

Summary of Discussion

*Held at the Champagne Room (Suite 201, 5006 Franklin Ave, Yellowknife, NT)
Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Final Revision:

PARTICIPANTS

Agency Directors:

Jaida Ohokannoak (*Chair*)

Ron Allen

Tim Byers

Emery Paquin

Kim Poole

Jess Jasper

Agency Staff:

Marc Casas, Executive Director

Shannon Moore, Communications & Admin.

Specialist

Dominion:

Lynn Boettger – Super Intendent Permitting

Dustin Chaffey – Permitting

Gov't of Canada - Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

Dinah Elliot

GNWT – Environment & Natural Resources:

Loretta Ransom

Łutsël K'e Dene First Nation (LKDFN):

Not in attendance

Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA):

Not in attendance

North Slave Métis Alliance (NSMA):

Adelaide Mufandaedza

Tłı̨chǫ Government:

Not in attendance

Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN):

Not in attendance

Meeting opened at 9:20am.

Welcome and Agenda Review

Chairperson Jaida Ohokannoak welcomed everyone to the AGM and gave an overview of the agenda. No additions or changes were suggested.

As the meeting did not reach quorum, the Chair explained how the meeting would proceed (including scheduling a Special Meeting of Society Members to pass motions in the near future). There was a round of introductions by the Agency and attendees.

Chairperson's Address

Jaida thanked participants for their attendance, and reminded attendees that the Annual General Meeting is for Society Members. It is not just for the Agency to present updates and talk about report reviews, this meeting is for discussion amongst Society Members and the Agency. This meeting provides a good opportunity for the company to hear Society member's suggestions and questions as well.

Approval of the Summary of Discussion from the 2018 AGM

As quorum is not met, this will happen at a later date via teleconference.

Presentation of IEMA's Annual Report

Presentation given by Board Vice-Chair, Emery Paquin

For further details, [please see the presentation](#).

Recommendations for 2018-2019

Background: The Agency made four formal recommendations this year regarding waste rock storage, management of both land and water reclamation securities within a single regulatory instrument, and the involvement of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

- *Recommendation No. 1:* The WLWB undertake a review to determine the most effective approach to determining the neutralization, acid drainage and metal leaching potential of waste rock.
- *Recommendation No. 2:* Dominion implement an adaptive management strategy for waste rock seepage including monitoring indicators, action benchmarks and response plans.
- *Recommendation No. 3:* Dominion investigate possible source of mercury and increase nonlethal monitoring of lake trout in Kodiak Lake given the exceedance of Health Canada Guidelines for mercury in fish.
- *Recommendation No. 4:* Dominion increase efforts to document specific thresholds or triggers that cause the company to implement wildlife management measures (i.e. stop road traffic) and determine the effectiveness of such measures.
- *Recommendation No. 5:* Dominion better integrate the analysis of current caribou monitoring techniques (geo-fence collars, road traffic and incidental sightings, and camera data) to better assess the effectiveness of current mitigation actions and improve on-site and range-wide management of caribou.

Agency Activities

Meetings and Visits	Management Plans and Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 Board meetings• AGM and Special Meeting of Society Members• Lutsel K'e community career fair• Community Public Information Sessions on mine closure (5)• One day site visit to Ekati	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Waste Rock and Ore Management Plan (WROMP)• Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (ICRP)• Wastewater and Processed Kimberlite Management Plan (WPKMP)• Wildlife Effects Monitoring Program Report• Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program Report• Dust Suppression Pilot Study Report• Panda and Koala Deposition Study Report

Wildlife

Agency Assessment

- ✓ WEMP report detailed waste management and wildlife incidents
- ✓ Grizzly bear population assessment scientifically rigorous and comprehensive

- X Camera report detailing caribou movement delayed by two years
- X Road traffic data incomplete
- X Management activity thresholds not linked to effectiveness

Overall: The Agency believes that Dominion must better integrate the wildlife monitoring it undertakes and link specific thresholds that trigger a wildlife management measure, and follow-up monitoring to determine effectiveness of these measures.

▪ **Water & Fish**

Agency Assessment:

- ✓ Numerous AEMP Response Plans developed or updated
- X Increasing trends in mercury and selenium levels in fish in several lakes is concerning and indicates need for additional causal studies
- X Possible under-estimation of zooplankton diversity and density
- X Missed AEMP and SNP water sampling events

Overall:

Though there were no new major water quality issues this year, the Agency noted that selenium and mercury levels in harvestable fish have been increasing in lakes downstream of the mine, and suggests that Dominion investigate this apparent trend. The Agency also noted that several sampling events required under the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program and water licence did not occur in 2018. This non-compliance is troubling to the Agency and should not be allowed to reoccur.

▪ **Traditional Knowledge & Community Engagement**

Agency Assessment:

- ✓ Long-standing TK and community programs continue to be funded
- X TK Elders Group largely inactive
- X Establishment of Culture camp delayed
- X Traditional and community knowledge not effectively incorporated into closure planning, especially closure of roads and WRSAs

Overall: The Agency considers Dominion's engagement with Elders and communities to be less satisfactory than in previous years. The TK Elders Group only had 1 meeting in 2018 compared with 3 in the previous year. During our community information sessions for ICRP V 3.0 this past winter, it became clear to the Agency that closure and reclamation plans had not been adequately communicated to Society Members by Dominion.

