



Northwest
Territories Legislative Assembly
MLA - WELEDEH

December 8, 2009

The Honorable Chuck Strahl, PC, MP
Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, QC
K1A 0H4

Dear Mr. Strahl:

I am writing to express my disappointment at your department's refusal to provide funding to carry out a study of independent oversight bodies and experiences, as requested from your department by the City of Yellowknife, Yellowknives Dene First Nation and Mr. Kevin O'Reilly.

I firmly believe that funding for public participation in federal environmental assessment in the NWT is an urgent need for full implementation of a proper regulatory system. Your Department is spending millions of dollars on Giant Mine remediation. Participant funding for this environmental assessment would be a small and meaningful investment in building public confidence in this project.

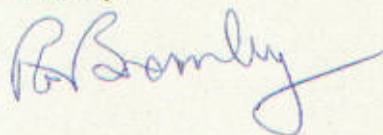
The parties submitted their proposal based upon Mr. Bill Mitchell's of DIAND's indication that a request for support could be considered. I was also disappointed to learn that your Department did not deal with this request in an expeditious manner, taking more than half a year to reply.

For the department to arrange its own independent monitoring is a bit of an oxymoron. I will be watching with great interest to see if the Department adequately deals with the concept of independent oversight through public consultation and in the Developer's Assessment Report. As a Party to the review, I also urge you to reconsider the proposal submitted by these intervenors.

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Sincerely,



Bob Bromley

cc.

Richard Edjericon, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Hon. Michael Miltenberger, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT
Mayor Gord Van Tighem
Chiefs Edward Sangris and Ted Tsetta, Yellowknives Dene First Nation
Kevin O'Reilly