

## Inter-Agency Coordinating Team (IACT) for Ekati Diamond Project

November 21, 1997

Meeting #3

### Attendance:

Mary Tapsell (Chair)	DIAND -Env. & Conservation
Kathryn Emmett	RWED - GNWT
Steve Matthews	RWED
Grant Pryznyk	DFO
Scott Williams	BHP
John Witteman	BHP
Carey Ogilvie	EC -EPB
John Ramsey	NR Can
David Milburn	DIAND -Water Resources
Darren Unrau	DIAND -South Mackenzie District
Hal Mills	Independent Monitoring Agency

### (1) Round Table Updates:

**Scott Williams**, Manager, Environment & Resource Planning, introduced himself to the group and reviewed the organization of the Environment & Engineering sections that report to him (see attached). Scott also gave a brief overview of progress at the mine to-date. (see attached).

**John Wittiman** gave an update on progress on the Operating Environmental Management Plan. It is anticipated that the mine will be fully operational Oct '98 and therefore the OEMP is required six months prior to operation (April/March '98). John gave a brief overview of the status of the various elements of the various "sub" plans that make up the OEMP.

BHP has applied for a Fisheries Authorization for Beartooth Lake . . . for drilling of large diameter holes. Pumping has halted out of Koala (High levels of suspended particles). BHP has commenced construction of the frozen core dam at Long Lake (estimate 75 days for construction). They will also be dewatering into Leslie Lake and will monitor for ice damming in Leslie Lake.

**Hal Mills** reported that the Agency is now finalizing the draft Communications Policy . . . they are still waiting for several comments to come in. Very positive feedback on recent meetings held with Golder Consultants to discuss the Risk-based Assessment process for the Wildlife Monitoring Program. Hal feels a similar approach would be worthwhile considering for the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program. Hal feels that BHP should consult on a "whole basis" for the Wildlife & Aquatic Effects Programs at the communities, as communities do not tend to separate the two topics.

Hal inquired how the Agency can access information about unresolved compliance issues. The

Monitoring Agency would be interested in being informed when there is an issue of compliance underway.

**Action Item: Darren Unrau will look into this and report back to the Group next meeting.**

**Darren Unrau** told BHP that in future, DIAND District office will fax the spill reports directly to the Monitoring Agency (as he also attached results to the report). Darren informed BHP that he is "closing the file" on the B Water Licence. He has written a Compliance Report to this effect.

**Action Item: BHP to write to Water Board and request their security deposit back and direct them who/where it should be sent.**

**Grant Pryzyk:** reported that Steve Harbicht (EC) and DFO staff are meeting in Winnipeg to finalize the Kimberlite toxicity plan.

**Steve Matthews:** reviewed the processes of meeting with the consultant (Golder) to review the Risk-based assessment process. Also reported that staff from RWED have been meeting on an individual basis to contribute comments to the Wildlife Monitoring Program.

## **2. Abandonment & Restoration Plan**

This item was tabled because there had been some questions raised about the process of review for the A&R plan. The A&R plan has been submitted for approval and is required for the Water licence (Part K), however, it is also a requirement under the Environmental Agreement (Article VIII). BHP explained that they are not duplicating efforts, and there is only one A&R Plan. John W reiterated that the requirements in the EA are restated in the Water licence requirements.

**Action Item: Mary to review the process of review as it relates to the EA and to report back to the group in the next IACT meeting.**

## **3. Review of items submitted to the Water Board by BHP**

There was a general discussion about when/how the Monitoring Agency fits into the process of providing input to documents that BHP submits to the Water Board. The Agency expressed a desire to receive items at the same time they are submitted to the regulatory agencies. BHP expressed a desire for the regulatory agencies to provide documents as they see fit to the Monitoring Agency. The Environmental Agreement was referred to . . . and it states that it will be the responsibility of the authoring agency to provide information that is relevant for the Monitoring Agency to carry out its mandate.

