



Northwest Territories Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development

FAXED

Ms. Stephanie Briscoe
 Executive Director
 Nunavut Impact Review Board
 PO Box 2379
 CAMBRIDGE BAY NU X0B 0C0

AUG 11 2003

VIA FACSIMILE: 867-983-2594

AUG 19 2003

Dear Ms. Briscoe:

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Environmental Impact Review of Proposed Bathurst Inlet Port and Road

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) has reviewed the revised project description for the Proposed Bathurst Inlet Port and Road project. In our opinion, the modifications to the proposed project do not affect our previous requests to refer the proposed project to a review under Part 6 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.

In previous correspondence, the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development has indicated concerns raised by businesses, such as Carmacks of Peace River, that has northern holdings; northern communities such as Holman, concerned with increased shipping impacts on a traditional way of life and the marine environment; and environmental groups at the regional, national, and international levels, such as the Canadian Arctic Resources Committee (CARC) and the World Wildlife Fund.

Since that time, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) has completed its review of the De Beers Canada Mining Inc. proposal for its Snap Lake Diamond Project. During this review, Aboriginal organizations, environmental non-government organizations such as CARC, and the GNWT expressed extreme concern for the cumulative effects of projects throughout the Slave Geologic Province on the Bathurst Caribou Herd, wolverine, and grizzly bears. The MVEIRB determined a number of recommendations required to mitigate the effects of the Snap Lake Project that must occur throughout the Slave Geologic Province.

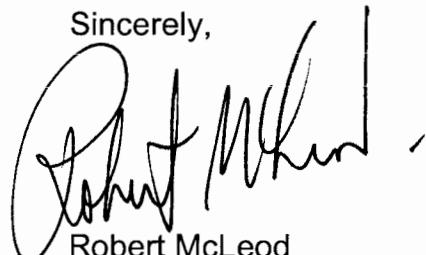
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Given the direction given by the MVEIRB to the GNWT and the strong sentiments of concern raised by all Aboriginal organizations, I re-endorse the GNWT's request that you consider the environmental impact review of the proposed Bathurst Inlet Port and Road under Part 6 of Section 12 of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement. The basis for this request is that the Part 6 process provides for a more clearly defined path to consider the broader regional and national interests of the proposed development.

As previously stated, the GNWT still believes that the broader Part 6 process, a review by the Minister of the Environment in conjunction with the Nunavut Impact Review Board, would best serve these interests in the environmental assessment process.

The GNWT would appreciate hearing the outcome of your decision regarding this review as soon as it is known. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Robert McLeod
Deputy Minister

c. Mr. Bob Overvold
Regional Director General
Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development