

NORTH SLAVE METIS ALLIANCE

PO Box 2301 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7



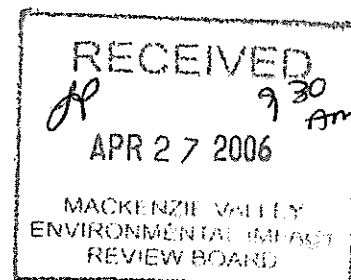
VIA FACSIMILE and MAIL: (867) 766-7074

April 26, 2006

WITHOUT PREJUDICE

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
5102 - 50th Avenue
P.O. Box 938
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

Attention: Martin Haefele
Environmental Assessment Officer



Dear Mr. Haefele:

Re: Gahcho Kué Scoping Hearings

I am writing to the Review Board who have undertaken a limited number of "scoping hearings" in the North Slave Region regarding the proposed Gahcho Kué diamond mine environmental assessment proposal submitted to the Review Board by De Beers Canada Inc.

As you very well know, the North Slave Metis Alliance is an organization comprised of indigenous Métis Aboriginal peoples with Aboriginal rights and title to the lands, waters and resources in the North Slave Region. Our rights have been enshrined in the *Constitution Act, 1982*, under section 35. For greater certainty, here is the relevant excerpt from that constitutional document:

- (1) The existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed.
- (2) In this Act, "aboriginal peoples of Canada" includes the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada.

Our members do not only reside throughout the North Slave Region, a large majority of them live and work in the City of Yellowknife.

The scoping sessions that have been scheduled thus far have dates, times and locations in three Dene communities, namely, Lutsel K'e, Dettah and Behchoko. In other words, the First Nations communities have been approached for their comments, issues and concerns regarding the aforementioned diamond mine project, but the Métis of the North Slave Region have been overlooked.

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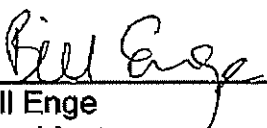
Email: general@nsma.net

I trust that this has been an inadvertent oversight, therefore, I ask whether or not the Review Board is prepared to meet with the North Slave Métis Alliance peoples at a mutually agreeable time, place and location that does not result in the "shunting off" the Aboriginal peoples of this land rights off into one of the other Dene communities in such a disrespectful and capricious manner?

Please respond by Thursday, May 4, 2006.

Thank you for kind consideration.

Yours truly,


Bill Enge
President