitted a human resources strategy to the 23 public registry. That included a job description, 24 preliminary job description, of those jobs that will be 25 offered at the mine site.

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We also included information about our 1 scholarship, training and apprenticeship programs, so 2 that if people chose to work at the mine they'd have an 3 opportunity now to start to prepare and understand the 4 5 skills that would be required to access those jobs. 6 It's important to note the Gahcho Kue 7 project is an open-pit mine, so where other diamond mines are going underground those open-pit job 8 9 opportunities are available at the Gahcho Kue mine 10 site. 11 Just a little bit about the economic 12 benefits for the project. There will be approximately 13 \$650 million of capital expended on this project. Over 14 the life of the project, the contribution to the 15 Canadian economy will be about 3.9 billion, of which 88 16 percent will flow to the NWT. 17 For the impact assessment that we 18 submitted to the public registry in December 2010, we 19 looked at the air, we looked at the land, we looked at 20 the water, and we looked at people. And we looked at 21 things in a holistic way. And I'll get into the 22 details of what exactly we examined in a few more 23 slides, but I want to point out that we didn't 24 determine there would be any significant adverse 25 effects from this project.

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1 Next I'd like to play a short sixteen 2 (16) minute video that describes the project and the construction of the project. And that will be followed 3 by a few more slides that I'll present. So thank you. 4 5 I know some of you folks have seen this video before, 6 but I can't possibly present the entire project 7 description in sixteen (16) minutes. So I'd like to play that for you now. Thank you. 8 9 10 (VIDEO PLAYED) 11 12 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Veronica 13 Chisholm, from De Beers. I just have a few more slides 14 that I'd like to step through. I'd like to talk a 15 little bit about the Environmental Impact Review 16 process and some of our engagement that we've done to date, and why -- why we -- why we have arrived --17 18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Excuse me --19 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: -- at today --20 THE CHAIRPERSON: -- excuse me for a 21 second. 22 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Sure. 23 MR. JAMES MARLOWE: Hello. Just to --24 there's some concerns about photographs being taken 25 about -- on some people here at the hall. If you have

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photographs being taken, I think you should ask for 1 permission first. Thank you. 2 3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you -- thank 4 you, Councillor. Sorry for the interruption. Please 5 qo ahead. 6 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: Thank you. Veronica Chisholm, from De Beers. Thank you for the 7 8 comment. We will ensure that we have permission -request permission before we take any additional 9 10 photographs. 11 I wanted to talk a bit about the 12 environmental review process and the engagement that 13 we've done on this project to date. I've been in this community a few times over the last year, but prior to 14 15 that De Beers visited Lutsel K'e in 1998 to talk about 16 projects. And specifically, in 2001 De Beers visited within the community of Lutsel K'e to talk about the 17 18 Gahcho Kue project. 19 This was followed up by six (6) additional meetings in between 1998 and 2006. And then 20 also in 2006 was when we hosted our first site visit 21 22 with Lutsel K'e, as well as in 2007. Again in 2010 --23 or 2010. And then also this summer in 2012, and I'd 24 like to talk a bit more about that. 25 In 2006 the Mackenzie Valley impact

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review process visited the communities to get input on 1 what needed to be included in our environmental impact 2 assessment. What concerns people had. What they 3 wanted De Beers to address as part of the environmental 4 5 impact statement. And that formed the terms of 6 reference and shaped what we assessed and what we 7 submitted on this project. 8 In 2010, December 2010, De Beers filed 9 their Environmental Impact Statement to the Mackenzie Valley Impact Review Board's public registry. In 2011, 10 which was my first meeting with De Beers, we hosted a 11 12 workshop with community members, and that's where I got 13 to meet Councillor Ron Fatt as well as Henry Catholique 14 in that meeting in October. 15 There was a gap analysis -- analysis 16 session in November/December of 2011. And in May 2012 17 we had our technical sessions where we heard a lot of 18 information about the project and we followed up on a 19 number of recommendations. 20 In February 2012 I visited the community as long as -- as well as the rest of the De Beers team 21 22 to talk about the project and seek some input. This 23 was followed up by another meeting in July where we heard additional input specifically around our fish-out 24 25 plan, our fish compensation plan, our wildlife

1 monitoring plans, et cetera.

And we did listen to what the folks in Lutsel K'e had to say, specifically around our fish habitat compensation plan where we were asked to remove the option of the raised lakes adjacent to Kennady Lake as a compensation option. We heard you, and we did that.

8 In August 2012 we hosted a site visit 9 where a number of the members from chief and council, as well as other members, came out to Kennady Lake. 10 And during that site visit we wanted to do something a 11 bit different so we took a boat out on the water so we 12 13 could see the lake from that perspective. We also 14 took a helicopter so we could see what was happening 15 the downstream and we could look at some monitoring locations. 16

We also went out on the land where we talked about the wildlife monitoring, as well as some of the archeology artifacts we had collected at the site. We also had the chance to do some berry picking, some cranberry picking at the time.

And it was during those sessions we heard a lot from the members of Lutsel K'e about this project and what their concerns were. And we've tried to address those concerns in follow-up submissions.

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1 I'd like to speak a little bit about the wildlife assessment that we've undertaken to date, as 2 well as the monitoring plan we submitted. For caribou, 3 we took a cumulative effects assessment approach, which 4 5 meant that we didn't just look at this project and 6 existing projects, but we also looked at exploration 7 camps and other developments on the landscape in that assessment. We also looked at the -- all of the 8 9 seasonal ranges of the caribou to look at the changes in caribou and caribou migrations resulting from the 10 11 project.

12 Our assessment of caribou included 13 annual studies that were undertaken in 1999 to 2005, as well as in 2011 and 2012. And we would continue to do 14 15 caribou surveys should this project be approved. We 16 also wanted to have a long data set of caribou and 17 caribou movement. So we looked at the collar data that 18 was available between 1995 and 2010, and we included 19 that assessment in our EIS. We also, as part of the 20 assessment, included the knowledge from existing mines 21 as well as land users in -- as part of that assessment. 22 At the May technical sessions, at -- the 23 advisor, one of the pan -- a Mackenzie Valley Impact 24 Review technical advisor, wildlife advisor's 25 recommendation, it was suggested that De Beers form a

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1 working group, a wildlife working group, to develop a -2 - the wildlife effects monitoring plan. And we did 3 that.

4 In August and September that working 5 group formed and Mike Tollis was there, and a few other 6 folks were at those working group meetings along with regulators and representatives from the communities. 7 That was followed up by a workshop in September 2012, 8 9 where we specifically sought input on the wildlife 10 effects monitoring program. That input was included in 11 the submission we put on to the registry on October 12 4th, 2012.

13 Part of that monitoring program also included the effects of the winter road because we 14 15 heard there were concerns regarding hunting, increased 16 access of hunting, along the winter road. So there's a 17 recommendation in there -- and we hope folks from the 18 community will be part of the monitoring along the 19 winter road so we can understand if there's increased 20 access or increased pressure from hunting on -- along the winter road. 21

As well, we were asked by community members to include some information signs about conservation and hunting, if you are going to hunt from the winter road. And that was also included in the

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plan. 1 2 The plan didn't just focus on caribou, although it was a large component of that plan. 3 Ιt also included monitoring of grizzly bears and 4 5 wolverines. And when we were out at our workshop in 6 August, we showed you the type of program we wanted to 7 put in place for this summer. Ekati and Diavik are monitoring grizzly bears and wolverines using 8 9 scratching posts, where they collect the hairs and the 10 DNA from those scratching posts. And in the past we've used members from Lutsel K'e on that monitoring 11 12 program. 13 We also are going to be monitoring 14 birds. Although our knowledge from the other mine 15 sites indicate that the projects typically don't have 16 an effect on birds, we're going to undertake 17 monitoring. When we were doing our impact evaluation 18 we learned that the closest raptor nest was 18 19 kilometres away. But we'll continue to monitor both 20 raptors and upland birds at our site. That's a

21 commitment within our wildlife effects monitoring
22 program.

Also, other animals. When we were out at the site this summer a lot of folks noticed the musk so oxen that occurred in the area. We would be recording

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1 their presence at our site, as well as moose, wolves,
2 or any other wildlife, and putting that into a database
3 and recording everything that we see.

As part of that wildlife monitoring on the project site, we'll do a surveillance monitoring. So if we see a caribou at our site we're able to alert our mineworkers as well as our haul truck drivers it's time to slow down, there's caribou in the area.

9 We also looked at water and fish as part 10 of our impact assessment. And we -- we've undertaken 11 baseline studies in that area from 1996 to 2012, so we 12 have a long history of information not just within 13 Kennady Lake but also the downstream watershed.

14 We looked at flows and water levels. 15 And we've actually heard from the community of Lutsel K'e about the connection to the Hoarfrost River. 16 When we were out there in August we looked at the connection 17 18 between Kirk Lake and Fletcher Lake. And it was 19 suggested by Lutsel K'e that we involved the Water 20 Survey of Canada as part of that assessment. 21 They came out in September. They looked at the connection between Kirk Lake and Fletcher Lake. 22 23 Their preliminary assessment, which is on the public 24 registry, indicated there doesn't look like there's a

25 connection. But we -- they are going to do more

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detailed surveys on that area. As well, we'll be 1 monitoring along there. 2 3 In addition, we're monitoring water quality. And we've looked at water quality not only in 4 5 Kennady Lake but also in the downstream. We look at 6 plankton and benthics as the bugs in the water and the food that the fish eat. And we measured those not only 7 within Kennady Lake but also in the downstream because 8 9 they're an indicator of how healthy a water system is. 10 We looked at fish. And we also looked 11 at fish health, health of the fish, and took a baseline 12 of the fish that are not only in Kennady Lake but also in the downstream. 13 14 In terms of monitoring and mitigation, 15 when we came to the community in February, and also in 16 July, we talked about a fish-out, that we'll have to take the fish out of Kennady Lake before it can be 17 18 dewatered. We submitted that preliminary plan onto the 19 registry. 20 And what we heard during the August 21 community visits as well as our time in the community is Lutsel K'e would need to be involved. It should 22 23 include youth and Elders. And we also heard from other 24 community members that if we're going to do a fish-out 25 we need to ensure that it's timed in order to follow

other cultural activities or cultural events so we can
 maximize the use of that fish so that no fish coming
 out of Kennady Lake would be wasted.

We also developed our fish habitat 4 5 compensation plan. And we heard a lot about this, so 6 we changed it, and we added some additions. And we're also in discussions about -- with Lutsel K'e on some 7 alternatives for that fish habitat compensation plan. 8 9 What we submitted to the registry is still in draft. There's more work to be done. And the 10 decision on that final compensation plan would be an 11 12 authorization from Department of Fisheries and Oceans, 13 but we're wanting to work with Lutsel K'e on that one. 14 In addition, we are going to be 15 developing an aquatics effects monitoring program for 16 this project. And we'll be starting some meetings in 17 January in which we'd like to hear from the community 18 and include those so that we can understand where that 19 monitoring should occur, what we should be monitoring. 20 And that would be finalized as part of the water 21 licence phase of this project.

We didn't just look at the environment. We looked at people. And we looked at socioeconomic factors. Those factors that we included in our assessment came from the communities as part of the

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terms of reference, as part of the info process. 1 2 Some of the things that we looked at was the long-term social and cultural effects this project 3 would have, as well as family and community cohesion, 4 5 social disparity. We heard about the park from Chief Enzoe this morning. We assessed the impact of this 6 project on the park, which is 4 kilometres away, I 7 understand, the proposed boundary. 8 9 We looked at culture, heritage, and 10 archeology. We looked at employment and training and 11 scholarship funds. And as part of the monitoring and 12 mitigation plans for the socioec assessment, we 13 submitted that human resources strategy that included 14 those preliminary job descriptions onto the registry. 15 And we have our community liaison folks 16 who hopefully will review that should anyone from Lutsel K'e choose to work at our project site. This 17 18 doesn't just come with job descriptions. There's 19 training packages. There's scholarships. And, in fact, I heard from a member from Lutsel K'e who was 20 21 interested in applying for one (1) of those 22 scholarships. I passed along that information to her. 23 We also funded a traditional knowledge 24 study. It started in 2006. I understand that it's 25 well under way. And we're anxious to see the results

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of that project and interested to hear what Lutsel K'e 1 has to say. 2 3 We will sign a socioeconomic agreement with the GNWT for this project. And we'll be 4 5 transparent in our reporting of jobs, employment 6 opportunities, and business opportunities, as we always have been. 7 8 So finally, I'd like to thank you for 9 allowing us this time to present today. And we, too, look forward to hearing what the community of Lutsel 10 K'e has to say about this project to the panel. Thank 11 12 you very much. 13 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much. 14 The presentation from De Beers is complete. Our agenda 15 says we should stop and have lunch. It's nearly quarter after 1:00 (sic). So we will have lunch and 16 begin shortly after 1:00, depending on how things go 17 18 with the meal. 19 We are in a community, and it's usually 20 very appropriate that we give the Elders an opportunity 21 to eat first. So don't all rush up there right away. 22 Give the Elders an opportunity. And over the next 23 hour, let's eat together. And then we'll get back 24 together for the meeting. Thank you. 25

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32 --- Upon recessing at 12:13 p.m. 1 2 --- Upon resuming at 1:09 p.m. 3 4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Good afternoon, 5 everyone. The panel's compliments to the catering It was an excellent lunch. Thank you very 6 group. much. We're going to open it up to community speakers. 7 I have a list of eight (8) people in front of me. 8 Ι 9 know the list will grow. 10 We're going to have a short break for 11 coffee at three o'clock. And I understand that the 12 high-school students will be joining us after three 13 o'clock, so they will be here. So hopefully they'll be 14 -- some of them will be speaking to us. 15 And I know that counsel wants to have 16 some closing remarks around 5:30-ish, maybe, something 17 like that. And so we definitely want to give counsel 18 an opportunity to have closing remarks. And -- and I 19 will do closing remarks after that. 20 So, Councillor Marlow would like to make 21 a point. 22 MR. JAMES MARLOWE: Good afternoon. 23 Just a point of order, I guess. Some people, like 24 scientists, experts, people who have knowledge with 25 industry, they tend to use short-form words, acronyms.

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For an example would be some people when they refer to 1 the federal government of Canada or Indian Affairs they 2 -- they say, "AANDC." And sometimes they say in 3 regards to water effects monitoring program, they say, 4 "WEMP." 5 6 Those kind of words some of us do not understand, especially the Elders. So if the 7 delegation can say the full terms of what they mean and 8 9 not use short-term words. Thank you. 10 11 COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS: 12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, 13 Councillor Marlowe. An excellent point, and much 14 appreciated. It's good that you -- you got that in early so it would remind the technical people who may -15 - may speak, that they -- they have to shorten the --16 17 the -- or, explain fully what the acronym is, rather 18 than just using it. 19 So I -- my list of eight (8) begins with Tina Noel. So can we have Tina Noel either come to the 20 21 front of would she prefer a mic? CHIEF DORA ENZOE: Hello. She declined 22 23 to speak. She thought she was just writing her name 24 down for attendance. She didn't realize it was for 25 speaking.

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1 (BRIEF PAUSE) 2 3 Okay. I'm sorry. So THE CHAIRPERSON: we -- we had a sign-up sheet, and Tina signed up. She 4 5 didn't realize it was for speaking. So our next speaker then would be Pierre Marlowe. 6 7 8 (INTERPRETED INTO ENGLISH) 9 10 ELDER PIERRE MARLOWE: Yeah, we're 11 talking today here, the way we used to live back in the 12 old days, I've been on the land for all my life. 1937, 13 when my mother died, I travel with my father, all on the land. I live wonderfully on the land. I grew up 14 15 on it. That is why I have a lot of love for the land 16 and I hate to see the land get destroyed on me. I 17 cannot live on -- I cannot live on the land now or use 18 it as I used to, but I still have the love for the 19 land. 20 I'm sitting here today, I can't do very 21 much. But I can help them with the words and my 22 knowledge of the land. The land that is sitting out 23 there, there's everything that we need on the land to 24 provide for us. It's all there. Today, I can still 25 live on it, but they're mining diamonds now.

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You people cannot survive without the --1 without money. You need money to live. We also need 2 money to live. The land that's sitting out there, it 3 provides for us with everything. Our medicines come 4 5 from the land. The fish, the water, everything's that 6 good come -- comes from the land. The trees are good. 7 Everything -- the way it's going now, things might not be the same for the future. Even the 8 9 vehicle passing once, it changes the land. Day or night, there will be vehicles going to the mines. 10 Even one (1) plane landing has an effect. All the -- the 11 12 emissions from -- from the activities up there goes to the land. 13 14 We have to work the land. We can't say 15 no at this point. We can't say yes to you. We're 16 caught in between and we -- we don't know what to do 17 sometimes. Over seventy (70) years now, since I've 18 been on that land over there, I can't work on the land 19 anymore. I'm over eighty (80) years old now. What you 20 see here is my walking aid, that's all I can use now. 21 When I was seventeen (17) years old, I 22 used to travel all over that land. My legs were like 23 spring loaded in those days. I used to travel good. Ι 24 used to travel all over the place. Now the spring --25 the spring is broken in my legs, so I'm sitting down

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1 here. 2 We should -- I -- I should be getting some kind of compensation, but -- IBR or something for 3 my effort. I am talking for everybody in the future, 4 5 so the kids can survive on it in the future. Βv 6 myself, I certainly don't need very much. 7 There's a lot of children following us We love our children. I -- I raised six behind us. 8 9 (6) kids that were not my children, and that's because of my love for the children. Today they are behind me, 10 and I love them like my children, my own children. 11 I pray for them today. And I'm talking today here for 12 13 them. 14 The land we love, everything on the 15 land. Right now, we have no caribou. The caribou 16 don't come here anymore. All the mines -- since the mi -- opening of the mines, we had -- we have no caribou 17 18 today. The caribou are far to the east of us now. 19 They don't see us anymore. 20 It's a good thing that the wildlife 21 committees are getting money and -- and give us money 22 for gas and that so the kids travel to the barren lands 23 for caribou meat now. It's a long ways. We don't have 24 enough money for it. This -- everything is getting 25 really bad for us here.

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Kennady Lake is called -- called Gahcho 1 Kue. The fish that you're going to take out, where are 2 you going to put it? The fish are not going to be the 3 same. We are all the same people; but still, we don't 4 5 eat the same diet. 6 If -- if your diet was all I ate, I 7 probably wouldn't survive on it, and vice versa. My food wouldn't be good for you. It's the same with the 8 9 animals on the land. If their food changes, then they will change also. 10 11 I'm happy and I welcome you and I thank 12 you for coming here. I can't talk very long. I'm 13 short winded nowadays, so I can't talk as long as I 14 used to. And I thank you. I thank you all for coming 15 here. 16 17 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED) 18 19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, 20 Elder Pierre Marlowe. Our next speaker is, I only have 21 an initial, S. Basil, S. Basil. Sarah? Is it Sarah? 22 23 (BRIEF PAUSE) 24 25 MS. SARAH BASIL: Hello.

1	(BRIEF PAUSE)
2	
3	MS. SARAH BASIL: Hello. I'm Lutse K'e
4	Dene and I lived here all my life, in the Gahcho Kue
5	area. It's been the hunting grounds of our ancestors,
6	and we use it still today, although I have never went
7	out there for a long time. But there's people that go
8	out there hunting. And some people go trapping out
9	there. And it's we lived a really healthy life in
10	Lutsel K'e.
11	And in the winter, when people go out
12	there, they fish on that lake too, ice, with nets. And
13	today it's going to be fished out. I'm kind of
14	worried, because when you take something out of a place
15	where they are living, I wonder where the place that
16	if you are going to put them in a different lake, how
17	will it be for them, especially the fish because it's -
18	- they get used to the environment. It's not like the
19	animals. It's easy for them to die.
20	And that's one of our food chain that is
21	going to be gone. And the caribou also. And there's
22	small mammals like foxes, rabbits, and the fur-bearing
23	animals. And in the summer there's birds that come
24	back from south. And that's their breeding ground
25	around that area.

So it's very hard for me today that -to say to agree to everything. I have to understand and I have to -- to listen to what is going to happen. I know I've seen a lot of documentary about reclaiming lands. The land could be reclaimed and the animals could come back.

