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Mr. Zabey Nevitt, Executive Director Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board #16 Yellowknife Airport Yellowknife, NT X1A 3T2

Dear Mr. Nevitt:

Re: Change to Station 1616-26 in the SNP for WL MV2003L2-0013

BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc. (BBDI) is writing to request a change in the Surveillance Network Program (SNP) for Water Licence MV2003L2-0013. BBDI is requesting that SNP Station 1616-26, which is located within the lower reach of Cell A of the Long Lake Containment Facility, be considered inactive and that it be replaced by a new station. This new station, SNP Station 1616-26(a), would be located upstream of Dyke C in the deeper portion of Cell C as shown on the attached map.

BBDI is requesting these changes for the following reasons:

- 1. Station 1616-26 must be sampled twice a year, once under ice cover and once during open water. Sampling is no longer possible as the shallow water in Cell A freezes to the bottom in the winter, and during the summer the water is actually a fine processed kimberlite slurry (see attached photos).
- 2. Launching and navigating a boat through the fine processed kimberlite slurry is unsafe and will become increasingly difficult as the deposition of processed kimberlite continues.
- 3. The proposed location for Station 1616-26(a) will characterize both the Cell A and Cell C waters as it is downstream from their confluence.
- 4. The descriptor for SNP Station 1616-26 is "Long Lake Containment Facility, upstream of Cell C intermediate dyke, in the area most likely to collect ponded water". BBDI is of the opinion that the proposed location for the new station still satisfies the intent of this descriptor.

Thank you for considering this request. If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (867) 669-9292.

Yours sincerely,

BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc.

Laura Tyler

Manager - Environment, Community, Communications and Planning

Attachments: Photographs of the fine processed kimberlite slurry in Cell A

Map showing location of the proposed new station

Cc: Mr. Jason Brennan, South Mackenzie District Office, INAC