



May 1, 2020

Nunavut Impact Review Board  
29 Mitik Street  
PO Box 1360  
Cambridge Bay, NU  
X0B 0C0

**RE: The Nunavut Impact Review Board's 2018-2019 Annual Monitoring Report for the Jericho Diamond Mine Project and Board's Recommendations**

Dear Jaida Ohokannoak:

Thank you for your letter dated October 25, 2019 providing a copy of the board's annual monitoring report and recommendations.

Your letter contained two recommendations directed to the department:

NIRB RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSE
<b>Recommendation 3:</b> The Board requests that Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) provide an Annual Report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board outlining the observations, results, and any changes made to the surveillance monitoring at Jericho as well as any updates to the Operation, Maintenance and Surveillance Plan completed as long as Jericho remains under control of CIRNAC.	<p>CIRNAC has prepared an Annual Report for 2019. This report contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information requested by the NIRB in the 2016 Screening Decision Report; and</li><li>• Observations, results and analysis of the OMS Plan activities.</li></ul> <p>A copy of this report has been uploaded to the NIRB Public Registry.</p>
<b>Recommendation 4:</b> The Board requests that Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) include a larger suite of water quality parameters in testing of Pit Lake water until the pit is full and add water quality testing every three (3) years in Cell B/C before the West Dam to its Operations, Monitoring and Surveillance (OMS) Plan to ensure that no water quality issues have developed with time. An adaptive management strategy should be	<p>We have developed the OMS plan so that our actions are directly related to residual risks.</p> <p>The OMS Plan was developed using water sample results from throughout the care and maintenance and remedial activities at the site post-abandonment. Analysis of the results and residual risks at the site identified one parameter of potential concern; uranium in the Pit Lake water. As a result, this was the only water sample requirement included in the OMS Plan to date.</p> <p>The addition of water sampling parameters (or other</p>





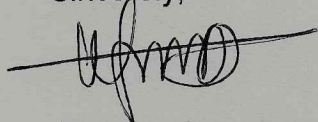
created if changes in water quality are noted to ensure that water quality has been maintained to meet Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) guidelines for the protection of freshwater aquatic life.

activities) to the OMS Plan without a corresponding residual risk or other driver adds potentially unnecessary activities and costs to the program.

CIRNAC does recognize the potential for site water quality to change over the long term. To address this CIRNAC proposes to add the additional Pit Lake water parameters and Cell B/C water sampling to the final year of each phase of the OMS Plan. This will allow us to check the long-term water quality prior to developing the subsequent phase of the OMS Plan and make adjustments as necessary. The first additional sampling event will be completed in 2020.

If you have any further questions or require additional information please contact me at 867-975-4730 or via email at [charlotte.lamontagne@canada.ca](mailto:charlotte.lamontagne@canada.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charlotte Lamontagne', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Charlotte Lamontagne