7 But our water source is the main thing, if there is contamination in the water. And the water 8 9 doesn't sit in one (1) place. There's runoffs from -from stockpiled rocks. When there's snow, lots of 10 snow, there's lots of runoffs. And how are you going 11 12 to contain all these water? Will it be safe in the 13 future? Will some animals go there and drink the 14 water?

15 And also the mud source, too, because 16 animals lick -- they eat salt. And they know where the natural salt is. And if they find something that's 17 18 salty, like the mud, they will lick it. Will they be 19 healthy after that? You know, all these -- from the tailing ponds, that's -- it's kind of worrying when 20 21 you're -- for a person like me, an Elder that grew up here and lived off the land all their -- all my life. 22 23 I don't know how many years, I say 24 eleven (11) years, but maybe I might not be here eleven 25 (11) years, because I'm an Elder. But for our future

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1 generation, the kids, how will they survive? I know a
2 lot of our -- our young people are going back on the
3 land.

So today is the only -- probably I would 4 5 like to see more hearings, I quess, before anything is 6 -- is signed. That's what I would like to -- I'd like to say. And the other thing is, when the people from 7 here go on a -- go to McLeod Bay, McLeod Lake, we hunt 8 9 around that area, too. And there's lots of little 10 rivers that go into the McLeod Lake and it's all coming 11 from up there.

12 So these too, if you are going to mine 13 you should have water sampling or water stations where 14 there's big rivers that run into McLeod -- McLeod Bay. 15 Because we want to be safe and we want to be healthy 16 people, as -- as our ancestors have been living off the 17 land. And this is what I wanted to say, and I thank 18 you for coming here to have this hearing with us. Masi 19 cho.

20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much 21 for your comments. Our next speaker is Albert Boucher. 22 23 (BRIEF PAUSE) 24 25 ELDER ALBERT BOUCHER: Good morning.

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41 Hello. Good afternoon -- good morning, I guess, I... 1 2 3 (INTERPRETED INTO ENGLISH) 4 5 MR. ALBERT BOUCHER: We gathered -when we gather like this we all say thank you to each 6 other, and hope that we would have a good meeting and 7 work together. I'd like to say thank you to the Elders 8 9 that are here -- Elders that are listening, Chief and council. 10 11 Also I'd like to say thank you to the 12 interpreters that communicate for us. That way we 13 communicate and listen to each other, and the people that are -- arrive here today. You're informing us as 14 15 to the work that has been done and what's going on. 16 When we gather like this I'm happy we 17 talk to each other and try -- I try to help anyway I 18 The youth that are coming today, you know, we try can. 19 to have something for them in the future. I think about them, talk about that a lot of times. 20 What I see in the mines -- I've attended 21 22 It's a big project. And a lot of the the mine. 23 environment, you know, is not going to be the same. 24 Sometimes it's very hard on me. Though we talk about 25 it sometimes we're not listened to. And sometimes, you

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know, from the other side they say things that are very 1 -- looks very good on paper. 2 3 I used to travel across. I know what -whatever we're being told today. It's a big project 4 5 like this. You know it's going to have an impact on 6 the environment. The -- the Dene are very concerned about the -- the impacts that it's going to have. It's 7 going to be very difficult, and we're very concerned 8 9 about it. 10 The fish that you're talking about were also -- also the -- what they feed on also what's going 11 12 to happen. You're going to drain the water, you know. 13 What's kind of impact that it's going to have on the fish and the -- the food chain. That's how I see it. 14 15 I've been thinking about it. 16 The land, a lot of our ancestors that used it, and we still do that today. We go hunting. 17 18 Caribou, small game. It -- migrate over there. And 19 then we used it as -- for our food. 20 The work that's going to take place, 21 it's -- it's huge. You can see that. And we're very concerned about it. You have to think about it for the 22 23 future. For our -- our children. Them, too, they can benefit. Us treaty people, we haven't surrendered our 24 25 lands and the agreements that have been made in the

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And past, we still have it. We haven't let go of it. 1 we have to use it. We can't let go of our culture. 2 And that's how we are today. 3 We -- usually we have caribou that 4 5 migrate here, and we used to go out -- we don't have to 6 go that far, and, you know, we can go out there and 7 hunt. But we can't do that today. Everybody knows today since the mines that are -- been put on our 8 9 traditional territory. 10 Now there's also -- it's getting much warmer now, too, also. And the caribou, we have to go 11 12 a long ways for it. Some of our -- our people, you 13 know, they -- their diet is only mainly caribou. We 14 have to go a long ways to go get it now. 15 It's very hard with just only five dollars (\$5). I mean, you can't buy anything with that 16 We're just waiting, you know, for the ice --17 today. 18 ice to -- to get hard, and we will go out to the barren 19 lands again. We have to buy gas. You know, it's very 20 expensive. And -- and, you know, our main source of 21 22 food is caribou, so that's -- even though it's a long 23 ways, we have to go out that way. We have to work together. If we help you where -- you know, whatever 24 25 you want here, you also have to help us.

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Just what I said when no -- when we are 1 gathered today, it's good to talk to each other. 2 Before, when people used to come here, in the 3 beginning, you know, they say really good things, 4 5 they're going to do this for us and it's all written 6 down. I know -- you know, when I say things... 7 Not too long ago, they have -- are going to put a mine here. Now we have to think about the 8 9 water and the fish, you know, that's all going to be In the beginning, you know, they'd say some 10 destroyed. -- they say good things. And today, you know, they 11 12 don't worry about us. A lot of things are like that 13 today. I've been thinking about this. 14 In Yellowknife it's the same thing, you 15 know, what's going on over there. Now -- now we'd --16 it's very -- getting difficult for us, even in 17 Yellowknife. You know, we have an a -- an agreements, 18 but some of those agreements are -- are broken. I know 19 one (1) airline, the Arctic Sunwest, you know, we'd --20 suppose to work together, but things are changed now. 21 In a mine, that's going to happen, even before we can agree that we should have it written 22 23 down, you know, the kind of how we're going to work 24 together. And today, that's -- that's how we're going 25 to do it. If something is not -- not right, you know,

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1 we've got to talk about it.

2	If it's not a good thing for us, then
3	we're going to have to say it, thinking about it,
4	thinking about discussion, listening to people. There
5	a drainage of of the water, that that it's a big
6	thing. It's huge. They're going to drain the lake.
7	And what's going to happen to to some of the the
8	wildlife, the fish? I'm thinking about it.
9	The children that is following us.
10	They're going to be doing the same thing as we're
11	doing, the hunting and and so on. Some of our kids,
12	they go out trapping. And they're going to they're
13	going to keep that. We're going to have a place for
14	them. But if something you know, it's not there
15	anymore, then what's going to happen to them? We have
16	to think about it and how we're going to come to some
17	kind of an agreement.
18	That's why what I'm thinking I'm I'm
19	telling you. I'm going to have to to mention this.
20	In the beginning, I I looked the third visit that
21	I'd attended, good water. I used to travel there, too,
22	also. Elder my uncle I used to to go with him
23	in the winter. January 1st we used to travel that
24	area, very beautiful area. We were travelling by Ski-
25	Doo.

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We'd also had the opportunity to travel 1 with a helicopter and it's our traditional territory. 2 You know, the geese, and they'd lay their eggs and 3 they'd fly over there all summer. And then they come 4 5 back this way again. And, you know, we -- we also use as -- as -- for food. And if they, you know, they --6 they get -- get sick, you know, and we would know it. 7 You know, there's a lot of sewage. 8 9 And BHP, too, you know, there are people 10 from Rae, you know, they -- they talk about that. Your -- a lot of sewage, you know, that's a -- there's a 11 12 drainage and it goes into -- into the mud. And one of 13 the Elders that travelled over there and was talking to 14 us, there is -- there is a sewer that was out -- going 15 out on -- on to the -- to the mud. And the caribou was -- was feeding off that and they looked real sick, he 16 17 was telling us. 18 And I'm thinking about that today. It's 19 not going to only that, but there's going to be other 20 mines that are going to come in. And we have to talk 21 about these things, if it's not going to be right for 22 We look at a lot of things as Elders. us. We know 23 that there's going to be changes. We know that. 24 And there's also, you know, the wind. 25 You know, there's emissions that -- that goes on. And,

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1 you know, these animals, they feed off that. How are 2 they going to protect that? And after, you know, the 3 project is in operation it's going to be very 4 difficult. That's why, you know, if we can have some 5 good protection, our people also work with them, maybe 6 that's the way to go.

Fish also. In the beginning, you know, before -- before the mine is in operation, you know, they should have really good baseline study and look at the fish, you know. And then when the -- when the mine is in operations, you know, they should be able to monitor the fish, too, also. We -- we want to know about these things if something is gone wrong.

And the water, you know, you have to work very carefully with it. Even the drainage, you know, from -- from the sewage and you've got to monitor that. There's a lot of things, you know, that are -if you -- you drink tea today, you know, some of our -when we drink or we make our tea, like, you know, it gets really dark.

Fish, you know, and all these things that are in the lake, you know, those are very, very concern. If you think about it, there's a lot of -- a lot of things that you're concerned about, because this area is very huge at this project that you're talking

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1 about.

2 If the water is spoiled and if it started to drain down McLeod Lake, and then it also 3 goes out to Artillery Lake and then it flows down, you 4 5 know, when you go there, that water is very clear. And 6 that's -- that's how we use that water that way. And we don't want anything happen to that water, you know. 7 Anywhere we go we drink water from the lake and we make 8 9 tea, you know, and it's very clear. And if it's all 10 destroyed, then what's going to happen? And it's going 11 to get very hard for us. 12 Before that happens, we need to ask you, 13 you know, you've got to protect these things. We're 14 gathered here today, you know, we -- we think about 15 that. 16 I'm -- I'm thinking about the Mackenzie 17 Valley, the people that are -- that are there. I'm --18 I'm thinking about that. We don't have any 19 participation from this community, but there is people that are that are from outside, you know. They don't 20 21 understand this area. They don't know about the water 22 on this area. And there's -- somebody else is kind of 23 controlling us. If we had some participation from this community maybe they can bring back and tell us what is 24 25 going on. But they did ask about this before, and

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nobody listened to me. 1 2 You -- we have -- there's a lot of things that we need to talk about when -- when we're 3 gathered like this. We let you know what, you know, 4 5 are important that things that you need to -- to take 6 care of. I'm happy -- opportunity to -- to speak here. I speak on behalf of the youth and -- and the people 7 that are here. 8 9 But some of yous, you know, you're going to have to have documents. You know, that's -- that's 10 how you do things. Now we -- we need money. You can't 11 12 move without money. You can't do anything. The mine, 13 you know, even though they make a lot of money, you 14 know, the people that are going to be left behind, it's 15 us that are going to be here. You know, our 16 environment is not going to be the same. And the 17 people that benefit is from -- from the outside. 18 They're not going to think about, you 19 know, what they left behind. But before this happens, 20 the project happens, you know, that's why we're here, to make sure that things are done right. 21 22 I talked -- you know, I -- I mentioned 23 that I want to say thank you. My name is Albert 24 Boucher. I'm an Elder on behalf of the community. And 25 when we have a gathering like this, you know, I'd also

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50 voice my concern. Thank you. 1 2 3 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED) 4 5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Albert. 6 Masi. George Marlowe...? 7 8 (BRIEF PAUSE) 9 10 THE CHAIRPERSON: There -- would that -11 - what do you call that thing? Would that help? Elder 12 George Marlowe wants a map. 13 14 (BRIEF PAUSE) 15 16 MS. VERONICA CHISHOLM: I think we can 17 -- Veronica Chisholm, from De Beers. Would -- can we 18 set up the projector because we do have the maps 19 digitally that we could project that George could speak 20 to? Great. Thank you. 21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Sure. We'll 22 wait for the map. 23 24 (BRIEF PAUSE) 25

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ELDER GEORGE MARLOWE: Masi. Before I begin, I want to thank everybody and -- a maybe I'll tell a little jokes first cause I always like to tell jokes about anybody, White people or Dene people or not.

6 When I was in residential school way back in the '50s to '55, my little friend, James, was 7 there. And I'm the oldest one, so I have to look after 8 him, to dress him up every morning. And he really be 9 cranky, really cranky; really gets me mad. He really 10 gets me mad, him and Tony (phonetic) -- what is Tony's 11 12 name now? I forgot Tony -- Evans (phonetic), Tony 13 Evans. Two of them, I used to look after those two 14 boys. But anyway, now he's sitting right there now, 15 after being MLA, everything. He went to school. 16 Residential school is bad, but look at what he did, 17 real good for people.

18 Before I begin, I'll talk about myself a 19 bit. When my Uncle Pierre was talking, it's true. My 20 uncle was a -- ahead of me, work on the land way back in '37. But me, I'm after him. I start after -- after 21 22 '50s. After '55 maybe, I start to go there with dog teams. If only me, I'll never go there. As my uncle, 23 24 Noel Drybone (phonetic), was alive, I have to go with 25 him with the dog team.

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1 That's how I -- I know this lake. Again, it's not true. And without Noel and me, we're 2 not going to know the lake. The account of -- that 3 person's name is Rick Noist (phonetic). You all know 4 5 Rick Noist. He used to work for government, poisoning 6 wolves at the time. Somehow about around here, this area, he shot some caribou. In '50s -- '59 -- 1959. 7 That's how we went to that lake. We didn't even know 8 9 Gahcho Kue or anything; no name, nothing. 10 But I would use dog team and went there. 11 I follow my Uncle Noel, I follow Rick Noist, I follow 12 late Joel -- Chief Joel Lockhart (phonetic), and me --13 Antoine Michelle (phonetic) were small, me and Henry 14 Catholique, were behind them. But anyway, we made it 15 to that lake. That's how I know that lake. Right away, as soon as I landed with the plane, I know that 16 17 lake, I was there already with the dog team. 18 And then not to long ago, in '81/'82, 19 you couldn't see the Fletcher Lake there. Some of 20 those boys are here. I see Alfred Catholique, Antoine 21 Michelle, Larry Fatt (phonetic), Fred Anita (phonetic). 22 There's about ten (10) Ski-Doos. We had a big camp 23 there by Fletcher Lake. They come. 24 And from there, every morning the boys 25 called all the directions, all over, for about -- I

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know Tommy (phonetic), Tommy -- all that here -- Tommy 1 Lockhart (phonetic) was there too. So we work on that 2 land. It's beautiful land. End every morning you go 3 down, there's no water. Every morning you go down to 4 5 the lake, chop ice, make tea, coffee, you boil 6 anything. Maybe you boil meat. Every morning, us --7 us boys to go down to the lake. That's what all the travellers do that. They go down to the lake, take 8 9 ice. That's what we've been doing there, beautiful 10 land.

11 But now, it's going to be a mine now. 12 For me, I heard that complain about the fish. I know 13 it. But for me, it's -- it's not like BHP. I work at BHP right from beginning. Diavik, it's different from 14 15 Diavik. The stockpile, different from that, BHP and 16 Diavik. The reason why I'm saying these two big stockpiles, they'll be 300 feet high. And then that's 17 18 -- I use the lake here, the water. They drain that 19 water, they're going to put stockpile there. 20 You don't put a stockpile here or look 21 at the nice ground here. Like BHP, that's what they

22 did there. For me, I didn't like it. I talk about it,23 but they keep doing that.

And mostly this -- from a pit -- that's 25 a 50/34 pit. You take this out, you're going to use it

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for -- all these roads, for dike. You start from here, 1 dike A, every one (1) of them from -- from 50/34, which 2 is nice, a good way of doing things like that. 3 4 You don't spread anywhere. From one (1) 5 spot, you take it out, you use it for a reason, a good reason. And the fish, there's a dike there, a dike 6 there, a dike there. You're going to -- the fish in 7 that Kennady lake, it's a shallow lake. And I don't 8 9 know how the fish survive in the wintertime. I don't 10 know. 11 I'm not an expert on that one, because I 12 know the barren land water, the lake, ice goes too 13 thick. Maybe 6 feet, maybe more. I don't know, 14 because all winter the lake, everyone one of them, 15 hardly any snow in there. Mostly bare ice. It's not 16 like here. You got about 2 feet of snow on the -- on 17 the lake here, Great Slave Lake maybe. But out there's 18 it's different. 19 So the ice gets thick. But the fish in 20 there, I don't know where they come from but I -- I 21 know -- I think I know where they come from. In the summertime lots of little streams that fish travel 22 23 around. One time -- that's -- I think there's a camp here or something -- I forgot where is the camp. 24 But 25 we flew with a chopper to this lake, I think, and we

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seen a little stream. We look at the fish and a little 1 stream. You could see the chopper. It's only 10 feet 2 high. And we stopped, we looked at the fish down there 3 4 in the water. 5 For me, that -- that -- where we 6 stopped, that creek going that way, you can't tell --7 it's going towards Fletcher Lake for me but -- and the mine, it's going -- itself is going to be -- it's only 8 9 fifteen (15) years, I'd say. Not long. 10 But the way they going to do -- they're going to do things, I work on the mine already. I got 11 a little bit of experience from BHP. This one, it's 12 13 much better than other mine. Really good ideas, a lot 14 of ideas. And they said last time when we talk about 15 that fish just for a little while I went there. 16 Remember Exportel (phonetic), there's a Metis there, Tlicho there. And Florence was supposed 17 18 to be there, but they walk out. But at that time we 19 said -- some people said, We should take the fish out, 20 take all the fish, clean it real good, give it -- give 21 it to somebody else. Might be -- anywhere, lots of 22 Dene people. Maybe High Level. Maybe it's a good 23 idea. 24 For me it's good, not wasting fish. 25 Instead of -- you take this fish out, you put it here

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1 in other lakes. Maybe it's not good for me. So you
2 take the fish out, put it somewhere else. Give it to
3 somebody. It's nice -- good fishing to eat. You don't
4 have to pay for it. The people want to fish in High
5 Level maybe. Lots of Dene people there around the lake
6 there.

7 Maybe Peace River, Edmonton Hospital, That's what I'm thinking, instead of waste, 8 anywhere. 9 give it away for -- put it in a different lake. Thev might get -- you don't know if -- you don't know if 10 11 they're going to get sick or not. Then my friend over 12 there, wa -- water, yeah. We have all people will get 13 there. They will find anything sick.

Before anything happen, I said already we had Elders meeting along Lutsel K'e people, those young people, should be trained right now from today. Make them work every two (2) weeks around that lake. Every two (2) weeks, young boys will be trained for wildlife. Every day they'll be walking around that area.

So those people will be protecting for us too. That's -- that's what I'm thinking, me. Me, I'm not going to be there. I'm old now. Already I have been there with the dog team. And then not many people in here work in that -- on that land like --

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like I did. Pierre did it before me. I'm after 1 2 Pierre. 3 I know Madeleine -- Auntie Madeleine 4 Drybone (phonetic), over there, they were staying at 5 Cook Lake, not too far, with this family. Eddie --Eddie's someplace here. And those two (2) girls, 6 Arlene and Mary, they are someplace there, too. 7 8 Them, they work there. And they go back and forth with a dog team. Fort Reliance, Cook Lake, 9 10 that's where they go, Fletcher Lake. The last people 11 to travel on that land is Madeleine Drybone. They are 12 still alive, but Noel is gone. But Eddie's -- Eddie's 13 here, and two (2) other girls. Those are the last 14 ones. 15 That's why I like to -- I'd like to 16 speak on this one here. The way design made, when -after fifteen (15) years, the closure will be much 17 18 easier, whoever is alive, much easier for them to speak 19 on that, because the really nice design it's made. 20 This is something -- I like the idea. 21 I said again, it's not like BHP. They 22 put all kind of stockpile on the land where the caribou 23 used to come before. But here it's different. It used 24 to be underwater. But it'll be high though. Maybe it's good for caribou again. Maybe the caribou will go 25

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1 on top of that hill.

2 But when you make a stockpile -- the last time we talk about, I want it smooth all the way 3 around, all the way around, not like a ladder, so any 4 5 animal come to any direction, they will just go up. 6 And then put that crusher or something smooth, like 7 sand, so there's no rocks. Make it smooth so any animals who go up, that might be something be growing 8 9 on top, maybe grass or anything. That's what this design is -- it's a very good ideas. Any person that 10 works in the mine, I'm pretty sure they'll say this is 11 12 a good idea. But again, one thing I'm going to ask 13 that table here, when they talk about water next week, I want to be there. I want at least four (4) Elders. 14 That will pay for it, that will pay for plane fare, 15 that will pay for hotel, high-class hotel, because 16 17 we're old. 18 Thank you very much. 19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, 20 George Marlowe. Our next speaker is Addie Jonasson. I 21 hope I've said that reasonably well. Addie...? 22 23 (BRIEF PAUSE) 24 25 MS. ADDIE JONASSON: Good afternoon.