▪ **Air Quality**

Agency Assessment:

- ✓ Continues to achieve GNWT standards and guidelines
- ✓ Monitoring program continues to be robust
- X Consolidation of site-wide air quality monitoring plan deferred

Overall: Air quality in and around the Ekati mine continues to meet the air and dust fall standards established by the GNWT. This suggests that regional air quality is not being significantly impacted by mine operations.

▪ **Waste Rock Management**

Agency Assessment:

- X Questions persist over use of 'total neutralization potential'
- X Misery geotechnical investigation limited in scope - only one 'relatively shallow' borehole drilled
- X Lack of certainty regarding seepage adaptive management

Overall: The most significant issue continues to be that the Agency believes the most appropriate way to look at a rocks' ability to deal with acid is by looking at its effective, or actual, neutralization potential method. Dominion disagrees, and continues to use 'total neutralization potential' in their calculations.

▪ **Waste Water & Processed Kimberlite**

Agency Assessment:

- ✓ Wastewater management processes are generally robust
- ✓ Discontinuation of discharges from LLCF positive for Koala watershed
- X Lack of source loading estimates, and water and energy balances
- X Uncertainty over depth of freshwater cap needed over FPK pit lakes

Overall: The Agency believes Dominion is managing these wastes well.

▪ **Closure & Reclamation**

Agency Assessment:

- ✓ WLWB review of closure and reclamation continues to be strong
- ✓ Public review of updated Interim closure plan underway
- X Legal and administrative issues impede management of public liability and risk at mine closure

Overall: In August 2018, Dominion submitted the long awaited, updated Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan. While the proposed plan lacks the level of detail we had expected to see for a mine that is over 20 years old, it does represent an improvement in that it includes the new mine components.

▪ **Assessment of Regulators**

- **GNWT (ENR & Lands):** Good
- **Crown Indigenous Relations & Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC):** Satisfactory
- **DFO:** Not Satisfactory
- **ECCC:** Satisfactory
- **WLWB:** Very Good

If you would like to review this in more detail, [please see the presentation](#).

Treasurer's Report

Presentation given by Kim Poole, IEMA Secretary Treasurer
For further details, [please see the presentation](#).

Agency's 2018-2019 Financial Statements, Expenditures, Core Budget, and the 2019-2020 Work Plan & Budget

Work Plan – Technical Focus for 2019-2020:

- Aquatics
 - 2019 Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program – Design Plan
 - Aquatic Response Framework – Various Response Plans
- Closure & Reclamation
 - Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan Version 3.0
 - Progressive Reclamation – Misery WRSA Cover
- Wildlife Effects Monitoring Program
 - Regular monitoring of reports
- Waste Rock
 - Seepage Report
- Air Quality
 - Air Quality Monitoring Program Report

Appointment of Auditor – *vote postponed until there is quorum*

Members' Presentations

Dominion Diamond Mines ULC: Presentation by Dustin Chaffee and Lynn Boettger

Misery Underground & Fox Deep

- MUG has begun production – struck ore
- Fox Deep is on hold for the time being

Sable, Pigeon & Lynx

- Sable farm tank fuel spill (mechanical issue caused the spill) – as cleaned up as it can be. Working with GNWT inspectors on ensuring this is cleaned up.
- Pigeon – Ongoing process
- Lynx – Completed June 2019. Preparation for water management opportunities.

Jay Project

- Optimization study almost complete.
- Fisheries Authorization – Rejection of Jay Project Offsetting Plan in April 2019
 - Ongoing work with DFO to find another option

Future Projects

- Point Lake and Jay are next two development projects in Life of Mine plan (to 2034)
- Point Lake will be open pit development – expected production of approx. 9 million carats. Engagement will begin early 2020. (Plan on producing by 2023.)

Wildlife

- Camera report to be distributed 2020

Closure and Reclamation

- LLCF Progressive Reclamation
- Seed collection in Kugluktuk in 2018 – did a seed planting trial for that to establish topsoil propagule islands. Also did some mounding of landscape for erosion control.

TK

- Community Tours happened
- Tlicho – Boots on the Ground Caribou Monitoring (Nick and Erica have more info)
- LKDFN – Moccasins on the Ground Caribou Monitoring
- YKDFN – Dene on-the-land Caribou Monitoring Program

Exploration

- Drilling completed across the entire Ekati property.
- 6 new kimberlites were found (beyond the 3 at Point Lake) – further analysis will happen this fall

GNWT: Loretta Ransom

- Amended Environmental Agreement to accommodate devolution
- Appointments of IEMA Directors – expiring in March
 - o Put out a call for expression of interest
- Jay Measures
 - o Updates available on the public registry

For more information, [please see the presentation](#).

Agency Communications

Presentation given by Shannon Moore, *Communications and Admin Specialist of IEMA*

Summary: Outreach and communications the Agency has accomplished in 2018-2019 includes: publications such as our bi-annual newsletter (April and November editions), social media updates, and our Annual Report. The Agency website is continually updated, and online communications were covered – including the Agency Timeline and updates in the near future.

Other Business

No other business was raised.

Closing Remarks

As we did not meet quorum for the AGM, motions could not be made.

Note: Society Members will be contacted again to organize a Special Meeting of Society Members via teleconference (to vote for meeting minutes, auditor, and close meeting).

Jaida thanked everyone for their attendance and participation.

Motion to adjourn (deferred for quorum).

Meeting over at 11:28am.