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(BHPB & Diavik)

June 25, 2009

W2009L2-0001

The Honourable Chuck Strahl
Minister Responsible for Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
10 Wellington St.
GATINEAU, QC K1A 0H4

Dear Minister Strahl:

Issuance of a Type "A" Water Licence – EKATI Diamond Mine

The Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board (WLWB) has completed its regulatory process for the renewal application of BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc. for diamond mining of the Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth pits at the EKATI Diamond Mine, NT.

A motion was passed at the June 19, 2009 Board meeting to amend licence MV2003L2-0013 to include terms and conditions to operate the entire mine development, including the Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth development. The amended licence, now numbered W2009L2-0001, is attached. The Board has developed a single licence to increase efficiency, clarity and consistency in the regulation of the development. Our reasons for decision are also attached for your review.

As it is a Type A water licence, it requires your signature as per section 81 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*. The WLWB recommends your approval and signature.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Blondin'.

Violet Camsell-Blondin
Chair

Attachments

cc. BHP Billiton Distribution List