1 My name is Addie Jonasson. I'm a Lutsel K'e Dene 2 member and a health and social services worker here in 3 the community. I'm going to take the opportunity to 4 make a presentation to the panel today on the impacts 5 of the proposed Gahcho Kue mine project. And this is 6 from the perspective of health and social services 7 workers in the community.

8 A new diamond mine is being proposed in 9 our traditional Dene Tsuu T'ina territory. With new 10 mining development come the promises of increase 11 employment, economic development opportunities, and increase cash flow for our community of Lutsel K'e. 12 13 These promises need to be carefully examined. Will the 14 cumulative impacts of the Gahcho Kue project really 15 benefit our community, or will the negative effects 16 outweigh the benefits?

17 Lutsel K'e was impacted and continues to 18 be impacted by development of diamond mines in the 19 areas of health, wellness, and cultural and traditional 20 well-being. After development of the first diamond 21 mine, BHP, and the first impact benefit agreement 22 sixteen (16) years ago, three (3) diamond mines, three 23 (3) IBAs later, Lutsel K'e has not realized benefits in 24 terms of employment, training, and businesses as agreed 25 to in the IBAs.

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Even with three (3) mines currently 1 2 operating in our traditional territory, we only have a handful of community members with steady jobs at these 3 mines. The statstic -- statistics, in terms of 4 5 employment, are not very encouraging. There are a 6 number of reasons for this trend. 7 The idea of mining the land is against the cultural values of Dene people. It is seen as 8 9 disrespectful to the land and animals. It devalues community members' sense of self and limits personal 10 11 and cultural growth. 12 Yes, we do need employment 13 opportunities, but we need meaningful, fulfilling 14 employment opportunities and development in sustainable 15 areas. One (1) such area, for example, could be eagle 16 tourism. But the prospects of being successful in the 17 business venture in that area are being gravely 18 diminished by the impacts of mining development on the 19 land and the animals. 20 We are living in a family-oriented 21 community and culture. The work cycle of two (2) weeks 22 in, two (2) weeks out, contributes to the deterioration 23 of family structures and creates-single parent 24 families. 25 Presently we have a large number of

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employable community members that are unable to secure 1 2 jobs at a mine site due to the barriers created by criminal records. We also have reports of community 3 members feeling that they are being discriminated 4 5 against when working at the mine sites. Both male and female workers felt that the Southern workers were 6 7 prejudiced against Aboriginal workers. 8 Regardless of employment statistics, 9 with the opening of a new mine, there will be an increased cash flow coming into the community, even 10 11 without steady jobs for our community members. This 12 could be from casual, short-term employment 13 opportunities or from IBAs. We do have a need for improved infrastructure and have serious housing issues 14 15 that need to be addressed. 16 If the funds flowing into the community would be from royalties, then ideally the community 17 18 would be able to develop long-term plans as how these 19 funds should be invested to benefit the community at 20 large. 21 Mining royalties could provide more opportunities to create productive employment and 22 23 develop programs while getting away from being 24 dependant on government programs and being forced to 25 operate within their policies.

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However, at the present time, we lack
 the infrastructure to even deal with it -- the influx
 of money. The lack of banking services is a big
 problem. Workers come out of the mines with sizable
 cheques and nowhere to spend it. There are no banking
 facilities in Lutsel K'e, and the Co-op store is the
 only place to go shopping.

8 Unless people have bank accounts for 9 direct deposits and good credit ratings to be able to have credit cards, they end up with a lot of cash in 10 their hands, with nothing to spend it on but alcohol, 11 12 drugs, and gambling. Alternatively, people can go to 13 Yellowknife and do their banking there or cash their cheques there. Either way, in most cases, we don't see 14 15 a benefit to the families.

With the increased cash flow from the 16 17 diamond minds, we have myth -- witnesses more expensive 18 and addictive drugs coming into Yellowknife and, from 19 there, into the communities. These highly addictive drugs, such as crack cocaine, also bring along 20 21 increased criminal activity. Families in the community 22 have been impacted by these drugs. 23 Alcohol use, abuse, bootlegging, and

24 drug trafficking is on the rise in Lutsel K'e,
25 affecting everyone that lives in the community and

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creating a rippling effect on all aspects of well-being 1 of community members, including elder abuse, family 2 violence, school attent -- poor school attendance, and 3 child protection issues. 4 5 The history of any sudden influx of 6 money, such, as for example, IBA pay -- payouts to 7 community members in the past, has directly resulted in increased activity at the health centre, due to 8 9 increased drinking and drugging activities whenever the 10 payouts are being made. 11 We live in a community with a high rate 12 of post-traumatic stress disorder stemming from issues such as sexual abuse and residential school 13 14 experiences. These traumatic experiences have resulted 15 in high rates of mental health issues: addiction, 16 suicide, suicide attempts, and high-risk families. 17 More money in the community without the 18 gad -- gradual increase in infrastructure and a way to 19 deal with the core of the problems will only make 20 matters worse. 21 In terms of cultural and traditional 22 lifestyle of the community, the cumulative impacts of 23 the three (3) diamond minds have adversely impacted the 24 caribou migration as we see it. And the development of 25 a new mine will only increase this trend. The caribou

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no longer frequent the area on -- around or near the 1 community. A family that is used to have -- having 2 caribou meat as a staple food is no longer able to, and 3 hunters have to travel many kilometres from the 4 5 community to bring meat home. 6 Families are struggling on a daily basis 7 due to high cost of living and not -- can not depend solely on groceries purchased at the local Co-op store. 8 9 Store-bought groceries here are expensive, and often the healthier choices are not available. A decrease in 10 11 traditional foods will result in increased health 12 problems, such as diabetes and obesity, for our 13 population. 14 With the proposed mine, the people will 15 no longer be able to use the proposed Gahcho Kue area 16 for traditional pursuits, such as camping, hunting, trapping, and as travel routes. In fact, the proposed 17 18 development effectively nullifies nearby trap lines, 19 both by chasing away the animals by -- and by interrupting the line itself. 20 21 Traditional land use and activities are 22 major proponents of good physical and mental health. 23 With the impact on the caribou herds we have to 24 seriously be concerned with the eventual loss of the

25 lifestyle and how this loss will impact the community

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in every facet of mental, physical and spiritual well being.

The erosion of caribou habitat will also further decrease the ability of the Dene Tsuu T'ina people to be self-sustaining and increase dependence on government programs. We understand that the proposed development will impact the Lockhart River and potentially cause contamination of the waters in that area.

De Beers has a long history of not complying with environmental regulations and not caring for the land upon which the mine sits. This particular history is a significant concern as any chemical runoff contaminant -- contaminants in the water system will flow through the Lockhart River, where the spiritual site, the Lady of the Falls, is located.

17 The people of Lutsel K'e make a pri --18 pilgrimage every year to this site to ask for healing. 19 The potential of contaminated water flowing through such an important ancestral and spiritual site is a 20 21 significant concern for the mental and spiritual health 22 of the community and is simply unacceptable. 23 In conclusion, learning from past 24 experiences, we have seen that with little or no 25 meaningful employment from the diamond mines, the

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1 development of the mines have not changed the community
2 for betterment and well-being. But in reality, it has
3 caused hardship and heartaches.

In fact, the development of the diamond mines have contributed to social problems within the community of Lutsel K'e, social problems that come along with resource development, such as increased availability of hard drugs and, by extension, increased criminal activity.

10 The people here call themselves the Dene 11 Tsuu T'ina, meaning the origin of people at the land. 12 The Dene Tsuu T'ina have an innate connection with the 13 land. And it's -- it's this connection that is being 14 threatened by the increased mining activities on the 15 land.

16 In addition, we have a large entourage here today with many specialists in attendance. 17 18 However, it is important that the community know that 19 the specialists are policy makers. It is their job --20 it is their job to make the Gahcho Kue project happen, 21 and the bottom line is money. 22 Finally, all statements made today 23 should take into consideration the effects of the deci 24 -- decision on the seventh generation yet to come. In 25 seven (7) generations, the mines and the jobs will be

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long gone, but the effects of this development on our 1 families, community, land, water and animals will still 2 be felt. 3 From a mental, physical and spiritual 4 5 health and well-being perspective, we see no choice 6 than to oppose the proposed Gahcho Kue project in its 7 entirety. Marci cho. 8 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much 9 for that presentation. The next speaker I have is Jake 10 Basil. 11 12 (BRIEF PAUSE) 13 14 MR. JAKE BASIL: Hi. My name is Jake 15 Basil. I'm a youth that has lived here in Lutsel K'e 16 for about maybe seventeen (17) years, sixteen (16) 17 And growing up here it was -- it was very nice. years. 18 I'm fortunate to have fresh drinking water and have 19 grandparents to teach me the Dene ways and my tradition and culture. 20 21 It's very important for us. And every 22 year we've been going to Ts'ak'ui Theda, Lady of the 23 Falls. That's a picture. It's -- it's very sacred to 24 That's part of our spirituality, our culture and us. 25 traditions. And it's where we go to get help, to get

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1 physical and spiritual healing. Before -- I think
2 that's very important for us and we should protect it
3 the best way we can.

Before there was no mines around here, we used to get caribou just in this bay here, believe it or not. And we didn't have to go miles or 50 kilometres away to get it, you know. We didn't have to drive down to the barren lands, it was just right outside our door. I kind of miss those days. You didn't have to go far.

11 But ever since they had mines and opened 12 up new mines the caribou had to mi -- migrate further 13 away from us. And it makes us -- harder for us to 14 harvest it and to live off it. Growing up here on --15 on the land and going hunting and fishing, I really 16 connected. Like, I found my identity here and I would like to see the future generations to be able to enjoy 17 18 the land as I did, the tradition and the cultures and 19 the Dene ways and the teachings.

20 When I was growing up, it was always my 21 dream to -- to go out on the land and, you know, go 22 hunting and trapping. And now that I'm done high 23 school and I could fulfill that dream. But now I'm 24 hunting out and harvesting and I'm trapping. And I 25 wish I could continue to do that for several years to

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come, to harvest that caribou, to eat the fish from the 1 lake, healthy fish, the clean water. And I hope one 2 (1) day I could pass that down to my kids and their 3 kids and the next generation to come. 4 5 You know, I don't -- I wouldn't want no 6 more mines around here, you know. I don't want to push 7 the caribou farther and farther away from us. That's not good. They're going to get too far away, maybe we 8 9 can't hunt them. 10 And I don't want to pollute that water up there, that Lady of the Falls water. It's a sacred 11 12 place and that's something -- something major, you 13 know. We should fight for that. I really love the 14 land. It's a big thing for me and for all of us Dene 15 people here, the Lutsel K'e people, the First Nations 16 people. 17 Money is money, you know. Sometimes 18 it's not good. Us, we could live without money. And 19 all we need is our family and our land and our caribou, 20 our fish and our water. I don't know what to say. I 21 don't know what else to say, but, you know, I just -- I 22 guess that's all I have to say right now. I don't --23 I'm kind of nervous, so thank you. 24 25 (BRIEF PAUSE)

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1 2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Well, thank you very much, Jake. The panel was looking forward to hearing 3 from younger people. And I understand we will hear 4 5 from more after the next coffee break. 6 Our next speaker is Mary Rose Enzoe. 7 8 (BRIEF PAUSE) 9 10 MS. MARY ROSE ENZOE: Hello. It's on? 11 My name is Mary Rose Enzoe. I live here all my life 12 since I was a little kid. Okay. Masi. 13 14 (INTERPRETED INTO ENGLISH) 15 16 MS. MARY ROSE ENZOE: ...say a few words. When I was younger and my ancestors, my an --17 18 my family -- actually I wasn't born here but out in the 19 bush. One (1) year just during the holidays we lived 20 across Narrow Island. When -- when we got back there 21 we'd stay til the spring, and then later on then we're 22 back up to Beaulieu River. Then in the summer we'd go 23 to Yellowknife. And that's how we did things back 24 then. 25 Now -- now there's a few mines that are

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1 in operation, and people are saying there's no impact 2 on the environment but I don't believe that. My father 3 used to be out around that area. And also with the --4 with the Yellowknives, they'd go out there and they 5 used to fish and camp, the Elders.

6 Also they'd gather berries, and that's what I remembered with my mother. That's what we used 7 There's all sort of berries that we gather. to do. 8 9 The Elders up in Yellowknife, also the -- the impact of -- of the mine that's been put there, you can't drink 10 water, you can't go out and get berries. If you want 11 12 to gather berries then you have to go further out on --13 onto the islands.

14 And the impact that -- that's happened 15 with the mine that is put in Yellowknife. If we are 16 going to -- to work on something -- even though we don't have much, we'd survive out on the land. Even 17 18 the garbage that -- we don't leave any garbage behind. 19 Make sure we bring -- bring it back or we burn it, and 20 that's how we do things. Even today we still do stuff like that. 21 22 We talk about the mines here today. Ιf

23 you're going to do a good job, make sure that the 24 environment is protected. It's okay if you can do 25 that.

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The -- we think about the animals 1 because it's our diet, our food, such as caribou, fish, 2 The animals, you know, we're quite concerned 3 moose. about that. We can't do without it. The Elders, you 4 5 know, it would be very hard for them. 6 What I'm very concerned about, the --7 the youth. A lot of youth in the community, just one (1) -- there -- the one (1) just spoke just now. 8 They 9 -- they make money out in the mines. And sometime they have social problems. And that's right, that -- that's 10 what's happening today. 11 12 Maybe it's be -- we know that the mines, 13 you know, there's employment. People are not employed 14 as much. If they get employment, some of them, they have a family, maybe they're going to benefit because 15 16 of the mine. Maybe they can buy things for themselves, such as boats and so on. 17 18 We're going to have to try to help our 19 youth. If they can get employment, you know, it would 20 be good. Elders, they -- they don't need employment. 21 There's not too many of us now, Elders, but the youth, 22 that's what we got to focus on. We have to try and 23 have something for them. 24 That's why we -- Elders, you know, speak 25 on behalf of our youth, for the next generation and the

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generation to come, hopefully that they can benefit. 1 And that's why we're talking like this. But Elders, 2 you know, we can't work in the mines or anything like 3 that. 4 5 Sometimes we go out -- go out into the 6 bush. You know, we can set snares. And once in a while, we have fish net. But our children, you know, 7 we got to think about those, hopefully that they can be 8 9 employed. And if we can work with them we will be

10 thankful.

I'm thinking like that. The spiritual
place that we have, Deh Cho Ada (phonetic) up in the
Lockhart River, we dearly love very much. The -- every
summer we gather. It's very beautiful around there.
We are very happy when we go back there. We -- we pray
out there. And it's very important to us.

We -- here, you know, sometimes it gets very cold, but we still go out on the land in the winter with our children. You know, wherever there's caribou, we go out there and harvest. We still do that. There's not too many of us, but we still go ahead and do that.

We try to teach them on the land make -we try to help them. The youth -- the youth now, they're more into the society. It's modern. They kind

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of don't understand their culture that much because 1 they're more educated in that system. 2 3 The -- education -- and sometimes they don't participate. It would be good if they can get 4 5 educated and get a good job later on in the future. 6 They can finish their grade 12. 7 We -- even though we have some of our -our kids, you know, they'd finished their school, grade 8 9 12, and they're not working. They're not getting any They probably need training on how -- you know, 10 job. 11 what is needed out in the mine. And they probably can 12 do a good job there, too, also. 13 If you can help the youth that way, I'd 14 be happy. Thank you. 15 16 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED) 17 18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, 19 Mary Rose. Our next speaker is Ernest Boucher. 20 21 (BRIEF PAUSE) 22 23 MR. ERNEST BOUCHER: ...down at Diavik. 24 So anyway, I been working for the DFO for I don't know 25 how many years. I know how the fish looks like. I

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1 could tell. If it's no good, I could tell you. But 2 some of the guys there, I don't know who came in from 3 who -- from where. And maybe some of you guys know me 4 -- who -- who I am. Because I worked for DFO for quite 5 a while now.

6 George Drew (phonetic) started me out 7 first. Then I seen a lot of wildlife, environment 8 manager, come through here. They come and make money, 9 they're gone. Same thing as all the diamond mines I 10 guess. I used to work for Ekati in Misery (phonetic). 11 And then I went back here and I've been around here for 12 all my life.

And they started sending me down to Diavik. The first time they ever -- I been to Diavik was years back, when they have the exploration camp. There was nothing there, just the little tent frames they had. That's all they had at that time. Look at them, now, Diavik.

19 The same thing as Snap Lake. I was the 20 first guy who used to go there with -- same thing as 21 Gahcho Kue. I don't know why people call it Kennady 22 Lake. Our language, it's Chipewyan, pure Chipewyan, 23 that's what we are. They call it Gahcho Kue. That's a 24 big her -- rabbit. That's what -- that's what it is. 25 Now I heard that -- I'm a CBC reporter,

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1 too, and I heard this morning what Antoine -- Antoine
2 Buckets (phonetic) was saying, what this woman there.
3 They couldn't -- they couldn't really pronounce it,
4 Gahcho Kue. I don't know who she is.

5 But anyway, I been -- what I'm saying is about caribou. I been on the ice road from Yellowknife 6 7 to Ekati, Diavik, Snap. One (1) year -- since last year we didn't go to Snap. I went through there. 8 All 9 this caribou there. How many of you guys go through after the ice road was built? Every second year I go 10 11 over there. I never did seen caribou on the ice road. 12 All you could see was ravens and fox. That's going to 13 happen in the future from Snap to Gahcho Kue. They're 14 going to have a ice road in the future. That's where -15 - all the caribou migrate right through there.

For the last I don't know how many years now, the caribou been moving east and west from Ekati. Because I did a lot of monitoring up there with a chopper. What George saying, he's right. I have seen caribou there, Ekati, just hanging around. There's a little bit of grass over there. That's what they're feeding from.

And the water, it wouldn't overflow north -- northeast side of the bank, Ekati. I was there. Not too many guys knows that. They were still

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working when I got there. And if you're -- that dike 1 you guys are talking about down at Gahcho Kue, the 2 water is strong. After you're through with it, what 3 are you going to do after you take the fish out to --4 5 to the next lake? You -- instead of north -- north, you go 6 south, it's so hot for you. That's going to happen to 7 the fish when you move it to next lake. Instead of 8 9 same feeding, the meals are different. 10 That's what it is but some of you guys 11 figure the fish will move to the next lake, it's not 12 the same feeding as that -- that lake, Gahcho Kue lake. 13 Next lake, it's pretty hard to understand that. 14 What George was saying, give the fish to 15 the people. What I'm -- what I'm thinking about, take 16 the youth -- Treaty 8, no matter from where, especially from here, bring them over there in summertime. 17 Take 18 the fish out, make a dry fish, get use out of it. Then 19 we'll be something to talk about. 20 We don't know how many fish in that 21 lake, we don't know. Even Stark lake over here, we 22 don't know how many fish, it's over populated, too much 23 That's why they're sick. There are mercury now. fish. 24 In the future, what's going to happen 25 down there, we don't know how -- after the mine is

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finished, you going to put the fish back in that lake? 1 I don't think so. That's a big lake, I've been there. 2 I don't know how many years ago we went right through 3 to -- from here to there with 17 skidoos. 4 5 Yeah, there's something to understand 6 you guys. Outsiders, they come here, they talk about a mine that's going to be good. Yeah, you see that good, 7 your papers, you do that in office. That's our land, 8 9 we're sitting down here. You guys, white people come 10 over here, We're going to do this, we're going to do 11 that, and it's going to be good. 12 In the future for young generation, what 13 is going to happen? We don't know. The land you spoil 14 can never be the same. They way I look at it, you guys 15 know it too because I've been working for environment -16 - 14 years, I've been sitting under wildlife environment, I know how -- how government operate. 17 18 First time, Ekati, they make a partnership with Treaty 19 11 and Eastern Arctic. I was down in Cambridge Bay at 20 that time. That's quite a while back. 21 Yeah, so anyway, I wasn't here like 22 other people what they say like, but I -- I know what I 23 have to say about my mine. It's not easy when you sit right here, people behind you listen to you. You've 24 25 been there, you've got to talk about it. You've never

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79 been there, don't talk about it. What you hear is no 1 2 good. 3 It's like the CBC reporter -- that's why I'm a CBC reporter, I've been there I talk about it, 4 5 what I hear I don't talk about it. That's all I have 6 to say. 7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much for your presentation. It's quarter to 3:00, the 8 9 agenda calls for a health break, so we will take a break for 15 minutes and around three o'clock I'll call 10 11 everybody back together again. Thank you. 12 13 --- Upon recessing at 2:47 p.m. --- Upon resuming at 3:07 p.m. 14 15 16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Good afternoon, 17 everyone. Had a nice break and we're ready to get back 18 to the speakers on my list, the next speaker I have is 19 Joseph Catholique. 20 21 (BRIEF PAUSE) 22 23 MR. JOSEPH CATHOLIQUE: Masi, thank 24 you, for coming into Lutsel K'e. Sitting across the 25 table like this is a good way to discuss the Gahcho Kue

80 and any other matters we have in Lutsel K'e here. 1 2 First of all, my name is Joseph Catholique and I'm a wildlife board member, First 3 Nation Dene, and proud to be Dene. Why I'm saying --4 5 saying Dene, for that I'm going to speak in my 6 language. 7 8 (INTERPRETED INTO ENGLISH) 9 10 MR. JOSEPH CATHOLIQUE: I'd like to 11 thank everybody having a meeting here, and this is a 12 very important project that we're talking about. We're 13 talking about our land. They're going to have a development, and this is very -- something big for us. 14 15 We don't know if it -- we're going to benefit from it 16 or not. 17 But the way it's being ... 18 19 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED) 20 21 (BRIEF PAUSE) 22 23 MR. JOSEPH CATHOLIQUE: ...First Nation 24 as a Dene person, and I speak -- going to be speaking 25 my language. That's Chipewyan.

