



Mackenzie Valley
Environmental Impact
Review Board

Box 938
200 Scotia Centre, (5102-50th Avenue)
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7
Fax: (867) 920-4761

July 10, 2002

MVEIRB file: EA01-004

John McConnell
Vice President, NWT Projects
De Beers Canada Mining Inc.
702 - 5201 50th Avenue
Yellowknife, NT S1A 3S9

Dear Mr. McConnell:

RE: De Beers Snap Lake Diamond Mine Environmental Assessment

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) has provided De Beers with a timely environmental assessment (EA) and appreciates De Beers' EA efforts and submissions to date. The Review Board will continue to accommodate De Beers' need for work plan amendments for additional time throughout the EA, however, the Review Board will also have to continue to consult with Parties to the EA to ensure that these amendments do not preclude their effective participation.

As you are aware, the Review Board is considering another amendment to the De Beers EA work plan. To avoid further amendments being required shortly, the Review Board is considering adding sufficient time to the EA process to potentially capture future delays on submissions by DeBeers. This amendment would result in the Review Board's EA decision date advancing into the second quarter of 2003. To avoid having to make future amendments to the work plan which will only serve to further delay the EA, please commit as best as you are able to, dates for the submission of outstanding items to the Review Board.

If you wish to discuss this matter, please contact Louie Azzolini.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon Wray".

Gordon Wray
Alternate Chair

copy: Robin Johnstone