

DENINU KUÉ FIRST NATION

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MACKENZIE VALLEY ENVIROMMENDAL BARAGT REVIEW BOAKD

November 29, 2006

VIA FACSIMILE (867) 873-0385

Government of the Northwest Territories P. O. Box 1320 4910-52nd Street Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Attention:

The Honorable Joseph Handley, Premier, Minister of Executive, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, Minister of Intergovernmental

Affairs

VIA FCSIMILE (867) 766-7074

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board P. O. Box 938 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

Attention:

Mr. Martin Haefele, Environmental Assessment Officer

VIA FACSIMILE (867) 873-0385

Indian Affairs and Northern Development Terrasses de la Chaudie're, North Tower 2100-10 Wellington Street Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H4

Attention:

The Honorable Jim Prentice,

P. C., M.P.

VIA FCSIMILE (867) 766-7074

DeBeers Canada Incorporated Suite 400, 65 Overlea Blvd Toronto, ON M4H 1P1

Attention:

Mr. Jim Gowans, President and CEO

Dear Sirs:

RE: Gahcho Ku'e Mine

On March 22, 2006, our lawyers wrote to the governments of Canada and Northwest Territories advising of the strong claim the Deninu Ku'e First Nation has to treaty and aboriginal rights (including aboriginal title) within our Traditional Territory. This includes the area within which the Gahcho Ku'e mine is being developed. You were provided with a copy of that letter.

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On April 4, 2006, we followed up with a letter to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board. In the meantime, the development of the Gahcho K'ue mine has proceeded. There has been no meaningful effort by either the company, Government of the Northwest Territories, or the Government of Canada, to integrate consideration of our aboriginal and treaty rights into the decision making process. There has been no meaningful consultation with our people concerning this project. There has been no accommodation.

Recently, a similar failure by Canada to consult with and accommodate the Dene Tha First Nation with respect to the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Project resulted in a Court ruling against Canada and further delays to that pipeline project. We would have thought, given the development of the case law, that Canada, the Northwest Territories and De Beers would be taking great pains to avoid having history repeat itself.

Our goal is not to stop the Gahcho K'ue diamond mine from proceeding. Our goal is to see this mine proceed in a way that respects and affirms our aboriginal rights and title. We will not, however, sit idly back and allow the mine to be developed in a way that illegally infringes our constitutionally protected rights.

Given your collective failure, to date, to consult and accommodate with our First Nation on this process we are requesting a meeting, attended by appropriate representatives from each of your organizations. The goal of this meeting would be to define an appropriate consolation and accommodation process arising from the anticipated impacts of the Gahcho K'ue project on the aboriginal and treaty rights of our people. We ask that you set aside at least two days for this meeting and we offer to host it within our community.

We ask to hear back from each of you within the next two weeks as to appropriate dates for this important meeting.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,

Robert Sayine, Chief DKFN

cc: Deninu Ku'e First Nation Council