



Environment and  
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et  
Changement climatique Canada

# Arctic Canadian Diamond Company Ltd. Ekati – Point Lake Project

## Presentation to the Wek' èezhìi Land and Water Board

by **Environment and Climate Change Canada**

W2020L2-0004/W2021X0004/W2021D0005 Public Hearing

November 23-26, 2021  
Behchoko, NWT



Canada 

# Overview

- Mandate
- Relevant acts and regulations
- Status of Environment and Climate Change Canada's concerns
- Outstanding comments and recommendations



# Environment and Climate Change Canada's Mandate

- Preservation and enhancement of the quality of the natural environment, including water, air and soil quality;
- Coordination of the relevant policies and programs of the Government of Canada;
- Renewable resources, including migratory birds and other non-domestic flora and fauna
- Meteorology; and
- Enforcement of regulations



# Relevant acts and regulations

- *Department of the Environment Act*
- *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*
- *Fisheries Act – Pollution Prevention Provisions*
- *Migratory Birds Convention Act*
- *Species at Risk Act*



# Confirmation and Exploration Program Type A Water Licence Application

## Current status of ECCC Comments

| <u>Type A Water Licence Application</u> |  |                   |
|---|--|-------------------|
| ECCC-1                                  | Point Lake Dewatering–Monitoring in Lac du Sauvage | <b>Unresolved</b> |
| ECCC-2                                  | Monitoring of Alexia, Connor, and Thinner Lake     | <b>Unresolved</b> |
| ECCC-3                                  | Seepage/Runoff Uncertainty & Adaptive Management   | <b>Unresolved</b> |
| ECCC-4                                  | Point Lake Project SFE and NAG Leachate            | <b>Unresolved</b> |
| ECCC-5                                  | Short Term NO2 concentrations                      | <b>Unresolved</b> |
| ECCC-6                                  | Fish-Out Plan and Diving Bird By-Catch             | <b>Resolved</b>   |



# ECCC-1 Point Lake Dewatering– Monitoring in Lac du Sauvage

## **ECCC Recommendation:**

During the dewatering of Point Lake to Lac du Sauvage, ECCC recommends the Proponent conduct field turbidity monitoring along with periodic laboratory TSS analysis within Lac du Sauvage.



# ECCC-2 Monitoring of Alexia, Connor, and Thinner Lake

## **ECCC Recommendation:**

ECCC recommends that Arctic provide additional information on the post-mining monitoring of Alexia, Connor and Thinner Lakes, including how data will inform closure and any required mitigation. Arctic should include specific details on which monitoring program the surveillance of Alexia, Connor and Thinner Lakes will be completed under, given that it is excluded from the SNP as currently proposed.



# ECCE-3 Seepage/Runoff Uncertainty & Adaptive Management

## ECCE Recommendation:

ECCE recommends that Arctic model seepage water quality at closure, and conduct periodic updates of predictions based on seepage monitoring data during operations. Closure criteria should be identified in conjunction with thresholds for management action in the case of poor seepage quality or unexpected observations.





# ECCC-4 Point Lake Project SFE and NAG Leachate

## **ECCC Recommendation:**

ECCC recommends the risk management of seepage to ensure there will be no outmigration of contaminants from the Waste Rock Storage Facility.



# ECCC-5 Short Term NO2 concentrations

## **ECCC Recommendation:**

ECCC recommends the Proponent consider methods for reducing NO2 emissions going forward. ECCC recognizes the requirement for fuel consumption to maintain critical services including heating during the very cold winter months. ECCC recommends the Proponent expedite replacement or upgrading of older equipment with engines that meet Tier 4 standards. With Arctic winters expected to continue gradually warming in the future, the period of time when the winter road is open is anticipated to shrink, resulting in an even larger spike in emissions from supply trucks. ECCC recommends, where feasible, for the Proponent to provide incentives for supply trucks that are equipped with cleaner engines.



# Thank You



Photo: Klaus Nigge



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