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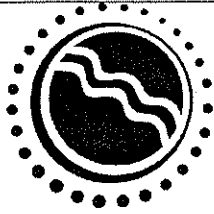
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact
Review Board Box 938, 5102-50th Avenue,
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From Louie Azzolini
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Mackenzie Valley
Environmental Impact
Review Board

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January 22, 2002

To The Facsimile Distribution List

RE: Determination of Standing in the De Beers Environmental Assessment

On September 16, 2001, the Review Board decided to apply its draft Rules of Procedure as they were at that time (the "De Beers Rules of Procedure") to the De Beers Snap Lake project. The De Beers Rules of Procedure will help people with an interest in the environmental assessment (EA) of the proposed De Beers diamond mine to participate to the Review Board's consideration of the development.

The De Beers Rules of Procedure provide for three classes of participants in the Snap Lake EA depending on several factors, including how directly the proposed development affects a party's legal interests and how active a role a party wants to play in the EA process. Any persons or organizations who wanted to be involved in the EA were asked to contact let the Review Board and to advise as to whether they were directly affected by the proposed De Beers diamond mine, wanted intervenor status, or only wanted a chance to be informed and participate informally in the EA. The status accorded to you or your organization under the De Beers Rules of Procedure will affect the role you may play in the EA process.

The North Slave Metis Alliance, the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Natural Resources Canada are requesting Directly Affected Party standing.

The Canadian Arctic Resources Committee, and the World Wildlife Fund are requesting Intervenor standing.

It is important for you or your organization to specify the role you wish to play in the EA process early so that when there are any public hearings, or if you want a chance to ask questions to De Beers, you can do so without any delays or legal issues. If you believe you or your organization are directly impacted by the proposed De Beers Diamond Mine, want to intervene in the EA or want a chance to participate in the EA contact Louie Azzolini at 867-766-7053 as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Luciano Azzolini
Environmental Assessment Officer