



Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Sent via e-mail
April 14/03

Our File: EA01-004

April 14, 2003

TO: All Parties to the De Beers Snap Lake EA

**Re: Clarification on Hearing Presentation Submissions – De Beers Canada Mining Inc.
(De Beers) Snap Lake Diamond Project**

This letter is intended to provide clarification on the content of the hearing presentations to be submitted to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) by the parties to the De Beers Snap Lake Environmental Assessment (EA) on April 17th, 2003.

At the recent pre-hearing conference (March 26th and 27th), it was clarified that the hearing presentations do not need to be 'word-for-word' the presentations that will be given at the public hearing itself. However, in their April 17th hearing presentation submissions, the parties to the EA are expected to clearly outline their outstanding issues, provide their conclusion on the issues, and include a rationale in support of their conclusion. In essence, the submissions should provide the major points of information that the parties to the EA intend to raise in their presentations at the hearing.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (867) 766-7052.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Glenda Fratton
De Beers Snap Lake EA Coordinator
MVEIRB

April 17, 2003

Glenda Fratton
De Beers Snap Lake EA Coordinator
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 938
Yellowknife NT
X1A 2N7

Re: Snap Lake Hearing Presentation Submission

Dear Ms. Fratton

In response to your letter dated April 14, 2003 providing clarification on hearing presentation submissions, please consider this letter as the submission for our opening statement scheduled for April 28, 2003. Please note that there will be two presenters on behalf of the Canadian Arctic Resources Committee, Kevin O'Reilly (Research Director) and Shelagh Montgomery (Cumulative Effects Program Director).

An outline of CARC's opening statement follows:

Background on CARC

A brief history of CARC will be provided including information on our purpose, programs, and staff.

Previous Involvement in Diamond Mining

CARC's involvement in the BHP Ekati mine will be summarized including the panel process, water licencing, environmental agreement negotiations and implementation. CARC was also involved in the Diavik Comprehensive Study, and sought judicial review on the project. An out-of-court settlement has supported our 'Plan for the Land' Program that will concentrate on modeling ecological and socio-economic data for the Slave Geological Province to help identify and implement thresholds and limits of acceptable change.

governments to directly target some of the revenues from the Snap Lake project to promote sustainability.

Socio-economic and Environmental Agreements and Impact and Benefit Agreements

CARC is of the view that proper mitigation and monitoring of the socio-economic and environmental effects of the Snap Lake project require legally-binding agreements. These must be in place before the project proceeds.

Please be aware that CARC reserves the right to ask questions during any of the technical sessions and to make a closing statement.

Should you wish to discuss our presentation, please do not hesitate to call me at 873-4715.

Sincerely,

Kevin O'Reilly
Research Director