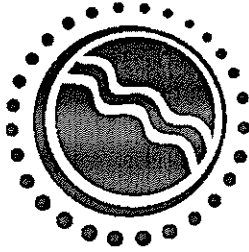


**FXED**  
*March 6, 2000*



Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact  
Review Board Box 938, 5102-50th Avenue,  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

John McConnell, Robin Johnstone, De Beers™	766-7347
Bob Turner, NSMA	669-7442
Rachel Crapeau, YDFN, Dettah and N'dilo	873-5969
Steve Ellis, Lutselk'e Dene Council	(867) 370-3010
Cecil Lafferty, Fort Resolution Metis Council	(867) 394-3322
Maurice Boucher, Deninu Ku'e Envir. Working Committee	(867) 394-5122
Akaitcho Territory Government, Maurice Boucher	(867) 394-3413
Jolene Koyina, Dogrib Treaty 11 Council	766-3441
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Laura Duncan, Wha Ti First Nation	(867) 573-3222
Lana Paulson, Gameti First Nation	(867) 997-3411
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<i>Chris Paci Dene Nation</i>	<i>920-2254</i>
City Clerk, City of Yellowknife	920-5649
<i>Mike Richards, Hamlet of Rae-Edzo</i>	<i>(867) 392-6139</i>
Tom Matus, Charter Community of Wha Ti	(867) 573-3018
Brett Hudson, GNWT	873-0114
Mark Dahl, Environment Canada	873-8185
Julie Dahl, Marc n321' Lange DFO	669-4940
John Ramsey, NRCan	(613) 995-5719
A/Executive Director, MVLWB	873-6610
Mary Tapsell, INAC	669-2701
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From Louie Azzolini  
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Derek Chubb Ekati™ BHP Mines Diamond Mine Inc.	669-9293
NWT Chamber of Mines	920-2145
NWT Chamber of Commerce	873-4174

**Date:** Wednesday, March 06, 2002  
**From:** Luciano Azzolini, Environmental Assessment Officer  
**Pages:** 2 including these two cover pages  
**File:** EA01-004 De Beers Snap Lake Diamond Project

**Subject: De Beers Environmental Assessment**

A few people have asked for the same information, so I am distributing it to everyone by email and fax just in case others might also need it. The following are attached:

- Technical Report template for government reviewers.
- Information Request (IR) template for Interveners and Directly Affected Parties. Please note we have simplified the IR template, call if you have any questions about it.

Note: Do not wait to send your IR's to us. The sooner you get them to us the better.

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## **Information Request Guidance**

An Information Request (IR) is a written request from one party directed to another party, through the Review Board, during an environmental assessment (EA). The party who receives the IR will be required to provide the Review Board with a written response that satisfactorily addresses the questions and/or issues raised by the IR.

The purpose of the IR is to secure relevant and appropriate information to assist the Review Board to focus on and resolve issues. This will allow the completion of the EA in an effective, efficient, fair and accountable manner.

Please submit all IRs to the Review Board in digital format based on the IR template provided by the Review Board. Paper copies are optional.

The IR must be submitted with a cover letter that identifies the individual within your organization who is responsible for handling any questions related to the IR. This primary individual must be capable of handling the questions themselves or identifying another individual with the organization who can handle the questions. The primary individual's contact information must be provided in the cover letter, including address (courier and mail), phone number, fax number and e-mail address.

The Review Board might have to rule on the relevance and acceptability of the IRs, as all IRs must relate and contribute to the EA. The Review Board will decide if an IR will then be forwarded, under the Review Board's authority, to the intended recipient. This provides the Review Board with management control and accountability over the IR process.

**De Beers Canada Mining Inc. (De Beers)  
Snap Lake Diamond Project**

**<Organization Name> Information Request No. X**

*Project Description*

X.1 Reference: Identify the source document, and where in the document (e.g. section number, page number, table number, appendix number, etc.), your request originates. If there is more than one source, then list them as below.

- (a) Source 1.
- (b) Source 2.

