

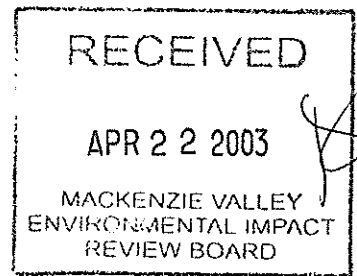
FAX TRANSMISSION SHEET



Northwest
Territories Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development

Policy, Legislation and Communications
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Date: April 17, 2003

To: Glenda Fraton
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Fax: ~~766-7074~~

1 - 403 - 250 - 5330

This fax contains 6 page(s), including the cover sheet.

From: Jason McNeill
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Q2

Q4

Comments:

Please see attached the GNWT's overview of their Public Hearing presentations.

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Northwest
Territories Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development

April 17, 2003

Glenda Fraton
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
2nd Floor Scotia Center, 5102-50th Ave
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

Dear Ms Fraton:

**Information Requests to the Government of the Northwest Territories.
PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION QUESTION**

On April 4, 2003, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board provided a set of questions to the Government of the Northwest Territories. This letter addresses the first socio-economic question posed.

Second

Q1

Preamble – Terms of Reference lines 256 – 260 instructed De Beers to describe each impact identified and the proposed mitigation measure(s) for all phases of the proposed development (i.e. construction, operation, closure and post-closure). De Beers was to describe planned mitigation measures.

In Section 5.3. Socio-Economic Impact Assessment in the EAR, De Beers lays out the predicted direct, indirect and induced social impacts on individuals, families, and communities. These are summarized in Table 5.3.7 in the EAR. Increased risks of community dysfunction, family problems and personal stress. Increased rates of alcohol problems, gambling, family violence, marital problems and child neglect are among the potential impacts notes.

In Section 5.3.4.1 of the EAR, De Beers notes, "Many of the mitigation measures cannot be done by the proponent acting alone. While De Beers is committed to doing its utmost to develop and implement these mitigation measures, success will depend on government and community partnerships." In the pages that follow there are numerous references to De Beers "acting as a catalyst..."



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"playing a substantial role in facilitating ..." "work closely with communities ..." "support initiatives and resources ...", "seek collaboration with ..." While these expressions provide a good general sense of De Beers' intentions for supporting mitigating measures, they are lacking in specific detail.

Request – Describe what specific contributions, in material terms (dollars, workers, resources, etc) the Government of the Northwest Territories proposes to bring to the partnerships and collaborative efforts that will be necessary to enact the mitigating measures outlined in Sections 5.3.4.3.1 through 5.3.4.3.7 in the EAR.

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) cannot provide specific information related to the mitigation measures outlined in the De Beers EAR until more information is forthcoming from De Beers.

De Beers indicates three categories: recruitment, training, and employment; health and wellness; and economic development. Table 5.3-8 provides a list of impact management measures by category and a summary of the key issues and concerns that each measure addresses.

The first category is largely under the mandate of the GNWT Departments of Education, Culture and Employment and Aurora College. These departments were interviewed subsequent to the EAR by De Beers for information related apprenticeships and literacy. The status of these discussions and actions can be obtained from De Beers. However, there have not been any specific planning that would lead to changes in departmental business plans and, hence, financial or human resources above normal programming. The departments recognize the benefits of working with developers and will continue to provide expert advice, and where possible funding directed to building capacity in communities.

The second category is under the mandate of the Department of Health and Social Services. This Department and the seven regional health and social services authorities provide community, regional, and territorial programs and services. At this time, no additional discussions have been held with De Beers to clarify specific activities. However, during the Technical Session and the socio-economic agreement negotiations, the Department expressed its willingness to discuss partnership opportunities with De Beers, to mitigate the negative impacts anticipated from the Snap Lake project.

The third category is under the mandate of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development. This department is the lead for negotiation of a Socio-Economic Agreement (SEA). The department has provided funding for involvement of several aboriginal organizations in these negotiations. The department also provides a number of business development initiatives through business development staff (see Appendix One) located in communities throughout the NWT. Again, no specific resources are identified in departmental business plans

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although the department is committed to working with De Beers and other developers to build capacity of northerners and northern businesses with the goal of maximizing involvement in northern developments.

We currently envision enhancing or re-aligning existing projects and programming, similar to what has been done for the BHP SEA and the Diavik Social Economic Monitoring Agreement (e.g., NWT Energy Strategy, labour market surveys, etc.) (see Appendix Two). In addition, RWED expects to cost-share the operating and maintenance funding, and provide in-kind resources, for a Communities Advisory Board, if one is established.

In closing, the GNWT concurs with the stated desire of De Beers to design, coordinate, and plan the implementation of the impact management measures. The GNWT believes that a forward-looking SEA will be the catalyst and long-term mechanism to implement these impact measures.

If you have any concerns or questions in regards to the above please feel free to contact me at (867) 873-7315.

Sincerely,



Gavin More.
Environmental
Assessment Analyst.

