

NORTH SLAVE MÉTIS ALLIANCE

PO Box 2301 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7



Helen Butler – Reclamation Specialist
EKATI Diamond Mine
BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc.
#1102 4920-52 St
Yellowknife, NT X1A 3T1

August 2, 2006

Dear Ms. Butler:

RE: Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan Consultation

Thank you for the invitation to the North Slave Métis Alliance (NSMA) to participate in the EKATI site visit and Yellowknife workshop regarding closure and reclamation planning for the mine. As you know, 3 NSMA members and 1 staff member attended both events.

As per the NSMA DRAFT consultation policy (attached), participants are to report on such events to the NSMA community. NSMA's formal input to BHP regarding the goals, objectives and preferred options of the interim closure and reclamation plan will be provided after the NSMA community has been consulted. To assist in this process, we would appreciate a chance to review and comment on the draft report of this consultation event, so that NSMA members may be aware of any conclusions drawn by BHP resulting from their participation, and have an opportunity to correct any misunderstandings.

Please forward a copy of any such response to the NSMA Lands and Resources Manager (Sheryl Grieve) as soon as it is available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'V Meeres'.

Valerie Meeres
Lands & Resources

cc: Bill Ross, Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency (Chair)



NSMA DRAFT CONSULTATION POLICY

Whenever there is a risk that the aboriginal and other rights of NSMA members might be affected by any development project, the project proponent should contact the NSMA to ascertain who the primary contact person will be. The proponent and NSMA's representative will work out a mutually agreeable procedure for completing the consultation, and record their agreement in a written consultation protocol. This protocol will address, at a minimum: the amount and quality of information needed; the timing, location, costs, format, and participation in any site visits, meetings, or other discussions; the funding needed by NSMA to participate in the consultation; the criteria by which the consultation will be evaluated; a record of agreement regarding the outcomes of the consultation, including the accommodations agreed to by the proponent, and the acceptance of those accommodations by the NSMA.

In the event that meetings, discussions, or site visits have restrictions on participation, NSMA will select the individuals to participate. Following any such restricted site tour, meeting, discussion or presentation, the participants will report to the rest of the interested NSMA community, regarding their experiences, impressions, observations, and conclusions. The community will have a chance to ask questions and to add their comments. NSMA's formal position, if any is taken after internal consideration of the community discussions and any independent technical advice deemed necessary, will be provided to the proponent and other appropriate parties in writing on NSMA letterhead, signed by the primary contact person.

For environment related consultation, the following contact person, fax and email address are current:

Sheryl Grieve, Lands and Resource Manager
fax # (867) 669-7442
email address = lands@nsma.net

NSMA will make honoraria payments to participants selected to attend restricted consultation events in the amount of \$350 per day. Transportation and per diems, when required, are paid at treasury board rates. Interested members who attend consultation related events with unrestricted attendance will receive a \$50 stipend to offset transportation, child care, or other incidental costs. NSMA will invoice the appropriate party for reimbursement of these and any other related expenditures, according to the consultation protocol.

If any personal information regarding NSMA members is provided, it will be provided in confidence (as per protection of privacy law and NSMA policy), and only on the strict condition that the official NSMA fax, phone, mail and email is used for all consultation related correspondence. If individual members invite any proponent, agency, or government to communicate with them directly, that is their prerogative, and acceptable, however, any such communication would be on a personal basis only, and in no way to be attributed to the NSMA or interpreted as representative of NSMA's official government view or position on any issue.