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DRAFT Work Plan

File Number	W2025L2-0001
Applicant	Diavik Diamond Mines (2012) Inc.
Project	Diavik – Renewal Application
Location	Lac de Gras, NT
Activity	Mining and Milling
Date of Work Plan	January 17, 2025
Work Plan Version	Version #1

Purpose of the Work Plan

To outline the processes and timelines to be followed for this regulatory proceeding.

Background

On January 9, 2025, the Applicant submitted a Renewal Application for a type A Water Licence (Licence) (the Application Package) for the Project to the Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board (Board).¹ On January 16, 2025, the Applicant submitted additional information as requested, and on January 17, 2025, the Application Package was deemed complete.

Scope of the Project

The scope of the Project includes activities associated with the remainder of the operational phase and the active closure phase of the Diavik Diamond Mine, as well as initial post-closure monitoring phase of the Project as outlined in the Application Package. These activities include the remaining closure work associated with re-establishing all island pre-development drainages and the discharge of treated sewage effluent from closure camp facilities.

Guiding Principles

The following principles will guide the Board's regulatory proceeding:

- The Board will carry out the regulatory proceeding in a timely manner and in accordance with the Land and Water Board (LWB) [Rules of Procedure](#);

¹ See WLWB Online Registry at www.wlwb.ca for [Diavik - WL Renewal - Application - Jan 17 25](#), [Diavik - Attachment L - Closure Surface Runoff and Seepage Criteria - Jan 16 25](#), and [Diavik - WL Renewal - GIS Data - Jan 16 25](#).

- The Board shall consider the impacts of the proposed Project on and the importance of conservation to the wellbeing and way of life of the Indigenous peoples of Canada (section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*);
- The Board will review the Application Package and develop the Licence based on the evidence and rationale submitted by the Applicant and other Parties; and
- The Board will develop the Licence in accordance with the Board’s mandate and applicable policies to ensure protection of the environment and, where possible, consistency in decision-making throughout the Mackenzie Valley.

Work Plan Objectives

The Work Plan objectives are:

- Compile a broad range of input through the review process;
- Ensure adequate information is gathered to complete the Board’s regulatory proceeding; and
- Facilitate a thorough, inclusive, and timely regulatory proceeding.

Opportunities for Community Engagement

- The Board requires the Applicant to carry out engagement with potentially affected parties (including communities and Indigenous governments) early and well in advance of the Application.
- The Board will distribute the Application Package, a draft Work Plan, and a draft Licence for public review using the LWB Online Review System (ORS);
- The Board will place a notification(s) regarding the review process in the newspaper;
- The Board will coordinate a technical session to address specific issues that require more focused review and discussion;
- The Board will hold a public hearing and will place a notification regarding the hearing in the newspaper; and
- The Board will hold any other consultation or engagement activity that the Board considers appropriate.

Regulatory Proceeding Timelines

Subsection 47(1) of the *Waters Act* requires the Board to make a decision on a water licence application within a period of nine months after the day on which an application is deemed complete and the review process begins. Based on section 28 of the *Federal Interpretation Act*, this is equivalent to 275 calendar days. The Board’s day count stops whenever the Board requires the Applicant to provide information for the regulatory proceeding to continue (signified by the red shading in the table below). Once that information has been provided, the Board’s day count resumes (signified by the green shading in the table below). Significant milestones have also been bolded in the table below.

The Work Plan table below sets out the main process steps and indicates the responsible Party and the anticipated completion date for each item.

Work Plan

Task	Responsible Party	Date Due (Date Completed)
Application Package Submitted	Applicant	Thursday, January 9, 2025
Additional Information Submitted	Applicant	Thursday, January 16, 2025
Application Package Complete and Distributed for Review with Draft Work Plan	Board staff	Friday, January 17, 2025
Deadline for Comments on Draft Work Plan	All Parties	Friday, January 24, 2025
Deadline for Comments on Application Package and for Notices of Compensation Claims	Reviewers	Tuesday, February 18, 2025
Deadline for Applicant's Responses to Comments	Applicant	Tuesday, March 4, 2025
Preliminary Screening Determination	Board	March, 2025
Technical Session	All Parties [Yellowknife]	Tuesday – Thursday, April 8-10, 2025
Distribute Technical Session Information Requests	Board Staff	Thursday, April 10, 2025
Deadline for Responses to Information Requests	All Parties	Thursday, April 17, 2025
Pre-Hearing Conference	All Parties [WLWB Office/Zoom]	Tuesday, May 6, 2025
Deadline for Interventions and for Compensation Claims	Interveners and Compensation Claimants	Thursday, May 15, 2025
Deadline for Applicant's Response to Interventions	Applicant	Thursday, May 22, 2025
Deadline for Interveners' Public Hearing Presentations*	Interveners	Monday, May 26, 2025
Deadline for Applicant's Public Hearing Presentation*	Applicant	Wednesday, May 28, 2025
Public Hearing*	All Parties [Behchokò]	Tuesday – Thursday, June 10-12, 2025
Distribute Public Hearing Undertakings	Board Staff	Friday, June 13, 2025
Deadline for Public Hearing Undertakings	All Parties	Friday, June 20, 2025
Draft Licence Distributed for Review	Board Staff	Tuesday, July 8, 2025

Task	Responsible Party	Date Due (Date Completed)
Deadline for Comments on Draft Licence*	Reviewers	Tuesday, July 22, 2025
Deadline for Applicant's Comments on Draft Licence*	Applicant	Tuesday, July 29, 2025
Deadline for Closing Arguments*	Reviewers	Thursday, August 7, 2025
Deadline for Applicant's Closing Arguments*	Applicant	Thursday, August 14, 2025
Board Meeting	Board	September, 2025
Board Recommendation to the Minister	Board	September, 2025
Minister's Decision	Minister	Up to 90 days

*No new evidence can be submitted in these steps of the proceeding without a Request for Ruling (see Rules 37 and 38 in the LWB [Rules of Procedure](#)).

Please note that the Work Plan has been created based on the information available and is subject to change at any time.