



**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*

March 13, 2023

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

*Sent via email: [president@kitia.ca](mailto:president@kitia.ca)*

**Re: The Nunavut Impact Review Board's 2021-2022 Annual Monitoring Report for the Jericho Diamond Mine Project and Board's Recommendations**

Dear Robert Greenley:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) has released its *2021-2022 Annual Monitoring Report for the Jericho Diamond Mine Project* (NIRB File No. 00MN059; Monitoring Report)<sup>1</sup>. 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 the Jericho Diamond Mine Project (Jericho or the Project) that took place from October 2021 to September 2022.

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

By way of a motion carried out during its regular meeting held in February 2023, the Board has issued the 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 is directed to the Kitikmeot Inuit Association and will

<sup>1</sup> NIRB Document ID No.: 343203

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.

### **Jericho Diamond Project Proposal on Inuit-Owned Land**

The Jericho Diamond Project Proposal is located on both Inuit-Owned and Crown Land. Most of the stabilization works completed by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada related to site water management, tailing storage facilities, fuel and hazardous waste storage, and waste management were completed on Crown land.

The Board made recommendations in 2018 and 2019 for information regarding the waste rock piles from the Kitikmeot Inuit Associations, and through verbal communication, it was noted that an update would be provided; however, a response was not received. In 2021 the Board again requested information from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association regarding 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.

The Board acknowledges the cost of stabilization or reclamation of the portion of the site on Inuit-Owned Land; however, there is significant uncertainty around monitoring and managing annual water movement and potential risk around seeps and contact water from the waste rock piles. Further, the Grays Bay Port and Road Project Proposal put forth by the Kitikmeot Inuit Association was terminated in February 2022 which leaves the long-term plans and stabilization activities regarding the existing site infrastructure and the waste rock piles on Inuit Owned Land remaining uncertain.

**Recommendation 2:** The Board requests that the Kitikmeot Inuit Association provide an update on their site stabilization activities including monitoring of the waste rock pile, waste rock seeps, and contact water by April 30, 2023.

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](mailto:kgillard@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



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

cc: Wynter Kuliktana, 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