



NIRB File No.: 00MN059

October 23, 2015

Georgina Williston  
Regional Manager, Regulatory Reviews  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
301-5204 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 1E2

Sent via email: [georgina.williston@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:georgina.williston@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

**Re: The Nunavut Impact Review Board's 2014-2015 Annual Monitoring Report for the Jericho Diamond Mine Project and Board's Recommendations**

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Dear Georgina Williston:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) issued its *2014-2015 Annual Monitoring Report for the Jericho Diamond Mine Project* (Monitoring Report) to Shear Diamonds (Nunavut) Corporation (Shear) and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada under separate cover earlier today. The enclosed Monitoring Report is based on the NIRB's monitoring activities as set out within the Jericho Project Certificate [No. 002] and pursuant to Sections 12.7.1 and 12.7.2 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). This report provides the findings of the NIRB's monitoring of the Jericho Project from October 2014 to September 2015.

Please note that the Monitoring Report, Project Certificate and other materials pertaining to the NIRB's ongoing Monitoring program for the Jericho Project are also available from the NIRB's online public registry at:

<http://ftp.nirb.ca/03-MONITORING/00MN059-JERICH0%20DIAMOND%20MINE/>.

Based upon the Board's review of materials related to the Jericho Project, the Board has issued the following recommendation in order to ensure the NIRB has all information necessary to adequately discharge its mandate with respect to provisions within Section 12.7 of the NLCA as such pertain to the Jericho Project.

**Fish Habitat Compensation**

In correspondence provided to the NIRB on July 7, 2015 Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) concluded that pursuant to the existing *Fisheries Act* Authorization, conditions related to the construction of fish habitat compensation, monitoring and reporting have not been met (DFO File No. NU-00-0068). Furthermore, DFO noted its future intent to utilize the collected security funds to complete the remaining fish habitat compensation requirements, or to develop and implement new fish habitat compensation options at the Jericho Mine site.

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As carried by way of motion at its recent October 2015 meeting, the Board requests that DFO provide the NIRB with its plans to complete or undertake fish habitat compensation measures at the Jericho Mine site (recommendation 3). The Board respectfully requests that DFO inform the NIRB of its plans throughout the 2015 reporting year as new information arises, and provide an update by April 2016.

Should you have any questions or require further clarification regarding the Board's request or related to the NIRB's monitoring program for the Jericho project, please contact me directly at (867) 983-4606 or [hramussen@nirb.ca](mailto:hramussen@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Heather Rasmussen, M.Env-EA  
Monitoring Officer  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Shear Diamonds (Nunavut) Corporation  
Karen Costello, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
Jericho Distribution List

Enclosure: The Nunavut Impact Review Board's *2014-2015 Annual Monitoring Report for the Jericho Diamond Mine Project*