

△▷∪⊂∩<sup>b</sup>d<sup>c</sup>

## Avatiligiyyit

Department of Environment

Ministère de l'Environnement

Feb. 12, 07

Richard Dwyer  
Licensing Trainee  
Nunavut Water Board

**via Email to:** [licensingtrainee@nunavutwaterboard.org](mailto:licensingtrainee@nunavutwaterboard.org)

**RE: NWB FILE # 2BE-HEP – DIAMONDS NORTH RESOURCES LTD. –  
HEPBURN LAKE PROJECT**

Dear Mr. Dwyer:

The Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment (DOE) has reviewed the project proposal from Diamonds North Resources Ltd. for conducting diamond exploration 160 km south of Kugluktuk, and has the following comments and recommendations to make.

## WILDLIFE

Aircraft activities have been shown to affect wildlife such as caribou, muskoxen and birds in behaviour, development and reproductive success as well as subject the wildlife to adverse weather conditions and accidental damage or injury. However, by raising flight altitudes, studies have shown that it will alleviate some of the negative effects. Therefore, we recommend that the following protection measures are taken to reduce aircraft disturbance on wildlife.

Unless there is a specific requirement for low level flights, aircraft activities should maintain a minimum altitude of 610 meters above ground level in places where there are occurrences of wildlife. In areas where there are observed large concentrations of birds, flight level is restricted to 1,000 meters vertical distance and 1,500 meters horizontal distance from the birds. These guidelines are provided as a general standard, and exceptions may arise on a case-by-case basis. As a good practice, it is recommended to avoid critical and sensitive wildlife areas at all times by choosing alternate flight corridors.

## SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN

DOE recommends that the proponent utilizes the newly developed spill report form in the case of spills, and that the proponent enters spill information in the computer so it is legible to recipients such as government agencies. The attached include the new spill form and instructions for completing the forms.

The DOE thank the NWB for the opportunity to review and provide comments on this project proposal. Please contact us if you have any further questions or comments.

Yours sincerely,

***Original signed by***

Helen Yeh  
Environmental Assessment Coordinator  
Department of Environment  
Government of Nunavut  
P.O. Box 1000, Stn. 1360  
Iqaluit, Nu X0A 0H0  
PH: (867) 975-7733  
FX: (867) 975-7739  
EM: [hyeh@gov.nu.ca](mailto:hyeh@gov.nu.ca)

Attachment 1: NT-NU Spill Report Form

Attachment 2: Instructions for Completing the NT-NU Spill Report Form