



## **INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AGENCY**

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June 1, 2016.

Ryan Fequet  
Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board  
#1-4905 48th St, Yellowknife, NT  
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Dear Mr. Fequet,

### **Re: Review of the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program (AEMP) Re-evaluation/ re-design – Request for the Inclusion of an All Stakeholders Discussion Session**

On December 23, 2015 the Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board (WLWB) wrote a letter to Dominion Diamonds Ekati Corporation (DDEC) requiring the AEMP re-evaluation/re-design be submitted by June 30, 2016.

In a May 19 email from DDEC, stakeholders were invited to attend a June 7, 2016 AEMP Re-evaluation Technical Workshop. The workshop will provide stakeholders with their first opportunity to review documents which cover a number of highly technical topics including proposed changes to the AEMP Design Plan. While the Agency encourages DDEC's proactive approach, we are concerned that currently it is the only scheduled opportunity for valuable discussion and input on the AEMP re-evaluation/re-design. DDEC's presentation on June 7, 2016 of the AEMP re-evaluation should be in addition to and not preclude a WLWB run discussion on the AEMP re-evaluation/re-design.

A discussion session after an initial review period, but in advance of reviewer comments would be beneficial. The topics listed in DDEC's May 19, 2016 email highlights the complexity of the issues requiring discussion. In order for reviewers to provide constructive feedback and comments, reviewers require ample time to review the documents in advance of the discussion. This will also allow all stakeholders to receive clarification, ask questions regarding the proposed changes, and hear other stakeholders concerns. Reviewers will be able to receive any clarification on the plans and to focus their comment submissions on the items that remain unresolved.

The Agency encourages the WLWB to include a discussion session as part of the AEMP re-evaluation/re-design. Ideally, this discussion would be scheduled after the AEMP re-evaluation/re-design documents have been submitted but in advance of the reviewer comment deadline.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Jaída Ohokannoak  
Chair – Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency