DE BEERS
CANADA
GAHCHO KUÉ PROJECT

July 9, 2012 File: S110

Chuck Hubert, MVEIRB
Loretta Ransom, GNWT
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Rosy Bjornson, DKFN
Mike Tollis, LKDFN
Sheryl Grive, NSMA
Tim Heron, NWTMN
Kerry Garner, Tlicho Government
Todd Slack, YKDFN

Dear Parties,

Re: Gahcho Kué Project Wildlife Monitoring Plan Working Group

In follow-up to the De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) letter dated June 14, 2012 inviting interested parties to participate in a Wildlife Monitoring Plan (WMP) Working Group for the proposed Gahcho Kué Project, De Beers is pleased to advise that all contacted parties have responded positively regarding their participation in this initiative. The following groups have indicated that they would like to provide a representative for the Working Group:

- Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
- Government of the Northwest Territories – Environment and Natural Resources
- Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board Panel
- Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation (LKDFN)
- Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN)
- Deninu Kue First Nation (DKFN)
- Tlicho Government
- North Slave Métis Alliance (NSMA)
- NWT Métis Nation

Those Aboriginal groups that have expressed an interest to participate have also noted that the balance of their intervener funding was insufficient to allow for their meaningful participation in the Working

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Group meetings and September WMP Workshop. De Beers views input from the Aboriginal groups as key to the development of the WMP, and is therefore prepared to provide additional capacity funding in the amount of $5,000 for each Aboriginal group to ensure the timely development of a draft WMP. This capacity funding is provided to support the participation of one representative from each of the Aboriginal Groups listed above at two WMP Working Group meetings and the Workshop, including time to review meeting materials. Additional funding will be provided to allow each Aboriginal group to send two additional community representatives to the September 2012 Workshop.

The purpose of the WMP Working Group is to review, discuss and provide recommendations on the wildlife monitoring programs in advance of a September 2012 Workshop. The WMP Working Group discussions are expected to be technical and as such it is recommended that participants have an appropriate level of technical expertise. The purpose of the September 2012 Workshop will be to present the wildlife monitoring recommendations collaboratively developed by the Working Group to interested parties so that additional input/feedback may be incorporated into the draft WMP prior to submission to the MVEIRB Public Registry.

To facilitate the Working Group's activities in a timely manner in preparation for the September WMP Workshop, attached are proposed dates for the first Working Group meeting along with a draft agenda.

At this time De Beers is preparing the following meeting materials, to be circulated to the Working Group at least ten days prior to the first meeting:

- Conceptual Caribou Monitoring Plan
- Draft Site Surveillance Monitoring Plan

It is anticipated that Working Group meetings will be topic specific to maintain focus. Working Group meeting #1 will focus on the Working Group's objectives, caribou and site surveillance monitoring. Working Group meeting #2 will be topic specific to address carnivores and birds or other areas of wildlife monitoring identified by the Working Group in the first meeting.

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As a reminder, the purpose of the Working Group is to collaborate and provide input to De Beers on the development of a draft WMP for presentation at the September Workshop. To clarify, the September Workshop will be open to a broader audience to provide recommendations and gather additional input before finalizing the draft WMP for submission to the MVEIRB Public Registry for the Panel's consideration.

Please respond regarding the preferred meetings dates listed below and comments on the agenda to De Beers by **July 17, 2012**. De Beers welcomes the Working Group participants and looks forward to productive discussions.

Yours truly,

Stephen Lines
Superintendent, Environmental Assessment & Permitting

attached: Working Group draft agenda and proposed dates for meeting #1

cc: James Hodson, Environment Canada - CWS

Gahcho Kué Project
Wildlife Monitoring Plan Working Group
Meeting #1
Proposed Meeting Dates & Draft Agenda

Proposed Meeting Dates

- Option 1: Tuesday, August 7, 2012
- Option 2: Thursday, August 2, 2012

Draft Meeting Agenda

8:00 – 8:30 Coffee & tea

8:30 – 9:00 Working Group introductions and objectives

9:00 – 12:00 Conceptual Caribou Monitoring Plan Discussion

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch (provided by De Beers)

12:00 – 15:00 Conceptual Caribou Monitoring Plan Discussion

15:00 – 17:00 Site Surveillance Monitoring

17:00 – 17:30 Wrap up and planning for meeting #2