

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

April 25, 2003

Our File EA01-004

TO: Parties to the De Beers Snap Lake Diamond Project Environmental Assessment

Re: Elders Caribou Workshop – De Beers Canada Mining Inc. Snap Lake Diamond Project

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) is writing with regards to an April 11th, 2003 letter submitted to the Review Board by De Beers Canada Mining Inc. (De Beers).

In its letter, De Beers indicates that it will submit to the Review Board the outcome of the Elder's Caribou Workshop to be held May 12th-15th, 2003 at Snap Lake for their consideration. De Beers anticipates submitting key outcomes of the workshop to the Review Board on May 16th, 2003, one week prior to the close of the public registry.

The time period between the end of the public hearing (May 2nd) and the close of the public registry (May 23rd) is intended to allow for filing of hearing transcripts and any undertakings resulting directly from the hearing. In the interest of procedural fairness, this time period is not intended for large volumes of new information to be filed to the public registry.

Given that De Beers anticipates submitting the results of the caribou workshop to the Review Board on May 16th, we request that <u>all</u> parties to the EA inform the Review Board as to whether or not they have any objections to having the workshop results filed to the public registry after the public hearing. The deadline for informing the Review Board is **Tuesday May 6, 2003**. Once it hears from all of the parties, the Review Board will make a decision on the admissibility of the workshop results to the public registry.

Parties to the EA should recognize that the date for closure of the public registry would remain as May 23rd, 2003 regardless of whether or not the workshop results are filed to the public registry. Any responses to the results of the workshop would need to be received by the Review Board by May 23rd, 2003.

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Should you have any questions, please contact Glenda Fratton at (867) 766-7052.

Yours truly,

Vern Christensen Executive Director

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