



***Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency***

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August 30, 2012

Kathy Racher  
Technical Director  
Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board  
#1-4905 48th Street  
Yellowknife NT X1A 3S3

Dear Kathy

**Re: Agency Comments on the Wastewater and Processed Kimberlite Management Plan (WPKMP) Version 3**

The Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency has reviewed the Ekati Wastewater and Processed Kimberlite Management Plan Version 3.0. Our review included the updated Water Quality Model but not the Site-Specific Water Quality Objectives or the other benchmarks used by BHPB. It is our understanding that these are being assessed as part of the water licence renewal process. We may have additional comments on the Water Quality Model as part of the water licence renewal process. We will reserve comment as to the acceptability of the numerical values proposed as Objectives (and their use as benchmarks) for that process.

However, the Agency found the update to the Water Quality Model to be very helpful. More specifically, the good use of available data and graphics made for a better product. The more substantive changes including the expansion of the predictions to the chain of lakes downstream of the LLCF, efforts to model future Process Plant discharge quality, and the discussion of the Beartooth Pit management options have improved the Model significantly. Given the usefulness of the Model results, we could also encourage BHPB to keep providing updates on a regular basis.

We thank you for the opportunity to submit comments and we would be happy to discuss them with you and others at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W.A. Ross". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Bill Ross  
Chairperson

cc. Society Members  
Bruce Hanna, Fisheries and Oceans  
Lisa Lowman, Environment Canada