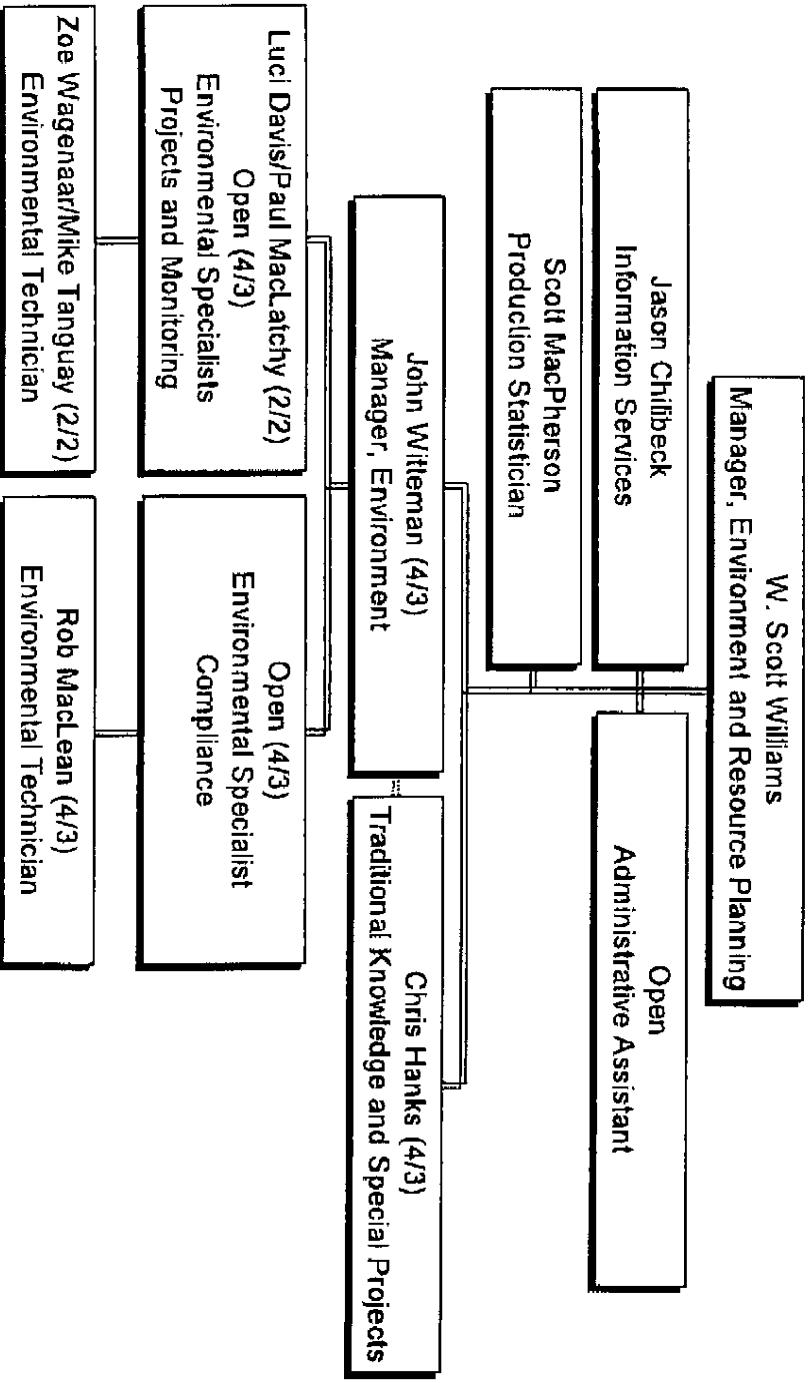
There was a discussion about when/how and to whom should the Monitoring Agency provide "advice" about items submitted to the Water Board for approval. Dave Milburn said that the Water Board will be meeting on Nov. 25/97 and this item will be discussed.

**Action Item: Mary to follow-up with the response from the Water Board regarding this issue. Mary will "canvas" the various groups to try and reach consensus on the approach for this topic. Mary to report back to group on this topic at next meeting.**

