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July 31, 2024

File: W2022L2-0001; W2024D0005

Sheila Chernys
Arctic Canadian Diamond Company Ltd.
Suite 900, 604 Fourth Street S.W.,
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 1T1

Sent by e-mail

Dear Sheila Chernys,

Re: Ekati – Sable Underground Project– Water Licence Amendment and Land Use Permit Application – Information Request #10

On April 16, 2024, Arctic Canadian Diamond Company Ltd. (Arctic) submitted an Amendment Application for a type A Water Licence (W2022L2-0001) and an Application for a type A Land Use Permit (W2024D0006) to the Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board (Board) for the Sable Underground Project (the Project). A Technical Session was held on July 23 and 24, 2024. There were several requests for specific information made by Parties during the Technical Session and Information Requests (IRs) were issued to Arctic.¹ The IRs are to be submitted by Arctic on July 31st (IR #1, 3–9) and August 7th, 2024 (IR #2).

In response to IR #6, Arctic will be providing predicted concentrations for the full suite of parameters in the TRSP that include the inputs from Sable Underground inflows. As the inflows may include parameters of concern not previously considered for the Sable Development, it is important to understand whether existing effluent quality criteria (EQCs) are adequate or if updated or new EQC may be required. The Board's *Standard Process for Setting Effluent Criteria*² and the *Guide to the Water Licensing Process*³ set out the Board's expectations for the screening/steps required to determine if EQC are needed. To ensure that this information is available in advance of interventions, the following IR (IR #10) is directed to Arctic. In accordance

¹ See the WLWB Online Registry for [Ekati - Licence - Amendment - Technical Session - Information Requests - Jul 24 24](#).

² See the WLWB (www.wlwb.ca) 'Policies and Guidelines' webpage for LWB's [Standard Process for Setting Effluent Quality Criteria](#).

³ See the WLWB (www.wlwb.ca) 'Policies and Guidelines' webpage for LWB's [Guide to the Water Licensing Process](#)

with the Land and Water Board (LWB) [Rules of Procedure](#),⁴ Arctic is requested to submit a response to IR #10 by **August 7, 2024**.

IR #10 to Arctic: Considering that changes to water quality in the Two Rock Sedimentation Pond (TRSP) are anticipated as a result of the Sable Underground activities (e.g., minewater from Sable Underground), Arctic is to determine if new parameters of potential concern apply. Arctic is requested to provide a parameter screening of the water quality at the point of Discharge from the TRSP to Horseshoe Lake, using the following screening process:

1. For the full suite of parameters where predictions are available (as requested in response to IR #6), identify parameters with associated water quality objectives (either existing AEMP benchmarks for operations, as well as any new guidelines such as Federal Environmental Quality Guidelines) and/or acute and chronic Federal Environmental Quality Guidelines (FEQGs) for the protection of aquatic life.
2. Identify all parameters that exceed the respective water quality objectives and/or FEQGs (as identified in response to [1]) at the point of discharge.
3. For the parameters identified in (2), provide a comparison to background (e.g., baseline, reference) conditions.
4. Identify any parameters in (3) that exceed the natural range of background conditions or where a comparison is not possible, as a Parameter of Potential Concern (POPC). If Arctic does not believe a specific parameter to be a POPC, supporting rationale should be provided.
5. For all POPC identified in (4), determine if existing EQC are adequate and if not, propose updated or new EQC.

Please contact Ryan Fequet via [email](#) or at (867) 765-4589 with any questions or concerns regarding this Information Request.

Yours sincerely,



Ryan Fequet
Executive Director

BCC'd to: William Liu, Arctic
Lindsay Seier, Arctic
Ekati Distribution List

⁴ See the WLWB Rules of Procedure page to access the LWB [Rules of Procedure](#). Rules 61 and 63.