ToR Line: Identify the Terms of Reference Line Number(s) that relate to the request.

To: What organization is the ultimate intended recipient of the IR? As all IRs are initially submitted to Review Board, stating "Review Board" is not what is wanted here. To what organization do you want the Review Board to direct the IR?

Preamble: Describe why you are making the request. Is the source document unclear? Are there inconsistencies and/or errors within the document? What will you do with the response?

Request: What is it you want? What is the recipient being directed to do and/or provide? For example,

Please:

- (a) Provide Document X.
- (b) Explain why you did this.
- (c) What is the rationale for this number?

X.2 Reference: Identify the source document, and where in the document (e.g. section number, page number, table number, appendix number, etc.), your request originates. If there is more than one source, then list them as below.

- (a) Source 1.
- (b) Source 2.

- ToR Line: Identify the Terms of Reference Line Number(s) that relate to the request.
- To: What organization is the ultimate intended recipient of the IR? As all IRs are initially submitted to Review Board, stating "Review Board" is not what is wanted here. To what organization do you want the Review Board to direct the IR?
- Preamble: Describe why you are making the request. Is the source document unclear? Are there inconsistencies and/or errors within the document? What will you do with the answer?
- Request: What is it you want? What is the recipient being directed to do and/or provide? For example,
- Please:
- (a) Provide Document X.
  - (b) Explain why you did this.
  - (c) What is the rationale for this number?

*Noise*

- X.3 Reference: Identify the source document, and where in the document (e.g. section number, page number, table number, appendix number, etc.), your request originates. If there is more than one source, then list them as below.
- (a) Source 1.
  - (b) Source 2.
- ToR Line: Identify the Terms of Reference Line Number(s) that relate to the request.
- To: What organization is the ultimate intended recipient of the IR? As all IRs are initially submitted to Review Board, stating "Review Board" is not what is wanted here. To what organization do you want the Review Board to direct the IR?
- Preamble: Describe why you are making the request. Is the source document unclear? Are there inconsistencies and/or errors within the document? What will you do with the answer?
- Request: What is it you want? What is the recipient being directed to do and/or provide? For example,

Please:

- (a) Provide Document X.
- (b) Explain why you did this.
- (c) What is the rationale for this number?

*Air Quality*

X.4 Reference: Identify the source document, and where in the document (e.g. section number, page number, table number, appendix number, etc.), your request originates. If there is more than one source, then list them as below.

- (a) Source 1.
- (b) Source 2.

ToR Line: Identify the Terms of Reference Line Number(s) that relate to the request.

To: What organization is the ultimate intended recipient of the IR? As all IRs are initially submitted to Review Board, stating "Review Board" is not what is wanted here. To what organization do you want the Review Board to direct the IR?

Preamble: Describe why you are making the request. Is the source document unclear? Are there inconsistencies and/or errors within the document? What will you do with the answer?

Request: What is it you want? What is the recipient being directed to do and/or provide? For example,

Please:

- (a) Provide Document X.
- (b) Explain why you did this.
- (c) What is the rationale for this number?

*Add Sections As Required (i.e. Hydrology, Reclamation, Geotechnical Engineering)*

# Format for Technical Reports

## Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

### ***Introduction***

- ▲ Relevant aspects of organization's mandate
- ▲ List of general subjects reviewed
- ▲ Indication that comments have been submitted for all issues identified
- ▲ Statement of the capacity in which comments are provided (e.g. are responses in offered as expert advisor, responsible minister, federal minister or intervenor, etc..)

### ***Specific comments***

For each specific issue reviewed, please:

1. **Identify the issue** (using Terms of Reference line and section numbers for reference)
2. State the **developer's conclusion** relating to the issue (referencing source [page or section in EA report or Information Request number] where possible)
3. State **your conclusion** relating to the issue, (including and indication of agreement of disagreement).
4. Provide a clear **rationale** (including any relevant evidence) in enough detail to support your conclusion.
5. Provide **recommendations** relating to the issue.

