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Assumption Agreement For Inuit Land Use Permit

Kitikmeot Inuit Association, BHP Diamonds, and Cambiex Exploration Inc.

December 17, 1999

(3)

### ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT

### POR INUIT LAND USE PERMITS

BETWEEN:

KITIKMEOT INUIT ASSOCIATION, an association incorporated under the Societies Act of the Northwest Territories and having a registered office in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut

("AIX" eiff)

ANT

BHP DIAMONDS INC., a company incorporated under the laws of Canada and having a registered office in Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia

(this "Permittee")

AND

CAMBLEX EXPLORATION INC., a company, incorporated under the laws of the Province of Quebac and having a registered office in Montreal, in the Province of Quebac

"Trensferee"

WHEREAS the Permittee holds all rights, title and interests in and to those certain land use permits known as the Hope Bay Land Use Permit (1970141) (the "Hope Bay Permit") and the Boston Land Use Permit (1950058) (the "Boston Permit") delivered by the KIA (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Permits"); and copies of which are annexed hereto as Schedules "A" and "B" hereof, together with the applications for access to Inuit Owned Lands which are incorporated by reference in the Permits and any amendments or extensions thereof;

WHEREAS the Permittee and the Transferee have entered into a Sale and Purchase Agreement purcuant to which the Permittee sells, conveys and transfers to the Transferee all of its right, title and interest in and to the mineral properties known as the Hope Bay Properties, including the water licenses delivered by the Nunavut Water Board (the "NVB"), the mineral rights delivered by Nunavut Tunngavik incorporated and by the Federal Crown and the Permits (collectively the "Rights"), and the Transferee purchases said Rights;

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WHEREAS the Permittee and the Transferee wish that, upon the sale, conveyance and transfer of the Rights, the Permittee shall be fully released by the KIA and held harmless by the Transferee from any liability whatsoever arising from any and all works performed by the Permittee on the Hope Bay Properties pursuant to any of the Rights and that any such liability that may arise from such works shall be assumed by the Transferee alone;

WHEREAS the Transferre agrees and covenants to provide the KIA, on the terms set forth hereinafter, with a security deposit to guarantee the performance of any and all of its obligations pursuant to the Hope Bay Permit or any replacement thereof granted or delivered by the KIA to the Transferre, which security shall be in addition to the security to be provided to the Receiver-General of Canada and the KIA by the Transferre for the Boston Water License (NWB1BOS9801) (the "Boston License"), as such accurity may be modified by the NWB;

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSES that, in consideration of the premises and the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, the Parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

### 1. TRANSFER AND ASSUMPTION

- 1.1 The Permittee hereby easigns, conveys and transfers the Permits, including but not limited to its reclamation obligations and liabilities for work previously done by the Permittee on the Hope Bay Properties under the terms of the Permits, to the Transferse for good and sufficient consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged by the Permittee,
- 1.2 The Permittee hereby represents and warrants to the Transferse that, as of the effective date of this Agreement, it is not aware, nor has it received any notice, of any violation or default on its part under the Permits which could have a material adverse effect on the status of the Permits, except as stated in the Environmental Report and the Rescan Hope Bay Bell Site Assessment 1999 Report described in the aforesaid Sale and Purchase Agreement, both of which reports have been previously provided to the Transferse and the latter having been provided to the KIA.
- 1.3 The Transferee hereby acknowledges, covenants and agrees:
  - (a) to assume and exercise all of the Permittee's rights, obligations and liabilities, whenever occurring, under the Permits;
  - (b) to be bound by the terms and conditions of the Permits in all respects as if the Transferse was the original party to the Permits in Ileu of the Permittee;

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- (c) to subject any further assignment or disposition of the Petrolis to the prior written consent of the KIA; and
- (d) to correct any existing or future defaults with respect to the Permits regardless of when such default is discovered or occurred.

