

13 December 2021

Joseph Mackenzie
Chair
Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board
#1, 4905 – 48th Street
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 3S3

Dear Mr. Mackenzie:

RE: W2020L2-0004 – Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan Version 3.1 - Request for Extension

As part of the Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board (the Board) July 22, 2021 Reason for Decision¹ on the Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (ICRP) Version 3.1 – Closure Objectives, Decision 6 indicated the requirement for a Closure Criteria workshop.

Decision 6: Arctic is to engage with Parties to determine when a criteria workshop would be helpful to inform the development of draft closure criteria (e.g., before submission of Interim CRP Version 3.1 or during the public review of the Interim CRP Version 3.1). The criteria workshop shall be completed prior to completion of the public review of the Interim CRP Version 3.1 and the date shall be coordinated with Board staff

During the November 30 – December 2, 2021 Ekati Closure Criteria Workshop jointly held by Arctic Canadian Diamond Company Ltd (Arctic) and the Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board (the Board), participants noted that there was value to providing updated closure criteria for review prior to the preparation of ICRP V3.1. An annotated table of contents for the End Land Use Plan will be included with closure criteria to gain insight as to whether that is a worthwhile path forward in future iterations of the CRP. Arctic proposes that the review of Reclamation Research Plans (as submitted on October 26, 2021²) be included with the review of closure criteria to optimize the efforts of reviewers and the Board.

Arctic proposes that the following package of documents could be submitted by **April 15, 2022** for Board review:

- Reclamation Research Plans
- Revised Closure Criteria
- End Land Use Plan (annotated table of contents)
- Updated Closure Criteria Workplan (for reference)

¹ [W2012L2-0001 - Ekati - ICRP - Proposed Closure Objectives - Reasons for Decision - Jul 23 21.pdf](#)

² [Ekati - CRP Version 3.1 - Presubmission Information Package - Part 1 - Nov 5 21.pdf](#)



ARCTIC CANADIAN DIAMOND COMPANY

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Arctic is requesting a three-month extension to the submission of ICRP V3.1 to account for the time spent revising Closure Criteria tables and awaiting a decision based on that review. This extension is required as during this period significant portions of ICRP V3.1 development will be stalled while awaiting a decision on Closure Criteria, Reclamation Research Plans, and the need for an End Land Use Plan. Closure criteria are a vital portion of the closure planning process and decisions made relating to the criteria will impact the development of ICRP V3.1. This three-month extension would allow for an **October 31, 2022** submission date for ICRP V3.1.

Arctic trusts the information provided is clear and informative. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the content of the report, please contact the undersigned at 403-910-1933 Ext 2406 or Kurtis.Trefry@arcticcanadian.ca or Harry O'Keefe, Superintendent – Environment Operations, at 867-445-3185 or Harry.O'Keefe@arcticcanadian.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kurtis Trefry', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kurtis Trefry M.SEM, P.Ag
Environmental Advisor – Projects and Closure Planning