

EA1819-01

Andrea McLandress
Regional Director of Environmental Protection Operations Directorate
Prairie and Northern Region, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Via Rail Building
123 Main St, room 150
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4W2

Via email: Andrea.McLandress@Canada.ca

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RE: Participation in EA1819-01

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) is conducting an environmental assessment of Diavik Diamond Mine Incorporated's proposal to deposit and store processed kimberlite in pits and underground mine workings. The Review Board ordered an environmental assessment (EA) of this proposed development under subsection 126(3) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA).

The scope of assessment for this EA includes topics that directly relate to the mandate and expertise of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC). ECCC's expertise is relevant and important to the Review Board to inform its EA decision and the Board is requesting ECCC's fulsome participation in this proceeding.

The mandate and expertise of ECCC relates directly to issues identified in the scope of assessment for EA1819-01, including impacts on water quality, wildlife species at risk, and migratory birds. The Review Board is requesting ECCC's assistance in accordance with s. 22 of the MVRMA. Section 22 is not limited by regulatory roles; it enables the Review Board to obtain any information from government departments that the Board requires to perform its functions.

The Review Board is also required to consider impacts on the well-being and way of life of Indigenous people, including in relation to impacts on water quality and wildlife. The Federal and Territorial Governments have encouraged Indigenous Government Organizations to participate in the EA process to help evaluate potential impacts on their s. 35 rights. Given the scope of the EA, ECCC's participation may also be relevant to the broader consideration of impacts on Indigenous rights.

The Review Board is part of an integrated resource management system and operates in a coordinated manner with other boards, governments, and regulatory authorities. The Review Board encourages ECCC's full participation in the EA, including the public hearing, and values



its knowledge and expertise to help inform the assessment of potential impacts within the scope of assessment.

Please direct questions to Catherine Fairbairn at 867-766-7054 or cfairbairn@reviewboard.ca or Kate Mansfield at 867-766-7062 or kmansfield@reviewboard.ca.

Sincerely,

Mark Cliffe-Phillips
Executive Director

cc Adrian Paradis
Northern Projects Management Office