

NORTH SLAVE METIS ALLIANCE

PO Box 2301 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7



April 7, 2006

Gabrielle Mackenzie-Scott
Chairperson
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
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Dear Ms. MacKenzie-Scott,

Re: Community Scoping Workshops

Thank you for your letter of April 6, 2006, informing the North Slave Metis Alliance (NSMA) of the MacKenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) plans to hold "*community scoping workshops*" in the communities of Dettah, Lutsel K'e, Behchoko and Fort Resolution, followed by a "*community scoping hearing*" in Yellowknife, NT, in regard to De Beers Canada Inc.'s Gahcho Kué diamond mine environmental assessment.

Please accept this letter as notice that the NSMA requests the MVEIRB hold a "*community scoping workshop*" in Yellowknife, NT, for its organization, so that its members can discuss and exchange their ideas about De Beers Canada Inc.'s Gahcho Kué diamond mine environmental assessment proposal - in an informal setting - and in line with how the MVEIRB is consulting with the Dene people in the aforementioned four communities.

Please note: the NSMA is an organization comprised of indigenous Métis Aboriginal people with Aboriginal rights and title to the lands, waters and resources in the North Slave Region of the Northwest Territories. These rights are enshrined in Canada's *Constitution Act, 1982*, under section 35. For greater certainty, here is the relevant excerpt from that constitutional document:

- (1) The existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed.
- (2) In this Act, "aboriginal peoples of Canada" includes the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada.

With the above in mind, the NSMA is astounded that the MVEIRB has scheduled a "*community scoping workshop*" in Fort Resolution, a community outside of the North Slave Region, but not one in Yellowknife where a majority of the North Slave Métis

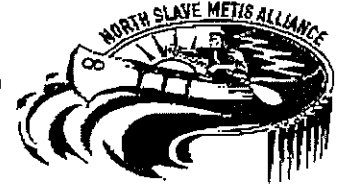
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people reside and who are directly impacted by mining development on their ancestral homeland.

In conclusion, the NSMA requests the MVEIRB respect the Aboriginal Rights of its members by arranging a "community scoping workshop" in Yellowknife, NT, so that its members can participate in and contribute to the feedback about De Beers Canada Inc.'s proposed Gahcho Kué diamond mine.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours truly,

William (Bill) Enge
President