1 (INTERPRETED INTO ENGLISH) 2 3 MR. JOSEPH CATHOLIQUE: I'm a Dene descendant from Gahcho Kue. I was born and raised in 4 5 Lutsel K'e, and I've been taught how to survive out on 6 the land. 7 8 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED) 9 10 MR. JOSEPH CATHOLIQUE: This Gahcho Kue 11 project is going to take place sometimes, who knows. 12 But before we get into that back in the days -- back in 13 the days of when I was younger we were a strong people. 14 Strong people, we lived off the land as caribou eaters 15 as we were told by scientists, follow the caribou 16 herds. Now I believe the caribou have been pushed away from us and we have to follow so we can survive. 17 18 Surviving is hard time to go as far as 2 19 to 300 miles east, wherever the caribou is. So it's 20 very little -- so it's very little... 21 22 (INTERPRETED INTO ENGLISH) 23 24 MR. JOSEPH CATHOLIQUE: It's very --25 sometimes we have to go through a hardship because the

1 caribou is very far, and all the animals are very far 2 from us. We have to go hunt for it, and it takes a 3 long ways out to the barren lands because now they --4 because of the development and all these mines that are 5 on our land. It's because of that the caribou have 6 been moved away from us.

Now all the mining is all surrounding our land, and now it seems like we're not benefiting from these mine. There's lots of social prob -problems. Now we're saying this is for the future of our grandchildren. Now we got to think of the future. Maybe another twenty (20), thirty (30) years.

13 So what's going to happen. Is it still 14 going to happen? What's going to happen to our land. 15 I don't think we're going to have a pristine, a good 16 land like today. Maybe we're going to have to go 17 through hardship in the time maybe if our land is 18 damaged.

And here right now our caribou and all the --the animals that we live off ever since our ancestors been living off that and us, too, today we're still living like that. But now it's starting to do -make little changes, the way we live, because of all the developments on our mine. And now we're getting IBA also from the mine -- these mines.

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1 In the past, we used to be -- we used to 2 live out on the land and hunt and survive. But today it's not like that. Now all our ancestors, that's how 3 they used to live out on the land with using dog teams 4 5 in the past but now it's not like that today. So right now that they're having all 6 7 these diamond mines in our -- our land, now it seems like they're just having their money for us so it seems 8 9 like we're not trying to help ourself to go out hunting and trapping. And right now, too, things are very 10 11 expensive. And even five (5) gallon gas is about fifty 12 dollars (\$50) today, because we can't go very far using 13 fifty (50) -- five (5) gallon gas. 14 Even at the store here there's exp --15 things are ever expensive. So even if you buy -- buy 16 shells or something it's very expensive. So the way as 17 we used to survive out on the land, now it's really 18 expensive. All the supplies that we need to survive 19 out on the land, even the -- oh, we need to -- we want 20 to go out on the land, but we don't have enough funds 21 to travel with. So this is why we can't go anywhere. But then -- now IBA funds that's all 22 23 we're getting and -- but we're not benefiting from 24 these IBA -- from the -- from the mines. We keep 25 saying things like this for the future of our

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1 grandchildren. The last twenty (20) years ago, so we 2 been sitting here like this. Before that, my parents 3 were here. They were all sitting here talking about 4 these things like this. Until today I'm talking about 5 it.

6 Because it is ours -- we do survive out 7 on the land and we've been taught how to survive out on 8 our land our traditional way of life. And right now we 9 have an Elder, too, and a -- J.B. (phonetic), that 10 Elder J.B. is in the hospital right now. And some of 11 the words that he's given us, that's what we're using 12 today here at the meeting.

13 So if this Gahcho Kue program is going 14 to -- or project is going to go ahead, there's going to 15 be a lot of things and a lot of concerns that we're 16 going to be talking about. They're going to be blasting the rocks. And even though they are saying 17 18 when they start blasting the rocks there's going to be 19 disturbance to all of the wildlife and environment 20 around that area. They're not going to say exactly 21 what damage is going to be mun -- is going to be made 22 because of the blasting. 23 And here De Beers, they have other mines

24 in other con -- in other parts of the world. And they 25 were saying that there was a lot of environment that's

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all damages because of De Beers projects. And we can 1 all see this on TV, the news. 2 3 Now, they're going to -- they have also another mine, Victor Mine, in Ontario. So there is 4 5 some Aboriginal people that are living around that 6 area. Maybe they are going to be pitiful if their land 7 is disturbed. Maybe we should do more studies on what's going to happen, what's going to be -- also, 8 9 they're going to have a meeting, a public hearing, in Yellowknife. 10 11 I'm talking about our ancestors. 12 There's a lot of people, mining companies, people come 13 here and also other Aboriginals, Slavies, the Dogribs, 14 people from Yellowknife, we come back here together and 15 have a meeting once before. In the past that's what we 16 used to do. We used to hunt and trap and then get 17 together and have a feast and -- but ever since, now 18 with these -- all these diamond mines and we're having 19 IBA, it seems like we're all fighting and splitting 20 each -- amongst our -- the communities. 21 Now it seems like we're all talking 22 about the same thing as IBA. Even people from Dettah, 23 the Dogribs, and people from Fort Smith, Deninu Kue, we 24 all keep saying this is our land. We're fighting for 25 that piece of land now. So be -- because of this, now

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we are not working as good as we should, like before. 1 2 And if this Gahcho Kue is going to go ahead, are we going to get IBA funds? Now, before --3 4 because of IB -- these IBA we get from these 5 communities, the government are taking all our money 6 back. They're doing some cutbacks. Before, in the past, they used to give us nets and that, but now we 7 don't even get nets. And I think it's because of all 8 these developments, mining developments on our land. 9 10 This is why. 11 So how long is this mine's going to --12 some people were saying the life mine -- of the mine 13 would be about fifteen (15) to twenty (20) years. So 14 what's going to happen after that? So maybe they're 15 going to take some more money back. The GNWT may --16 might take our money back from us, we don't know. But 17 then every time we say something, we're always thinking 18 about the future of our grandchildren. And also 19 towards education. 20 Now that we have lots of these diamond 21 mines are happening on our land. And here I don't 22 think mon of -- most of our people from the community 23 are not work -- at work because we're not -- we never 24 went to school. We're not educated well enough. 25 Even this little, small community, it

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1 seems like we're all -- we're isolated. Even Behchoko 2 and Dettah, Deninu Kue, Fort Smith, Hay River, they all 3 have highways. It is easy for them to get stuff. But 4 us here, us, we're not like that. We're isolated. We 5 don't have no highways coming to our community, so 6 everything that we get here is very expensive.

7 The only way that we get our groceries 8 and stuff like that would be in -- on a barge. So I 9 think that barge -- I think that barge, too, they're 10 going to do away with that barge, so I don't know 11 what's happening.

12 So now that we're going to be getting 13 all our food on the plane, and it's going to be very expensive. And there's a lot of young people that I've 14 15 been questioning, these young people. Right now, it's 16 kind of hard for them because -- because right now, that we're not -- we don't have enough food and we 17 18 don't have enough money because the government is 19 taking all cutbacks, so -- because of this IBA funds we're getting. 20 21 So I don't know what's going to happen.

So this is why these are the concerns that I have. So ev -- anything that we're not going to benefit from, and we're going to have to study if we're going to get into any kind of agreements because we think of --

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about our future of our children. We're always talking 1 about the future of our children. 2 3 Some of the Elders are always been saying that. Some of these Elders spoke on behalf of 4 5 it, too, so. And they're also talking on behalf of 6 their ancestors, how they have been taught. So those are the same words like Albert, Georgie, that's what 7 they're saying. So us, we're following them under 8 9 their footsteps because they're not going to be around with us for another twenty (20) years. So it's us 10 11 young people. 12 Now we're -- we're going to have to go, 13 so now we're going to have to think of our future 14 children. So now we're going to have to say something 15 on how they can benefit from these mines because we're 16 going to have to pave something for the future of our 17 children. 18 Because of all these mines, I don't know 19 how many years now this mine has been there, I don't 20 know we got anything from it because it seems like 21 we're just getting to a corner that we can't go 22 anywhere. And I'm looking at all my relatives here. 23 It seems like we're not benefiting anything from this 24 mine. 25 All the money that we get in it is spent

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right away, and it's all spent in Yellowknife. So it's 1 our money. I know that IBA -- but we're going to have 2 to come up with a good plan, come up with something for 3 ourself, how we could benefit with all that money 4 5 that's coming from the diamond mines. But I know by having this development on 6 7 the land there's going to be a lot of environment -everything's going to be disturbed. Now Snap Lake, 8 9 too, there's -- it was over flooded, and nobody would -- and we weren't told what had happened at that 10 11 incident there. 12 If it happens at Gahcho Kue they got to 13 let us know if anything goes wrong there. Maybe only 14 later on, after maybe two (2) weeks or later, then they 15 tell us and that this is not right. 16 So all the animals -- that I guess it --17 the animal, even all the -- the wind, who is going to 18 be carrying all the contaminants around. So it's going 19 to be harmful for the animals that live around that area because of the wind. It carries it all -- because 20 21 it's always windy, and it takes these contaminants far 22 away. 23 But right now, we don't know how far the 24 caribou is. But hopefully that the caribou would come 25 back to us. I don't think the caribou is going to come

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around our area anymore. But now it goes right around 1 -- around Campbell Lake, right now. I think that's 2 where the caribou is. That's how us -- how far we have 3 to go out hunting. 4 5 So now the kids that are growing up 6 today -- so we're going to have to look after these 7 people... 8 9 (BRIEF PAUSE) 10 11 MR. JOSEPH CATHOLIQUE: ...here we have 12 to look at the land carefully for the future. 13 Everything's got a -- everything's got its own habitat. 14 and if it's all gone ... 15 Yeah, well, we might -- if the -- if --16 if our food source is contaminated, it's going to be 17 bad for us. We have to be strong for our future 18 children. We have to watch our land. 19 I -- I -- I travel in that area with my 20 uncle, Noel Drybone, Madeleine, Eileen (phonetic). We used to travel down there. I would travel with them in 21 22 that area. I would trap with them. I've hunted wolves 23 in the area. 24 I was young, I was strong, I didn't get 25 tired. I had a good spirit and mind, and I was taught

1 well. It was just like going to school for me. That's 2 the way I looked at myself. It wasn't -- everything 3 was easy for me back then. The only thing that was 4 hard was if we had a broken snowmobile. But if you're 5 travelling together, we all worked as a team and we 6 survived.

7 If you're going to take the fish out of that lake -- yeah, before you move them and -- and 8 9 they're going to probably die before you move them. The fish could be different. It could be a different 10 species if you're moving them into another lake. The 11 12 food source might be different from another -- for another lake -- for another lake fish. It has to be 13 all considered. All of those things have to be taken 14 15 into consideration.

The wolves, the ptarmigans, everything, travels in that area. Yeah, so whatever we get here, ptarmigans, we shoot it, we eat it. Maybe we don't get sick from it now, but we -- you know, in the long term we might -- it might harm us. It might -- might have an affect on us. I thank everybody here with -- with --

23 you have all the people sitting behind us here, the 24 young people. It should be -- it -- yeah, don't --25 don't think it's hard. Someday it may be harder, unless

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we speak for them today. We've put in a good word for 1 them today, but this is what we feel. This is the way 2 we -- we think. You can't turn our way of thinking 3 We were strong people, you can't take that 4 from us. 5 away from us. And it's going to be hard. 6 But the caribou and the animals, it's all gone from us now because of the effects from the 7 mine. The fish are going to be affected. All the fish 8 are going to go bad. It might -- even though you said 9 10 you're going to do a good job, we may not -- we don't 11 know that. I sat fishing, I fished all around the 12 lake, MacKay Lake. I fished in that area. I hunted 13 caribou up there. I take a look at all the land. 14 Why is people -- people are carrying 15 bottled water out on our land. The water is good to 16 drink. And I'm thinking about it. Maybe I have to buy 17 bottled water in the future I think. Maybe our water 18 will go bad, and we will have to depend on bottled 19 water. We don't want that to happen. We don't want 20 things to go bad on us. 21 I don't think a hundred percent, I don't 22 -- I -- I can't say yes to the project. It could be 23 lots of work. We don't know where the future's going to go with it. With all the development coming our 24 25 way, a lot of the stuff coming in from the South. My

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grandfather had said, There's going to be a lot of 1 people coming amongst our -- our people here and things 2 are going to be changing. And now it's here. 3 It's getting worse every day for our 4 5 people. We used to be strong people before. We We -- we ran dogs. It looked good. It looked 6 hunted. really, really good to see people survive like that. 7 And we used to have -- we used to have 8 9 really good traditional clothing before, but today we only see Georgie (phonetic) walking around with 10 11 traditional -- traditional dress on. And it makes me 12 feel good about it. This is the way we used to look 13 before. About thirty (30) years ago, that -- that 14 tradition went away. 15 We are supposed to watch what's our 16 culture for the future. We got to watch the water. We 17 got to watch the animals. We are the people here. We 18 don't have a roadway coming into our community, so it's 19 hard for us. Maybe you don't remember. But if you 20 understand our struggle, you could understand our 21 problems. 22 You want that diamond mine to open 23 seriously. We've been here a long time before you people. We used to have a lot of caribou here before. 24 25 Now the caribou have moved away from us, and it's a

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long ways from us. I will travel in the Thelon area. 1 There was a lot of moose in that area. Ten (10) years 2 ago I travelled in that -- in that area, paddle. There 3 used to be a lot of musk ox in that area. 4 5 Two (2) years ago I travelled in that 6 area. I haven't seen one (1) musk ox. I seen a lot of moose. Does anybody research that, why it's -- it's a 7 big change like that? Now the young generation that 8 9 are growing up, that's for them we're talking here. If we don't do that for our children, nobody's going to do 10 11 that for us. 12 I thank you today. Yeah, I'm sitting 13 across from you, and I'm telling you straight. I thank 14 you a lot. Masi. 15 16 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED) 17 18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, 19 Joseph. Our next presenter is J.C. Catholique. 20 21 (BRIEF PAUSE) 22 23 MR. J.C. CATHOLIQUE: ...Lutsel K'e 24 here. I was born and raised here. But also I want to 25 tell the -- the Board that, you know, I'm -- I'm --

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95 I've been to residential school. I was there -- I went 1 to residential school when I was seven (7), and -- and 2 like I finished when I was nineteen (19) years old. 3 So -- so like I lost quite a bit of my -4 5 - my history. Also a lot of the -- the stories and 6 language, customs, and songs, and ceremonies, you know -- you know, the traditional kind of ways, you know. 7 Like I -- like I missed quite a bit of that. 8 9 But -- but, you know, throughout the 10 years -- you know, like I been working on it, and -and, you know, getting -- getting -- you know, getting 11 12 a lot better. Yeah. 13 Yeah, I think -- you know, like -- like 14 what Georgie was saying -- because Georgie is my first 15 cousin. He was saying the people before him, you know, 16 in that area, he said -- said -- and then -- and then people before him also. You know, many generations 17 18 back, and also coming this way. And -- and, yeah, 19 Georgie was one of my teachers when I started going out 20 -- yeah, going out on the land. And -- and so that's 21 they way I learned. 22 You know, he never said no to me. Like 23 -- like every time I went hunting with him, I'd ask him 24 to go hunting. And he said, Sure, come along, he said. 25 So that's the way I learned. And so today, you know,

96 I'm, you know, grateful for that. And, you know, I'm -1 - I'm -- you know, I'm able to hunt and, you know, go 2 out in the bush. But I'm not much of a trapper. 3 Ιn fact, I'm not a trapper at all. I -- I -- you know, I 4 5 tried it, and -- and it wasn't good for me. Like -- like one (1) of the -- that --6 that area that they're talking about, Gahcho Kue, yeah, 7 li -- like I had experience being out there, like in 8 9 the barren lands. Like I went out there with my Uncle Noel, my late uncle, Noel Drybone. And -- and I spent 10 one (1) -- one (1) winter out there, you know, with the 11 12 family. And we were around like Artillery Lake and Fort Reliance and Cook Lake. 13 14 Well, I could say that I was on that --15 on that area, you know, that -- that Gahcho Kue, you 16 know. But I wouldn't know it, you know, because 17 everything looked the same for me at that time because 18 it was my first time, you know, out there. And -- and, 19 you know, it was just -- it was just like being in a 20 desert, it was like -- because snow. It's just snow. And -- and, you know -- but my uncle, you know, he's --21 22 he's been there most of his life. He grew up there, so 23 he knew where all the trees were. And so we, you know, 24 survived that way. That was the same time as that -- that 25

1 same year as that -- when that satellite fell out from 2 -- when the Russian satellite fell out. And I think 3 even that, you know, having -- having the military in 4 the area also had a big impact, you know, on the 5 caribou.

6 Like some of the caribou -- like when we 7 were hunting for caribou, we were up to Fletcher Lake, went out to McKay Lake. And then we came down to -- to 8 9 Great Slave Lake. And -- and some of the caribou trails that we seen, we could see they were -- they 10 were kind of running around like all over the place. 11 12 They were kind of wondering why it was that, and only 13 to find out later that the satellite had fell out. The 14 military were there, and they were flying around these 15 choppers, just there, past times. They were chasing 16 these caribou around. So that's what was happening. 17 Yeah, the -- the community hearings that 18 we've been having here, you know, like I made my -- my 19 view is that I don't support the mining project mainly 20 because I don't like their mining practice, to drain 21 one -- you know, to ta -- to take the water out of the 22 lake and -- and, you know, put it into another -- you 23 know, like another lake, you know, destroying that --24 the fish, and also that -- like the environment. 25 There are -- one of the things that I

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think is really going to be a big concern is the -- is 1 the fish, relocating the fish to like a different area. 2 And like that study has never been done, how that fish 3 is going to survive going to the next lake. Like I 4 5 think that -- that study should be done before you -you remove fish and -- and move it into a different 6 7 lake. 8 All the lakes that -- that's going to be 9 -- the -- the fish are going to be like re -relocated, you know, there should be a study on it to 10 11 see how that fish is going to survive. Nowadays, you 12 can do anything now. You can monitor anything now. 13 You can tag anything now, even the caribou. Like 14 they've been monitoring the caribou through the --15 through a collar, you know, so they know where the 16 caribou is. They -- they study the migration route and their habits and that. 17 18 Yeah, so like I think that's -- that's -19 - you know, that's something that, you know, like should be looked at, and -- and also the water. You 20 21 know, the water is something that's very, very sacred 22 to us. You know, it's a giver of life. And without 23 water, like, nobody can survive, even animals or anything. So that quality of water there, like, it's 24 25 good. It's good.

