



Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency

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July 14, 2015

Aboriginal Society Members

Chiefs Edward Sangris and Ernest Bestina, Yellowknives Dene First Nation
P.O. Box 2514, Yellowknife NT X1A 2P8

Chief Felix Lockhart, Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
P.O. Box 28, Lutsel K'e NT X0E 1A0

Grand Chief Eddie Erasmus, Tlicho Government
P.O. Box 412, Behchoko NT X0E 0Y0

Stanley Anablak, President, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
P.O. Box 18, Cambridge Bay NU X0B 0C0

Bill Enge, President, North Slave Metis Alliance
P.O. Box 2301, Yellowknife NT X1A 2P7

Re: Proposed Changes to the Ekati Environmental Agreement

Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) have sent the attached correspondence to the Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency. Canada and the GNWT are proposing changes to the 1997 Ekati Environmental Agreement they believe are consistent with devolution of lands, waters and resources to the GNWT on April 1, 2014. The proposed changes would result in the withdrawal of Canada as a party or signatory to the Agreement.

The Agency is in the process of obtaining further advice on the proposed changes. In the meantime, and as part of our mandate to effectively disseminate information on the Ekati Diamond Mine, we provide you with this correspondence. We have also attached the Agency's letters of March 17 and 28, 2014 when proposed changes to the Ekati Environmental Agreement were previously under consideration. Letters received from the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation and Tlicho Government on the same subject are also attached for your information.

Should your governments have any views on the proposed changes, we would advise that you write directly to the signatories (Government of Canada, Government of the NWT and Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation). It would be helpful if all the Society members and the Agency were copied on such correspondence.

Should you have any questions about this information package, please contact our Executive Director, Kevin O'Reilly at monitor1@yk.com or 867-669-2901. We look forward to continuing to work with all of our Society members towards the effective environmental management of the Ekati Mine.

Sincerely,



Bill Ross
Chairperson

cc. Honourable Michael Miltenberger, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources
Honourable Bernard Valcourt, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs & Northern Development
Brendan Bell, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation
Joel Holder, Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories
Jennifer O'Neill, NWT Region, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Attachments

1. June 25, 2015 Letter from Joel Holder, Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the NWT and Jennifer O'Neill, NWT Region, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada to Bill Ross, Chairperson, Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency. Attachment of Blacklined Draft of Proposed Changes to the Ekati Environmental Agreement.
2. March 17 and 28, 2014 Letters from Bill Ross, Chairperson, Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency to Robert Jenkins, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada; Ray Case, Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT and Brendan Bell, Dominion Diamond Ekati Corp.
3. April 1, 2014 Letter from Chief Edward Sangris, Yellowknives Dene First Nation to Kathryn Bruce, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada; Ray Case, Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT; Kevin O'Reilly, Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency; Brenda McDonald, Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board; and Philippe de Pizzo, Snap Lake Environmental Monitoring Agency.
4. April 2, 2014 Letter from Chief Dora Enzoe, Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation to Kathryn Bruce, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.
5. April 22, 2014 Letter from Laura Duncan, Tlicho Government to Ray Case, Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT and Stephen Traynor, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.