

**FAX TRANSMISSION SHEET**

Northwest  
Territories Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development

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JUN 13 2003

MACKENZIE VALLEY  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
REVIEW BOARD

Date: June 11, 2003

To: Vern Christensen  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Fax: 766-7074

This fax contains 3 page(s), including the cover sheet.

From: Jason McNeill  
Environmental Assessment Officer  
Policy, Legislation and Communications  
Tel: (867) 920-8071  
Fax: (867) 873-4021  
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**Comments:**

Please see attached the GNWT's letter of clarification on land farms.

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Northwest  
Territories Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development

June 10, 2003 :

Mr. Robin Johnstone  
Senior Environmental Manager,  
DeBeers Canada Mining Inc.  
#300 – 5102 50<sup>TH</sup> AVE  
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 3S8

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Mr. Johnstone:

**DeBeers' Proposed Landfarm**

Subsequent to the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) written submission to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board dated May 21, 2003 you contacted the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development's (RWED) Environmental Protection staff, regarding our comments on DeBeers proposed landfarm operation at the Snap Lake project. You expressed concern that RWED felt landfarming of hydrocarbon-contaminated soils was not a proven treatment technique in the Northwest Territories. I wish to provide further clarification of our statements.

RWED has seen successful landfarming techniques used to remediate soils contaminated with lighter fraction hydrocarbons, such as gasoline and fuel oils, in many communities in the south and western areas of the Northwest Territories. However, we have not seen the technique used successfully by the mining industry in areas and under conditions that exist above the treeline and specifically in the Lac de Gras area. We are therefore asking DeBeers to supply detailed information on how they plan to successfully operate their proposed landfarm facility. The issue was raised only to identify additional information we will be seeking from the company. It should not unduly delay the environmental assessment process but can be dealt with through subsequent phases of project approval.

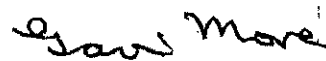
If you wish to discuss the above, please call Ken Hall, Manager, Environmental Protection Service, at 873-7654.

1/...



- 2 -

Sincerely,



Gavin More  
Manager, Environmental Assessment  
RWED, GNWT.

c. Vern Christensen  
Executive Director,  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board.

Bob Wooley  
Executive Director  
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

Michael Brown  
Manager, Environmental Affairs,  
Department of Transportation,  
GNWT.

Ken Hall  
Manager, Environmental Protection,  
RWED, GNWT

Buddy Williams  
Land Specialist, Lands Administration Group  
DIAND, Government of Canada