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1 You know, after like everything is over, you know, they -- you know, they try to put back 2 everything in its natural state. You know, like, I 3 don't think any hunter here is going to go there and 4 5 make tea from that ice, you know, from that lake, 6 because we know that quality of that -- that water. You know, that quality is not going to be there no 7 Maybe it will take years, maybe. You know, but 8 more. 9 we don't know that, because you take something out and you put it back, and it's not the same anymore. It's 10 going to be completely different. 11

12 Yeah, I had the opportunity to go on one 13 (1) of the caribou monitoring program at Snap Lake with my -- with my late father and, you know, some of the 14 15 Elders that were out there. And -- and so we would --16 so we would go out and -- and look at caribou and 17 everything. And -- and my father and the Elders, they 18 used to recognize which caribou is which, male, female, 19 young -- young bucks and little ones too. All had a 20 name for them. And so we marked everything down. 21 And at the end of the -- like, the 22 program, my dad was telling me. He said, you know, 23 this is -- this is the migration route of the caribou. And sure enough, like after the mine started, there 24 25 were like no -- no caribou, you know, came down here

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1 again.

2 As -- as was mentioned earlier, yeah, we used to -- as the youth and Chief were saying, we used 3 to have caribou right in the bay here. We didn't have 4 5 to go very far. Now, we don't have that no more now. 6 The -- all the noise pollution, everything that mine at 7 Snap Lake that's been -- been -- you know, like it's too much for the animals. You know, like it's too 8 9 noisy and it keeps them away, especially the caribou. 10 And -- and, you know, so that we don't have that no 11 more. 12 So now we have to go to, like, Artillery 13 Lake now, you know, to go and get caribou. Last year, it was a little bit closer, which was good, Fort 14 15 Reliance. You know, but still it's getting more 16 expensive to go out now. You know, gas is a dollar --17 a dollar seventy-three (\$1.73) a litre now. So it's --18 so it's not cheap no more. 19 I think, in general, for us Dene people, 20 you know, we -- you know, we understand how the 21 ecosystem works, you know, with wildlife, fish and 22 water. Even right down from little insects, you know, 23 they understand. You know, because all animals, like

24 they -- like they depend on each other to survive.

25 And so that when you start moving

101 around, when you start altering the natural laws, you 1 know, things are not going to be the same no more. 2 And -- and so, like that -- that mine that's -- that's 3 being developed right now, I mean, they are -- like, 4 5 for us, this is -- this is like a major -- like a real development that -- that I don't agree to, you know, 6 some of the members don't agree to. Like the way it's 7 been worked on, because it's altered, you know, like 8 9 the whole ecosystem, like the natural laws, the way things flow. You know, it's going to be broken. 10 11 So things will never be the same again. 12 I'm not even sure we're going to be going in that area, 13 because once -- once we give up, like, an area of land, 14 you know, for -- for development, like, we know, like 15 it's never going to be the same again. 16 17 (BRIEF PAUSE) 18 19 MR. J.C. CATHOLIQUE: Yeah, like I work 20 here in the community, you know, as a social worker. 21 And I was part of the team that put in that 22 presentation today. And so, yeah, there is a lot of, 23 you know, unemployment in the community. And -- and 24 people want to work, you know. People want to have 25 jobs. But at the same time, we know people don't work

in the mines. But there are a few, probably less than 1 ten (10), ten (10) people that work in the mine. 2 3 Maybe one (1) or two (2) have been 4 working there a long time. But others have worked 5 there and came back in the community, mainly because 6 they don't like that -- that lifestyle, that cycle. And I think other things have been mentioned about 7 discrimination and all that kind of stuff. Criminal 8 9 record checks and -- a lot of the sh -- social issues 10 been -- been created, you know, but I think, you know, like, Lutsel K'e needs like an economic base. I know, 11 12 like, our economic base is this land, this land that we 13 have. 14 You know, we have an opportunity. And I 15 think, you know, we like to work with people who -- you 16 know, who will watch the environment, who will watch 17 the land, who will respect the -- the land and the 18 animals. You know, we would rather work with those 19 kind of people: people that understand us, that understand our livelihood. 20 21 You know, we -- we rather work with 22 those kind of developers, because we don't want to 23 destroy this land. You know, we -- we don't want to 24 give up this land, this whole area of land. You know, 25 if there's a way to put it back in its natural state,

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then that's fine. But by the way you've said it right 1 now, it looks quite impossible. 2 3 Also, Gahcho Kue has been on our land 4 now, developing, exploring, doing testing and 5 everything. And yet there -- we never received any, 6 you know, compensation or anything for that, all that pre -- all that pre-mining, you know, operation. And 7 then once it goes into production, and then that's a 8 9 different story altogether again. 10 A couple years ago, like I went on a --11 on a caribou monitoring for like a caribou hunt, for a 12 community hunt. And we left from here, went to 13 Artillery Lake, way up to Fletcher. And then we went 14 east towards Ptarmigan Lake and then south towards Pikefish Lake (phonetic), and then we came back. Like 15 16 not one -- one caribou. Not one musk ox. I mean, like, I couldn't believe it. I couldn't believe like 17 18 there was nothing, nothing in that area. 19 So it made me wonder, why -- why is 20 that? There used to be a lot of musk ox there. We saw 21 lots of caribou there. Yet there was nothing. So the 22 -- the mining development that's in our area plays a big part in that, because before that -- before that, 23 you know, there was a lot; there was a lot of wildlife. 24 25 So it has -- so it has a major impact,

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104 you know, on our livelihood. And you know, as has been 1 mentioned, you know, we like to -- you know, we like 2 our traditional food. You know, that's what keeps us 3 healthy. As I say, like, the caribou, old people say 4 5 the caribou, sau diena (phonetic); that means "our 6 spirit". You know, like that's what the -- the caribou 7 means to us. 8 And so that's why we really have to 9 watch our caribou. We hunt it in a certain kind of way. You know, we -- you know, we don't abuse it or 10 nothing. And -- and that's why, you know, like for us, 11 12 you know, caribou is a big thing. You know, it's part 13 of our -- part of our culture and, you know, part of 14 our life. 15 And the Lady of the Falls, that's -that's there, you know, the way the Elders talk about 16 it, that all that land there, it's all got little 17 18 creeks and rivers. They all connect, and they all flow 19 in a certain direction. And they say it like this. 20 Gahcho Kue, it's all -- it's also connected. It's part of that ecosystem, the way that water flows, and it --21 22 and they will go into Artillery Lake, and that 23 Artillery Lake is the water that goes into where the 24 old lady sits in the falls there. 25 The way that we've been told by our

Elders is that that river, that lake, is supposed to be in a natural state all the time. Pristine as it is. You know, that's what makes it powerful. And -- and so that's why, you know, that we got to have that. We got to make sure, you know, like that Artillery Lake doesn't get polluted.

7 Yeah, we have hard times in the community, you know, tough times. You know, as a 8 9 frontline worker, like I see a lot of that. You know, the -- you know -- you know, like -- even though like a 10 person change their life into a healthy lifestyle, you 11 12 know, they still have to do something. And a part of 13 the something is working, you know, getting a job. You 14 know, that's one of the main things, you know, that --15 you know, that we need to do in this community, is 16 create employment for -- you know, for our people. 17 But we've got to have that economic 18 base. And -- and creating one sometimes -- you know, 19 sometimes we have to sacrifice a little bit of 20 something to get something. You know, but if the risk 21 is too much, too great, then our future generations are 22 going to suffer and then it's -- you know, and then 23 it's no use. 24 And -- and I think at this time, too, 25 like at the rate of development, like -- like it's

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106 going too fast. You know, and we have to slow it down. 1 Then they have Snap Lake, you know, like -- you know, 2 like they still have to deal with that. 3 You know, there's -- there's -- you 4 5 know, there's reports of -- of pollution, you know, 6 that needs to be dealt with. And -- and we should deal with that before -- you know, before another mine has 7 been created. 8 9 10 (BRIEF PAUSE) 11 12 MR. J.C. CATHOLIQUE: Okay. With that, 13 I want to, you know, finish my presentation and, you know, I just want to thank you for coming out in the 14 15 community and listening to our concerns. And also with 16 De Beers, and community members and Elders and all your 17 staff. Masi cho. 18 19 (BRIEF PAUSE) 20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, 21 J.C. I have about five (5) people left on my list. 22 23 And as we work through this, we may be talking about 24 limiting time to ensure that we give everybody an 25 opportunity to speak. I'm not going to do that right

107 now, but as we get closer and closer to the next break, 1 we might get in a situation where we need to limit the 2 time a little bit. 3 So our next speaker now is Madeleine 4 5 Catholique. 6 7 (BRIEF PAUSE) 8 9 ELDER MADELEINE CATHOLIQUE: My name is 10 Madeleine Catholique. 11 12 (INTERPRETED INTO ENGLISH) 13 14 ELDER MADELEINE CATHOLIQUE: I've been 15 brought up around this area. There's a lot of 16 discussion in regards to the mines. The development of 17 this mine and I'm not too really keen on it. I'm 18 thinking about the -- our children that is going to 19 come. I don't know how they're going to -- to live. 20 There is a mine that was in Yellowknife 21 and it had a lot of -- it destroyed the land and that 22 might happen on our territory also. You say that 23 you're going to -- to protect the environment, though, 24 you're going to protect the most reliable -- we rely on our wildlife, our water, caribou. There is going to be 25

an impact, I -- I know that. 1 2 Myself, I'm eighty (80) years old, I was brought up in the barren lands. I'd dress -- the way 3 that I was dressed, you know, I had caribou hide. And 4 5 that's -- caribou parkas, yeah, that's -- that's how I 6 was brought up. 7 For many years -- for many years I'd lived in the barren lands. I've lived that lifestyle. 8 9 And there was other groups of aboriginal such as the Metis people. They'd say that this is also their land, 10 and -- which I don't agree. They say that they lived 11 12 around here and if they can point out the names of the 13 -- of the area, then maybe I would believe it. I know the area very well. You know, I know the names of each 14 15 area. 16 Towards Artillery Lake and the surrounding area, there's a name for each area. 17 McKay 18 Lake, it also -- it's got its own name. There's area 19 Sliki (phonetic), it's called -- you know, I lived around that area. There's names such as Dene Bestako 20 21 (phonetic), Artillery Lake, Ptarmigan Lake in English. 22 Artillery Lake -- there's small lakes, 23 you know, around that area that's also got dene names. 24 I'm getting a bit older now, and as I get older I seem 25 to forget some things. Though -- though people phone

109 me, talk to me and -- and I forget that individual who 1 just spoke to me, but, you know, as you get older it 2 seems to -- to happen. And I think each and every one 3 (1) of -- of us, we're going to experience that. 4 5 Some -- some people that are not too 6 truthful about saying, you know, this is their land --7 and I was brought around this territory. Just because people think that we don't use that area it doesn't 8 mean that they can go ahead and -- and develop. 9 10 The -- why am I -- why I'm speaking like 11 this is it's for the future of my children and their 12 children. Seem to be people saying -- other people, 13 that they think that they own this territory. I've --I've lived in this area for a long time. 14 15 There is discussion on mine. There's discussion on fish. There's not a lot of discussion on 16 17 -- on the land and the fish, you know, and so I don't 18 really want to say too much on -- on that. Caribou is 19 the main source of food for us, and it doesn't come 20 near the community anymore. And it's true that people talk about it. 21 22 Since the development of the mines --23 and around here, you know, there seems to be no caribou 24 coming around here anymore. I know -- I know you take 25 a lot of money and, you know, we're not -- it's not

like that for us. 1 2 Some have a lot of concern, but they probably won't have the opportunity to speak. This is 3 -- is a big thing that has happened to us because the 4 5 caribou doesn't come around here anymore. And now 6 you're saying that you're going to take the fish out. 7 And then the -- the water -- the water you're going to drain. And then you're going to put it somewhere else. 8 9 It's going to have a huge impact. 10 Maybe, you know, like it's going to 11 destroy in the next ten (10) years the environment. 12 You know, I -- I think about these things. I'm over 13 eighty (80) years old, but I think about these things. 14 Nobody seems to be thinking or talking about the land. 15 And I just want to let you know that, 16 you know, I lived around here for all my life and this 17 is my land. And some people think, you know, they own 18 this land but it's not. I'd -- when I lived out there, 19 you know, I had seen too much of the people out there. 20 Mostly some White people, they come around. This -- this water that -- this water 21 22 that flows to Artillery Lake and then it flows down the 23 Spiritual River, Lockhart River, some people are saying 24 it doesn't flow that way but it does. What if the 25 water is released or somehow -- like it got

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contaminated and then it flows down to the river, then 1 what's going to happen? 2 And how about the caribou? When -- for 3 4 some -- maybe, you know, they get sick and then we're 5 going to have to eat that, then what's going to happen? 6 What I'm -- what I'm thinking -- I'm just saying these 7 things as -- as I think about them. 8 In the future, I'm speaking for my 9 children and their children, I don't know how much longer I'm going to be here, I'm -- I'm older now. 10 11 That's why -- I'm going to -- I'm going to say that 12 much, thank you. 13 14 (INTERPRETATION ENDS) 15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, 16 Madeleine Catholique. 17 18 Our next speaker is Madeleine Drybones. 19 20 (INTERPRETED INTO ENGLISH) 21 22 ELDER MADELEINE DRYBONES: Thank you. 23 I'd like to say a few words. It's true that -- what 24 people talk about in regards to the area where they 25 going to develop the mine. I'd lived and travelled

around the area with -- you know, I didn't use an 1 aeroplane to travel but I know the names of the area, 2 the water and so on. The things that we live on also. 3 We didn't have a store. 4 5 A long time ago, my ancestor, my grandfathers, they have their own houses. You probably 6 7 seen it, people that fly around there, probably they can see that. I didn't use an airline but I've 8 9 travelled with a dog team. My husband and I, we'd had two (2) dog teams. We didn't have very much children, 10 we only had two (2) and they'd travelled with us. 11 12 The Ptarmigan Lake and the Artillery Though there's 13 Lake, Elmer Lake and I know the names. no trees around there, I'd worked very hard. 14 I was 15 thankful. Today I can't work like that. The work that 16 you're doing in -- in the area, there used to be -- a lot of people used to travel. They used to trap. 17 My 18 grandmother and my grandfather, I -- I used to travel 19 with them around there. And then from there, you know, 20 when I got married then I'd still used that area. 21 The -- the land, the shape of it, the 22 water where all the lakes are, I -- I know every one 23 (1) of them. After I'd moved here in Lutsel K'e I didn't have a home, but I'd moved here and they -- they 24 25 gave me a home here. And that's why I -- I'm still

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1 here today. My real home is in Gachey (phonetic), Fort 2 Reliance, that's where my home is. And then from there 3 out on the land, like, I have different houses. And 4 all that is all our trap-line up to Thelon, Dese -- up 5 in Thelon Dese (phonetic). I have a home there, too, 6 also.

You know, I didn't say that even though it was hard work, I never say that. And people that y trap, people that hunt, never -- even though it was hard they never, you know, say it's very difficult out there. But, you know, after the dog team then there's Ski-Doos came in and then the transportation has changed.

Though we trapped, we still can provide for our family. Today -- today there's mine that's happening. They don't seem to benefit from that. The money that they make, some of the -- some of our people, you know, they just spend it -- they spend -they don't spend it wisely. They spend it on something else.

There seems to be some social problems re -- regards to mining. Some of the people here, you know, they only get welfare. A long time ago, we never had welfare or anything like that. They have to make your own money and that's how people lived. No -- you

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know, it was like that, but we -- we still had --1 bought our own stuff. You know, wherever we want to go 2 3 we -- we go ahead and go out there. And nobody seems to -- to mind. 4 The mine that you're going to build --5 6 the -- the water flow -- the water flow, it's -there's two (2) areas. There's the Hoarfrost --7 Hoarfrost River, that goes to McLeod Bay. And then 8 9 there also -- it flows towards Artillery Lake and then down the Lockhart River, where our granny sits and then 10 11 flows down to McLeod Bay. 12 I was very concerned when, you know, 13 people talk about these things that it's true that they 14 bring up their concerns. When I said we'd had a few 15 things, you know, the development of Diavik mine, I 16 used to go there. I'd travel to different mines. The further mine, Ekati, was built and that was just right 17 18 in the middle of the migration route of the caribou. 19 And then it's not only a migration 20 route, but it's in a big area, the migration route. We 21 had caribou here all the time and up in Fort Resolution and then to Yellowknife. It used to be like that. 22 And 23 then since the mines came around and everything kind of 24 lost -- we lost -- the individual -- I know one (1) of 25 the individuals said that it's going further east now.

We don't know if we're ever going to see caribou here 1 again. We don't know that. We can't travel far unless 2 -- unless we use airline. 3 And even though we have Ski-doos, we 4 5 seem to lessen our travel. And we try to still survive 6 out on the land. The mine that you're going to develop, maybe there's going to be an impact this 7 community. And we're thinking about our children, and 8 9 there's probably going to be an impact on them. 10 We are talking on behalf of our youth. 11 And there's a lot of concerns that's been raised. I 12 don't want to speak too long. That's all I'd like to 13 say. Thank you. 14 15 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED) 16 17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much 18 for your presentation. The next speaker is Mike 19 Tollis. 20 21 (BRIEF PAUSE) 22 23 MR. MICHAEL TOLLIS: Thank you very 24 much. My name is Michael Tollis. I'm the wildlife 25 lands and environment manager for the Lutsel K'e Dene

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First Nation. I just have some things that I'd like to 1 say really quickly. I wrote them down so that I 2 wouldn't forget anything. 3 So throughout this environmental impact 4 5 review, I was finding myself getting frustrated and 6 trying to express the interests of the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation because there were fundamental differences 7 in the line of thought between the Proponent and the 8 9 First Nation. 10 One (1) such difference is the drastic 11 disparity between the parties on the term "significant." So it is part of my role in the 12 13 community to ensure that the members of the Lutsel K'e 14 Dene First Nation are informed about the project. THE CHAIRPERSON: Excuse me. Just can 15 16 you slow down --17 MR. MICHAEL TOLLIS: Sorry. 18 THE CHAIRPERSON: -- a little bit. 19 MR. MICHAEL TOLLIS: M-hm. 20 THE CHAIRPERSON: I know that the 21 interpreters are having a heck of time keeping up. 22 MR. MICHAEL TOLLIS: Sorry, I'll slow 23 down. It -- it's part of my role in the community to 24 ensure that the members of the Lutsel K'e Dene First 25 Nation are informed about the project so that today,

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when the hearing is held in the community, that the 1 Dene can speak with the full knowledge of the project 2 and its potential impacts and that they can speak their 3 opinions with all the proper information. 4 5 It is difficult for me, as technical 6 staff for the First Nation, to explain this project to 7 the community of Lutsel K'e in a way that will be understood and accepted. One (1) of the factors that 8 9 affects the ability of the community to understand what De Beers is proposing is what Addie Jonasson referred 10 to earlier, the simple idea of mining the land is 11 12 philosophically against the culture and hearts of the 13 Dene people as protectors of the land. 14 I found myself struggling to get past 15 the initial facts of the proposal that have somehow 16 come to be accepted by the parties reviewing the 17 proposal as an acceptable level of impact. 18 The very first part of the proposal and 19 the one (1) that is most difficult to get past is the draining of a lake to mine underneath it. One (1) of 20 21 the profound responses I heard from a youth in the 22 community after hearing the statement was simple. He 23 asked: Are diamonds that important to people down 24 south? 25 I couldn't answer. How is it even

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possible to compare the use of diamonds to the 1 livelihood of a community? First and foremost, this is 2 a terrible loss, both physically on the landscape and 3 culturally in the hearts and minds of the people. 4 5 Another fact that the parties have come to accept and are working to try to mitigate is the 6 7 addition of another development and another winter road on the Bathurst Caribou herd range. A herd that has 8 9 suffered a massive population devist -- devastation since the introduction of diamond mines to the 10 11 territory. 12 A question that I received from a 13 community member was: Is anyone really looking at the 14 impacts of all these mines? It was a valid question 15 that I couldn't help but smile at as this has been a 16 question repeated raised throughout the review. 17 The Elders have also identified a need 18 for real cumul -- cumulative affects analysis to take 19 place, stating that caribou were never unhealthy, prior 20 to the start of mining operations. 21 In my opinion, at this point, proper 22 mitigation for the caribou would be to cease 23 development on the range until sustainable herd numbers 24 are restored. 25 Also, seldom mentioned in this review is

1 the fact that this development is also on the ranges of 2 the Beverly and the Ahiak caribou herds, also herds 3 harvested by the Lutsel K'e First Nation.

