

# DE BEERS GROUP

May 5, 2021

Angela Love, EP  
Regulatory Specialist  
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board  
P.O. Box 2130  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P6

Via Email: [angela.love@mvlwb.com](mailto:angela.love@mvlwb.com)

Dear Ms. Love:

**RE: Gahcho Kue Mine Land Use Permit (MV2005C0032) Renewal Request**

## **Introduction**

De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) operates the Gahcho Kué Diamond Mine (Gahcho Kué), in accordance with Water License MV2005L2-0015 and Land Use Permit MV2005C0032. In March 2020, De Beers submitted an amendment request to the Water Licence and Land Use Permit to update the mine plan, and to extend life of mine from Q2 2028 to Q2 2030. The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) subsequently approved the amendment request on February 10, 2021.

As the recently amended Land Use Permit MV2005C0032 is scheduled to expire on August 10, 2021, and pursuant to the *Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations*, S.26(5), De Beers is pleased to submit this request to renew the Gahcho Kue Land Use Permit for five years, from August 11, 2021 to August 10, 2026.

## **Scope of the Permit Renewal Request**

De Beers is not proposing any changes to the scope or conditions the current Permit. De Beers requests conditions in the renewed permit will be consistent with Permit MV2005C0032. The only required change is to extend the permit expiry date to August 10, 2026.

Below is a list of all documents under Permit MV2005C0032 for reference. Other than required changes under other regulatory requirements as described in the table below, De Beers is not proposing any changes to the currently approved management plans in this application. De Beers expects these documents will continue to be listed under the renewed Permit.

### **De Beers Canada inc.**

1601 Airport Road NE Suite 300 Calgary Alberta T2E 6Z8  
Tel + 1 403 930 0991 | [www.debeersgroup.com/canada](http://www.debeersgroup.com/canada) | [info.canada@debeersgroup.com](mailto:info.canada@debeersgroup.com)  
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Table 1: Current Plans and Reports to be carried into Renewed Land Use Permit

Permit MV2005C0032 Section	Reference Documents with link on MVLWB Registry	Summary
35, 36	<a href="#">Erosion and Sediment Management Plan</a> , V.4	Plan continued to be implemented, no update required.
42, 43	<a href="#">Explosives Management Plan</a> , V.4	Approved plan continues to be implemented, no update required.
45, 46	<a href="#">Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan</a> (WWHPP), V.3.1	Approved plan continues to be implemented.  In accordance with the requirements of <i>Wildlife Act</i> , S.95(1), De Beers recently submitted the Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan (WMMP) to replace this plan under Permit 2005C0032, S.46.  De Beers requests that the title of the 'Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan' should be replaced with the 'Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan' in the renewed Permit.
47, 48	<a href="#">Waste Management Plan</a> , V.5.5	Approved plan continues to be implemented.  As required under the 2020 Land Use Permit Amendment Approval, De Beers is in the process of submitting an update to the Waste Management Plan to include the approved landfill in the Coarse PK and Mine Rock Pile.
69, 70	<a href="#">Spill Contingency Plan</a> , V.3.1	Approved plan continues to be implemented, no update required.
84, 85	<a href="#">Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan</a> , V.4.1	Approved plan continues to be implemented, no update required.
86, 87	Final Closure and Reclamation Plan	To be submitted two years prior to the end of commercial operations for MVLWB's Approval.
89, 90	<a href="#">Engagement Plan</a> , V.2	Approved plan continues to be implemented, no update required.
91, 92	<a href="#">Vegetation and Soils Monitoring Program</a> , V.3	Approved plan continues to be implemented, no update required.
94	<a href="#">Annual Land Use Permit Report</a>	Submitted on March 31 annually, as a combined Water Licence and Land Use Permit Report.

**Note:**

All other relevant management plans and reports are available at MVLWB's Registry for [Licence MV2005L2-0015](#) and [Permit MV2005C0032](#).