### SECURITY DEPOSIT

- Subject to sections 2.2 and 2.3 below and concurrently with the transfer of the Pormits, the Transferee shall provide the KIA with a security deposit (the "Security") in such form and amount as herein provided. All Interest earned on the Security shall accrue to the benefit of and be peld to the Transferse on a regular basis. The Security is provided to the KIA for the purposes of guaranteeing the Transferee's performance of its obligations and covenants under the Hope Bay Permit. If the Transferee falls to pay tent or other charges due under the Hope Bay Permit, or otherwise default with respect to any obligation, covenant or provision of the Hope Bay Permit (an "Event of Default"), the KIA may, subject to section 2.6 hereof, use, apply, retain or draw all or any portion of the Security to remedy such Default." Such remedy shall include, without limitation, (i) the payment of any rent, charge or any other sum due to or to which the KIA may become obligated by reason of the Transferee's Event of Default or (ii) the compensation of the KIA for any loss or damage which the KIA may suffer thereby, or (iii) the fulfillment by the KIA of any. other obligation of the Transferee under the Hope Bay Permit, on behalf of the Transferee. If the KIA so uses, applies, retains or draws all or any portion of the Security, the Transferes shall within thirty (30) days following written demand therefor, provide the KIA with a security in such form and amount sufficient to restore such Security to the full amount provided herein and the Transferee's failure to do so shall also be an Event of Default herounder. If the Transferee performs of of its obligations hereunder, such Security, or so much thereof as has not theretofore been used, applied, retained or drawn by the KIA, shall be returned to the Transferee upon termination or expiry of the Hope Bay Permit.
- 2.2 The Security shall be made available to the KIA by the Transferee as follows:
  - (a) a first installment of \$375,000 is hereby provided to the KIA which acknowledges receipt thereof; and
  - (b) a final installment of \$375,000 shall be provided to the KIA by the Transfered at the latest on January 1st, 2001.
- 2.3 For greater certainty, it is hereby acknowledged and agreed by the Transferee and the KIA that the Security may be in any form acceptable to the KIA which may include, in the KIA's absolute unfettered discretion;

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- (a) a promissory note guaranteed by a Canadian chartered bank payable to the KIA:
- (b) a certified cheque drawn on a Canadian chartered bank payable to the KIA;
- (c) a performance hond;
- (d) an irrevocable letter of credit from a Canadian chartered bank; or
- (a) cash money, whether given in Canadian or American dollar.
- 2.4 Notwithstanding any other provision contained in this Agreement, the KIA and the Transfered hereby covenants and agree that:
  - (a) If the security deposit provided by the Transferec to the NWB for the Boston License and naming the Receiver General of Canada and the KIA as joint beneficiaries is canceled, is no longer in force and effect or is otherwise determined to be illegal by a tribunal having jurisdiction over such matters, then
    - (i) for security which has already been provided by the Transferse, the Transferse shall provide the KIA, as sole beneficiary, with an additional and separate deposit within sixty (60) days of such decision by a tribunal;
    - (ii) for security which has not yet been provided by the Transferee pursuant to the terms of the order by the NWB, the Transferee shall provide the KIA, as sole beneficiary with such additional and separate security deposits in the amounts and at the times otherwise required under the order of the NWB; and
    - (iii) notwithstanding the foregoing, the Transferee and the KIA hereby covenant and agree that, should a new order be issued by the NWB to replace the canceled order, the amount of security provided by the Transferee to the KIA pursuant to paragraphs 2.4(a)(i) and 2.4(a)(ii) hereof shall be adjusted so that the aggregate amount of security provided by the Transferee following such new order and consisting of:
      - the security provided to the KIA pursuant to paragraphs 2.4(a)(i) and 2.4(a)(ii) hereoffer the Boston Permit and naming the KIA as sole beneficiary; and

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the security provided to the NWB pursuant to any such new order for the Boston License and naming the Receiver General of Canada as sole beneficiary.

shall at no time exceed \$1.0 million from January 1st 2000 to December 31, 2000 and \$1.7 million thereafter;

- (a) If the NWB elects to reduce the amount of security deposit provided by the Transferee for the Boston License then the Transferee covenants and agrees to provide the KIA, at the latest on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001, with an additional and separate asculity deposit for the Boston Permit in an amount equal to the difference between \$1.7 million and such reduced amount determined by the NWB as adequate and sufficient to secure the obligations and covenants of the Transferee under the Boston License; and
- (b) if the KIA has to proceed with the reclamation of that portion of the Hope Bay Properties covered by the Boston Permit (the "Boston Site") and should the security provided to the NWB under the Boston License be insufficient to meet the requirements of a complete reclamation pursuant to the mining industry standards and practices, the KIA may use, at its sole discretion, all or any portion of the Security provided for the Hope Bay Permit to combine or complete the reclamation of the Boston Site as provided herein.

provided that sections 2.1 and 2.3 shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to any such additional and separate security.

