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TECHNICAL SESSION AGENDA

Water Licence Renewal Application	
File Number	W2022L2-0001
Company	Arctic Canadian Diamond Company Ltd.
Project	Ekati Diamond Mine
Location	Lac de Gras, NT
Activity	Mining and Milling

Technical Session Information	
Location(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree of Peace, Yellowknife, NT Virtually via Zoom
Date(s)	March 27-29, 2023 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Any individuals and organizations wishing to attend in person should know that, although there are currently no COVID-19 screening requirements, individuals who are feeling unwell are asked to attend virtually. The use of a mask is at the discretion of each individual; masks and hand sanitizer will be available at the venue.	

RSVP:

Please RSVP to [Rhiana Bams](#) by email to confirm the number of individuals from your organization who will be attending either in person or virtually by March 23, 2023. Zoom details will be distributed to those who RSVP.

Expert CVs:

We anticipate that some Parties, if not all, are planning on having technical experts participate in the Technical Session. Please submit CVs via email to Rhiana Bams for all technical experts in advance of the Technical Session.

Transcription:

The Technical Session will be transcribed and transcripts will be made available via the WLWB Online Registry as soon as they are ready.

Purpose:

This Technical Session is meant to provide a forum where Parties can discuss their concerns about the Renewal Application directly with the Applicant and their consultants. It is the Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board (Board)'s hope that such a discussion, as facilitated by Board staff, will increase each Party's understanding of the issues as well as of the perspectives of others. In our experience, technical sessions and workshops can be useful both in focussing the content of Parties' subsequent interventions to the public hearing and in reducing the number of outstanding issues between parties. Although it would be helpful if some issues are resolved during the Session, there is no requirement to do so; Board staff will guide questions and discussions to ensure Parties have sufficient information to submit evidence that the Board can use to establish or amend the Water Licence conditions. Discussions at this Session may also reveal the need for written information requests (IRs) to the Applicant or other Parties. Parties are encouraged to request IRs to clarify aspects of the Application or to ensure commitments are clear.¹ The Work Plan for this regulatory proceeding includes time for Parties to fulfill IRs, if required, prior to the deadline for public hearing interventions.

Please note that a technical session is not a public hearing, and Board members and their legal counsel will not be participating. It is the Board's wish that this Session be as informal as possible to promote discussion. This Session is being transcribed, and IRs may be issued as noted above; however, all participants should be aware that opinions and positions expressed during this Session are not binding – final recommendations for the Water Licence should be made in the formal written interventions submitted to the Board prior to the Public Hearing.

General Reminders:

- All presenters, and anyone who wants to test their virtual participation, are asked to call or sign on early to participate in a scheduled test run of audio and/or video (see agenda below) to ensure that there are no audio, video, or screen-sharing issues.
- Limited copies of any materials will be available at the Session. Participants are encouraged to download all relevant documents, such as presentations, from the Board's Public Registry in advance ([W2022L2-0001](#)). This is especially important if a participant is dialing in by phone and not participating via videoconference. Please reach out on or before March 23rd if hard copies are desired.
- Participants should state their name and organization **each time** they speak to ensure the Session is accurately transcribed.
- The schedule and timelines of the Technical Session are at the discretion of the facilitator.
- There will be breaks in the morning, over lunch, and in the afternoon. Coffee, cold drinks, and snacks will be provided. Lunch will not be provided but a lunch break is scheduled from 12 pm to 1:15 pm each day.

¹ In accordance with the LWB's [Rules of Procedure](#), the Board may issue an IR to any Party at any point during the proceeding. A Party that wishes to issue an IR to another Party at a point other than those designated in the work plan must submit the proposed IR to the Board for consideration.

Agenda:

All times are approximate. The Applicant will provide short introductory presentations to help initiate discussion for each topic listed below. Participants are encouraged to have questions prepared for each topic and take the opportunity to follow up on issues raised during the review of the [Licence Renewal Application](#). References to specific reviewer comments from the Review Summary Table are provided in the agenda below, and the following abbreviations are used in these references.

