

**INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AGENCY** 

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June 17, 2016

Violet Camsell-Blondin Chair, Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board #1-4905 48th St, Yellowknife, NT X1A 3S3

Dear Ms. Camsell-Blondin,

## **Re: Agency Comments on the Chloride Response Plan**

The Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency (Agency) has reviewed Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation's (DDEC) Chloride Response Plan and does not have any major concerns with the responses described in the plan. In particular, the Agency supports the response action to evaluate options to change underground minewater management in the event of a medium action level exceedance.

The Agency is concerned with setting the medium action level when we do not have a clear understanding of what specific parameters are impacting the biota or at what concentrations.

Recommendation: The Agency suggests waiting to set medium action levels until input from the following reports can inform the setting of medium and high action levels: Aquatic Ecology Synthesis, Koala Watershed Water Quality Model Update, and AEMP Re-evaluation.

Should you have any questions concerning these comments, the Agency would be pleased to discuss these at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Mallolamal

Jaida Ohokannoak Chairperson

Cc: DDEC – April Hayward Tlicho Government - Sjoerd van der Wielen Yellowknives Dene First Nation – Alex Power Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation – Lauren King North Slave Metis Alliance – Shin Shiga Kitikmeot Inuit Association – Jared Ottenhof Government of the Northwest Territories – Laurie McGregor Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada – Jennifer O'Neil