- 2.6 Upon the occurrence of an Event of Default and prior to any use of the Security by the KIA, the KIA shall give etcless a thirty (30)-day prior written notice thereof to the Transferee stating the nature of such Event of Default and demanding that the Transferee remedy or commence to remedy such Event of Default within such 30 days, as applicable, provided however that such obligation to remedy shall be subject to favorable and appropriate northern weather condition. Failure by the Transferee to remedy or commence to remedy such Event of Default within the given time shall entitle the KIA to use, apply, retain or draw all or any portion of the Security to remedy such Event of Default.
- 2.6 For greater certainty, the bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the Transferse under any law then applicable or the appointment of a trustee or a receiver for the benefit of creditors of the Transferse shall not be deemed an Event of Default trensunder as long as the Transferse is otherwise in compliance with the terms and conditions of the Permits.
- 2.7 The remedies provided for hereinare not exclusive but shall be cumulative with and in addition to all remedies now or hereaffer allowed by law or equity.

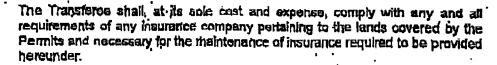
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- The Transferee acknowledges and agrees that the security provided to the Receiver-General of Canada and the KIA under the terms of the Boston Licens shall also be deemed to be security for the benefit of the KIA under the terms of the Boston Permit.
- 2.9 The Transferee acknowledges and agrees that the Security provided for hereunder is provided in respect of the current terms of the Permits only and that the KIA may require further or other security on any renewal of the Permits or on any replacement thereof by a lease, provided however that in doing so, the KIA shall take into account all other current security previously given by the Transferee to the KIA for the same purposes and covering the same area.
- The KIA and the Transferee admowledge and soree that notwithstanding any term to the contrary in the Permits, or any extension thereof, the expiry date for the Hope bay Permit and the Boston Permit shall be February 14, 2000.

#### NSURANCE

- The Transferes hereby confirms to the KIA that it has secured and will maintain, during the entire term of the Permits, a comprehensive general liability insurance. issued by an insurance company approved by the KIA and licensed under the laws of Canada to Issue liability insurance (a copy of the Cover Note No. 0114106-023 and of the Continest d'assurance naming Cambiex Exploration Inc. as one of the name insured is attached hereto as Schedule "C" to form part hereof), subject to the following conditions:
  - It shall provide coverage of not less than \$5,000,000 per occurrence; (a)
  - (b) if shall provide an annual aggregate coverage of not less than \$5,000,000 '. for pollution liability;
  - it shall name the KIA as an additional insured;
  - it shall include a walver of subrogation in favour of the KIA, as well as a . severability of interests clause and a cross-liability clause; and
  - {ø} It shall stipulate that the insurance will not be cancelled or terminated without at least a thirty (30)-days prior written notice to the KIA.
- 3.2 The Transferce shall pay all premiums and charges on all insurance required to be carned by it under the Permits promptly when such premiums become due and shall provide the KIA with satisfactory evidence of the payment of the premiums as they become due and payable. Before entering the lands covered by the Permits, the Transferee shall deliver proof of insurance to the KIA (including copy of all inaurance policies or cartificate thereof).

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The Transferee further coveriants and agrees to require all of its contractors to secure and maintain comprehensive general liability insurance providing adequate and reasonable coverage for their respective activities.

### CONSENT OF THE KIA

Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Permits excluding the restrictions on assignment of such Permits, and aubject to the conditions set out in the Application for Access to inuit Owned Land, the KIA hereby consents to the assignment, conveyance and transfer of all of the Permittee's right, title and interest in and to the Permits and all of the Permittee's obligation and liabilities thereunder to the Transferees

### RELEASE, DISCHARGE AND INDEMNIFICATION

- The parties hereto hereby acknowledge, agree and covenant that the KIA, in consideration of the obligations assumed by the Transferee hereunder, hereby releases and discharges the Permittee from any and all liabilities and obligations under the Permits, including but not limited to, any reclamation and environmental obligations for work previously done by the Permittee on the Hope Bay Properties under the terms of the Permits and any security previously provided by the Permittee for the benefit of the KIA with Respect to the Permits and its liabilities and obligations thereunder.
- The KIA hereby further releases and discharges the Permittee from all claims and demands against the Permittee with respect to the Permits and accepts the Transferes in lieu of the Permittee as the substituted party to the Permits and agrees with the Transferee to be bound by the terms and conditions of the Permits in all respects as if the Transferee has been originally named in the Permits as a party to said Permits in lieu of the Permittee.
- 5.3 Nothing herein shall constitute (i) a waiver by the KIA of any right, power or privilege it has under the terms of the Permits with respect to the Transferee; or (ii) a representation to the Transferee that the Permits are in good standing; or (iii) a representation that the Permittee is not in default of any of its obligations under the Permits, provided, however, that any such default shall not be asserted against the Permittee.

