



INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AGENCY

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February 17, 2006

Tom Beaulieu
Associate Deputy Minister
Environment and Natural Resources
Government of the Northwest Territories
Box 1320
Yellowknife NT X1A 2L9

Bob Overvold
Regional Director General
Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
Box 1500
Yellowknife NT X1A 2R3

Sean Brennan
President and Chief Operating Officer
BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc.
#1102 4920-52nd Street
Yellowknife NT X1A 3T1

Dear Gentlemen

Re: Director Appointments to the IEMA Board

The Agency has been patiently waiting for the three parties to the Environmental Agreement to appoint replacement Directors for many months. Dr. Peter McCart left our Board in October 2003 and has not been replaced. Dr. Francois Messier resigned his position in May 2005, but has graciously agreed to stay on until a replacement has been found. No replacement has been appointed for either of these Directors to date.

The Agency's By-laws contain quorum requirements that have created some on-going difficulties for our Agency in terms of conducting our business. The Agency Board has no role in appointing Directors but our views as to the desired areas of expertise are well known.

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We understand that two replacement Directors are being seriously considered. Both of them have relevant expertise that would benefit our work, and they would make excellent Directors in our view.

In the interest of moving expeditiously forward, it would be most beneficial if the parties could reach a speedy resolution to this issue, while fulfilling your obligations to consult with the Aboriginal society members.

Sincerely,

-ORIGINAL SIGNED BY-

Bill Ross
Chairperson

cc. David Livingstone, Director, Environment and Conservation, DIAND
Doris Eggers, Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT
David Scott, BHP Billion Diamonds Inc.
Aboriginal Society Members