Not a single person in the community
believes that there will be no significant impacts to
the caribou. The simple fact of an operation more
populous than the community of Lutsel K'e being placed
in the middle of the barren lands is a significant
impact to the caribou that travel on the land.

10 After these two (2) parts of the project 11 were presented and the community members hesitantly 12 allowed me to continue to present the proposal, I 13 discussed water beyond the initial draining of the 14 lake. Obvious concerns are raised, such as, the impact 15 of sixteen (16) dikes and dams and how the Proponent 16 could think that nature was going to allow these dikes 17 and dams; that the power of water wouldn't accept the 18 attempt at control by man. As Elder Madeleine Drybones 19 said, Even the beaver doesn't make the dam right sometimes. 20

It's hard for the community members to understand that these dikes and dams won't flood land around the area. If a dike is preventing water from moving, it has to go somewhere and it's worth it to note that Elders do not think that it is very likely

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1 for the river to flow backwards.

2	In the spirit of providing all the
3	information I could, I had to make reference to De
4	Beers' performance at their Snap Lake mine, which has
5	seen numerous spills of contaminates on the land and
6	water, along with more than predicted dike seepage and
7	the Company invoking emergency measures of creating a
8	ditch in the hopes that the contamination wouldn't
9	spread farther on the land and water.
10	The Snap Lake Environmental Monitoring
11	Agency has reported the detection of contaminates up to
12	6 kilometres downstream from the mine in four (4)
13	years. And with no indication that De Beers will
14	improve in this department, it won't be long before the
15	effects of this mine will be noticeable in the Great
16	Slave Lake, where the community harvests fish, as well
17	as gets our drinking water.
18	The Great Slave lake protection is a
19	significant concern to the community but, more
20	important, in the hearts of the Dene people as the
21	protection of the Lady of the Falls. Eddie Drybone
22	mentioned in the TK study, Her per her spirit is
23	strong, you shouldn't touch sacred places like that.
24	From the perspective of health and
25	wellness in the community, the promises and commitments

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from De Beers and their Snap Lake agreement in terms of 1 socio-economic benefits have not been realized. 2 In fact, at the community level there's been little, if 3 any, long-term benefits for the overall health and 4 5 wellness of the community. 6 Until we see an improvement in this area 7 from De Beers, the community cannot help but think the same performance will be in store with this new 8 9 development. 10 The Review Board has a poster up there: 11 "Working Together to Make Wise Decisions." and I feel 12 that the focus of the Environmental Impact Review is to 13 create sustainable mining operation but, in truth, if 14 we want to see honest sustainability from the industry 15 and the Review Board, a holistic approach must be taken and realized that four (4) diamond mines in one (1) 16 17 territory is not in any way sustainable. 18 We are not making decisions -- wise 19 decisions for the benefit of the land but we are trying 20 to work together, however, working together means 21 listening and responding to the people who will suffer 22 the impacts and, in this circumstance, the community thinks it would be beneficial for De Beers to work 23 towards improving their performance in their existing 24 25 mine. Learning lessons and enacting measures there to

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1 diminish their impacts so that the community of Lutsel
2 K'e can trust De Beers and allow the company to work on
3 their territory again.

In conclusion, the term "significant" is 4 5 highly subjective and a matter of opinion. Veronica Chisholm from De Beers mentioned this morning that De 6 Beers has determined that no significant adverse 7 environmental impacts are predicted from the project. 8 9 But as far as the community of Lutsel 10 K'e is concerned, draining a lake is a significant 11 impact. Trying to control water with sixteen (16) 12 dikes is a significant impact. Threatening the caribou 13 with more development is a significant impact. Two (2) 14 rock piles 90 metres high in the barren lands is a 15 significant impact. And any slight impact to the 16 Lockhart River is a significant impact. 17 De Beers has an opportunity to focus on 18 their existing mine and work towards sustainability 19 there. Only when the community can trust that De Beers 20 is honestly achieving improved environmental 21 performance, only when we see De Beers proactively 22 working to hold true to their early commitments, only 23 then can we work together for a sustainable future for 24 the children of Lutsel K'e. Masi cho. 25 Thank you very much, THE CHAIRPERSON:

Mike. 1 2 It's 4:25, and I'm reluctant to invite another speaker until we have another health 3 break/coffee break/smoke break. So we will break until 4 5 about twenty (20) to 5:00. Thank you. 6 7 --- Upon recessing at 4:24 p.m. 8 --- Upon resuming at 4:40 p.m. 9 10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, we're back in 11 session. For your information, I have nine (9) more 12 speakers on the list. I've asked the staff to -- to 13 stop gathering names. We -- we won't be adding any more. And as a result of what I see for the time, we 14 15 have about six (6) minutes per speaker. And then we still need -- after the nine (9) speakers, we have 16 closing remarks from Chief and council, which will take 17 18 some time. So -- so I'm begging the indulgence of the 19 speakers to try to limit their time at the -- at the table and their presentation to about five (5) or six 20 21 (6) minutes. That would be very helpful. 22 So our first speaker after the break is 23 Deserae Jonasson. 24 25 (BRIEF PAUSE)

1 2 MS. DESERAE JONASSON: Good afternoon. My name is Deserae Jonasson. I am a Lutsel K'e Dene 3 First Nation band member, a youth representative on 4 5 band council. I work full time for the YHSSA. And I'm 6 enrolled in high school still. 7 In my own opinion, I don't think that we should proceed with the Gahcho Kue project. It would 8 9 really affect the youth and our future generations to 10 come. 11 What caribou would they have to eat? 12 How far would they have to travel to hunt their 13 caribou? When I was a little girl, I used to drive by 14 caribou in the bay with my grandparents and my parents. 15 And right now I am twenty (20) years old and I haven't 16 seen one (1) caribou in the bay since. Gahcho Kue is also right in the middle of a caribou migration route. 17 18 I understand that your company promises 19 a -- promises us a lot of nice things, but we already have three (3) mines up and running, and what have we 20 benefited from them? 21 22 I've recently held a meeting with the 23 youth in my community and all I've been hearing from 24 them is all the things that they don't have. They 25 don't have a youth centre, they lack sporting

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125 equipment, and the majority of the time they are left 1 out of sports events and conferences due to the lack of 2 funding. We don't have enough funding to even maintain 3 the arena in our community. We're actually very 4 5 fortunate to even have ice in the arena right now, due to the youth volunteers. 6 7 Coming from an isolated community, it costs us thousands of dollars just to get a sports team 8 from here to Yellowknife, and that doesn't include our 9 accommodations and our meals. 10 11 So for the North alone, I think that 12 three (3) mines is more than enough. Thank you. 13 14 (BRIEF PAUSE) 15 16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much. And that was way under five (5) minutes, so thank you. 17 18 You are actually making up time for Florence 19 (phonetic). The next speaker is Derion Marlowe. 20 21 (BRIEF PAUSE) 22 23 MR. DERION MARLOWE: Hello. Hi, my 24 name is Derion Marlowe. I am a student from Lutsel K'e 25 Dene school. I'm just going to start off with the

126 water. I was just wondering if the fish will still be 1 good, like to eat and stuff, and is -- be safe to 2 I was just wondering all that. Like, most of 3 drink? the people here that are drinking their coffee, it 4 5 comes from the lake. It's what we survive on; the 6 water and caribou, fish, traditional foods. 7 I was just wondering if, like, the caribou -- where you're going to put the mine, that's 8 9 where the caribou migrate. And it's just -- just going to push it farther if you put the mine there. So --10 and we're just going to have to go, like, far, way far, 11 12 to get the caribou. And I just want my kids and 13 grandkids to hunt and fish and live in Lutsel K'e. 14 I just want to talk about the Water. 15 water because we drink it every day. It's what we 16 survive on, traditional foods, and yeah. Thank you. 17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much. 18 The next speaker is Darren Marlowe. 19 20 (BRIEF PAUSE) 21 22 MR. DARREN MARLOWE: My name is Darren 23 Marlowe. I'm from Lutsel K'e, Dene First Nation 24 member. 25 I'd like to talk about the caribou. The

Gahcho Kue project is too close to Artillery Lake, and 1 I think it's going to disrupt their flow, their 2 migration flow, 'cause there's too much noise. First, 3 they smell their trail. If the diesel smell's in the 4 5 way they're not going to -- they get confused, I guess. 6 And I love my land. I love my caribou. Without the caribou -- we're not going to live that 7 well without them, so it's very important for me to 8 9 speak for behalf of my people, Lutsel K'e Dene. 10 And I like -- I like going hunting. 11 When I hunt for small game -- not even -- it's not 12 caribou, it could be ptarmigan or whatever, and it 13 tastes good, and I want to eat that for generations to 14 come: the caribou, musk ox. And it's our livelihood to 15 be on the land. And we say we're protectors of the 16 land, and I want to prove it. 17 Another mine, it's just too much to 18 handle in the NWT. Three (3) mines is good enough --19 four (4). Why do you need five (5)? What if there's 20 nine (9) mines in the future, how far are we going to 21 get? 22 Our youth is very important. Without 23 our youth on the land, how are we going to have out --24 to live with our traditions? With other mines --25 another mine in NWT, it's just -- it's too much.

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1 And, yeah, the caribou is -- like we said, it's very important to us, and now I want to 2 teach my kids, my grandchildren. I'm lucky, my dad's 3 still alive to teach me those things. I'm very 4 5 grateful he's living -- he lived this long. I know 6 like -- in the future I know he's not going to be around, so I would just like to talk about the caribou 7 with my dad. 8 9 We respect the caribou. If we respect 10 the caribou, they respect us. And I'm not supportive of the Gahcho Kue project. And like I want to teach my 11 12 ne -- nephews to be on the land, how to survive, so 13 they could teach their kids and their grandchildren, and so forth. 14 15 And -- well, because I -- not good, put some thoughts in your head, let them go through with 16 the Gahcho Kue, because that's our backyard, that's our 17 18 playground, it's the bush. When I go in the bush, I 19 feel happy. I feel Mother Earth's taking care of us because we take care of the land. If we don't take 20 21 care of the land the land's not going to take care of 22 us -- destroyed, and it's going to be pretty hard to 23 make it come back to the natural state. 24 I'm speaking of my -- for my people. 25 It's very important to me. And I'll just say thank you

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for listening to my opinions, and that's all I have to 1 2 say. 3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, 4 Darren. Our next presenter is Jennifer Jonasson. 5 MS. JENNIFER JONASSON: Hi. I'm 6 Jennifer Jonasson. I'm a Lutsel K'e Dene member. I'm a bit nervous right now; I'll probably trip over a few 7 words. 8 9 But the reason why I'm up here -- I'm also the CHR of the community, the community health 10 representative, and I run the prenatal program. 11 And 12 this is one (1) of my moms and the babies that come to 13 my program. We have a few moms that are in the hall 14 but we're all very shy to come up and speak. 15 However, the reason why I'm sitting up 16 here right now with Serena is Serena's already been to Artillery Lake. She's already travelled up to the Lady 17 18 of the Falls to Fort Reliance. Serena is wearing a hat 19 her mom used to wear when she was a baby, or a Jane 20 (phonetic), and it's made out of caribou hide. 21 We try to teach our young ones to carry 22 on the history of our culture to preserve what Mother 23 Nature gave us, our beautiful land. We feed off of it, 24 we live off of it, and that's where I know where I go 25 for a sense of well-being amongst a lot of other young

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people in my community. 1 2 We are taught with our Elders, and from our Elders, to preserve our land, our waters. I live 3 back in the day, and I've been drinking out of the 4 5 river for the last eight (8) years since I moved out of 6 housing. I love the land so much I can just cry right now even to imagine another mine going up near Lady of 7 the Falls where we all go to heal. 8 9 Again, what Mike said, working together to make a wise decision. I look at that beautiful, 10 beautiful waters and scenery. So if we're working 11 12 together to make a wise decision, why are we even 13 sitting here discussing this? Because I feel that the 14 land that is amongst our people around us in Artillery 15 Lake, Thelon, all around, is sacred. 16 It's our land. We want to keep it the It's not 17 way it is. We don't want another mine up. 18 benefiting our people. It is bringing us hardships, 19 broken families. I don't know anymore else what to 20 say. Look in Serena's eyes. Look at Serena. She's --21 she is so innocent. She can't speak and let you know 22 that this is a sacred part of our culture, and we don't 23 want it touched. 24 This is the fourth mine and it's not 25 good. I don't know how to stress anymore, but I'm

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131 opposing this -- this mine, And I'm really hoping that 1 you will hear our concerns today and take that back to 2 whoever you have to discuss it with, and not have this 3 happen in our community. Masi cho. 4 5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, 6 Jennifer. 7 The next speaker is Marcel Basil. 8 9 (BRIEF PAUSE) 10 11 MR. MARCEL BASIL: Hey. Good 12 afternoon. I'm from Lutsel K'e, and I did the -- in 13 previous years I did project researcher on Gahcho Kue 14 as a traditional knowledge researcher, project 15 coordinator. That's what I was working on. And this 16 is years ago and now it's come into effect. 17 From doing my researches through the 18 previous years, I've -- I've come up with my own 19 scenarios, is that impacts that is going to have on the livelihood of caribou, the fish, the land mammals, 20 21 animals as well. And the roads that are being built 22 during winters has -- plays a major part of effects on 23 the movement of caribous, and this is why the caribous 24 did not come back this way; because of the amount of 25 noise that the mine industries provide.

And also, what really bothers me is the 1 -- as a fact, I have problems breathing in my community 2 due to dust particles that plays a major part in my 3 life. And how many years the development of the mines 4 5 will be in effect. What about all the animals will be 6 affected majorly day -- on a daily basis by the dust 7 particles? And it causes cancer; that's what I'm aware of. 8

9 And employment-wise, the things that affect us is our -- my criminal records. I'm not a kid 10 no more, and the previous criminals (sic) that I've 11 12 caused, which I'm greatly sorry about, has affected me 13 in -- in the mining industries, and it started to affect my life because I can't find any employment --14 in my community, the lack of employment here -- and 15 16 it's causing me to drink more and to do drugs more, because I've got nothing else to do. 17

I'm a young man. In previous times I've applied to development in the mine companies. The only -- the only acceptance I had was exploration camps, and it doesn't go beyond that.

According to my researches, my Elders have said Gahcho Kue plays a important part of our lives. And back in the olden days, is that when there's minimum of caribou, people harvest the Arctic

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hare, which is a gahcho. And where they went, you guys 1 are developing in that area. That's why they call it 2 Gahcho Kue. That's where Arctic hare used to -- you 3 know, they find them there. 4 5 And this is going to impact the people, 6 health-wise, cultural-wise, and spiritually. You guys 7 are saying the water flows through Bac -- Artillery Lake. What that tells me, it's going to impact the Old 8 9 Lady of the Falls. That's a spiritual belief that I've taken in consideration. It's very powerful for me. 10 11 Not only me, the whole community as well. 12 But now I'm sitting here giving you guys 13 resumes, hoping I'll get employment. I'm not sure if I do have my criminal record, but I think I've cleared 14 15 it. 16 I think I had enough said here. Thanks. 17 18 (BRIEF PAUSE) 19 20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, Marcel. 21 22 The next speaker is Joe V. Catholique. 23 24 (BRIEF PAUSE) 25

1 MR. JOE V. CATHOLIQUE: Hello, my name is Joseph Catholique and I come from Lutsel K'e. 2 But I'll share few words about De Beers -- about the mine 3 project. I've heard De Beers that you have a mine to 4 5 open now in the traditional territory. I've also heard 6 that you would like to open another one. And I'll have you to know that fuel and waste water has been spilled 7 8 onto our land area. This is no good for the animals. 9 They need clean land to live on. 10 We as Lutsel K'e have eaten those 11 animals. I don't like that. They had to put a -- a 12 waste on the land, big rocks, bottles that makes the 13 ground -- that made my ground covered with dust and 14 lake also. 15 I understand that modern times are here and that young people must have opportunity for 16 17 training and jobs; I'm not against this. De Beers 18 stops putting wastewater on the land, clean up what you 19 have already polluted, now I'm going to fish -- De 20 Beers take fish away, all of the lake and give it all 21 to the people -- give it to the people. 22 And does not sound like a good idea, to 23 move fish from one lake to another -- to another lake? 24 Fish have its own food to live on in that lake. If you 25 add more fish to another lake, then it's going to be

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overpopulated and they're going to get sick or
 something. Yeah.

3 De Beers, I want you to train our young 4 people on a big machine so that the young people can 5 have something to depend on for their future. For the 6 fish, maybe you could put up a little small commercial 7 fishing -- moving the other fish to another lake -- all -- it's a not good idea, for us anyway -- so that 8 9 people can use the fish here. It's our -- our people can use the fish for good use. Then you could have the 10 water, wherever you want to put it. 11

12 So, that with the future of the people 13 here, the mine that's going to be open, I can't say, 14 yes or no. How you going to operate the mine? Because 15 I never did work at the mine. I did work at the mine, 16 one time, in 1963 for mine service doing geology for six (6) weeks. And the person that I worked for was 17 18 from Toronto. And there was four (4) of us, and we had 19 one (1) out there cooking for us, is Johnny Marlowe. 20 And the old man has told us -- told us that in the future, we're going to have a big mine in 21 22 this area here. Now -- what it is right now, I see, 23 yeah -- yeah, I can see it but you couldn't see it. 24 Yeah, I see it, yeah. All these mines covered up in 25 our -- in our land.

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1 So that's all I have to say for now. 2 Thank you. 3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much 4 for your presentation. 5 Our next speaker is Gloria En -- Enzoe. 6 7 (BRIEF PAUSE) 8 9 MS. GLORIA ENZOE: I want to thank the 10 panel for coming to listen to us, for De Beers to 11 listen to us. 12 When I got up this morning I knew this 13 would be a hard day, because you're talking about our livelihood, and you're talking about our future. And I 14 15 asked myself: Who am I speaking for other than 16 speaking for myself and my family? I come from a fam -- a family of thirteen (13), and that's brothers and 17 18 sisters. Our family is bigger than that; our family is 19 huge. Everybody that's Lutsel K'e Dene is all my relatives. 20 21 Before I spoke -- before I came up to 22 speak I looked at all the pictures. You know, I lost 23 both my parents. And I had great parents; they taught me to be a good person; they gave me direction in life. 24 25 And when I looked at those pictures just behind me,

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some of those Elders are not with us anymore, and I'm
 here to honour them.

3 I'm here to honour their words that were 4 always spoken at our tables. They talked about 5 generations to come. They talked about our past. They 6 talked about our future. They cried in their hearts for us to live a good life, to live off the land, to be 7 strong people, and to fight for what's right. That's 8 9 why when I say, I got up this morning, it's going to be a big fight, 'cause I feel it in my heart. 10

11 Ts'ak'ui Theda is the waters that flow 12 that gives us life, that give us spirituality and 13 connection to the land. We are rooted in our 14 traditional land. Everywhere we travel we give thanks. 15 The sun shines for us. The air is there for us to 16 breath. The animals give up their life for us to eat. In return, we fight for them. We fight for know -- for 17 18 what we know what is right.

Our Denochenee (phonetic) is our most important thing. It is who we are. When they say that Gahcho Kue is close to Artillery Lake they're right. Our young men, they travel long ways; they're out there for weeks sometimes at minus fifty (50) compared to having it in your backyard when you're a young girl, shooting your first caribou with your family.

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Do you think our people now have that opportunity? It's our men that travel long ways. They bring home meat to us and we make the dry meat, and we cut up the dry meat, and make the meat. And we store it, hoping that it's going to last us till the next snowfall.

Lots of things have changed since I was young. I remember all those Elders. I remember sitting around here looking -- talking about big maps, talking about travel routes, always fighting all the time for what we think is right, for what is installed in our hearts. I ask myself why, for what? At the end of the day you have nothing.

14 We choose to be isolated; this is what we choose. But 15 our community needs to grow. You see other communities 16 growing, benefiting from this mines. Do you see the 17 benefit in this community, honestly?

