



**Independent Environmental
Monitoring Agency**

Reports and Plans Related to Wildlife

**Review of Ekati's Environmental Monitoring And Management
Programs Workshop
March 16th and 17th, 2004**

Reports Related to Wildlife Effects

1. Assessment of the potential for effects on wildlife from exposure to processed kimberlite
2. Dust monitoring program

1. Risk Assessment on Wildlife

- BHPB conducted this study due to public concern that wildlife may be exposed to metals from eating processed kimberlite or plants growing on processed kimberlite
- The mine closure plan is expected to call for plants to grow on and cover large areas of processed kimberlite

What animals did the risk assessment look at?

- Muskoxen
- Caribou
- Grizzly bears
- Wolverine
- Wolves
- Hare
- Ptarmigan

What metals were studied?

- Many metals were considered
- The following were selected as being the chemicals of most concern:
 - Chromium, Cobalt, Manganese
 - Molybdenum, Nickel, Strontium

How could animals be affected?

From:

- drinking water in the LLCF
- eating processed kimberlite
- eating plants growing on the processed kimberlite
- eating other animals who are exposed to processed kimberlite

How could people be affected?

- From eating meat from caribou that have been exposed to processed kimberlite

BHPB's Results

- There is no health risk to animals from processed kimberlite
- There is no risk to people from eating caribou who have eaten soil, water and plants from around the mine
- Therefore, growing plants on processed kimberlite is the long-term plan

Dust Monitoring Program

- Dust on plants is monitored every 3 years
- To be monitored summer 2004

Dust Monitoring Program

- BHPB is looking at the current health of plants before the Sable road is built
- BHPB will make newer, better estimates on the amount and effect of dust on plants
- BHPB has agreed to consider changes to its dust monitoring programs