## **Environmental Screening**

De Beers is not proposing any change to the mine plan or project description in this application. This land use permit amendment application should be exempt from preliminary screening as per Schedule 1, Part 1, paragraph 2.1 of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act Exemption List Regulations which states:

*2.1 A development, or a part thereof, for which a permit, licence or authorization is requested that (a) was part of a development that fulfilled the requirements of the environmental assessment process established by the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act; and (b) has not been modified since the development referred to in paragraph (a) fulfilled the requirements of the environmental assessment process established by the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act.*

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The activities described within this land use permit application are part of a development that fulfills the requirements of the environmental assessments previously conducted and therefore should not be subject to additional assessment.

## Closure Security

As the closure security has been recently updated and approved on February 10, 2021, and no change to the mine plan or project description is proposed in this application, De Beers is not proposing any update to the security deposit under Permit MV2005C0032, S.56.

## Engagement Records

De Beers has undertaken adequate engagement activities, prior to the submission of this application. No concerns are received from the indigenous parties to date. Table 2 summarizes the engagement activities that are specific to the current application. The notification letters are included Appendix B of this document.

**Table 2: Summary of engagement records**

Date	Method / Event	Location	Indigenous Parties	Discussion Summary
2021-04-09	Notification Letters	-	DKFN	Notification of the intent to submit the Land Use Permit Renewal request was sent to the leadership of each Indigenous Party.
			LKDFN	
			NSMA	
			NWTMN (incl. FRMG, FSMC, HRMG)	
			TG	
			YKDFN	
			NHX	
2021-04-09	Email Exchanges	-	FRMG	Confirmation of receiving the notification. No concerns were received.
2021-04-16	Follow-up email and phone call	-	DKFN	No concerns were received during or after the follow-up phone call and email.
2021-04-16	Follow-up email and phone voicemail	-	LKDFN	No concerns were received after the phone voicemail or follow-up email.
2021-04-16	Email Exchanges	-	NSMA	No concerns were received in the email exchange.
2021-04-16	Follow-up email and phone call	-	NWTMN	No concerns were received during or after the follow-up phone call and email.
2021-04-16	Email Exchanges	-	TG	No concerns were received in the email exchange.
2021-04-16	Follow-up email and phone voicemail	-	YKDFN	No concerns were received after the phone voicemail or follow-up email.

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Date	Method / Event	Location	Indigenous Parties	Discussion Summary
2021-04-22	Virtual Conference / NHX Q2 Meeting	-	NHX	No concerns were received during the virtual conference.
2021-04-27	Virtual Conference / GK Update	-	YKDFN	No concerns were received during the virtual conference.
<p><b>Note:</b>  DKFN - Deninu Kué First Nation  LKDFN - Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation  NHX - Ni Hadi Xa  NSMA - North Slave Métis Alliance  NWTMN - Northwest Territory Métis Nation (incl. Fort Resolutions Métis Government, Fort Smith Métis Council, Hay River Métis Government)  TG - Tłı̨çq̓ Government  YKDFN - Yellowknives Dene First Nation</p>				

The renewal of the Land Use Permit will enable De Beers to continue to operate the Gahcho Kué mine as proposed and approved during previous proceedings, and to implement all required compliance activities. If you have any questions regarding this submission, I can be contacted at [william.liu@debeersgroup.com](mailto:william.liu@debeersgroup.com) or (867) 445-1485.

Sincerely,



William Liu  
Regulatory Specialist  
De Beers Canada Inc.

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## Appendix A Land Use Permit Application Form

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## Appendix B Engagement Notification Letters

# DE BEERS GROUP

April 9, 2021

Chief Louis Balsillie  
Deninu K'ue First Nation  
PO Box 279  
Fort Resolution, NT X0E 0MO

Via Email: admin@dkfn.ca

Dear Chief Balsillie:

**RE: Notice of Intent to Request for Land Use Permit Renewal for Gahcho Kué Mine**

De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) operates Gahcho Kué Diamond Mine (Gahcho Kue) under Water Licence MV2005L2-0015 and Land Use Permit MV2005C0032. In order to incorporate the mine plan change, De Beers submitted a Water Licence and Land Use Permit Amendment request in March 2020. Though extensive technical reviews and public engagement, the Water Licence and Land Use Permit were approved on March 10, 2021 and February 10, 2021, respectively.

As the newly amended Land Use Permit is scheduled to expire on August 10, 2021, I am pleased to send you and your organization this notification that De Beers plans to submit a Land Use Permit Renewal request in April 2021.