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- 6. GENERAL PROVISIONS
- 6.1 The Transferee acknowledges and agrees that it shall, during the term of the Permits, undertake no underground development for bulk sampling, now ith standing any term of the Permits to the contrary.
- 8.2 Any notice, payment or other communication hereundershall be given in writing and delivered by hand, prepaid registered mail, facelinille, or by overnight courier, at the following addresses:

If the notice is to the KIA, to:

Kitikmeet buit Association Land Division P.O. Box 360 Kugniktuk, Nunavut XOE 0E0 Tel: (887) 982-3310 Fax: (867) 982-3311

Attention: Lands Manager

if notice is to the Permittee:

BHP Diamonds Inc.
The Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited
2650 Park Place
666, Burrard Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6C 2XB
Tel: (804) 805-8866
Fax: (604) 681-8736

Attention: The Secretary

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### if notice is to the Transferae:

Cambiex Exploration Inc.
800 René-Lévesque Boulevard West
Suite 860
Montreal, Québec
H3B 1X8
Tel; (514) 878-3166
Fax: (514) 878-3324

### Attention: Chairman & CEO

or to any other addresses that a party may at any time designate by written nutice to the other parties.

All notices shall be effective and shall be deemed delivered (i) if by hand, or by overnight counter, on the date of delivery if delivered during normal business hours, and, if not delivered during normal business hours, on the next business day following delivery, (ii) if by electronic communication, on the next business day following apparently successful transmission, and (iii) if by registered mail, on the next business day after actual receipt.

- No fallure on the part of a party to exercise and no delay in exercising, and no course of dealing with respect to, any right, power or privilege under this Agreement shall operate at a waiver thereof; no rehall any single or partial exercise of any right, power or privilege under this Agreement proclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right, power or privilege. The remedies available to a party are cumulative and not exclusive of any remedies provided by law or equity.
- 6.4 No amendment, modification or waiver of any provision of this Agreement or consent to any departure by any party from any provision of this Agreement shall in any event be effective unless it is confirmed in writing by the other Parties and then the amendment, modification, waiver or consent shall be effective only in the specific instance, for the specific purpose and for the specific length of time for which it is given.
- Except for the obligation to make payments when due hereunder, the obligations of a party shall be suspended to the extent and for the period that performance is prevented by any cause (other than lack of funds), whether foreseeable or unforeseeable, beyond its reasonable control, including, without limitation, labour disputes (however arising and whether or not employes demands are reasonable or within the power of the party to grant); acts of God; laws, regulations, orders, proclamations, instructions or requests of any governmental authority; orders of any

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court; inability to obtain on reasonably acceptable terms any public or private perr or other authorization; curtailment or suspension of activities to remedy or avoid an actual or alleged, present or prospective violation of federal, provincial or local environmental standards; acts of war or conditions arising out of or attributable to war, whether declared or undeclared; riot, civil strife, insurrection or rebellion; fire, explosion, earthquake, storm, flood, sink holes, drought or other adverse weather condition; delay or falkire by suppliers or transporters of materials, parts, supplies. services or equipment or by contractors' or subcontractors' shortage of, or inability to obtain, labour, transportation, materials, machinery, equipment, supplies, utilities, or services; accidents; breakdown of equipment, machinery or facilities; or any other cause whether similar or dissimilar to the foregoing (collectively a "Force Majeure Event"). The affected party shall promptly give notice to the other parties of the Force Majeure Event stating therein the nature of the suspension, the reasons therefor, and the expected duration thereof. The affected party shall resume performance as soon as reasonably possible. The affected party shall use all reasonable diligence to remedy the Force Majeure Event as quickly as practicable. However, this requirement of reasonable diligence shall not require the settlement of strikes, lock-outs or other labour difficulties by the party involved therein on terms not acceptable to it. The manner of dealing with any such labour difficulties shall be entirely within the discretion of the party so involved.

