



Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
7th Floor - 4910 50th Avenue • P.O. Box 2130
YELLOWKNIFE, NT X1A 2P6
Phone (867) 669-0506 • FAX (867) 873-6610

Reg

June 20, 2001

File: MV2001L2-0004

Mr. Francis Jackson
Water Resources Division
Department of Indian and Northern Affairs
Box 1500
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2R4

Dear Mr. Jackson:

Response to Comments on BHP Diamonds Inc. MV2001L2-0004
Sable Road Construction, Ekati Minesite

I am writing to address the concerns that you have raised regarding the method that the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board has decided to approach the Licensing of this operation.

The applicant has indicated that they are going to replace the original application to the Northwest Territories Water Board with two smaller Water License applications. The first Water License application is a type B application for the water crossing and water use involved with the construction of Sable Road. The second will be for the rest of the expansion and will be a Type A Water License application.

As was clearly stated in the distribution letter, the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board will not be considering the Sable Road Water License application until the environmental assessment has been signed by the Minister. The review process was started early to facilitate a speedy process after the environmental assessment has been completed. The application will not proceed until the assessment is signed.

It would be unfortunate if you feel you cannot support this process, but at this time the process shall continue as outlined above. If you have any questions, contact me at (867) 669-0506 or email laurie@mvlwb.com.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Laurie Bruno", written over a horizontal line.

Laurie Bruno
Regulatory Officer

Copied to: Ed Hornby, South Mackenzie District, DIAND – copy of document
David Milburn, Water Resources Division, DIAND – copy of document