



Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency

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Ian Goodwin
Manager, Environment, Community and External Affairs
BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc.
1102 4920-52nd Street
Yellowknife, NT X1A 3T1

Re: Budget of the Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency

Dear Ian,

On December 31, 2003, you wrote to us requesting that we discuss how “to reduce [the Monitoring Agency] budget by at least 20% (\$111, 640),” explaining that this was motivated by internal BHPB cost reduction efforts.

We believe this request to be an improper effort to compromise the role of the Agency, spelled out in the Environmental Agreement, as an **independent watchdog**. Accordingly, we will not entertain your request. We will stay with the funding process specified in the Environmental Agreement.

Sincerely,

-ORIGINAL SIGNED BY-

William A. Ross
Chair

Cc. Society Members