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April 11, 2002

Luciano Azzolini
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Box 938
200 Scotia Centre (5102 – 50th Avenue)
Yellowknife NT Canada X1A 2N7



RE: De Beers Canada Mining Inc. Snap Lake Diamond Project Information Request

Dear Mr. Azzolini,

WWF-Canada is pleased to submit an Information Request (IR) to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) with regard to the environmental assessment of the De Beers Snap Lake Diamond Project. Tony Iacobelli and Bill Carpenter (contact information below) are the primary contacts should there be any questions regarding the WWF IR.

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Best regards,

Tony Iacobelli, M.Sc.
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**De Beers Canada Mining Inc. (De Beers)
Snap Lake Diamond Project**

World Wildlife Fund Canada Information Request #1

Resource Use

1.1 Reference: De Beers Snap Lake Diamond Project Environmental Assessment Report:

- (a) Section 6.4.1.1 – Ecologically Representative Areas
- (b) Section 6.4.2.3 – Key Question RU-2: What Impacts Will the Snap Lake Diamond Project Have on the Potential to Establish Protected Areas.

ToR Lines: 418-420, and 446-449

To: De Beers Canada Mining Inc., PAS Secretariat (GNWT/DIAND)

Preamble: The impact analysis (Section 6.4.2.3.3) does not consider the identification of ecological diversity within ecoregion # 66, the Coppermine River Upland, using the NWT landscape unit methodology.

Request: Landscape units delineated for the purposes of Protected Area Strategy (PAS) planning by the PAS Secretariat (GNWT/DIAND) and other PAS partners should be assessed for potential impact and reduction of candidate protected area options by the Snap Lake Diamond Project. At a minimum, an analysis should identify any landscape units where protected areas options to complete representation are limited (e.g. the landscape unit is 'rare' or 'threatened' meaning that it may be limited in geographic extent or a significant proportion of the unit is already impacted by other developments). In addition, the analysis should address the concept of the "minimum representation problem" by identifying areas of highest landscape diversity within the ecoregion and determining if the study area of the Snap Lake Diamond Project overlaps any of the identified areas.

The EIS does not appear to discuss impacts to services, facilities, and infrastructure.