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May 30/03  
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## Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Box 938 , 5102-50th Avenue, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

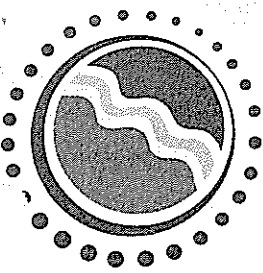
From:	Glenda Fratton	Fax:	(867) 766-7074
		Phone:	(867) 766-7052
Date:	May 30, 2003	Pages:	3 including this page
To:	<b>Kevin O'Reilly, CARC</b>	Fax:	920-2685
		Fax:	
Re:	<b>Decision on Request to Extend Closing Date of Public Registry , Snap Lake Diamond Project</b>		

**NOTES:**

Kevin:

Please see the attached letter regarding the above noted subject. The original letter will be forwarded to you.

Regards,  
Glenda



## Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Our File: EA01-004

May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Mr. Kevin O'Reilly  
Executive Director  
Canadian Arctic Resources Committee  
Northern Office  
4910-50<sup>th</sup> St., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Box 1705  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P3

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

**Re: Closing Date of Public Registry – De Beers Snap Lake Diamond Project**

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) is writing in response to your request at the recent Snap Lake public hearing "...that the Board consider making an amendment to the scheduled closure date for the public registry, as to allow for the filing of the socio-economic agreement, and the environmental agreements, prior to the issuance of your report on this environmental assessment."

At the hearing, Canadian Arctic Resources Committee, the North Slave Métis Alliance, and Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation suggested that it was essential for the Board to know the provisions of the socio-economic agreement (SEA), and environmental agreements prior to the Board completing its Report of Environmental Assessment. Other Parties supported completion of these agreements prior to the startup of the regulatory stage or prior to construction, but felt it was not necessary to have them completed prior to the completion of the Report of Environmental Assessment (EA). The GNWT indicated at the hearing that they would prefer if a SEA was in place by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

Any expectation of receiving these agreements prior to the close of the public registry presupposes that the negotiations will be completed. There were no specific undertakings made at the public hearing by the parties to the negotiations to try to meet any specific deadline and the Board has not been informed of any changes of the parties' intentions since the close of the Snap Lake Diamond Project hearings.

In considering this matter, the Review Board decided that the closing date of the public registry would not be extended.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Glenda Fratton at 766-7052.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vern Christensen', with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Vern Christensen  
Executive Director

