

## **Work Plan for the Water Licence Renewal Application of Diavik Diamond Mines Inc.**

### **Work Plan Timeline**

See page 3.

### **Purpose of the Work Plan**

To outline the processes and timelines to be followed for Water Licence Application W2015L2-0001 (renewal of W2007L2-0003) for the Diavik Diamond Mine Inc. (DDMI).

### **Background**

Water Licence W2007L2-0003 expires on October 31, 2015. Diavik has submitted their renewal application on January 15, 2015; this gives approximately 9 months to complete the renewal process prior to license expiry.

### **Scope of the Project**

The scope of this project includes water use, diversions, dewatering, and deposits of waste associated with the Diavik Diamond Mine, as described under Part A, Item 1 of the current Water Licence (W2007L2-0003).

### **Guiding Principles**

The following principles will guide the Work Plan of the WLWB throughout this water licence renewal process:

- The licensing process shall be carried out in a timely manner and shall have regard to the protection of the environment in consideration of the impacts of proposed undertaking and the importance of conservation to the well being and way of life of the aboriginal peoples of Canada (Section 35 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982);
- The Board will consider changes to the Water Licence based on evidence and rationale submitted by the company or any other party;
- The Board may also consider changes it considers appropriate to meet its mandate, applicable policies, and to ensure consistency in decision-making throughout the Mackenzie Valley; and
- The Board will actively continue to ensure compliance with existing Water Licence requirements.

### **Work Plan Objectives**

The Work Plan is to achieve the following objectives:

- Evaluate the adequacy of the current Water Licence terms and conditions;
- Compile a broad range of input through the review process;
- Ensure adequate information is gathered to complete the water licensing process; and
- Facilitate a thorough, inclusive, and timely water licence renewal process.

**Work Plan for the  
Water Licence Renewal Application of Diavik Diamond Mines Inc.**

**Opportunities for Community Engagement**

- The Board requires Diavik to engage with communities and aboriginal organizations regarding their Water Licence Application prior to its submission;
- The Board will distribute the Water Licence Application to all reviewers on the Board's 'Diavik Distribution List' – including aboriginal organizations, governments, and communities – for review using the LWB Online Review System;
- The Board will include a notification(s) regarding the review process in the newspaper;
- The Board will coordinate a technical session(s) to address specific issues that require more focused review and discussion;
- The Board will hold a public hearing; and
- Any other consultation or engagement activity that the Board considers appropriate.

**Work Plan for the  
Water Licence Renewal Application of Diavik Diamond Mines Inc.**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Due/Complete</b>
WLWB receives renewal application from Diavik	Diavik	January 15, 2015
Circulate renewal application for public review	WLWB	January 30, 2015
Comments due on application (identify issues for technical session)	Reviewers	March 4, 2015
Response to comments on application	Proponent	March 13, 2015
Circulate agenda for Technical Session	WLWB	March 18, 2015
<b>Technical Session</b>	<b>All Parties</b>	<b>March 23, 2015</b>
Circulate Information Requests (IRs)	WLWB	March 26, 2015
Deadline for all parties to respond to IRs	WLWB	April 9, 2015
<b>Pre-Hearing Conference (10:30am – 11:30am)</b>	<b>All Parties &amp; Legal Counsel</b>	<b>April 23, 2015</b>
Deadline for Interventions	Interveners	May 7, 2015
Deadline for response to Interventions	Proponent	May 14, 2015
Deadline for Interveners' Public Hearing presentations	Reviewers	May 19, 2015
Deadline for Proponent Public Hearing presentations	Proponent	May 22, 2015
<b>Public Hearing (Culture Centre, Behchokq)</b>	<b>All Parties</b>	<b>May 28-29, 2015</b>
<b>Public Hearing Undertakings Due</b>	<b>All Parties</b>	<b>June 2, 2015</b>
DRAFT Water Licence distributed for review	WLWB	June 19, 2015
Deadline for comments on Draft WL	Interveners	July 2, 2015
Deadline for response to comments on Draft WL	Proponent	July 9, 2015
Deadline for closing arguments from Interveners	Interveners	July 16, 2015
Deadline for closing arguments from Proponent	Proponent	July 23, 2015
<b>Board Meeting</b>	<b>WLWB</b>	<b>End of August</b>
<b>Draft WL and RFD sent to the Minister</b>	<b>WLWB</b>	<b>Mid-September</b>
Final WL Decision from Minister and Issuance of WL	Minister	End of October

\*WLWB – Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board; AANDC – Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada; WL – Water Licence; PH – Public Hearing; IRs – Information Requests; RFD – Reasons for Decision.