18 We fight for education. You know, I --19 I asked why is Gahcho sign -- Gahcho Kue signing an agreement with Health and Social Service for -- for 20 21 socioeconomics? Why? I fight lots for that school to 22 have more teachers, to have more programs and services 23 for our youth, to have a better -- better education. 24 Why don't we have businesses? Why isn't 25 our community growing? And why are we still stuck? We

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1 may be isolated here, but like everywhere else, we have 2 that opportunity to grow. But do people give us that 3 opportunity?

We're the most impacted community, I 4 5 would think. We're really connected to the land. When 6 you go out there, you see a tree grow. This is how I 7 explain it to my kids: You see this tree, how it grows? It's like you; it's connected to the ground. 8 9 The air helps you breathe. The water gives you life. 10 The sun helps you grow. If we damage what we have here 11 how will it affect you as a tree?

12 You got to really think about things, I 13 always tell my kids. I got three (3) kids. I've been 14 with my husband for sixteen (16) years. I got strong 15 values in my heart. My late mom always used to tell 16 me, out there's your pillow, that's your heart. If you 17 have nowhere to go, that's where you go. And I think 18 she told me that to help me in my heart to be 19 connected, and this is why she shared these stories with me. 20 21 I remember going to Ts'ak'ui Theda,

22 praying on a t-shirt, so one (1) of my siblings
23 wouldn't have headaches no more. And that's a miracle
24 in itself. I know that if she were here, she'd say her
25 heart's crying, 'cause it would be.

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140 1 It's hard to agree to this mine, because it's Ts'ak'ui Theda, because of the caribou, and 2 because of the fish. And I sit here and I honour my 3 4 past Elders. (NATIVE LANGUAGE SPOKEN) they would say. 5 6 (INTERPRETED INTO ENGLISH) 7 8 MS. GLORIA ENZOE: We are here today 9 for the people. Masi cho. 10 11 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED) 12 13 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, 14 Gloria. 15 Our next speaker is Steve Ellis (sic). 16 MR. STEVE GILIS: All right, thank you 17 panel for giving me a chance to speak. I'll try to 18 keep it fairly short. I understand you guys are under 19 some time pressures now. 20 Maybe I should explain first under what 21 capacity I am sitting here today. You'll be hearing from me professionally in a couple days in Yellowknife, 22 23 so today I'm sitting here as community member from 24 Lutsel K'e; so in an unprofessional capacity I suppose. 25 I just really want to make two (2)

important points. I've been sitting here today 1 2 listening to what is a very good set of speakers from this community. It's amazing that such a small town 3 has so many great speakers. It's a real asset in this 4 5 town and it always makes me proud to come here and 6 listen to people. So I always try to tell people, Give 7 yourself a hand because it's -- it's a -- a good talent pool you've got here. 8

9 But I just want to go back to the -- and I'm being recorded here by my boy. I just want to go 10 back to the presentation delivered by the Health and 11 12 Social Services people and really reinforce the 13 messaging there. And I think it's important re -- to 14 state this and I'm not sure if Addie did, that that 15 presentation was developed not just by her, but by what 16 J.C. termed the frontline workers in the community. So 17 the people who are in the houses on a daily basis 18 dealing with the real social, spiritual and economic 19 challenges that people are having on a daily basis on a date -- in their hou -- homes and in their -- their 20 21 daily lives. 22 So a lot of thought went into that 23 presentation, a lot of research, and I -- I would not 24 take those -- the comments made in that -- that 25 presentation lightly. I think they're extremely

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1 important to remember.

2 One (1) thing that struck me in that presentation was the statement made by Addie that --3 and she said it much better than I can right now -- but 4 5 that this community really doesn't see itself as a 6 community of miners. And this community really has had 7 really, you know, fifteen/twenty (15/20) years of experience working with the mineral exploration and 8 9 development industry. And certainly some people got 10 some jobs, some people have made some money, but I 11 think the conclusions that were expressed in that 12 presentation, that overall the community has not 13 fundamentally benefited on an economic level, on a 14 social level, on an environmental level, on a cultural 15 level, from the mineral development industry is a fair 16 comment.

17 And you can ask yourself, Why would that 18 be? Is it because people here don't have the training, 19 don't have the ability or the capacity to take the jobs 20 that are provided? And I think that -- that's 21 generally the -- the common theme when you listen to 22 governments and industry and how do we change the 23 success rates in the com -- in this community specifically. Said, Well, if we train people more, if 24 25 we provide more employment opportunities then there

will be more people with mining jobs and the community 1 will improve. But that's not the case. 2 3 The case is that, as Addie said, this is not a community that see's itself as a mining community 4 5 ultimately. And that's -- we hear that time and again. 6 We heard that echo today. We hear that in other 7 hearings, and so on and so forth. 8 So I think the real problem, and the 9 real challenge that we have going forward, is that what 10 we have is governments come into the community, as well as companies come into the community and asking -- and 11 12 I guess, presenting their vision of a certain area of 13 the traditional territory of the Lutsel K'e Dene and 14 saying, This is our vision for the Gahcho Kue area, or, 15 This is our vision for the Thelon Basin, or, This is our vision for the Thor Lake area. 16 17 How can you, First Nation, participate 18 in a successful way in our vision for a piece of your 19 territory? 20 And I think that's been the problem, is 21 that that's the wrong question. The question that I think needs to be asked and -- and we need to start 22 exploring that seriously, and I think this is more 23 really a message for De Beers right now as opposed to 24 25 you as a panel, because I'm not sure how much control

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1 you have over this. But I think the question are -- or 2 the dialogue that really starts -- needs to start 3 happening between companies and the First Nation is 4 that: What is your vision for your community? What is 5 your vision for your traditional territory, and how can 6 we assist you in achieving that vision?

And I don't think that conversation has 7 happened, certainly not on a -- on a big scale. 8 Ι 9 think we're lucky in this community because this community does have a vision for its future; it's been 10 well articulated, it's written down, it's been approved 11 12 by the membership multiple times. It's gone through 13 various different Chiefs. I think probably every time 14 you guys have had a hearing with this First Nation, 15 you've probably seen a different Chief.

But the messages you're hearing from the people are exactly the same. So there's a remarkable consistency in what the community wants to see for j itself, going forward.

20 So again that vision is written down. 21 It has clear objectives on what the community wants to 22 achieve: protecting important cultural and ecological 23 areas, fostering a sustainable local economy, doing 24 what people like Jennifer and Deserae and Jake talked 25 about, finding ways that young people can translate the

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1 traditional knowledge and the history and the skills 2 and experience of the ancestors into a modern way of 3 living.

So how can De Beers help with that? 4 Ι 5 don't have the answers to that, but I think it's time 6 to start asking those questions here. I don't think it's enough anymore to come to the community and say, 7 How can we train your people to drive more trucks for 8 9 us? I think we've -- we've tapped that out. That 10 experiment has gone on for over a decade, and it's met with, largely, failure. So we need to reframe the 11 12 question.

13 The question needs to be: We want to 14 develop a project in your territory; how can this 15 project contribute to your vision for your people and 16 your territory? And I think whatever the Board can do 17 to facilitate that would be welcome.

18 So I'll end it there. Thank you very
19 much.
20
21 (BRIEF PAUSE)
22

THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much,
Steve. Our next speaker, as per her request, Florence
Catholique.

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1 (BRIEF PAUSE) 2 3 MS. FLORENCE CATHOLIQUE: Thank you. 4 5 (BRIEF PAUSE) 6 7 (INTERPRETED INTO ENGLISH) 8 9 MS. FLORENCE CATHOLIQUE: My name is Florence Catholique. I am -- I am from the Lutsel K'e 10 First Nation. I can't always say I have grown up here. 11 12 When I was five (5) years old till I was about twenty 13 (20) years old, I lived in residential schools. 14 But when I came to the community, I 15 maintained my culture, my language, my travel on the 16 land. I took part in those activities. My uncle, Pierre -- Pierre Catholique, and my Aunt Judith, I 17 18 travel on the barren lands with them. 19 So I understand the way the land is --20 the way we love the land, the way you work on the land. 21 I seen it firsthand when I was young. And then on my 22 own -- I travel that way on my own. My children, one 23 (1) grew up in the city. The one (1) I -- the one (1) 24 I raised, I trained to live on the land and survive on 25 the land.

I have seven (7) grandchildren now: 1 three (3) boys and four (4) girls. I am -- I am trying 2 to teaching them the way we live cultural --3 culturally, the way we love the land, the way you use 4 5 the land with a strong mind. I want them to hold our 6 culture. The way our Elders have left the message for 7 us, that is the way I want them to live that life. 8 We, the people here, you government 9 people that are working with the government, the way --10 the way we are making -- talking here and stuff like that, this is what you have to tell the Minister. You 11 12 have to relay our message to us -- to them. 13 The De Beers work -- working for the --14 working on the diamonds now, or ready to work on the 15 diamonds, they have to watch the land, the air, the 16 water, the animals, everything that's living on that 17 land, the one that the Creator put for -- there for us. 18 We have to watch them. That is why we are here 19 collecting stories, telling people and -- and us people 20 here, we are the traditional people. 21 Wherever you're going to put the mine, 22 for us it's just across the lake. It's not far. Ιf 23 anything goes wrong, it's going to be the people here 24 that are going to suffer from it. The people from the 25 other side of the lake, such as the Dogrib, of course

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they will have a say in it. But they are living far 1 from the mine. 2 3 We are all the same people, true. We use the water; we use the animal. We all have to watch 4 5 -- we all have to watch the animal and we have to stay 6 the such -- we are all thinking the same, of protecting everything. So traditionally, we all think the same 7 way in protecting the animal and the animals. 8 9 Apart from that, us people living here on the point here, the Mackenzie Valley Lands and Water 10 Board, Section 5 within -- we have one (1) word. 11 We 12 have -- we have to protect the land and the water. And 13 aside from that, we have to watch the socioeconomic 14 values of the people, how we can avoid -- how it could 15 affect us, impact us. We have to -- we have to look at 16 that. 17 The Elders here, our Elders told us we 18 are the holders of five dollars (\$5), the treaty 19 people. The White men that have come on our land and 20 before, we are still the boss of our land. Even today 21 we are the boss of our land. Some people may not think that. It's hard for them to understand. And it's --22 23 they don't think that we own the land. So it's very 24 hard to work with -- with people that don't think like 25 us.

1 And not so long ago, the Canadian Constitution, Section 35 -- and Section 35 says you 2 have to consult with the people. If you're going to 3 work on any major work on the land, you have to ask the 4 5 people. Whatever the people think, you have to state 6 what the people say and think the way it could work well for them, and that has to be also stated. Even 7 though we seem to be on the same path, but we're still 8 9 have hang-ups. 10 Well, now the government of Canada, 11 following their policies, protecting the fish and 12 watching the water, watching the animal, watching the 13 air, they have it all on paper. And now the protection 14 is getting less and less. The miners and the people 15 that are looking for the -- more emphasis is put on --16 on the mine -- mining activity than it is to protect the land. The government, we thought that were 17 18 protecting the land for us, is not happening anymore. 19 If we are following the government, yeah, the --20 everything that we are working for is not going to be 21 working for us anymore. 22 We, the holder of the five dollar (\$5) 23 people, we have -- we have a strong voice. People like us in Canada here, living here, we -- we're taking the 24

25 people to courts on -- on a constant space, revealing

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all the wrongdoings, the development that's going on. 1 2 That Section 35, that is only our protection, and that's where our water -- our word is 3 4 the strongest. The land -- the land we own here, we 5 can say no. We can't think that it's not our land. It 6 is our land. We think that it's our land. We have a 7 lot of say over the land. 8 A lot of the things that were talked about here, it's hard to -- to do everything in... 9 10 With the many different processes in the system, it's hard to get things done. The De Beers Canada is asking 11 12 for -- for something. And the land around Snap Lake, 13 as depicted on the slide show, it doesn't seem like 14 there's enough information in that. 15 The water is a big thing for us people 16 here, and then the caribou. We have a lot of water on 17 our -- our land. It's flowing all over the place. We 18 cannot stop the flow of the water on our land. It'11 19 be hard to -- and if we stop it, things are going to 20 change. And if things change on the -- on -- on the 21 land, it's not for a good thing; there's an impact. 22 And if something goes wrong on the land, 23 we are impacted also, and our generations to come will 24 be impacted. It's a -- it's hard to make repairs to 25 the land that's been done. And there's litigations

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151 going on. So the -- even though the different hurdles 1 are in place, we still go ahead with... 2 3 And the land will not be reverted back 4 to its original state. Mine Watch Canada, all these 5 different organizations... There's a lot of mines out 6 in the United States. A lot of them are closed now. 7 The land around it, the water, it's not usable anymore because it has been impacted. It's been closed for 8 9 many, many years, some of them, and still that land has -- cannot be used. It's -- it is fenced off. The 10 water can't be used. And people are kept out of there. 11 12 Us, we're not -- we don't think that 13 wav. We don't think that way. The water, the land, we 14 Where the lady sits, the water is flowing towards own. 15 where the lady sits, and it has to be monitored. It 16 has to be watched. We cannot -- we cannot have the 17 water go bad on us. 18 It's hard for the people sometimes to 19 comprehend exactly the scope of the development that's 20 going on. I, myself, had went through that experience in the residential schools. Now we still have our 21 22 culture today. What are we going to do, I think? How 23 can we do it? 24 My job is I work on the IBA -- BA 25 coordinator. That is my job. We agree -- the

1 agreements that are in place, BHP Billiton, Diavik
2 Diamond Mines, and Snap Lake, we have a standing order
3 with -- with these mining companies, and I'm working on
4 it.

5 There is a lot of -- a lot of good words 6 said. A lot of people are going to employed. But even 7 still it doesn't seem like there's enough for everybody 8 because they're telling us that our people are not 9 educated well because they don't have a proper 10 education. That is why our people cannot work in the 11 mining industry.

12 It seems like it's always a negative --13 negative for the work that is happening with the mines. 14 And the work that was promised to us, how many jobs 15 were promised? We are not there yet. The way the 16 paper is done, it said that we were supposed to have first chance at employment. They know what they had 17 18 said, whoever has the contracts, the people that are 19 holding the contract.

It is the contractors that are given most of the people jobs within the community. So if they're going to operate like that, they're asking to -- I don't think they're going to work on the way they're going to do a good job. How can we benefit from that?

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153 We -- so far we have benefited nothing. 1 If you take a good look at it, even though the people 2 do want to work in the mine, but if -- there's so many 3 hurdles. There's all kinds of hurdles put in place so 4 5 it doesn't make for a very good work for us. 6 And the people that -- so it's -- it makes for a difficult living at home. Our people are 7 affected. The young people are not given the proper 8 9 opportunity. The way the -- the way we're teaching our 10 children in the school and at home, it's not adequate, 11 and it should be more than we are teaching. 12 Since the mines have started, the 13 children that are in school has lessened. It had decreased. A lot -- a lot of the people that are 14 15 teaching our children has lessened also. That's not 16 the only thing that's impacting us here. Us people here on the point, if there's one (1) person in trouble 17 18 it -- it affects everybody. One (1) person is impacted 19 with all the relatives, so we're all impacted the same. 20 It's not only one (1) person that suffers. We talk about it a lot. I think you're 21 22 going to have a hard time with it. One (1) -- one (1) 23 person talked just now, a young person. Us people here 24 in the cold land, how come there's only one (1) person 25 that signed the agreements? The monies that are -- all

the monies that are going to the government, to the 1 territorial government, and we, the people, I don't --2 are not benefiting from it. 3 So if we had our own -- if they can help 4 5 us directly, we could do things with that money. We 6 get -- live on the land. We can have better social 7 worker, youth workers. We will have all the infrastructure in place. 8 9 Even today we don't have a daycare centre for our children. A lot of people want to work 10

11 in the -- but they have no way of getting their 12 children taken care of to join the workforce. So it 13 ends up that the Elders are the babysitters here. They 14 should be helping us in that area, but that's not 15 happening. We have to change a lot of things.

Do we have to have our own money to do our own business? If you're not going to do that, the way we are living now, I cannot agree with the way you want to do things. My children's children's children, we cannot -- we can't make a word that's going to affect our children in the future.

This -- this -- there's an Elder in the hospital now. J.B. Rabesca is in the hospital. I remember him saying -- and in the future, he told us, if you don't watch what we are doing and you're sitting

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by the window and you're looking for caribou, you're 1 going to miss the caribou looking out your window. 2 And that is what he told us. And we are there today. 3 That was the Elder's word, and we have to hold onto it. We 4 5 have to hold onto that teachings from the Elders. 6 So I will speak only that for now. 7 Thank you. 8 9 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED) 10 11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, 12 Florence. Your timing is actually right on schedule. 13 We're at the stage where Chief and council wanted to 14 have some comments towards the end of the evening, or the end of the session. And so now is the time to pass 15 16 the mic over to the Chief. And I'm not sure how many 17 council members are going to speak, but I've provided 18 enough time for about twenty (20) minutes to a half an 19 hour for everybody to say something if they wish. 20 Thank you. 21 22 STATEMENTS BY CHIEF AND COUNCIL: 23 CHIEF DORA ENZOE: Hello. Oh, it's on. 24 I just want to thank the Mackenzie Valley Land and 25 Water Board and De Beers, and all other parties that

are in the community, thank you for coming here, the 1 translators, all the workers. 2 3 I thank you for coming here to our community of Lutsel K'e to hear our concerns regarding 4 5 the Gahcho Kue project. As you heard from our Elders, 6 the Gahcho Kue project is right within our area. Our 7 ancestors have used that land. It may have been used by our Elders, but to date it will be used by our trapp 8 9 -- trappers and hunters that do go out in the land. 10 As you have heard over and over, the 11 environment, the land, and water, and wildlife are 12 important to us and we would like to see it protected. 13 As you heard from one (1) of the Elders, J.C., we, as 14 Dene people, have a connection with the land, and we'll 15 always be that way. It's our way of life. You have also heard the concern in 16 17 regards to the caribou, the impact they're facing to 18 date. Since the first mine came into be, which was 19 BHP, since then, to date, we have no -- haven't seen 20 any caribou. And on one (1) of the youth also mentioned; that's Jake Basil and others. 21 22 The last time I went hunting was with my 23 I lost my dad three (3) years ago, my mom seven dad. 24 (7) years ago. So the last hunting trip I took was 25 with my dad. It was -- it was eight (8) -- ten (10)

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1 years ago. I remember I was working at the band. He 2 came to get me and he told me go grab my gun -- rifle. 3 We went out to, how you say it in English, the gap, 4 that area. I went hunting there with my dad. That's 5 the last time I went hunting.

6 Way back when we used to get caribou right out in the bay, we didn't -- our people didn't 7 have to go far. Like I've mentioned, since BHP first 8 9 came into be, now we have Diavik, now we have De Beers, now we're proposing Gahcho Kue. Since the mine came we 10 have seen the impacts on the caribou. They don't come 11 12 in our area any more. We have to go further out in the 13 barren lands.

And the caribou is our way of life; it's our well-being. If the ca -- caribou are being impacted, we're being impacted. And this is the case today, as you hear our members talk. As you also heard my sister mention, our Dene Denochenee (phonetic) is our way of life. For us it's important.

The Gahcho Kue project is right within the ca -- caribou migration route. And when you think about it, we already have three (3) mines. We've got BHP. We've got Diavik. We've got De Beers for Snap Lake. I mean, what's the thoughts of taking care of Snap Lake first, close it down, do reclamation, and

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then go on with Gahcho Kue? The way it looks, we 1 already have three (3) mines, we're proposing a fourth 2 one? We're having a -- a boom and bust effect. 3 As Addie had mentioned, we have seen and 4 5 felt the cumulative effects, the social impacts on our 6 community. I mean, you guys don't live here. You come 7 here for your meetings and stuff. We live here. We see and feel the effects every day. The social impacts 8 9 that our people are facing since the mines came is 10 increasing, which affects the community, our families 11 and everybody. 12 The other concern I have too is in 13 regards to the watershed, the way the water flows, and 14 you heard this over and over. Lady of the Falls, 15 Ts'ak'ui Theda, that's a spiritual and sacred site to 16 our people and I don't want it impacted. The proposed 17 project is right next to it; it's going to have an 18 adverse impact, no matter what, down the line. 19 And when we talk about water I get sort 20 of concerned, especially when we talk about Snap Lake. 21 I mean, they -- they felt the effects so many metres 22 downstream, 6 kilometres, after four (4) years. What's 23 going to happen to Gahcho Kue and the way the water 24 flows? Like the Elders say, the water flows in -- in 25 all areas.

