Renewable Resources and Environment Box 1500 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2R3

February 3, 2011

Mr. Rick Edjericon, Chairman Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board, 200 Scotia Centre, PO Box 938, 5102-50th Street, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

Dear Mr. Edjericon:

Re: Information Request deadline and process for Giant Mine Environmental Assessment

As you know, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) announced participant funding awards for the Giant Mine environmental assessment on January 27th, 2011. INAC has now had the opportunity to meet with all participant funding recipients regarding the administration of this funding. During this meeting it became apparent that a further extension of the information request deadline from February 14th to February 28th is required to enable the parties to effectively meet the information request deadline. The recipients have indicated to us that they support the February 28th extension.

INAC understands that the Board is concerned about the timeliness of the environmental assessment process. We respectfully submit that postponing the duedate for the submission of first round information request by a further two weeks will not significantly delay the overall environmental assessment process and would better serve to promote meaningful and effective public participation in this environmental assessment. INAC therefore respectfully requests that the Board postpone the first round information request deadline from February 14th, 2011 to February 28th, 2011.

Sincerely,

Teresa Joudrie

Director, Renewable Resources and Environment