Abbreviation	Reviewer
TG	Tłıchǫ Government
DKFN	Deninu Kųé First Nation
LKDFN	łutsël K'é Dene First Nation
YKDFN	Yellowknives Dene First Nation
IEMA	Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency
GNWT-ENR	Government of Northwest Territories – Environment and Natural Resources
ECCC	Environment and Climate Change Canada
DFO	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
WLWB	Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board Staff

Day 1: March 27, 2023 (Monday)	Time	Topic	Review Comment References
	8:30 – 9:00 am	Arrival Time and Test Run: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect on Zoom (for those joining virtually) Audio/video/screensharing test run (for those joining virtually and for presenters) Coffee and snacks provided 	
	9:00 – 9:15 am	Opening Prayer Round Table Introductions and Opening Statements (Board staff)	
	9:15 – 9:45 am	Project Description - Project Overview by Applicant	
	9:45-4:15 pm (Break is scheduled as required; Lunch 12-1:15 pm)	Topic: Water Use Applicant Presentation (15 mins)	
		Subtopic: Drawdown, Dewatering, and Backflooding Plans	IEMA: Comment 12, 14, 22, 24 TG: Comment 8, 12, 13 DFO: 1, 2 LKDFN: 3
		Subtopic: Licence conditions for annual usage; water use fees	GNWT-ENR: Comment 3 WLWB: Comment 2
		Subtopic: Process Water	TG: Comment 16 IEMA: Comment 11
		Subtopic: Drawdown rate and elevation	LKDFN: Comment 1-2 TG: Comment 14, 18
		Topic: Aquatic Effects Monitoring Applicant Presentation (15 mins)	
Subtopic: Review period	DKFN: Comment 4, 5 GNWT-ENR: Comment 18		

			ECCC: Comment 3
		Subtopic: Response Plans	GNWT-ENR: Comment 4
		Subtopic: Definitions	IEMA: Comment 5
		Topic: Koala Watershed Water Quality Model Applicant Presentation (15 mins) GNWT-ENR: Comments 5, 6, 27, 28 ECCC: Comments 6-12	
		Topic: Surveillance Network Program Applicant Presentation (15 mins) GNWT-ENR: Comments 19-24 LKDFN: Comment 6 ECCC: Comment 5 IEMA: Comments 29-36 WLWB: Comments 40-42	
	4:15 – 4:30 pm	Any Outstanding Comments/Concerns and Information Requests	
4:30 pm	Day 1 Adjourned		

Day 2: March 28, 2023	Time	Topic	Review Comment References
	8:30 – 9:00 am	Arrival Time and Test Run: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect on Zoom (for those joining virtually) Audio/video/screensharing test run (for those joining virtually and for presenters) Coffee and snacks provided 	
	9:00 am – 4:15 pm (Break is scheduled as required; Lunch 12-1:15 pm)	Topic: Dams Applicant Presentation (15 mins)	
		Subtopic: Definitions and Dam Classes	TG: Comments 20 and 21 IEMA: Comments 16-19 WLWB: Comments 7-9, 13
		Subtopic: Inspections, Dam Safety Reviews, OMS	IEMA: Comment 21 WLWB: Comments 10-12
		Subtopic: Other/General	IEMA: Comment 15
		Topic: Waste Disposal Applicant Presentation (15 mins)	
		Subtopic: Receiving Environment and Discharge	IEMA: Comment 8 WLWB: Comment 18
	Subtopic: WROMP	IEMA: Comment 18 WLWB: Comment 27	

		Subtopic: WRSA Seepage Framework	DKFN: Comment 3 GNWT-ENR: Comments 12-16 LKDFN: Comment 5 ECCC: Comments 1 and 4 TG: Comments 1-7, 11 IEMA: Comments 27-28 YKDFN: Comments 1-4 WLWB: Comments 6, 14
		Subtopic: Effluent Quality Criteria	TG: Comment 10 WLWB: Comments 34-36
	4:15 – 4:30 pm	Any Outstanding Comments/Concerns and Information Requests	
	4:30 pm	Day 2 Adjourned	