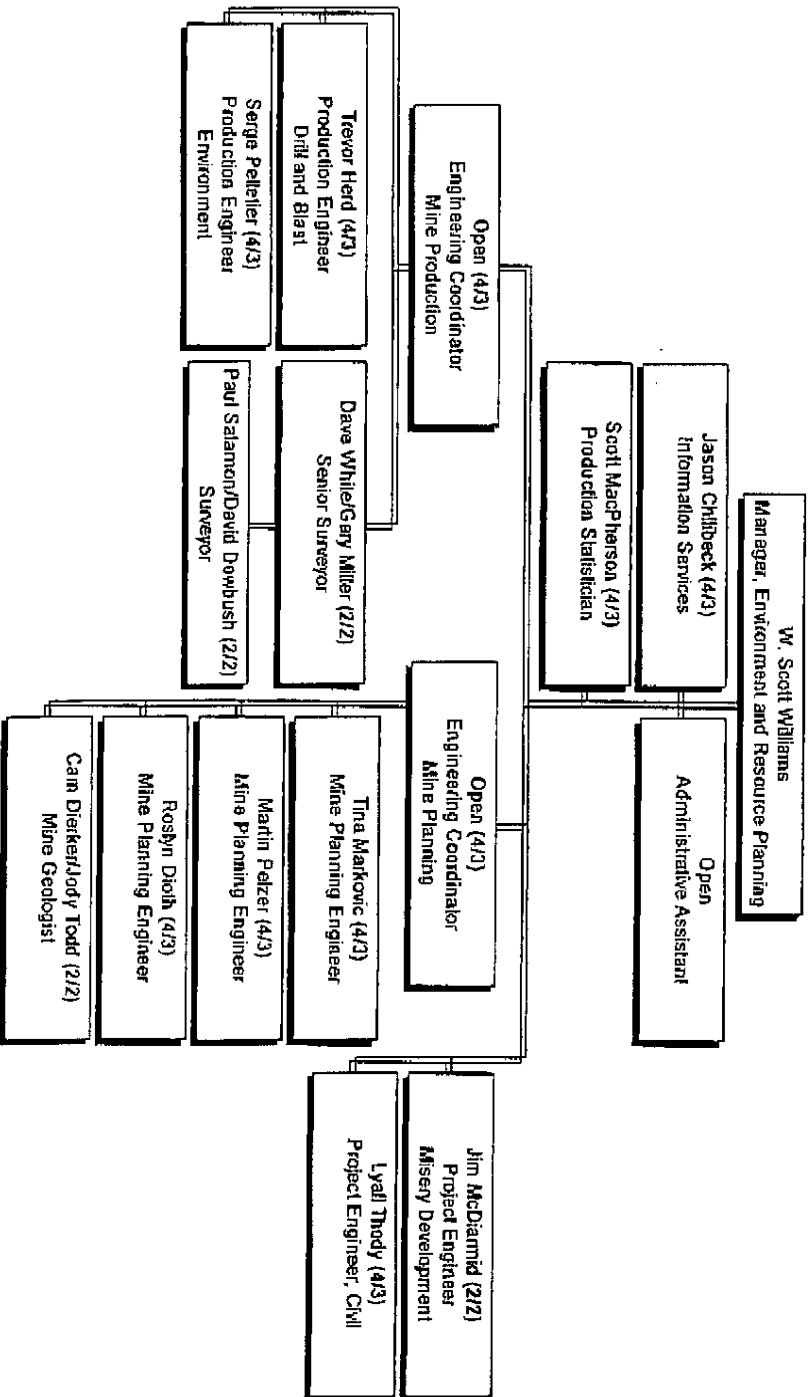
**4. IRMA Program:** Mary provided a brief overview of a new program from DIAND: the Interim Resource Management Assistance Program (IRMA). This 1.5M program is intended to help Aboriginal communities in unsettled claims areas to participate in resource management decisions affecting traditional land use areas. Mary passed out the Guidelines and the funding allocations to participants (see attached).

**NEXT MEETING: 1:00 - 3:00p.m. December 21/97, at the Monitoring Agency's office (located on the 2nd floor Communications Bldg).**

# Ekati Diamond Mine Organization - Environment



# Ekati Diamond Mine Organization - Engineering



**Operating Environmental Management Plan**



- ⇒ **Operating Environmental Management Plan - umbrella document**
- ⇒ **Environmental Awareness Training Plan**
- ⇒ **Environmental Management Procedures Manual**
- ⇒ **Air Quality Monitoring Plan**
- ⇒ **Spill Contingency Plan**
- ⇒ **Materials Management**
- ⇒ **Waste Management Plan**

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**Operating Environmental Management Plan**



- ⇒ **Echo Bay Winter Road Policy**
- ⇒ **Wildlife Monitoring Plan**
- ⇒ **Quarry Management Plan**
- ⇒ **Interim Abandonment & Reclamation Plan**
- ⇒ **Archaeological Management Plan**
- ⇒ **Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan**
- ⇒ **QA /QC**

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## Site Construction



### ⇒ Commitment to Safety

- 188 days w/o LTA, over 900,000 man-hours

### ⇒ Onsite Manpower

- 506 employees
- 1.45 million man-hours worked

### ⇒ Construction 60% Complete

### ⇒ Milestones

- Maintenance Shop/Offices      1st qtr 98
- Process Plant                      3rd qtr 98

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## Mine Production



### ⇒ Commitment to Safety

- 96 days w/o an LTA (over 500,000 man-hrs)

### ⇒ Production to Date (Oct 31)

- 8.6 million tonnes overburden

### ⇒ Estimated Rates to Complete Pre-Production

- Contracted (Nov-May, 98) 830,000 t/mo.
- New Mining Fleet (start-up) 1.1 million t/mo.
- Long Term 1.5 million t/mo.

### ⇒ Goal: 200,000 tonnes of ore for plant start-up

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## Environmental Activities



### ⇒ Traditional Knowledge Studies

- Site Visits December-January
- Workshop Scheduled: 2/Feb/98

### ⇒ Wildlife/Aquatics Monitoring Programs

- Working Group Meetings December-January
- Workshops Scheduled: 3-6/Feb/98

### ⇒ Reports, Studies and Manuals In-Progress

- Water License & Environmental Annual Reports (due Mar & Apr)
- Tailings Characterization Study
- Kimberlite Toxicity Study
- Operating Phase Environmental Management Plan

Errol Clairford News  
21 November 1997

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