



file copy

June 27, 2003

Mr. John McConnell
Vice President
De Beers Canada Mining Inc.
300-5102-50th Avenue
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 3S8

Dear Mr. McConnell:

Re: De Beers Snap Lake Diamond Project – Report of Environmental Assessment

As you are aware, June 27th was the planned date for release of the Review Board's Report of Environmental Assessment regarding DeBeers' Snap Lake Diamond Project. I regret to advise you, however, that the Board has incurred a short delay in meeting this planned completion date.

This unanticipated delay is unfortunate, however, the Review Board requires this additional time to ensure that all of the evidence put before it is carefully considered and results in a quality Report of Environmental Assessment.

The Board is now reviewing the final draft report. Completion of final editing and report production will follow. It is expected that the final Report of Environmental Assessment will now be released and transmitted to the Hon. Robert Nault, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs during the week of July 21st.

Sincerely,

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

Gordon Wray, Chair
Snap Lake Diamond Project
Environmental Assessment