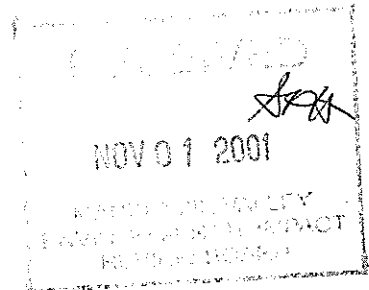


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**David Livingstone, Director  
Renewable Resources and Environment  
P.O. Box 1500, Yellowknife NT X1A 2R3  
Internet: [livingstoned@inac.gc.ca](mailto:livingstoned@inac.gc.ca)  
Tel.: (867) 669-2647  
Fax.: (867) 669-2707**



Date: November 1, 2001

To: Vern Christensen  
Executive Director, MVEIRB

Fax: 920-4761

Pages: 2, including cover

Comments:

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Your file - Votre référence  
**EA01-004**

Our file - Notre référence  
**7392-7-A2-12-3**

November 1, 2001

**BY FACSIMILE: (867) 920-4761**

Mr. Vern Christensen  
Executive Director  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
Box 938  
200 Scotia Centre, 5102 -50<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
YELLOWKNIFE, NT X1A 2N7

Dear Mr. Christensen:

**RE: Application of the Review Board's Draft Rules of Procedure to the *DeBeers Snap Lake Diamond Mine Environmental Assessment Proceedings***

I am writing in response to your October 16, 2001, letter requesting Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) to identify which participant category it falls under according to the Rules of Procedure for the De Beers Snap Lake Diamond Mine environmental assessment.

INAC will participate as a "directly affected party" in the capacity of a Federal Minister, Responsible Minister, and as the administrator of Crown land for the Snap Lake Diamond Mine Project. Under the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act, INAC has a legislated coordination and decision making role as a "federal Minister" and is a "responsible Minister" when a project impacts on INAC's jurisdiction. INAC jurisdiction is governed by the *DIAND Act*, *Territorial Lands Act* and the *NWT Waters Act*, related regulations and other land claim related legislation.

We look forward to participating in this environmental assessment.

Yours sincerely,

David Livingstone  
Director, Renewable Resources and Environment

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