- 8.6 This Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of Nurrayut and the laws of Canada applicable therein. This original Agreement shall be executed in English, and English shall govern between the parties notwithstanding the translation of the Agreement into French or Inuktitut for any purpose. The parties acknowledge having expressly required that this Agreement and all documents relating thereto be drawn up in English.
- 6.7 There are no implied covenants contained in this Agreement other than those of good faith and fair dealing.
- 6.8 All monetary amounts expressed in dollars in this Agreement shall be determined and payable in Canadian currency, unless otherwise expressly provided.
- 6.9 In the event that a count of competent jurisdiction determines that any term, part, or provision of this Agreement is unenforceable, illegal, or in conflict with any laws to which this Agreement is subject, the parties intend that the count reform that term, part, or provision within the limits permissible under the law in such manner as to approximate most closely the intent of the parties to this Agreement; provided that, if the count cannot make such reformation, then that term, part, or provision shall be considered severed from this Agreement. The remaining portions of this Agreement shall not be affected, and this Agreement shall be construed and enforced as if it did not contain that term, part, or provision.

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- 10 The parties shall take from time to time such actions and execute such additional instruments as may be reasonably necessary or convenient to implement and carry out the intent and purpose of this Agreement.
- 8.11 This Agreement contains the entire understanding of the parties and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, whather express or implied, between the parties and relating to the subject matter hereof.
- 8.12 This Agreement shall be binding upon and mure to the benefit of the respective successors and permitted easigns of the parties.
- 6.13 The preamble to this Agreement is hereby incorporated into and made part hereof,
- 6.14 This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument and any of the parties hereto may execute this Agreement by signing any such counterpart.
- 6.15 In this Agreement, time is of the essence.

(N WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed three copies of this Assumption Agreement as of the date first above written.

BHP DIAMONDS INC.

Per

Duly authorized officer

KITIKMEOT INUIT ASSOCIATION

Per:

President

CAMBIEX EXPLORATION INC.

Per

Duly authorized officer

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TO THAT CERTAIN ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN KITIKMEDT INUIT ASSOCIATION, BHP DIAMONDS INC. AND CAMBIEX EXPLORATION INC.

HOPE BAY LAND USE PERMIT (1970141)

Please see next following pages

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### SCHEDULE "B"

# TO THAT CERTAIN ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN KITIKMEOT INUIT ASSOCIATION, BHP DIAMONDS INC, AND CAMBIEX EXPLORATION INC.

## BOSTON LAND USE PERMIT (1950088)

Please see next following pages

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### SCHEDULE "C"

## TO THAT CERTAIN ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN KITIKMEOT INUIT ASSOCIATION, BHP DIAMONDS INC. AND CAMBIEX EXPLORATION INC.

### COPY OF COVER NOTE 0114108/023 AND CERTIFICAT D'ASSURANCE

Please see next five (5) following pages

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### Aon Reed Szonhouse Inc.

Cover Note No.

Tel. (614) 342-3500 Télác (514) 842-8450

POLICY NO.

KE9361775 '.

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(11) absolute seepiga, poliution & contamination exclusion (111) costs inclusive

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### SPECIAL DIFFERENCE:

- Stop day Employers Liability . Frond Manual Insured, including subsidiary and controlled companies, employee clubs and recreational organizations
- and Insured's interest in joint ventures . Claim reporting affer discovery by the manager or persons responsible for vorponate insurance - Difference in Conditions Endorschant
- Blanker Additional Inverses

- Third Party Liability in respect of In Equal Engineers
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- Operations at Carlots, Arizons: It is further understood and agreed that deverage horous is extended to include limbility irising our of the insured's operations at darlots, Arizons, relating to mining rights acquired by the insured and the proposed construction of on open pit copper nine, warranted bounver that the contributor(s) hird to construct the mine vill provide a minimum of V.S. 33,000,000. of comment timbility insurance limits, with Cambiar Inc. and their subsidiary compensas included as Additional Impureds.

### SPECIAL EXCLUSIONS / RESTRICTING TRAMS:

- Employment Fractices Exclusion Service of Suit Clause (Canada) MGA 19702
- Municar Incident Exclusion Clause (Canada) WA 1978
- . Absolute Jecunge, Pollution and Contamination Exclusion - V.S.A.

### CURRENCY: ".

All limits of Madfiley and grantum are shown in Canadian funds.

PREMITTERS 487,500, plus 54,000, policy insuance fon .

97,500.00

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NON-MARINE DEPOSABILITIES AT LLOYD'S AS EVIDENCED BY ALEX MINIMANNAM DEP, RESSOLTTS

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Austratus: 1. Lloyd's Underwhese pour le capage de Ann Group Liminas

Date: le 14 octobre 1999

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