



Northwest  
Territories Minister of Environment and Natural Resources

SEP 10 2015

Mr. Willard Hagen  
Chair  
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board  
7TH FLOOR 4922 48TH STREET  
PO BOX 2130  
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2P6

Dear Mr. Hagen:

*Willard*

**Type A Water Licence Amendment – Snap Lake Diamond Mine – MV2011L2-0004**

Thank you for your letter dated June 19, 2015, regarding an amendment to the De Beers Snap Lake Diamond Mine Type "A" Water Licence MV2011L2-0004, associated with De Beers December 2013 amendment application to increase effluent quality criteria (EQC) for several parameters within their existing water licence.

As you are aware, this amendment application underwent an Environmental Assessment (EA1314-02). The Report of Environmental Assessment, approved by the Minister of Lands on October 31, 2014, contained two measures. Measure 1 required the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (Board) to set numerical Site Specific Water Quality Objectives (SSWQOs) for Total Dissolved Solids and other constituent ions of concern, ensuring that a number of objectives are met to prevent significant impacts on water quality, traditional uses and the aquatic ecosystem in Snap Lake and downstream. Measure 2 requires the implementation of additional water treatment or other mitigations, to achieve the SSWQOs and associated EQCs which meet the objectives of Measure 1.

As per Section 130(5) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*, these measures are binding on the Board. The Board must remain diligent through time to ensure that the Measures of EA1314-02 continue to be met and are not exceeded. I acknowledge that the Board has required De Beers to conduct additional monitoring of the aquatic environment and studies of the downstream lakes in association with increased effluent limits to ensure the Measures of EA1314-02 are achieved.

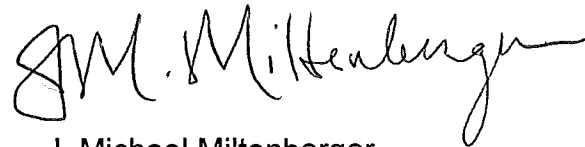
.../2



- 2 -

With the above in mind, I have approved the water licence as recommended by the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board. The signed original is enclosed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.M. Miltenberger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

J. Michael Miltenberger

Enclosure

- c. Mr. Zabey Nevitt  
Executive Director  
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board



MACKENZIE VALLEY LAND AND WATER BOARD  
WATER LICENCE

Amendment –

Pursuant to the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* and Regulations, the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board, hereinafter referred to as the Board, hereby grants to:

De Beers Canada Inc.  
(Licensee)

of #300 5120 – 49<sup>th</sup> Street, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 1P8  
(Mailing Address)

hereinafter called the Licensee, the right to alter, divert, or otherwise use water subject to the restrictions and conditions contained in the *Northwest Territories Waters Act* and Regulations made thereunder and subject to and in accordance with the conditions specified in this Licence.

Licence number:	MV2011L2-0004
Licence type:	A
Water Management Area:	Northwest Territories 01
Location:	Snap Lake, Northwest Territories
Purpose:	Water Use and Waste Disposal
Description:	For a Mining and Milling Operation
Quantity of water <b>not to be exceeded</b> :	188,000 cubic metres (m <sup>3</sup> ) per year
Effective date of Licence:	June 14, 2012
Expiry date of Licence:	June 13, 2020

This Licence, issued and recorded at Yellowknife, includes and is subject to the annexed conditions.

Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

Chair

Witness

Approved by

Minister of Environment and Natural Resources