Sharon Debler

From: Peter Lennie-Misgeld [peter@mvlwb.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2006 4:10 PM
To: Zabey Nevitt; colleen_roche@gov.nt.ca; Anne Wilson; Bart Blais; 'Dave Balint'; 'Dora Enzoe'; Eric Denholm; Eric Yaxley; 'Gord MacDonald'; Jason McNeill; 'John McCullum'; Kathleen Racher; 'Kelly Cott' Lorne Napier - Rae Edzo Metis Local; Monica Krieger; MVLWB Permit Email (MVLWB Permit); Nathan Richea; 'Rachel Crapeau'; 'Sheryl Grieve'; 'Stanley Anablak'; 'Tim Byerses'; Tli Cho Lands Protection Department; 'Tony Pearse'; Valerie Meeres; 'Stephen Ellis'; 'Don MacDonald'; 'Geoff Clarke'; 'Georgina Biscaye - Deninu K'ue First Nation'; 'Nam Lee'

Subject: Letter to DDMI on Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board licensing and permitting

text attached....
February 13, 2006

Mr. Mark Anderson, President
Diavik Diamond Mines Inc. (DDMI)
P.O. Box 2498, 5007-50 Avenue
YELLOWKNIFE, NT X1A 2P8

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Wek'ëezhii Land and Water Board Assumes Licensing and Permitting Responsibilities February 4th, 2006

As you may be aware, the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA) was amended on August 4th, 2005 by the Tłı̨chǫ Land Claims and Self-Government Act (the amending legislation). One of the important changes associated with the coming into force of the Tłı̨chǫ Agreement and MVRMA amendments was the establishment of the Wek'ëezhii Land and Water Board (WLWB).

The WLWB will function as a regional panel of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) and will have exclusive authority over the permitting of land use and the licensing of water use or the disposal of waste into water for activities that are to take place and are likely to have an impact wholly within Wek'ëezhii. Section 95 of the amending legislation provided for a 6 month period after August 4th for the WLWB to prepare for its operations.

The WLWB took over its full responsibilities on February 4th, 2006. On February 8th, 2006 the MVLWB determined that Diavik's mining operations at Lac de Gras do not fall under Section 103(1) of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act and Water License N7L2-1645 now falls under the jurisdiction of the WLWB. We anticipate a smooth transition and no significant changes in the way your Water License is administered.

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As the WLWB is not yet fully staffed, and to ensure a smooth and efficient transition, staff of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board will continue to administer permits and licenses and process new applications.

During this interim period all inquiries, applications and other communications relating to your permit or license should be directed to the staff of the MVLWB. All correspondence relating to your permit or license should continue to be forwarded to the offices of the MVLWB.

If you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact our Executive Director, Zabey Nevitt at (867) 669-9592 or the staff of the MVLWB at (867) 669-0506.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Violet Camsell-Blondin
Interim Chair, WLWB

Cc. Eddie Erasmus, Director, Lands Protection Department Tłı̨chǫ Government
    Diavik Distribution List via fax
    Todd Burlingame, Chair MVLWB