July 12, 2018

Mr. Sean Sinclair  
Diavik Diamond Mines (2012) Inc. (DDMI)  
P.O. Box 2498, 300, 5102 – 50th Avenue  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P8

Dear Mr. Sinclair,

Re: Information Request – DDMI’s Waste Rock Management Plan Version 8

The Wek’èezhìi Land and Water Board (the Board) is currently reviewing Diavik Diamond Mines (2012) Inc.’s (DDMI’s) Waste Rock Management Plan (WRMP), Version 8. DDMI responded to reviewer comments through the Board’s online public review system on July 6, 2018. The purpose of this Information Request is to obtain additional information to DDMI’s responses to ensure that the Board has clear and complete information when making its decision.

During the public review of Version 8 of the WRMP, DDMI was asked to “provide additional information on the prediction calculation inputs (e.g., calculation spreadsheets)” related to the use of Type III Waste Rock in construction of an abutment at the A154S kimberlite pipe (WLWB staff comment 12). Without providing the flow volume inputs used in the model, the prediction calculations cannot be verified. While DDMI did provide information on where to find the water chemistry and underground flow volumes used in the prediction calculations, specific information was not provided on the inputs used in the calculations. Please provide the following information:

1. The specific flow volume inputs used in the model to calculate predicted water quality in the A154S pit if the abutment is constructed with Type III Waste Rock.

In the recent decision on the A21 Addendum to the WRMP, the Board directed DDMI to “update the figure that shows all of the country rock samples that were collected from the A21 area for the characterization program”.¹ The Board explained that “a better understanding of the spatial extent of the samples collected would provide more background information for

the readers/users of the WRMP”. 2 In Version 8 of the WRMP, in response to the Board’s requirement, DDMI stated that “the 2007 samples were obtained from archived A21 core samples...and therefore the figure provided remains the same”. 3 In the review of WRMP Version 8, DDMI was asked to “provide a complete list of individual samples showing the drill hole depth intervals for all of the 52 samples collected from the 1997 program and 2007 program” (WLWB staff comment 9). In response to the comment, DDMI stated that “adding specific knowledge of the depth intervals for historical samples taken from cores where no biotite schist was found would have no bearing on, and add no value to, waste rock management at A21” (DDMI response to WLWB comment 9). By providing the drill hole depth intervals for all samples, the spatial extent of the A21 characterization program can be verified. Please provide the following information:

2. A complete list of individual samples that includes the drill hole location information (i.e., sample IDs as indicated on applicable figures) and depth intervals for all of the 52 samples collected from the 1997 and 2007 program;

In the Board decision on the A21 Addendum to the WRMP, DDMI was required to “include a description of action levels and responses related to biotite schist xenolith frequencies and extents”. 4 In the WRMP Version 8, DDMI states that “if the monitoring results indicate biotite schist xenoliths are present in excess of 10% of the total material mined in any given month, this will trigger re-evaluation of the geochemical decision criteria which define a biotite schist xenolith”. 5 During the public review of Version 8 of the WRMP, DDMI was asked to provide the rationale for the trigger chosen to reevaluate the geochemical decision criteria that defines a biotite schist xenolith (WLWB staff comment 10). DDMI was also asked if it considered “how the proposed trigger would impact water quality from the A21 rock when setting that limit” (WLWB staff comment 10). DDMI’s response described why the trigger was in place and that “Biotite schist xenoliths (i.e. Type III rock) will only be used / stored as approved in the WRMP” which “will not have impacts to water quality” (response to WLWB staff comment 10). Rationale for why DDMI chose the proposed trigger value of 10% is needed in order to better understand how that trigger value was determined, given that in consideration of the biotite schist xenolith operational definition, Type I Waste Rock could contain up to 10% biotite schist xenoliths. Please provide the following information:

3. The rationale for why DDMI chose a 10% trigger related to the reevaluation of the operational definition of biotite schist xenoliths and how water quality could be impacted in the south Waste Rock Storage Area (WRSA) if this trigger was reached, given that in consideration of the biotite schist xenolith operational definition, Type I Waste Rock could contain up to 10% biotite schist xenoliths.

If the 10% trigger were reached, this could mean that 10% of the Waste Rock from A21 would be diverted to the north WRSA. It is not clear if the north WRSA could accommodate this

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2 Ibid.
5 Ibid
volume of rock and if this was factored into the rationale for why the trigger of 10% was chosen. Please provide the following information:

4. If 10% of the total Waste Rock from A21 were classified as Type III, would the north WRSA accommodate this additional volume? Describe if DDMI factored in the potential volumetric/spatial limitations of the north WRSA when determining the 10% trigger (as described above). Also, would additional cover material (till and Type I Waste Rock) be required at closure if this volume of Type III rock were disposed in the north WRSA?

5. How much additional Type III from the south WRSA can the North WRSA handle? Does DDMI have an alternate Waste Rock management strategy for Type III Waste Rock that cannot fit in the north WRSA or be used as cemented rock fill?

If DDMI wishes for Version 8 of the WRMP to be considered at the Boards’ August meeting, the Board requests that DDMI submit responses to requests 1 through 5 as detailed above by 5pm on July 26, 2018.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ryan Fequet
Executive Director

Copied: DDMI Distribution List