

**January 22, 2025**

**By Electronic Mail**

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Dear Mr. Dwyer & Mr. Kharatyan:

**Re: APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL FOR THE USE OF WATER WITHOUT A LICENCE**

De Beers Canada Inc. (De Beers) is seeking authorization from the Nunavut Water Board to temporarily use 49.99 m<sup>3</sup> of water daily without a license. De Beers currently holds Type B water license 2BE-CHI2333. The water license is specific to the use of water and disposal of waste for the exploration camps and drilling activities for the Chidliak project. The Iqaluit to camp winter trail was first utilized/scouted in 2009, then subsequently used in 2012, 2013 and 2015. Prior project winter trails did not require the flooding of lakes for the purpose of safe crossing. In the unanticipated instance that the lakes require additional ice thickness, De Beers would like to ensure that they have received authorization to strengthen the ice cover by pumping water to surface.

This is an authorization request to use a maximum of 49.99 cubic meters of water daily from the various lakes along the winter trail route in 2025. The water will be used for the purpose of flooding any potential lakes, to increase the ice thickness and improve safety for travel during the winter months. There will be no disposal of waste and the water will be circulated from below the surface to the top of the ice.

**Project Overview**

The Chidliak Project is located 120 kilometers northeast of Iqaluit on the Hall Peninsula of Baffin Island. The first diamond bearing kimberlite was discovered in 2008 and since this time a total of 74 kimberlites have been discovered on the Hall Peninsula. A necessary component of project activities has been the winter trail connecting Iqaluit to the project. The Chidliak Project is currently in care and maintenance. As part of maintenance activities, De Beers is seeking to remove some old equipment and drill infrastructure from the camp via the winter trail. The subsequent materials will then be shipped south for repurposing.

The travel route originates in Iqaluit and coincides with the Pangnirtung Trail for approximately 90 kilometers after which it branches off to the east towards the exploration camps (Schedule1:Map1). The first approximately nine (9) kilometers of the route occur on Commissioner land within the confines of the City of Iqaluit municipal boundary. The remaining portions of this route are on federally administered Crown land. The entire trail route, including the portion occurring on Commissioner's land, was vetted by the Nunavut Impact Review Board in 2011 (NIRB file #11EA050). The land use application was distributed to 37 different

government and community organizations for review prior to approval. Final plans for the 2025 Commissioner land route through Iqaluit are currently under municipal review. This request for use of water does not include the waters within the Iqaluit Municipal Watershed.

### **Environmental Considerations**

The entire winter trail route is authorized under Land Use Permit (LUP) N2024C0004 and NIRB decision No.11EA050. Under the LUP permit or NIRB authorization the trail is subject to the conditions or management plans outlined in the application and subsequent approvals. This includes specific requirements for the winter trail and any water crossings. The Chidliak Project Winter Trail Monitoring Plan ver. 1.0, and Spill Contingency Plan ver. 1.2 are included with this application.

Water will be removed using pumps equipped with a fish screen. Any water takings and location coordinates will be recorded daily. The following guidelines will be used:

- 1) DFO Freshwater Intake End-of-Pipe Fish Screen guideline (1995)
- 2) In accordance with NIRB file No. 11EA050 decision, follow the mitigation measures outlined in Fisheries and Oceans Canada's (DFO) Operational Statement for Ice Bridges.

The application consists of nine documents which are listed in table format as the attached Table 1. If you have any questions or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact me at (249) 377-4445 or [chad.corson@debeersgroup.com](mailto:chad.corson@debeersgroup.com)

Yours truly,



Chad Corson  
Permitting Coordinator  
De Beers Canada Inc.

**Table 1**

<b>Document</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Application for Approval of Water Use Without a License</b>	Nunavut Water Board Application Form
<b>Letter Of Authority</b>	Letter Authorizing Chad Corson as representative of De Beers
<b>Conformity Determination</b>	NPC Conformity Determination Letter dated January 21, 2025
<b>Schedule 1: Map 1</b>	Chidliak Project Location Map
<b>Schedule 1: Map 2</b>	Chidliak Project Location Map
<b>Schedule 2: Spill Contingency Plan</b>	Chidliak Exploration Project Spill Contingency Plan ver.1.2
<b>Schedule 3: Winter Trail Monitoring Plan</b>	Chidliak Exploration Project Winter Trail Monitoring Plan ver. 1.0
<b>Schedule 4: DFO Fish Screen Guideline</b>	DFO Freshwater Intake End-of-Pipe Fish Screen guideline (1995)
<b>Schedule 5: DFO Ice Bridge Operational Statement</b>	Fisheries and Oceans Canada's (DFO) Operational Statement for Ice Bridges.