



## Yellowknives Dene First Nation

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**To:** Giant Mine Project, Jane Amphlett, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

**RE:** YKDFN's Response to AANDC's Document titled "Proposed Engagement Process for Giant Mine Surface Remediation – Draft for Discussion".

Yellowknives Dene First Nation's (YKDFN) Giant Mine Advisory Committee (GMAC) has reviewed the above titled document. GMAC has the following concerns which they feel needs to be addressed prior to recommending that YKDFN participate in the proposed engagement process. GMAC has reservations in proceeding with the questions posed in the above titled document and would rather answer them at a later stage and only after our concerns have been addressed.

### **GMACs MAIN CONCERNS:**

GMAC has reservations with YKDFN participating in SRK's proposed engagement process for Giant Mine's surface remediation and will not participate in it unless the following concerns have been addressed:

- YKDFN requires a commitment from AANDC that the entity of GMAC will not be dissolved at any point in lieu of this form of engagement. GMAC does not consider this proposed engagement process as "Big C" Consultation for the Giant Mine Project, but rather, GMAC considers it as a portion of the Consultation for the Giant Mine project. The project, specifically AANDC has a duty to consult with the YKDFN during the life of the Giant Mine project and that should be through YKDFN's GMAC.
- GMAC is open to options or suggestions to alleviate this concern in order to gain YKDFN's participation in the process. GMAC has reservations with YKDFN participating in the process due to some specific steps of the process: During the options evaluation workshop GMAC is concerned that at the end of the process YKDFN's input will not be considered and they will not have had any input into mine remediation components that will be evaluated at this stage of the process due to all the Impacted Parties being scored against each other. This process pits YKDFN against each Impacted Party which we believe creates an unbalanced scoring that does not put YKDFN in a place comfortable enough to participate in the. Basically, YKDFN's voice will be heavily outweighed during this step and the odds of our objectives being considered are considerably reduced.
- GMAC is concerned that at the completion of the process for all mine components being considered within this process that our voice was not heard. YKDFN would require a

deliverable from AANDC at the end of the engagement process and that deliverable is a scorecard that outlines all the mine components that went thru the process and also identifies who's (identify impacted party) objective it was that will be implemented. Their needs to be a link to AANDCs commitment to YKDFN.

- This engagement process will in no way fulfill the requirements of Measure 5 and Measure 10 but would rather provide guidance for the assessments required to meet Measure 5 and 10. This concern needs to be addressed prior to YKDFN's decision to participate in this process.

Furthermore, GMAC would like to mention that they are not against the process but are in general support of the objectives of the proposed multi-party engagement process only if the above main concerns have been addressed.

**GMAC's ADDITIONAL CONCERNS:**

- Land use Constraints needs to be clearly outlined early in the process as YKDFN has its own land uses that will need to be identified. Specific consideration of YKDFN's traditional land uses needs to be ID'd early to allow adequate protection of certain receptors as future and current land use is linked to criteria. Furthermore, future potential activities as a land use also needs to be identified as engineering design details may constrain future proposed activities.
- Sufficient lead time needs to be given to Parties when requesting input because Party representatives cannot make the decision, or provide input on their own, as they do not have the authority. Perhaps consultation with the Parties on how much lead time they will need to get a decision or input from their respective Decision Makers will need to be considered.

Regards,



Johanne Black  
Community Liaison/Technical Advisor

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