About the Agency

The Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency was formed in 1997 to act as a public watchdog for the Ekati Diamond Mine™. We are governed by a Board of Directors, appointed by:

- Akaitcho Territory Government (represented by Lutsel k’e and Yellowknives Dene First Nations)
- Dogrib Treaty 11 Council
- North Slave Métis Alliance
- Kitikmeot Inuit Association
- Federal Government
- Government of the Northwest Territories
- BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc.

Agency Mandate

- Review, report and make recommendations on BHPB and government reports and plans
- Make recommendations on the integration of traditional knowledge and experience of Aboriginal Peoples into environmental plans and programs
- Participate as an Intervenor in regulatory processes
- Provide an accessible public repository of all environmental information relevant to the project
- Provide ways of distributing information to Aboriginal Peoples and the public
- Provide an effective means to bring to BHPB and governments the concerns of Aboriginal Peoples and the general public

How to Reach Us

In Person
Suite 203
5006 Franklin Avenue
Yellowknife, NT

By Mail
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X1A 2N8

By Telephone
(867) 669-9141

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Web site: www.monitoringagency.net

For further information on the recommendations please refer to the Technical or Plain Language Annual Report available through our office or web site.

The Agency open house in Kugluktuk

The Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency

Agency Board of Directors and Staff

- Sean Kollee: Environmental Analyst
- Tony Pearse: Director
- Bill Ross: Chairperson
- Jaida Ohokannoak: Secretary-Treasurer
- Kevin O'Reilly: Manager
- François Messier: Director
- Tim Byers: Vice-Chairperson
- Dave Osmond: Director

2004-2005 ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY

A PUBLIC WATCHDOG FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AT EKATI DIAMOND MINE™

A PUBLIC WATCHDOG FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AT EKATI DIAMOND MINE™
The following advice has been formally submitted to BHP Billiton and the government from the Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency:

On Caribou Management:
Our Aboriginal members are very concerned about potential harm to caribou from development in the north. BHPB and the government should work together on regional monitoring of the Bathurst Caribou herd.

On Involving Traditional Knowledge in Ekati:
The Aboriginal Peoples would like greater involvement in direct monitoring of the environment at Ekati.

On Mine Reclamation and Closure Planning:
While final reclamation of Ekati is more than a decade away, decisions must be made soon on how the pits, roads and tailings will be reclaimed and what standard must be met. We expect the process used to make these decisions to involve the communities and build on the best practices for mine closure.

I am pleased to present to you a summary from our 2004-05 annual report. This brochure describes our organization and shares our independent view on how BHP Billiton (BHPB) and government regulators have performed to date with regards to protecting the environment at the Ekati Diamond Mine™. It also contains some advice to BHPB and the government on what we think should be done to improve their overall environmental management system. Lately, in the increasingly competitive labour market, BHPB has had difficulty retaining the staff and consultants it needs to manage and maintain its high quality environment programs at Ekati and this has caused us some concern. We will remain vigilant in working with the company while ensuring that protecting the environment is a key priority. For a copy of our annual report please contact our office or view our website.

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