### ***Preliminary Screening References***

If reviewers wish to reference comments made during preliminary screening, these should be linked to specific items in the Terms of Reference.

### ***Outstanding Information Request Issues***

IR issues constraining the technical review should be identified.

### ***Summary of Recommendations***

Reviewers are requested to provide an itemized summary of recommendations.

# *Sample* Technical Report

## **Introduction**

The Department of Paleo-Ecology (DPE) is pleased to offer the following technical comments on the Environmental Assessment Report of the proposed Flintstone Mammoth Ranch (EA93-012). The mandate of the DPE, as described in the Extinct Species Reintroduction Act (Sec. 4(b)) charges this department with responsibility for managing the release of re-created species and related programs and policies.

We have conducted a technical review of the following general subjects in the Flintstone EA document and related information requests:

- ▲ Effects on terrestrial wildlife
- ▲ Effects on vegetation
- ▲ Effects on other re-introduced species
- ▲ Tourism related social impacts

Specific comments follow. Where no comments have been offered, no concerns were identified.

The DEP serves in this assessment as both an expert advisor and a regulator. The comments included here are offered in our departmental capacity as an expert advisor, except where it is specifically indicated otherwise.

## **Specific Comments**

### **1. Changes to plant species composition as a result of mammoth browsing**

Reference: ToR line # 42, EA Report Section 6.3 (p. 60)

#### **Developer's Conclusion:**

Flintstone Inc. concluded that mammoth browsing would have no effect on local plant composition. Flintstone suggests that no change is predicted because the area was historically browsed by mammoth and has been continually browsed by a variety of large mammal species since that time, and that this is a natural pressure on the vegetation.

#### **Our Conclusion:**

DPE does not agree with Flintstone's assessment of this impact. Mammoth browsing is likely to have a considerable lasting effect on local plant composition.

#### **Our Rationale / Evidence:**

Although mammoth were endemic to this area in the past, significant climate and habitat changes have occurred since (e.g. ice age glaciation and thaw). It is well established by



the paleological record that current vegetation patterns are not representative of historical ones during the period when mammoth last browsed this area.

There is also evidence that mammoth are highly selective browsers. Although mammoths were not selective browsers in their historical habitat, there are only eight species of plants expected to be palatable for mammoth in sub-arctic taiga forest that is now typical of the area.

Considering the dietary requirements of one mammoth (>300 kilos/day), the size of the proposed herd (170), and the area of the proposed project (75 km<sup>2</sup>), we conclude that browsing pressure will be heavy within the proposed project area.

Considering the dietary needs of mammoth, we predict that heavy browsing pressure focussed on so few species in a small area is extremely likely to change plant composition within that area.

The developer has indicated (EA report, sec. 2.5.4.5) that supplementary feeding is not an option.

Our calculations according to the TUSKR model indicate that browsing pressure would be reduced to Moderate-Light (FR rating 7) by either reducing herd size to 12 mammoth in the current area and doing rotational grazing or by expanding the area to 1500 km.

**Recommendation:**

The developer should reduce the herd size and use rotational grazing or increase the development area (range size) to prevent this impact.

**2. Concerns of mammoths taking control of the theme park...**

*...(repeat above format for each specific comment as necessary).*

**Preliminary Screening References**

Please note that these comments are submitted in addition to the measures suggested to the Sahtu Land and Water Board during preliminary screening, in our correspondence dated May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Measures 4 and 9 (relating to ToR line 45) are still relevant and applicable. DPE would like the Review Board to consider them during this EA.

**Information Request Issues**

The DPE would like to note that the Flintstone Inc. has not yet responded to Information Request #9 (safety issues relating to mammoth hair collection). This is the second time

this request has been issued. We are unable to provide technical review for this issue without the requested information. (Note: This relates to ToR lines 81 to 87).

### **Summary of Recommendations**

1. The developer should reduce the herd size and use rotational grazing or increase the development area (range size) to prevent this impact.
2. ...and so on.