

May 27th, 2005

Ms. Stephanie Briscoe Executive Director Nunavut Impact Review Board P.O. Box 2379 Cambridge Bay, Nunavut X0B 0C0 Nunavut Water Board JUN 0 6 2005 Public Registry

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BY FAX and e-Mail

Dear Ms. Briscoe:

## RE: Review of the Tahera Wildlife Monitoring and Mitigation Plan

On May 2, 2005 Ms. Bishop of your office asked for comment from Environment Canada and the Government of Nunavut on the updated Wildlife Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (WMMP) submitted for the Jericho Diamond Mine project. The KIA sent comments to NIRB on April 20, 2005 on the original WMMP, and wishes to comment again since a more thorough monitoring plan has been presented.

KIA is confident that the Department of Environment and Government of Nunavut will cover all of their authorities in relation to wildlife monitoring and mitigation and provide useful comments to NIRB, as in previous reviews of the WMMP. The KIA reviewed the revised WMMP with a focus on issues that may not be of the same priority to other reviewers as they are for KIA. With this in mind KIA has focussed on traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) and Inuit Qaujamajatuqangit in relation to the WMMP and monitoring in general. While there is no specific reference to TEK and IQ in the NIRB project certificate, KIA knows that the NIRB seriously considers these matters.

As representatives of Kitikmeot Inuit, KIA is aware that there are concerns that the Jericho Diamond project may have impact water quality for the downstream water users in the community of Bathurst Inlet, impact fish and wildlife, and impact the land. As well, part of the project footprint occurs on Inuit Owned Land, and Inuit regularly use the crown land in the surrounding areas of the mine as part of their traditional activities. As part of wildlife monitoring, and indeed overall project monitoring, KIA would like Tahera to make the effort to allow interested Inuit access to the project site, particularly including Inuit Elders and Inuit with particular knowledge of the region of the Jericho

Mine. This access should be unfettered and only restricted based on reasons of safety and reasons of commercial sensitivity. Tahera may wish to manage this access if it provides regular travel opportunities for site visits at various times of the year for Inuit not working at the site.

Yours truly,

## Originally Signed by:

Geoffrey Clark

cc. Jack Kaniak, KIA Lands Manager Lynn Carter, KIA Land and Water Technician