

Our File: EA1819-01

July 30, 2019

Lloyd Cardinal
President
Fort Resolution Métis Council

Via email: president@fortresmetis.ca

Re: Invitation from FRMC to hold a community hearing in Fort Resolution – Diavik Diamond Mines Inc. – Depositing Processed Kimberlite into Pits and Underground

On July 18, 2019, Fort Resolution Métis Council (FRMC) wrote to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) to inquire about opportunities for its members to speak to the Review Board directly, and to invite the Review Board to host a community hearing in Fort Resolution as part of the Environmental Assessment of Diavik Diamond Mines Inc. (Diavik)'s current processed kimberlite storage proposal.

The Review Board has carefully considered FRMC's request and decided not to hold a community hearing in Fort Resolution. The Board considered the following:

- 1. FRMC has participated, and can continue to participate, fully as an intervener on behalf of its membership. FRMC received participant funding for this environmental assessment.**

FRMC has participated by issuing information requests to Diavik, responding to Review Board information requests, and sending a member on the site visit to Diavik Mine on July 23, 2019. Going forward, FRMC will submit a written intervention and present in person at the technical hearing, can question Diavik and other interveners, and will have the opportunity to submit written closing arguments to the Review Board.

- 2. There are various ways for members of the public to participate in the environmental assessment process, as outlined in the Notice of Proceeding on Public Participation (PR#101).**

Speaking to the Review Board in person

The Board is hosting community hearings in Behchokò and Dettah on September 3rd and 4th, respectively. There will also be time set aside at the Yellowknife technical hearing at the end of the day on Thursday September 5th to hear from the public. If FRMC community members want to speak directly to the Review Board, in addition to being represented by their organization as an intervener, they are welcome to attend any of these hearings and speak to the Review Board during these times. The hearing details will be advertised in the newspaper, on the Review Board's website, and communicated directly to FRMC and other interveners.



Written comments

Members of the public can also write to the Review Board by mail, email, fax, or social media at any time up until one week before the intervener's closing arguments deadline after the hearings (to be determined).

There would also be logistical, scheduling, and other challenges with adding an additional day of hearings in a new venue at this late stage of the workplan. In general, the Review Board is better able to consider specific requests about hearings if they are raised earlier in the EA process.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please contact Senior Environmental Assessment Officer Kate Mansfield or Environmental Assessment Officer Catherine Fairbairn at kmansfield@reviewboard.ca or cfairbairn@reviewboard.ca, respectively.

Sincerely,

JoAnne Deneron
Chairperson

