



August 23, 2024

Wayne Wysocki
Coordinator
Ghotelnene K'odt̓neh Dene
425-70 ARTHUR STREET
WINNIPEG MB R3B 1G7
symbion@shawbiz.ca

Dear Wayne Wysocki:

Arctic Canadian Diamond Company Ltd.— Ekati Diamond Mine — Type “A” Water Licence Amendment W2022L2-0001

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) Department of Environment and Climate Change recently become aware that the Ghotelnene K'odt̓neh Dene have asserted that their traditional use territory within the Northwest Territories is the area in Attachment 1 highlighted in pink. As you will note from the attachment, the new asserted area now includes Lac de Gras and the Ekati and Diavik Diamond Mines.

This letter is to inform you of the commencement of a Type A Water Licence proceeding for the Ekati Diamond Mine related to an amendment to proceed with the [Sable Underground Project](#). Given the recency of this information, the Ghotelnene K'odt̓neh Dene was not included in the proponent's engagement or on the Wek'èzhìi Land and Water Board's (the Board) distribution list. As you may be aware, the GNWT relies primarily on the Board's process and decision to fulfill in-part GNWT's duty to consult and potentially accommodate on a type A water licence amendment application. As such, I wanted to bring this proceeding to your attention to ensure that the opportunity to participate was available, should you so choose.

.../2

The GNWT will continue to work to ensure that the Northwest Territories Resource Management Boards are made aware of any changes to asserted rights within the Northwest Territories that may impact their proceedings. Our intention is to continue to work with all applicable Land and Water Boards of the Mackenzie Valley, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board as well as the Government of Canada, to develop a process to ensure that asserted territory information is shared in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Macdonald". The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jay Macdonald
Minister
Environment and Climate Change

Attachment

c. Distribution List

Distribution List:

Honourable R.J. Simpson
Premier

Mason Mantla
Chairperson
Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board

Dr. Joe Dragon
Principal Secretary

Kyla Kakfwi-Scott, Deputy Secretary
Premier's Office

John MacDonald
Secretary to Cabinet/Deputy Minister
Executive and Indigenous Affairs

Dr. Erin Kelly
Deputy Minister
Environment and Climate Change

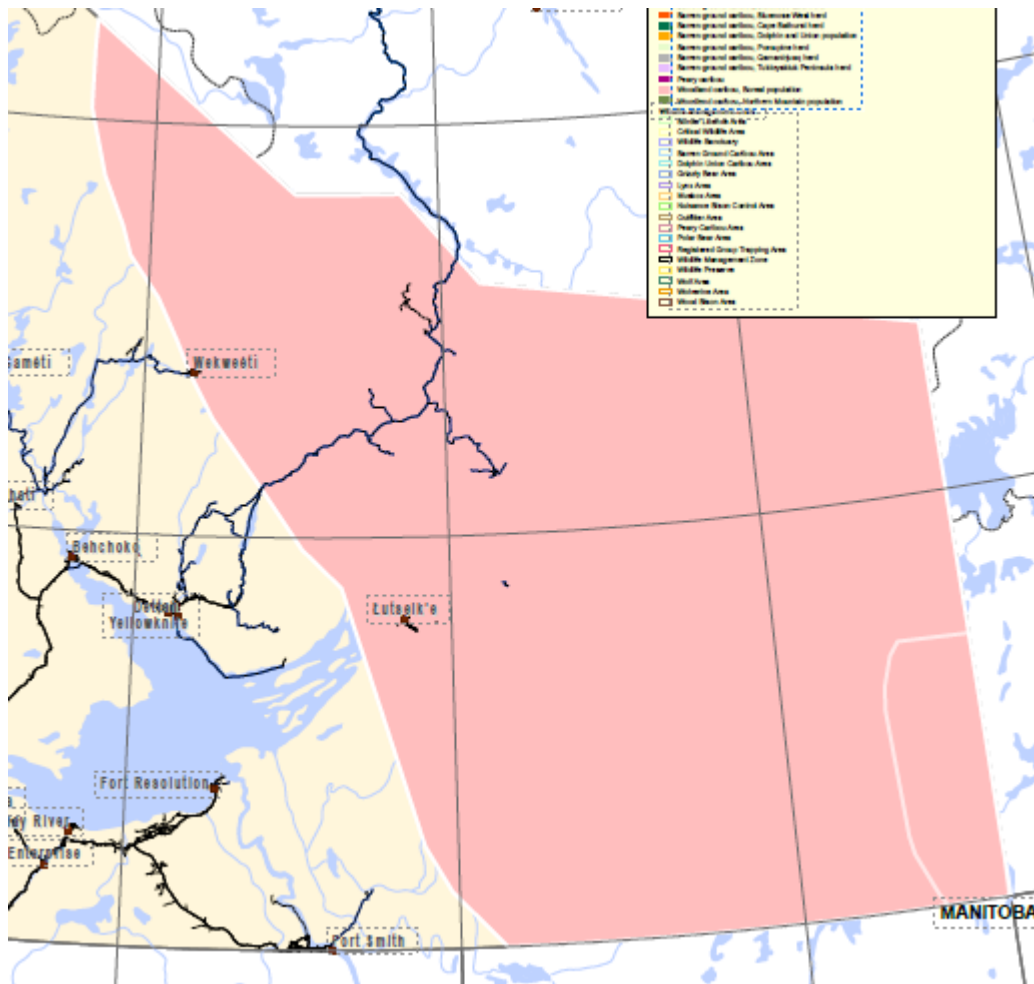
Shawn McCann
Deputy Secretary, Indigenous and Intergovernmental Affairs
Executive and Indigenous Affairs

Nathen Richea
Assistant Deputy Minister, Regulatory Authorizations and Assessment
Environment and Climate Change

Ryan Fequet
Executive Director
Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board

Rick Walbourne
Director, Regulatory and Permitting Division
Environment and Climate Change

Attachment 1: Asserted Aboriginal Rights Area of Ghotelnene K'odtñeh Dene



Emails:

Mason Mantla
Chairperson
Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board
rfequet@wlwb.ca

Ryan Fequet
Executive Director
Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board
rfequet@wlwb.ca