

DE BEERS

GROUP OF COMPANIES

February 16, 2018

File: L020

Jacqueline Ho
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
7th Floor, 4922 48th St, PO Box 2130
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 2P6

Dear Ms. Ho:

MV2005L2-0015 – N11 Discharge Toxicity Test Results

Thank you for your letter dated February 1, 2018 which sets out certain provisions of Part B of Licence MV2005L2-0015. At this time De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) Gahcho Kue Mine is not proposing to formally amend the Surveillance Network Program (SNP). De Beers will continue to comply with the current Licence MV2005L2-0015 and SNP.

In addition to carrying out sampling as specified in Part B of the SNP, footnote (g), De Beers will conduct an additional test on Flathead Minnow that will include an additional treatment of 20 µg/L of copper (CU). This test will be carried out by De Beers so that it can determine with what further frequency, if any, the Flathead Minnow test provides unreliable results because of the Sporadic Mortality Phenomenon, as was the case with the samples taken on October 2, 2017. In the event that future Flathead Minnow test results are inconsistent with the Flathead Minnow test using additional CU, or with the other tests prescribed in Part B of the SNP, footnote (g), De Beers will advise the Board of this immediately and will work with the Board to identify the cause of these inconsistencies.

The additional Flathead Minnow testing using Cu that is being undertaken by De Beers will provide additional information to better inform decision making. It does not in any way detract from the current requirements of the SNP.

Should you have any questions or require additional information please feel free to contact the undersigned by phone at (867) 688-9870 or by email at Alexandra.Hood@debeersgroup.com

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A. Hood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a light blue background behind the text.

Alexandra Hood
Regulatory Specialist

cc: Joe Heron, GNWT – Lands

Pat Kramers, Sarah McLean, De Beers Canada Inc.