



NIRB File No.: 00MN059

Related to NIRB File No. 16UN058

NWB File No.: 2AM-JER-1119

CIRNAC File No.: IQA-N 5510-5-10

Related to DFO File No.: NU-00-0068

November 9, 2021

Stanley Anablak
President
Kitikmeot Inuit Association
P.O. Box 18
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

Sent via email: president@kitia.ca

Re: The Nunavut Impact Review Board's 2020-2021 Annual Monitoring Report for the Jericho Diamond Mine Project and Board's Recommendations

Dear Stanley Anablak:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) is hereby releasing its *2020-2021 Annual Monitoring Report for the Jericho Diamond Mine Project* (NIRB File No. 00MN059; Monitoring Report). The enclosed Monitoring Report is based on the NIRB's monitoring activities as set out within the Jericho Diamond Mine Project Certificate No. 002 and pursuant to Sections 12.7.1 and 12.7.2 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)*. This report provides findings that resulted from monitoring of the Jericho Diamond Mine Project (Jericho or the Project) that took place from October 2020 to September 2021.

All materials pertaining to the NIRB's ongoing Monitoring Program for the Jericho Project can be accessed online from the NIRB's online Public Registry at www.nirb.ca/projects/123035.

By way of a motion carried during its regular meeting held in October 2021, the Board has issued the following recommendations to assist Shear Diamonds (Nunavut) Corporation (Shear or the Proponent) in achieving compliance with the Jericho Project Certificate. One (1) of these recommendations issued by the Board has been directed to the Kitikmeot Inuit Association and will ensure that the NIRB has all the information necessary to adequately discharge its mandate

with respect to provisions within Section 12.7 of the *Nunavut Agreement* as they pertain to the Jericho Diamond Mine Project.

Site Risk Management during Temporary Shutdown on Inuit Owned Land

Although the majority of the stabilization works related to site water management, tailing storage facilities, fuel and hazardous waste storage, and waste management have been completed by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) on Crown land. The long-term plans and stabilization activities regarding of the site infrastructure and the waste rock piles on Inuit Owned Land is uncertain.

Waste Rock Pile

The chemistry of the waste rock pile, the chemical reaction rates, the presence of minerals within the pile that can either cause or neutralize acidic water are currently unknown. If reactive, the timing of poor-quality drainage can occur over years to many decades. Without seepage quality and quantity monitoring it is uncertain what the impacts are, or could potentially be, to the receiving environment.

In follow up to both the 2018 and 2019 Board recommendation requesting additional information from the KIA, through verbal communication it was noted that they would provide an update regarding the waste rock piles. The Board acknowledges the cost of producing a plan, however there is significant uncertainty around monitoring and managing annual water movement in these areas and potential risk around seeps and contact water from the waste rock piles.

Recommendation 3: The Board requests that the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA) provide a detailed update on their site stabilization activities including monitoring of the waste rock pile, waste rock seeps, and contact water to date as well as any completed reclamation efforts at the Jericho Diamond Mine.

The Board also requests that the KIA provide their long-term plans for dismantling/reclaiming/remediating site infrastructure (e.g., roads, buildings, waste rock piles) and restoring the area to natural conditions, with a discussion on any monitoring expected to occur following the completion of site reclamation.

This information should be provided to the Board by March 31, 2022.

Should you have any questions or require further clarification regarding this request or related to the NIRB's monitoring program for the Jericho Diamond Mine Project, please contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca or Keith Morrison, Manager, Impact Assessment, at (867) 983-4617 or at kmorrison@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Kelli Gillard PAg, CTAJ
Manager, Project Monitoring
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Shear Diamonds (Nunavut) Corporation
Charlotte Lamontagne, Contaminated Sites Program, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Mark Yetman, Contaminated Sites Program, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Jericho Distribution List

Enclosure: The Nunavut Impact Review Board's *2020-2021 Annual Monitoring Report for the Jericho Diamond Mine Project*