Day 3: March 29, 2023 (Wednesday)	Time	Topic	Review Comment References	
	8:30 – 9:00 am	Arrival Time and Test Run: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect on Zoom (for those joining virtually) Audio/video/screensharing test run (for those joining virtually and for presenters) Coffee and snacks provided 		
	9:00 am – 4:15 pm (Break is scheduled as required; Lunch 12-1:15 pm)	Topic: Underwater Remote Mining Trial Applicant Presentation (15 mins)		
		Subtopic: General	TG: Comment 23 IEMA: Comment 4 YKDFN: Comment 5	
		Subtopic: Monitoring	LKDFN: Comment 7	
		Subtopic: Water quality	TG: Comment 19	
		Topic: Draft Licence Applicant Presentation (15 mins)		
		Subtopic: Use of Standard Conditions/General	GNWT-ENR: Comments 7 and 17 WLWB: Comment 22	
		Subtopic: Standard Definitions and Standard Schedules	GNWT-ENR: Comments 8-10 IEMA: Comments 6 and 7 WLWB: Comments 4, 16-20	
		Subtopic: Term of Licence	TG: Comment 9 IEMA: Comment 3	
Topic: Miscellaneous				
A. Construction	a. IEMA Comment 17; WLWB comments 27-28			
B. Spill Contingency	b. WLWB Comment 38			
C. Security	c. GNWT-ENR comments 25 and 26			
D. Closure	d. TG Comment 22; IEMA comment 23; WLWB comment 39			
E. Engagement	e. TG Comment 24 f. IEMA Comment 20			

		F. Collection and Settling Ponds Inspections	
	4:15 – 4:30 pm	Final Comments and Information Requests	
	4:30 pm	Meeting Adjourned	

Logistics for Remote Participation:

Set-up:

- Each participant should prepare and test their video and audio ahead of time, and each time they log in to the session, to ensure their devices are functioning properly and are fully charged or plugged in.
- Zoom will download automatically when the participant starts or joins the first Zoom meeting and is also available for manual download [here](#). Participants should download the current version of Zoom before the Session to ensure all functions are available.
- For assistance using Zoom, participants can review the following [Zoom Video Tutorials](#).
- To participate only by phone, participants can call one of the Zoom teleconference lines (provided in the Zoom link from Board staff).
- Participants that are experiencing technical difficulties due to poor internet connections can limit videoconference participation to audio only or call in by phone as noted above.
- Each participant is asked to use the following as their screen name: first and last name, followed by the acronym of their respective organization (e.g., Paula Green – WLWB)
 - This can be accomplished by selecting the three dots in the upper right-hand portion of the viewing pane and selecting “rename.”
- Each organization will need to identify a representative, who will act as the liaison for all participants in that organization during the session. Each organization should provide their representative’s contact information to Board staff prior to the session (or to the facilitator at the start of the session if not known in advance).
- [Screensharing](#) in Zoom will be used during presentations. The presenter will share their screen to display their presentation (note that this can be done by Board Staff instead if requested in advance). Presenters should state the document name and page numbers to ensure all participants can follow along.

Etiquette:

- A session facilitator will guide the order of presentations, turn-taking, time limits, and breaks. To minimize disruption, participants are asked to follow all instructions on turn-taking, and only speak when the facilitator has indicated it is their turn. Each organization/participant will be given opportunities to speak.
- If a participant would like to speak or has a follow-up question, they can use the Zoom group chat (visible to everyone) or use the ‘Raise Hand’ function to notify the facilitator, who will add them to the speaking order.
- To minimize background noises and feedback, participants should always keep their microphone/headset muted when not speaking. Participants should **only unmute when the facilitator has indicated it is their turn to speak.**
- The Zoom meeting will be recorded to ensure the transcription is accurate. **In accordance with privacy legislation, participants must not record the session or take screen shots.**

- A remote session can cause participation fatigue. The Board appreciates participants' professionalism, cooperation, and collaboration during the session.

Technical Difficulties:

- In the event of a disruption to the session or technical difficulties, Board staff will contact the representative of each organization by cell phone, text, or e-mail to communicate the contingency plan if necessary.
- If a participant is having technical difficulties, they should notify the representative of their organization. The representative should contact Board staff directly or through the Zoom group chat.