



**DENINU KUE FIRST NATION
P.O. BOX 1899
FORT RESOLUTION, NT
XOE OMO**

Deninu Kue First Nation
Interim Measure Agreement Office
Submission to
EA1112-001 Debogotski - Diamond Exploration Project
Dry Bones Bay, Akaitcho Territory

Deninu Kue First Nation is historically unique. Deninu Kue First Nation is comprised of three First Nation locales; Buffalo River, Slave/Jean River and Taltson River Watershed. Deninu Kue First Nation members have used the Akaitcho Territory since time immemorial to hunt, fish, trap and gather.

The way of life for our people was to use natural renewable resources to sustain our livelihoods. The Akaitcho Dene have done so with very minimal impact and foot print to the land. Our ancestors have taught their ways to us and our generation continues to use this traditional knowledge to make reasonable decisions regarding the ever increasing demand for mineral exploration and mining development in our traditional lands. Our traditional lands have the most beautiful natural resources in the world including minerals and other marketing non-renewable resources.

Akaitcho Dene have stated on the record in numerous hearings, meeting, conferences, press releases amongst other things that we need to be consulted and accommodated when it comes to development on our land, Consultation and accommodation would be to ensure that the Akaitcho Process is respected, which must involve hearing the value of the land



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through the Akaitcho IMA Process. The Akaitcho IMA process was signed to ensure the recommendations from the Akaitcho Dene First Nation members are carefully examined and incorporated into the mitigation measures identified by both the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board and the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board, according to the Policy and Directive signed by the Indian and Northern Affairs Minister.

It is evident that the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada have not begun to implement their commitments under the Akaitcho IMA process or the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act. When the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board refers an application to an Environmental Assessment, it must be important enough to have to spend money on an environmental assessment process that will provide mitigation measures and evidence to ensure that everyone is aware of potential impacts from the proposed development and try to assist industry to mitigate any significant impact so sustainable development can happen. If prior recommendations are not being implemented or consider, how can the public be guaranteed that the Mackenzie Valley Resources Management Act is doing what it is supposed to do and protect the land and water for future generations.

It states in the draft work plan as to why the MVLWB referred the Land Use application for Diamond drilling operation to the review board to conduct an environmental assessment based on the "likelihood that the proposed development might be a cause for public concern" and the



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decision was based on a number of reasons outlined in the draft work plan, that leaves the question as to why hasn't any work been done and who's responsible? Akaitcho Dene has been identifying areas of traditional use to assist industry and government, but it seems that when we identify areas they disagree and don't listen to what we have to say. Government is working against us; industry tries to work with us but at a very minimal cost.

Akaitcho Dene have been discussing, reviewing and developing implementation measures to assist Government in making reasonable decision when it comes to development proposals for non renewable resources using items such as the Akaitcho Mineral Exploration Guidelines and Akaitcho Exploration Agreement.

Deninu Kue First Nation fully supports Yellowknives Dene First Nation's request for ruling letter to the Mackenzie Valley land and Water Board.



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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:
Review Board

FROM:
Chief Louis Balsillie

COMPANY:
Mackenzie Valley Environmental
Impact Review Board

DATE:
JUNE 3, 2011

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