

DE BEERS GROUP

Tara Arko
Director, Technical Services
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360, Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0
Via email: info@nirb.ca

February 23, 2023

NIRB File No.: 22MN025
NPC File No.: 149747

Re: Ministerial Decision on the Chidliak Diamond Mine Project Proposal Screening

Dear Ms. Arko,

De Beers received a letter from the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) titled 'Notice of Ministers' Referral of De Beers Canada Inc's Chidliak Diamond Mine Project proposal to the NIRB for Review' on February 16, 2023. The letter described the decision that was reached by the Federal Government on the recommendation from NIRB to refer the Chidliak Diamond Mine Project Proposal for review as well as a summary of the eight issues of interest identified by NIRB. De Beers welcomes the decision by the Minister and looks forward to fully addressing all areas of interest to reviewers through a robust environmental impact review process. NIRB also asked De Beers to indicate if we would like to request a coordinated review process between NIRB and the Nunavut Water Board (NWB).

As you know, De Beers is at the early stage of project design. We have initiated the formal review process with NIRB early in the life of the Project to provide ample time for engagement and a genuine opportunity for interested Parties to shape the project design. Guided by NIRB, and together with communities, we anticipate completing the scoping phase of the review process this year. Once the project specific guidelines are issued by NIRB at the end of the scoping phase, we will complete the baseline studies and the feasibility studies required to support the draft impact statement.

Given the early stage of project development, we do not currently see value in requesting a coordinated process with the NWB. We would like to reserve the opportunity to make such a request later in the process. Our current expectation is that a coordinated review process may be warranted following submission of the draft or final environmental impact statement. We expect to have the level of detail required to warrant a coordinated process with the NWB at that time.

We'd like to thank the NIRB and NWB staff for the discussions we've had regarding this matter and look forward to working with both agencies over the coming years. Please contact me at sarah.mclean@debeersgroup.com or 867-688-9227 if you have any follow up questions.

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A member of the Anglo American plc group

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sarah McLean". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sarah McLean

CC: Francis Emingak, Acting Manager, Technical Administration, NIRB
Cory Barker, Technical Advisor, NIRB
Alasdair Beattie, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Peter Unger, Natural Resources Canada
Lootie Toomasie, Chairperson, NWB
Karen Kharatyan, Director of Technical Services, NWB
Aluki Kotierk, President, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
Olayuk Akesuk, President, Qikiqtani Inuit Association