December 21, 2018

Kierney Leach
Regulatory Officer
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
4922 - 48th Street
Yellowknife, NT. X1A 2P6

Dear Ms. Leach:

RE: Request for extension on Submission of the Final Closure and Reclamation Plan (FCRP) for Snap Lake Mine (MV2011L2-0004/2017D0032)

De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) notified the MVLWB on December 14, 2017 of our intent to close Snap Lake Mine and prepare a Final Closure and Reclamation Plan for submission in 2019. The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (the Board) provided De Beers with a deadline of January 30, 2019 for submission of the FCRP as part of their decision letter on amendment to the Land Use Permit (2017D0032) issued on June 20, 2018.

De Beers has been working diligently to prepare the FCRP to meet the deadline of January 30, 2019. We have not only prepared the technical aspects, such as the final cover and reclamation designs, but also have conducted several engagements with Indigenous partners, including multiple traditional knowledge workshops, reclamation working group technical sessions and community update sessions. A record of these engagements will be provided as part of the FCRP along with appendices describing the more technical aspects of the FCRP.

Implementation of the FCRP as designed will require significant investment by De Beers. Prior to submission of this Plan, De Beers requires internal investment approval as well as technical review by the Anglo American Closure team. Technical review of the Plan and subsequent investment decisions are scheduled for January–February 2019. This Board’s schedule for submission of the FCRP does not leave De Beers with sufficient time to accommodate that review and decision prior to submission. De Beers cannot make external commitments for closure that have not been internally approved through this process and therefore a submission of the FCRP on January 30, 2019 is not possible.

De Beers respectfully requests an extension on the submission deadline for the FCRP of 58 days, to March 29, 2019. This extension will allow us to prepare an FCRP which is internally approved and therefore less likely to require adjustment by De Beers through the process.

Thank you again for your consideration of our request. Should you have any further questions or require further discussions, I can be reached at sarah.mclean@debeersgroup.com or at (867) 688-9227.
Sincerely,

Sarah McLean
Environment and Permitting Manager
De Beers Canada Inc.

Cc: Michelle Peters, DCBI
    Chris Hotson, MVLWB
    Shin Shiga, NSMA
    Grace Mackenzie, TG
    Lauren King, LKDFN
    Joanne Black, YKDFN
    Rosy Bjornson, DKFN
    Ursula Vogt, NWTMN
    Philippe di Pizzo, SLEMA