Since the current Land Use Permit has been recently approved as of February 10, 2021, De Beers does not plan to propose changes to the scope of this permit. The only required change is to extend the expiry date from August 10, 2021 to August 10, 2026 in the renewed permit. The approval of the renewal request will enable De Beers to continue to operate Gahcho Kue Mine, and to fulfill all conditions as specified in the permit.

If you or anyone in your organization have any questions or concerns regarding De Beers' upcoming request, please contact me by email at [william.liu@debeersgroup.com](mailto:william.liu@debeersgroup.com) or by phone at (867) 445-1485.

Sincerely,



William Liu  
Regulatory Specialist  
De Beers Canada Inc.

CC: Carol Ann Chaplin – DKFN  
Angela Love – MVLWB

**De Beers Canada inc.**

1601 Airport Road NE Suite 300 Calgary Alberta T2E 6Z8  
Tel + 1 403 930 0991 | [www.debeersgroup.com/canada](http://www.debeersgroup.com/canada) | [info.canada@debeersgroup.com](mailto:info.canada@debeersgroup.com)  
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April 9, 2021

Chief Darryl Boucher-Marlowe  
Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation  
PO Box 28  
Lutsel K'e, NT, X0E 1A0

Via Email: chief.lkdfn@gmail.com

Dear Chief Marlowe:

**RE: Notice of Intent to Request for Land Use Permit Renewal for Gahcho Kué Mine**

De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) operates Gahcho Kué Diamond Mine (Gahcho Kue) under Water Licence MV2005L2-0015 and Land Use Permit MV2005C0032. In order to incorporate the mine plan change, De Beers submitted a Water Licence and Land Use Permit Amendment request in March 2020. Though extensive technical reviews and public engagement, the Water Licence and Land Use Permit were approved on March 10, 2021 and February 10, 2021, respectively.

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Sincerely,



William Liu  
Regulatory Specialist  
De Beers Canada Inc.

CC: Glen Guthrie - LKDFN  
Angela Love - MVLWB

**De Beers Canada inc.**

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April 9, 2021

Rosy Bjornson  
Environmental Manager, Ni Hadi Xa  
PO Box 279  
Fort Resolution, NT X0E 0M0

Via Email: [rosy.bjornson@nihadixa.ca](mailto:rosy.bjornson@nihadixa.ca)

Dear Ms. Bjornson:

**RE: Notice of Intent to Request for Land Use Permit Renewal for Gahcho Kué Mine**

De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) operates Gahcho Kué Diamond Mine (Gahcho Kue) under Water Licence MV2005L2-0015 and Land Use Permit MV2005C0032. In order to incorporate the mine plan change, De Beers submitted a Water Licence and Land Use Permit Amendment request in March 2020. Though extensive technical reviews and public engagement, the Water Licence and Land Use Permit were approved on March 10, 2021 and February 10, 2021, respectively.

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Sincerely,



William Liu  
Regulatory Specialist  
De Beers Canada Inc.

CC: NHX Governance Committee – NHX  
Angela Love – MVLWB

**De Beers Canada inc.**

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Tel + 1 403 930 0991 | [www.debeersgroup.com/canada](http://www.debeersgroup.com/canada) | [info.canada@debeersgroup.com](mailto:info.canada@debeersgroup.com)  
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April 9, 2021

Bill Enge, President  
North Slave Métis Alliance  
30 Melville Drive  
Yellowknife NT X1A 2P7

Via Email: [billenge@nsma.net](mailto:billenge@nsma.net)

Dear Mr. Enge:

**RE: Notice of Intent to Request for Land Use Permit Renewal for Gahcho Kué Mine**

De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) operates Gahcho Kué Diamond Mine (Gahcho Kue) under Water Licence MV2005L2-0015 and Land Use Permit MV2005C0032. In order to incorporate the mine plan change, De Beers submitted a Water Licence and Land Use Permit Amendment request in March 2020. Though extensive technical reviews and public engagement, the Water Licence and Land Use Permit were approved on March 10, 2021 and February 10, 2021, respectively.

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Sincerely,



William Liu  
Regulatory Specialist  
De Beers Canada Inc.

