



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

Pêches et Océans
Canada

Fish Habitat Management
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Vor file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence

June 5, 2012

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Panel Manager

Via e-mail to:
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Gahcho Kué Environmental Impact Review Panel
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RE: Fisheries and Oceans Canada topics for Information Request Round 2

On May 28th, 2012 the Mackenzie Valley Review Board's requested that parties identify topics for a second round information request for the Gahcho Kue Project. At this time, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is anticipating the submission of the following documents from the proponent in order to satisfy outstanding concerns identified in DFO's information requests to the proponent and at the technical hearings held in Yellowknife on May 22nd-25th, 2012:

- Alternatives Analysis Report: further clarification regarding the issues that must be addressed in this report in order to satisfy DFO's outstanding concerns were communicated to the proponent by letter on March 29th, 2012 and at the above mentioned technical hearings;
- A revised Fish Habitat Compensation Plan: DFO is pleased that DeBeers acknowledges that long-term mine impacts, such as those proposed for areas 3 and 5 of Kennady Lake, are not temporary and the losses to such habitats will have to be accounted for and compensated accordingly. DFO notes that flooding to make habitat is not a preferred compensation option. Discussions on fish habitat losses and compensation options are on-going between DeBeers and DFO and will be further informed by the forthcoming revised Fish Habitat Compensation Plan; and,
- A report on Water Quality Objectives.

Following a review of these outstanding documents, DFO may require further clarification or information from the proponent relating to potential impacts to fish and fish habitat. The exact nature of those information requests are not known at this time and will depend on the contents of these submitted reports.

If there are any questions or clarification required regarding how the documents identified above will inform DFO's review of the Gahcho Kue Project, or regarding DFO's information needs for assessing potential impacts to fish and fish habitat, please contact at Sarah Olivier at sarah.olivier@dfo-mpo.gc.ca or by phone at (867) 669-4919.

Regards,

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Fisheries and Oceans Canada

c.c. Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Julie Dahl, Bev Ross, Corrie Gibson