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You know, my mom taught us a connection with the land, our culture, and our belief and how important it's -- it is to us. If the Lady of the Falls is going to be impacted, it's going to hurt us here. That area has a spiritual and significant importance to us here. I don't -- I do not want to see that compromised, no matter what.

And the other issue too is it's right 9 next to the park. I mean, the proposed park we're 10 proposing; it's not established le -- established yet. 11 But if this project comes to be, it's going to have an 12 impact on us as well, no matter what. One mentioned 13 eco-tourism. How are we going to have that when we 14 having mining companies in our area?

15 Our people want our environment, our 16 land, our wildlife protected, no matter what.

17 Okay, then we talk about economic 18 benefits. Has there been any benefits to the Lutsel 19 K'e Dene First Nation with Snap Lake? None whatsoever. 20 We haven't seen no benefits to our people, to our 21 community, to our infrastructure. We checked the 22 stats; there's zero percent workers, just one (1), 23 which means it's zero percent for De Beers for Snap 24 Lake. That's not -- we don't -- we do not include 25 contractors. They're employ -- if our people are

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1 employed, they're contractors. They're not employed by
2 De Beers.

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How many people to we have employed by De Beers for Snap Lake? One (1). And that came in to be, what, 2008? That doesn't show any improvement how we're working together for -- with my people here. I see the lack of socioeconomic benefits for my people of Lutsel K'e.

9 We don't expect you to understand our 10 culture. You don't have the connection to the land 11 that we have. But we do expect you to respect it; our 12 culture, our connection, and our land.

Any negative impacts to the land is a negative impact to our people. Our Elders, our youth, and the Old Lady of the Falls cry when we hear the company say, No significant impacts.

We have a law, our own land, Dene law. We require everyone that goes on the land to follow this law. This law means protecting our land for all time so that all generations of Dene way of life is protected.

I've listened to my membership talk. The way it sounds, they're not in support, especially with the way things are with Snap Lake. I mean, there's been spills. And the way things are with Snap

161 Lake to how things are to date with the Lutsel K'e Dene 1 First Nation is not good. 2 3 I can tell you right now, the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation and membership oppose the Gahcho --4 5 Gahcho Kue project. We oppose the Gahcho Kue project 6 until Snap Lake's improved, until we build a trust on how we can work together, improve from here on. Masi 7 cho. 8 9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, Chief. And I understand that all the councillors want 10 to make some comments. Okay, go ahead. 11 12 MR. JAMES MARLOWE: Good af -- qood 13 evening. My name is James Marlowe. I'm a member of the council of the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation. I'd 14 15 like to welcome... 16 17 (BRIEF PAUSE) 18 19 MR. JAMES MARLOWE: I'd like to welcome 20 the panel to our land which we cherish very much. Just 21 to let you know that our ancestors signed a treaty, 22 Treaty 8, on July 25th, 1900, in Fort Resolution. 23 Since that day, we haven't broken it. And as long as 24 the -- the sun is si -- shining, the river is flowing, 25 and the grass grows we still maintain that treaty.

1 Also, to inform you that we, as First Nations member, have our Aboriginal right that is 2 enshrined in the Canadian Constitution. And also, the 3 Crown has a duty to consult with us when there's any 4 5 negative effects on our livelihood and our way of life. 6 Also, we have case laws that has been 7 established in other parts of Canada that gives 8 jurisdictions to First Nations. De Beers stated 9 earlier in their presentation that there would be no 10 significant adverse impacts on the environment, yet 11 they are willing to be restructuring a lake and a whole 12 river system, a system that we rely on for water, fish, and waterfowls. 13 14 And also, the proposed diamond mine, 15 Gahcho Kue, is situated on a migration route that has 16 been there for thousands of years. Me and some Elders, back in 2006, went there and looked at those migration 17 18 route that were left behind by the caribou that dated 19 thousands of years back. When you establish a mine 20 there, that trail is going to be wiped out forever; therefore, the route the caribou takes for thousands of 21 22 years is going to be gone forever. 23 And the caribou are going to be 24 confused. They're going to be starting going somewhere 25 else. The same thing they did with Diavik. Diavik is

situated right on the trail -- trail of the caribou
 that's been there for thousands of years.

3 Also, the dust from the mine travels all over the area of the mine footprint, and this is going 4 5 to be an effect on the environment. Yet De Beers is 6 saying that there's no significant adverse impact on the environment. De Beers also stated in their 7 presentation that the Water Survey of Canada along with 8 them are saying that the water is flowing from Kennady 9 10 Lake into Elmer Lake, Fletcher Lake, Walmsley Lake, all the way down to Artillery Lake, and then into Great 11 12 Slave Lake. When we sat down with the Elders last --13 within the last two (2) weeks, the Elders were saying 14 that not only the water flows that way, it also flows 15 down the Hoarfrost River system. This system, the water is flowing -- or the river, sometimes it goes 16 17 underground. So there's a river system that's in place 18 that has been identified by the Elders that not only it 19 goes the other way around; it goes -- it flows down to Hoarfrost River into Great Slave Lake. 20 21 The flow of water -- of the water from 22 the proposed mine is flowing -- will flow from the --23 what the -- from Kennady Lake into the Elmer Lake

24 system; therefore, if there are contaminates that flows
25 from there into Artillery Lake, it's contaminating the

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-- our river system. And here, at the same time, we 1 are trying to protect an area called Thikdenena 2 (phonetic), the river flows through that area that 3 which we're trying to protect. 4 5 It's just like taking a bad thing into a 6 good thing that trying -- we are trying to protect. 7 Therefore, it's jeopardizing our livelihood, especially when we try to protect our land and water for our 8 9 future. 10 De Beers also stated they're going to pour water back into Kennady Lake after they're done. 11 12 How do we know it's safe for fish, the wildlife, and ourselves? How do we know it's safe for us? 13 14 De Beers also further stated -- they 15 mentioned fluctuant. What is it? Like, is it safe to 16 put into the water? We need an explanation on that. 17 In 2006 when De Beers was here doing a 18 scoping workshop, I think it was the Land and Water 19 Board also, we stated to them, Why do we need a second 20 diamond mine, especially if De Beers is restructuring a 21 whole water system and draining the lake? 22 We are concerned for our future. If we 23 go ahead and destroy the land, the fish, the water, at Gahcho Kue, what kind of legacy we going to have --24 25 leave behind for our kids. What we are trying to do is

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we -- hopefully, if things all work out, create 1 opportunities for our membership and our young people 2 so that they can prosper. 3 Some members are afraid to work at the 4 5 diamond mine because of racism and discrimination. 6 They quit. That is negative for us. Da Beers' record at Snap Lake diamond mine is discouraging and it 7 doesn't look good due to the lack of employment, 8 9 training, business opportunities. To date, what op -opportunities do we have for our First Nations and 10 11 members in our community? 12 There is only a small percentage of 13 opportunities or in some cases, there's zero (0) from 14 the Snap Lake diamond mine. 15 Lady of the Falls, Ts'ak'ui Theda, is 16 our most sacred area as the Dene Tsuu T'ina people of Lutsel K'e, therefore, we must protect it. It's our 17 18 spirituality. If De Beers somehow destroy the water 19 system that flows into that area, a sacred area, you're 20 going to be killing that spirituality spiritually. 21 Regarding the restructuring of the land and water at Gahcho Kue, the fish out, the effects on 22 23 the whole ecosystem, if you take the fish out, you're 24 struct -- you're restructuring the whole lake, there ho 25 -- therefore, having negative effects on the land,

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water, wildlife and us as Lutsel K'e Dene people. 1 2 We don't -- there is just too much uncertainty -- certainty -- the uncertainty is too huge 3 for us. Gahcho Kue proposed diamond mine has to be 4 5 responsible and not per -- pollute this joy or even 6 damage the land, water or wildlife that we depend on. 7 Any negative effects will destroy us as Let -- as Dene Tsuu T'ina people. 8 9 Just to let you know that the Gahcho Kue area is the Lutsel K'e Dene Tsuu T'ina territory. And 10 other aboriginal organizations or group has no 11 12 jurisdiction, whatsoever, to that area, accept for us. Masi cho. 13 14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much. 15 Is anybody else going to speak from council? 16 MS. DESERAE JONASSON: I'd just like to thank everyone for coming out today. I'd like to thank 17 18 the Elders who spoke, the youth that have spoken and 19 that's it, thank you. 20 21 (INTERPRETED INTO ENGLISH) 22 23 MS. EMILY SAUNDERS: I want to say 24 thank you. We'd gathered all day and your participation 25 today, it's really important issue that we're talking

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1 about, the Gahcho Kue mine development. It's a big
2 thing for us to hear the concern, the Elders, the
3 youth, they all spoke. Talking about the land, the
4 water, the wildlife. The Dene Tsuu T'ina, we'd survive
5 on the -- we use that -- and that's very important to
6 us.

7 I'm thinking what the Chief is saying, listening to the membership -- we're -- come to 8 9 conclusion, it's going to have an impact, the mine at 10 Gahcho Kue. We already have a mine at Snap Lake. I've went there a couple times, there was a spill one (1) 11 12 time and we had to go over there and they were saying 13 that it was all fixed but after we got back here and then there was another spill we heard. 14

15 The -- those kind of concern -- that we 16 do have that kind of a concern. You know, if there's a 17 spill the recommendations, concerns that have been 18 forth -- put forth, it's for our kids, for the future. 19 For the future, if -- if the water is contaminated, 20 what are -- what's going to happen to our children? 21 Maybe in the future we're going to have to buy bottled 22 water. We've got to think about those things. 23 Us Treaty people, it's very strong. We 24 haven't given -- given up our land to anybody. We're 25 still working on that. And we're going to have strong

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The mine -- you're wanting to open up a mine, 1 words. there is parks, too, also we're discussing. It's 2 pretty close to where you're proposing a mine. There 3 has to be no development in that area and that's why 4 5 we're talking about the park. Now you're trying to open up a mine just close to it. Those kind of things 6 -- and we're trying to protect the land. 7 8 The Elders, even the youth are -- the 9 ancestors that -- that were before us, told us to protect the land, the water, the wildlife, respect it. 10 Respect it. That -- us Elders it's very -- very 11 12 important to us. The youth, we participated with the 13 youth on the land, even their grandfather go out with them and -- and teach them on the land and it's very 14

15 important to us. We have to respect everything, water, 16 land, and the wildlife.

For me, everybody that spoke, I want to thank them. It's true what you're saying. There were -- there's going to be impact. The Elders are saying, Look in the future. For the youth that spoke also, I want to say thank you. Thank you.

MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Thank you. My aname is Stephanie Poole. And I am a member of Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation council. As a member of this First Nation, I feel compelled to tell you that I am

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1 also a mother and have five (5) children. And I care
2 very deeply for their future, a future where they are
3 allowed to benefit from the same pristine ecosystem
4 that my ancestors have protected for me in all of these
5 years.

6 Before I go any further, I just wanted 7 to thank all of the members of our community who have participated in this event today, who have come out and 8 9 spent their time and expressed their feelings, you 10 know, spoke to you from their hearts and have shared very personal things with you today. I want to thank 11 12 everybody for coming out and doing that. And I just 13 wanted to make sure that everyone in the -- who is here 14 was able to have the opportunity to speak. So if there 15 are any members of our community here who were not able 16 to speak, if you would like to, I would give you this 17 opportunity now to do so. 18 So if there are any of you here who 19 still wish to say something --

20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Excuse me --21 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: Yeah. 22 THE CHAIRPERSON: -- Stephanie, I 23 apologize, but the meeting is the panel's meeting. And 24 I'm trying to work through, in a very respectful way, 25 to conclude this session. And so I have already closed

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off the list for participating. I'm sorry, but that's 1 the ruling we made. 2 3 So if there's an opportunity for people to go to technical sessions later on, fine, but we're 4 5 not opening it up again at this stage, sorry. 6 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: And so, Chair, I would like to thank you for -- for saying that because 7 I think that the point I'm trying to make is that 8 9 Lutsel K'e -- the community of Lutsel K'e and the 10 people who live here are the most impacted people in 11 regards to this proposal. 12 I know that in De Beers' socioeconomic 13 assessment they have grouped us together with eight (8) other communities. And they call us "potentially-14 15 affected" communities. And I find that insulting, to 16 say the least. Lutsel K'e is not a potentiallyaffected community. It is the community that will be 17 18 significantly and severely impacted if this proposal is 19 allowed to proceed. 20 Our people have to be able to express 21 themselves and their opinions regarding this proposal, 22 especially if the Review Board is part of the Crown's duty to consult. You know, you're not allowing enough 23 24 time for our people -- for their voices to be heard 25 despite, you know, several requests to hold the entire

1 public hearing here in the community of Lutsel K'e, you
2 know, which would have at least been a little bit more
3 fair and would have allowed more time for more of our
4 people to express themselves.

5 You know, you mentioned that maybe some 6 of our people could express themselves in Yellowknife 7 if they could find their way there. And so I have to mention that, you know, the Federal Government, the 8 9 amount of participant funding that they have allotted this community, this community that will be 10 11 significantly impacted, the amount of money for 12 participant funding in this process is not enough. 13 We will not be able to bring our entire 14 community over to Yellowknife for the technical portion 15 of your hearing and our voices will not be heard, and that is not fair. And I want to make that known for 16 17 the record. 18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Yes, it's on the 19 record. Thank you. 20 MS. STEPHANIE POOLE: While I was

21 speaking of the socioeconomic assessment and -- and the 22 fact that, you know, it -- it's not fair, it's true. 23 It's -- it's ridiculous. And it should be completely 24 disregarded. The statistics used for the socioeconomic 25 assessment are invalid in regards to the community of

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Lutsel K'e. Why? Because Lutsel K'e Dene do not 1 participate in census taking or statistics. 2 3 If De Beers, you know, really cared about what the socioeconomic impacts would be on this 4 5 community, then they would have done a study of -- with 6 the people of this community in that regard. 7 There are other -- many other things about the environmental impact statement that we cannot 8 9 agree with. We have no confidence in the science that 10 was used to come up with these predictions and assessments. And I just wanted to say that as well, 11 12 since I also will not be at the technical hearing in 13 Yellowknife, although I am hoping to be able to 14 participate by phone. 15 I -- I fully agree that this project 16 cannot proceed as the way it is proposed. You've heard from some of our members today, and you've heard the 17 18 reasons why. And as a member of council who works for 19 the members, I'm fully prepared to uphold and fight for 20 the direction that they have given us today. I think 21 I'll stop there for now. But I will say that I wish 22 you all a safe journey home. And thank you. 23 MR. RON FATT: Thank you. My name is 24 Ron Fatt. I'm a Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation member. 25 I'm also a council. Mining industry in our territory

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1 is, you know, it's a big impact on us, big time. When 2 -- when you grow up a traditional person, you know, a 3 traditional person means raised up on the land, and 4 when you see three (3) other mines coming up all at 5 once, booming at once, you are spiritually, physically, 6 mentally impact.

And when I hear things like the caribou are migrating eastwards, further east, and for me to get out there, like to buy five (5) gallons, it's like fifty (50) bucks right there, you know. Am I socially impacted here in town, too, as well?

12 The living, it's not easy, you know. 13 Especially when you're raising two (2) kids. I'm 14 raising two (2) boys right now, two (2) wonderful boys. 15 And they're -- for them, the drum, it's very, very 16 power for them -- powerful. You know, and when they 17 play hand games, they're -- when you see them, you 18 know, it takes a lot of enthusiasm. You're saying that 19 your tradition is still strong, they are alive. You know, the drum is the heartbeat of the nation of Dene 20 21 people.

And when I see a fourth mine coming up like this, I don't have any faith in mining industry now. And one (1) of them was De Beers with -- with their record of environment impacts. And a lot of

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1 people already stated here, saying that, you know, the 2 silt containment has burst. You know, a lot of fuel 3 spills.

And the winter roads, you know, we're 4 5 very, very well aware of the winter roads. It's a big 6 major impact when it comes to the Bathurst herd. You know, the Bathurst herd's almost diminished from three 7 hundred and ninety thousand (390,000) to thirty-nine 8 9 thousand (39,000) in less than a decade. And when the 10 Bathurst try to migrate south towards their traditional 11 grounds for calving and for feeding, and they can't get 12 to it because of the winter roads. The last time I saw 13 a caribou here in the bay is 1993. And this is where 14 the mining industry began.

15 And, for me, I am totally impact, you 16 know, mentally, physically. When industry people come here like this, they -- they don't have the slightest 17 18 notion of it, because they weren't born on the land. 19 They don't have the spiritual connection to that land. 20 My -- my prayers, my way of life, it's all come from 21 the -- my ancestors, my -- my granny, my grandpa, my 22 Elders here today, made that very clear. You know, we 23 have this powerful connection to the land. And we are 24 impacted.

You know, sometimes -- maybe it's time

25

175 for the Review and De Beers, it's time to tell them to 1 clean up their act. You know, for me, I'm totally 2 against this mine right now. Maybe just delay another 3 twenty (20) years, thirty (30) years, until those other 4 5 mining companies are done. Maybe by then our caribou, 6 the Bathurst herds, they will be coming back slowly. 7 It doesn't take overnight, you know. But it takes ten (10) years to get rid of that many caribou. 8 We are 9 impacted. 10 And when I see my fellow members in 11 Yellowknife, Treaty 11, have a quota to hunt caribou on 12 their own traditional territory, that's an impact. 13 And I'd just like to say and thank -- my 14 -- my members here spoke from their heart, some of them 15 are really nervous, you know, we must say something 16 here today in order to make a difference tomorrow for 17 our younger generation, plain and simple. 18 And I -- I wish you the best going home, 19 make sure nothing happens to you guys so you can bring 20 our messages back to your people. And for that, I 21 wanted to just say thank you, masi. 22

23 CLOSING COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRPERSON:

24THE CHAIRPERSON:Thank you very25much.

1 And on behalf of our Gahcho Kue panel, I want to thank 2 Chief Dora Enzoe and council for hosting us here today. 3 I want to thank the Elders and community members for 4 expressing their concerns and views regarding the 5 project. It was very good par -- participation and --6 and we -- we appreciate everybody coming out to speak 7 to us.

A function like this never is really 9 complete unless we recognize the catering people who 10 provided the meal, Bernice Marlowe and Terry Enzoe and 11 coffee -- the coffee service was Belinda Michelle and 12 Justin Catholique. We also have to recognize the 13 facility staff here who do the cleanup and move in the 14 chairs and all that sort of stuff.

15 The Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation band 16 was very, very helpful in assisting in the coordination of this hearing here -- community hearing today and 17 18 staff wanted me to mention Agatha Labocan (phonetic) 19 who was very, very helpful in coordinating this event. 20 We couldn't get through a hearing like 21 this without our interpreters and Archie Catholique, 22 Bethie -- Bertha Catholique and Tom Unka were 23 invaluable in helping us get -- get through so we could 24 understand each other very well. Pido Production did a 25 marvellous job, better than the other day. Thank you

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very much. Our transcriber, Lorraine Douglas, I 1 appreciate your patience back there, and I know I 2 haven't been naming everybody but I'm sure you've got 3 all the names right. 4 5 The De Beers' team, I appreciate your presentation and your patience and I know that you've 6 7 been listening and taking notes, so that is good and we'll -- we'll be seeing each other again later, I'm 8 9 sure. 10 I want to express appreciation to the 11 panel for their patience and their -- their good 12 listening skills and staff and support staff and -- and 13 legal counsel, their presence was very, very helpful to 14 us. 15 So, at this stage, I want to adjourn the 16 Gahcho Kue Panel Lutsel K'e community hearing and we -we know that some of you will be in Yellowknife and we 17 18 will be sitting through three (3) days of tech --19 technical meetings beginning on Wednesday -- and so Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. We've also scheduled a --20 21 a Saturday, if required, but I could tell you that the 22 panel does not have an appetite for a Saturday meeting. 23 So I will try my best to -- to move the -- the hearing 24 along to fit within the three (3) days. 25 Usually what happens at the end of a --

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1 a session like this is we close with a prayer and I 2 never asked the Chief if anybody would help us with 3 that. Can we get somebody to help us do the closing 4 prayer? (CLOSING PRAYER) --- Upon adjourning at 6:24 p.m. 11 Certified Correct, 16 Lorraine Douglas, Ms.

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