



**Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board**  
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### Staff Report

<b>Company:</b> De Beers Canada Inc.	
<b>Location:</b> Snap Lake	<b>Application:</b> MV2011L2-0004/MV2001L2-0002
<b>Date Prepared:</b> October 16, 2012	<b>Meeting Date:</b> October 25, 2012
<b>Subject:</b> Decision on Request for Modification: Proposed East Cell Landfill Site	

#### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this Staff Report is to present to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) the request for modification of the Inland Lake 6 Ditch (IL6) submitted by De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers).

#### 2. Background

- December 29, 2011 – spill/seep #11-469 from starter cell overflowed from temporary sump 4 (TS-4) and entered what will be the west cell of the north pile. Estimated volume 5500 m<sup>3</sup> (5.5 million L) of process water;
- January 24, 2012 – AANDC Inspector sends letter of warning to De Beers. The letter requests De Beers to determine the root cause of the spills and mitigation measures that will be taken;
- February 15 – De Beers (represented by Mr. Maxwell Morapelli - Mine General Manager) submitted a package containing a cover letter and the detailed ditch design at a meeting;
- February 16, 2012 – Board decided that the proposed work is deemed to be significant as per Part E, item 8 of MV2001L2-0002;
- February 16, 2012 – Board staff distributed the proposed Inland Lake 6 (IL6) Ditch Design Plan for public review;
- February 28, 2012 – Board approved the IL6 Ditch;
- September 21, 2012 - De Beers submits request to modify the IL6 ditch by placing a removable gate at one end;
- September 27, 2012 – Requested additional information;
- October 2, 2012 – Additional information was provided;
- October 10, 2012 – Revised drawings were submitted;

- October 15, 2012 – Due date for comments. None were received; and
- October 25, 2012 – Board decision on the proposed IL6 ditch modification – gate.

### **3. Discussion**

The original purpose of the IL6 ditch was to collect spring runoff resulting from the large seepage events of the previous two winters. Once freshet began it became apparent that the ditch had intersected a small stream which feeds some small downstream wetlands. The proposed modification is to place a removable gate in the ditch to allow the small stream to flow through and past the ditch into the wetlands below and not through the entire ditch into the water management system.

### **4. Review Comments**

A notification letter went out to reviewers requesting comments be submitted by October 15, 2012 (attached). No comments were received.

### **5. Security**

n/a

### **6. Conclusion**

Board staff concludes that De Beers is proposing to address the stream issue with the gate design in accordance with Part J, item 1 of their Water Licence (WL) and notes that no objections or comments were received by reviewers.

### **7. Recommendation**

Board staff recommends that the modification be approved since it is in accordance with the WL and no concerns have been raised by reviewers.

### **8. Attachments**

- Modification Request and Associated Drawings
- Notification Review Letter
- Draft Approval Letter

Respectfully submitted,



Marc Casas  
Regulatory Officer