CC: Adelaide Mufandaedza – NSMA  
Jess Hurtubise – NSMA  
Angela Love – MVLWB

**De Beers Canada inc.**

1601 Airport Road NE Suite 300 Calgary Alberta T2E 6Z8  
Tel + 1 403 930 0991 | [www.debeersgroup.com/canada](http://www.debeersgroup.com/canada) | [info.canada@debeersgroup.com](mailto:info.canada@debeersgroup.com)  
Incorporated in Canada | Registration number 889569596

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April 9, 2021

Garry Bailey, President  
Northwest Territory Métis Nation  
PO Box 720  
Fort Smith, NT X0E 0P0

Via Email: [garry.bailey@nwtmetis.ca](mailto:garry.bailey@nwtmetis.ca)

Lloyd Cardinal, President  
Fort Resolutions Métis Government

Allan Heron, President  
Fort Smith Métis Council

Trevor Beck, President  
Hay River Métis Government Council

Dear Mr. Bailey:

**RE: Notice of Intent to Request for Land Use Permit Renewal for Gahcho Kué Mine**

De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) operates Gahcho Kué Diamond Mine (Gahcho Kue) under Water Licence MV2005L2-0015 and Land Use Permit MV2005C0032. In order to incorporate the mine plan change, De Beers submitted a Water Licence and Land Use Permit Amendment request in March 2020. Though extensive technical reviews and public engagement, the Water Licence and Land Use Permit were approved on March 10, 2021 and February 10, 2021, respectively.

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Sincerely,



William Liu  
Regulatory Specialist  
De Beers Canada Inc.

CC: Ursula Vogt      - NWTMN  
    Shawn Mckay      - FRMG  
    Angela Love        - MVLWB

# DE BEERS GROUP

April 9, 2021

Grace Mackenzie  
Mines Liaison Coordinator  
Tłı̨chǫ Government  
PO Box 412  
Behchoko, NT X0E 0Y0

Via Email: [gracemackenzie@tlicho.com](mailto:gracemackenzie@tlicho.com)

Dear Ms. Mackenzie:

**RE: Notice of Intent to Request for Land Use Permit Renewal for Gahcho Kué Mine**

De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) operates Gahcho Kué Diamond Mine (Gahcho Kue) under Water Licence MV2005L2-0015 and Land Use Permit MV2005C0032. In order to incorporate the mine plan change, De Beers submitted a Water Licence and Land Use Permit Amendment request in March 2020. Though extensive technical reviews and public engagement, the Water Licence and Land Use Permit were approved on March 10, 2021 and February 10, 2021, respectively.

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Sincerely,



William Liu  
Regulatory Specialist  
De Beers Canada Inc.

CC: Violet Camsell-Blondin - TG  
Angela Love - MVLWB

**De Beers Canada inc.**

1601 Airport Road NE Suite 300 Calgary Alberta T2E 6Z8  
Tel + 1 403 930 0991 | [www.debeersgroup.com/canada](http://www.debeersgroup.com/canada) | [info.canada@debeersgroup.com](mailto:info.canada@debeersgroup.com)  
Incorporated in Canada | Registration number 889569596

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# DE BEERS GROUP

April 9, 2021

Chief Edward Sangris and Chief Ernest Betsina  
Yellowknives Dene First Nation  
PO Box 2514  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P8

Via Email: ebetsina@ykdene.com  
esangris@ykdene.com

Dear Chief Sangris and Chief Betsina:

**RE: Notice of Intent to Request for Land Use Permit Renewal for Gahcho Kué Mine**

De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) operates Gahcho Kué Diamond Mine (Gahcho Kue) under Water Licence MV2005L2-0015 and Land Use Permit MV2005C0032. In order to incorporate the mine plan change, De Beers submitted a Water Licence and Land Use Permit Amendment request in March 2020. Though extensive technical reviews and public engagement, the Water Licence and Land Use Permit were approved on March 10, 2021 and February 10, 2021, respectively.

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Sincerely,



William Liu  
Regulatory Specialist  
De Beers Canada Inc.

CC: Sarah Gillis - TG  
Angela Love - MVLWB

**De Beers Canada inc.**

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