



Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency

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December 11, 2020

Joseph Mackenzie
Chair, Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board
#1-4905 48th St, Yellowknife, NT
X1A 3S3

Re: Water Licence (W2020L2-0004) Renewal Application – Amendment to Term – Work Plan

Dear Joseph Mackenzie,

The Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency (Agency) has reviewed the proposed Work Plan for the Water Licence (WL) Renewal to Term Application process and also considered the requirement for a preliminary screening. The Agency has reviewed the proposed work plan distributed on December 4, 2020 and provides the following comments for your consideration.

According to the work plan the comments from reviewers on the application are due January 12, 2021. Considering the Christmas holidays, this would normally be a relatively short period of time to review a WL renewal application. However, because the only proposed change to the WL is to extend the term of the WL, the Agency believes the proposed timeline would be enough time for reviewers to consider the application and respond if necessary. Therefore, the Agency does not have any concerns with the work plan and supports its approval.

In regards to the requirement for a preliminary screening, the WLWB requested reviewers' input on whether or not the WL renewal application required a preliminary screening. Both Dominion and the WLWB believe that it is exempt. The Agency agrees that the application does not require a preliminary screening since, other than to its term, there are no changes being proposed to the WL that have not already been considered by previous amendment applications. Therefore, the Agency agrees that the WL renewal Application distributed on December 4, 2020 should be exempt from preliminary screening.

Should you have any questions concerning these comments, the Agency would be pleased to discuss them at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Jaida Ohokannoak
Chairperson

Cc: Dominion Diamond– Claudine Lee, Lynn Boettger

Tłjchq Government – Violet Camsell-Blondin
Yellowknives Dene First Nation – Sarah Gillis
łutsel K'e Dene First Nation – Glen Guthrie
North Slave Metis Alliance – Adelaide Mufandaedza, Jessica Hurtubise
Kitikmeot Inuit Association – Geoff Clark
Government of the Northwest Territories – LeeAnn Malley, Laurie McGregor
Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada – Michael Roesch