

House of Commons
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Dennis Bevington

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October 07, 2013

Honourable Bernard Valcourt

Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
10 Wellington Street Gatineau QC K1A 0H4

Honourable Gail Shea

Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada
200 Kent Street Ottawa ON K1A 0E6

Honourable Leona Aglukkaq

Minister of the Environment
10, rue Wellington Gatineau QC K1A 0H3

Honourable Michael Miltenberger

Minister of Environment and Natural Resources
Government of the Northwest Territories
P.O. Box 1320 Yellowknife NT X1A 2L8

Dear Ministers;

Re: GIANT MINE REMEDIATION PROJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Last week I had the opportunity to visit the Giant Mine site in Yellowknife. The tour included portions of the surface and underground areas. The staff of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada and its contractors were very helpful and I have much better appreciation for what is involved in the remediation of the site

I have carefully reviewed the Report of Environmental Assessment on the Giant Mine Remediation Project by the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board. This was the culmination of a five-year long process that had extensive community involvement. The Report is a clear and fair reflection of the public concerns expressed by my constituents from the Yellowknife area. I am of the firm view that the recommended binding measures and suggestions contained in the Report





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represent a clear path forward for the timely remediation of the Giant Mine site on a more collaborative basis that is responsive to the community's views and aspirations. The Report provides sound solutions for independent oversight and ongoing research into a permanent solution critical for building consensus and trust.

I am fully aware of the widespread support for the Report as expressed by the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, North Slave Metis Alliance, City of Yellowknife, Yellowknife Members of the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly and Alternatives North. I am writing to add my strong endorsement of the Review Board Report. I urge you as the Responsible Ministers under the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act, to move forward quickly and decisively with the acceptance and implementation of the recommended binding measures and suggestions in the Review Board Report.

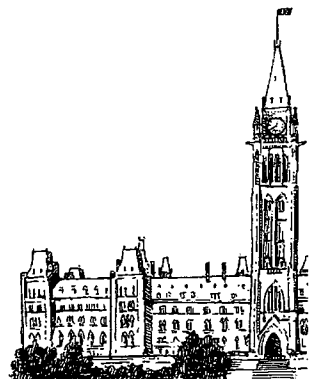
Giant Mine and its legacies have hindered further mineral development in the NWT. Virtually every time a new mineral development is proposed, the legacies of Giant Mine are raised. Now is the time to address this based on the approaches clearly outlined in the Review Board Report, to build a more positive image of the mining industry and its potential contribution to building more sustainable and prosperous communities in the NWT.

I call upon you to fully accept the measures and suggestions recommended by the Review Board pursuant to s. 130(1)(b)(i) of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act to allow for a timely and cooperative approach in beginning the remediation of Giant Mine.

Sincerely,


Dennis Bevington

Member of Parliament, Western Arctic





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cc.

Chiefs Edward Sangris and Ernest Betsina, Yellowknives Dene
First Nation

Bill Enge, President, North Slave Metis Alliance

Mayor Mark Heyck, City of Yellowknife

Premier Bob McLeod, Government of the Northwest Territories

Yellowknife Members of the NWT Legislative Assembly

Vern Christensen, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley

Environmental Impact Review Board

Honourable Thomas Mulcair, Leader of the Opposition

