



Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Our File EA01-004

February 14, 2003

Mr. David Livingstone
Director, Renewable Resources and Environment
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
P.O. Box 1500
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2R3

Dear Mr. Livingstone:

Re: Request for Ruling – Unresolved Issues on the Environmental Assessment of the De Beers Canada Mining Inc. (“De Beers”) Snap Lake Diamond Project

We are writing in response to two letters received by the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) on January 22 and 24, 2003.

INAC requested that the Review Board rule on “*whether or not the Board will be requesting the information INAC seeks from De Beers and when*” (January 24, 2003 letter). The Board met on Thursday, February 13, 2003, and considered the INAC request. The INAC request was denied. The Board strongly encourages De Beers to disclose any relevant information they have, in order that INAC’s concerns can be addressed. As you may be aware however, under our Rules of Procedure, information which is not disclosed before the cut off date set by the Review Board may be ruled inadmissible at the hearing.

Formal reasons for this decision will follow under separate cover.

In response to INAC’s inquiry regarding Information Requests (IRs) that were withheld from the IR process, I can advise that a formal response addressing this matter will be provided shortly.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vern Christensen".

Vern Christensen
Executive Director

Cc: John McConnell
De Beers Canada Mining Inc.

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