C. Deb Archibald
Senior Mining Advisor
Industrial Initiatives, RWED.

Deana Twissel
Manager,
Planning and Reporting, HSS.

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APPENDIX ONE
CURRENT STAFFING IN RWED RELATED TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Communities

- Resource and Economic Development Officer – Gameti
- Resource and Economic Development Officer – Wekweti
- Resource and Economic Development Officer – Rae Lakes
- Resource and Economic Development Officer – Rae Edzo

North Slave Region Office (Yellowknife)

- Manager, Trade & Investment
- Business Development Officer
- Business Development Officer

Headquarters (Yellowknife)

- Manager, Investment
- Manager, Business Development Services
- Business Development Coordinator
- Manager, Economic Planning

Business Incentive Policy

- Manager, Business Incentive Policy
- BIP Officer II
- BIP Officer I

Canada / NWT Business Service Centre

- Manager, Canada NWT Business Service Centre
- Small Business Advisor

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**APPENDIX TWO
CURRENT INITIATIVES UNDER
DIAVIK SOCIO-ECONOMIC MONITORING AGREEMENT**

Business Development

RWED could work closely with De Beers to:

- identify Project-related opportunities for Northern businesses;
- identify available economic development programs ;
- match new entrepreneurs and existing business capabilities with opportunities ; and,
- maximize Northern Business participation.

Business Programs & Information

RWED could work closely with De Beers to:

- Provide and actively communicate a general program of business grants, contributions, and loans to maximize NWT business capacities and employment opportunities;
- Inform NWT businesses of opportunities;
- Assist NWT businesses to take advantage of contracting opportunities;
- Support northern business community meetings or conferences related to promoting business opportunities in the Project;
- Assist NWT businesses to acquire or develop capital where it will increase NWT employment; and,
- Maintain a registry of businesses eligible under BI, and provide De Beers access to that data.

Business Mentoring & Training

RWED could work closely with De Beers to:

- Actively support the business development process, enabling the provision of technical business development support services through existing public and private sector programs;
- Work with NWT communities to create long-term business and employment opportunities and to increase business capacity;
- Facilitate the upgrading of management and entrepreneurial skills of NWT residents
- help identify opportunities for joint ventures with NWT businesses;
- Facilitate NWT businesses to design, prepare and develop financial proposals; and,
- Provide counselling services to help NWT businesses through the business development process.



Northwest Territories Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development

April 17, 2003

Glenda Fraton
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
2nd Floor Scotia Center, 5102-50th Ave
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

Dear Ms Fraton:

**Information Requests to the Government of the Northwest Territories.
Population Viability Analysis**

On April 4, 2003, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board provided a set of questions to the Government of the Northwest Territories. This letter addresses the fourth wildlife question posed.

**Q. (4)
Response**

1. There is currently insufficient data available to conduct PVA (population viability analysis) for wolverine. Insufficient information on population abundance, survival rates, annual variability and population stochasticity, limits any meaningful application of PVA as a threshold indicator for this species. This issue is not unique to the central barrens; obtaining reliable baseline population data for wolverines has been problematic across their entire range.

2. Wolverine research conducted under the West Kitikmeot /Slave Study (reference WKSS web-site, or WKSS's recently released CD containing all final reports) provides some baseline information on home range size and dispersal patterns. As well, the level and pattern of wolverine harvest in the Kitikmeot region between 1995-1998 is described.

Primary sources of wolverine mortality within the Lac de Gras region are currently associated with outfitting (non-resident hunters), resident hunters and



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mining related activities (Table 1). Although the level of wolverine harvest by resident hunters in this area is not well documented, it likely involves fewer than 10 animals per year. In the absence of better baseline data on relative abundance, productivity, and movement patterns of wolverines across the central barrens and into adjacent areas, it's difficult to identify sustainable levels of harvest. No wolverine quotas are currently in place in either the NWT or Nunavut. Instead, both jurisdictions attempt to monitor for trends in levels of harvest, as well as the age / sex composition of the harvest. Although current levels of mortality are believed to be sustainable, RWED is undertaking new initiatives to document all human related mortalities in the NWT (carcass collections), as well exploring options to index relative abundance (DNA/hair snagging). Continued joint research and collaboration with the mining industry will be required to address this issue.

Table 1. Reported wolverine mortalities and relocations in the Lac de Gras region
between 1995 – 2003.

Year	Mining Industry	Outfitting	Northern Residents	Total (minimum)
1995/96	N/A	5	N/A	5
1996/97	N/A	6	N/A	6
1997/98	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
1998/99	4	3	N/A	7
1999/00	2	4	N/A	6
2000/01	8	15	N/A	23
2001/02	0	14	N/A	14
2002/03	0	13	N/A	13

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If you have any concerns or questions in regards to the above please feel free to contact me at (867) 873-7315.

Sincerely,



Gavin More.
Environmental
Assessment Analyst.

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C. Steven Matthews
Environmental Assessment Biologist
Wildlife and Fisheries, RWED