

EMAB Teleconference, March 3, 2010

Meeting started at 1:50

Present:

Florence Catholique, Vice Chair, Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation

Floyd Adlem, Secretary Treasurer, Canada

Lawrence Goulet, Yellowknives Dene First Nation

Call-in:

Doug Crossley, Chair, Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Gavin More, GNWT, (at 2:00)

Danielle DeFields, alternate, North Slave Metis Alliance

Staff:

John McCullum, executive director

Michele LeTourneau, communication coordinator (also minutes)

### **Item 1: Budget**

Noted under projects: Each project has been checked re: the mandate and fiscal prudence.

The Executive Director walks the Board through the draft budget and answers questions. Unless some funds are recovered from DDMI EMAB will have to cut back on projects and/or capacity funding in 2010-11.

Motion:

Approve budget as presented.

Moved: Floyd Adlem

Seconded: Florence Catholique

Carried

### **ITEM 2: Water licence amendment for A21**

Diavik applied for an amendment to their water licence for the new method of mining the A21 pipe.

Q: Does EMAB hire an expert for a technical review of the proposal for the new mining technique? A:

NSMA – yes.

KIA – yes.

LKDFN: There was definitely concern expressed at the community update and interest in having whatever EMAB gets from an expert.

The cost for a review would probably be approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000.

Discussion:

- Q: Would there be expertise in the North considering the nature of the project?

- WLWB should be doing a review. If they don't EMAB should go ahead and do a technical review.
- We would need a deadline extension.
- This is a preliminary screening. It will go to either a water licence hearing or an environmental assessment – so either way technical expertise will come in after that decision is made.
- Now is the time to express concerns – the two criteria for environmental assessment are that the project might have significant environmental effects or that it might cause significant public concern
- EMAB must not assume the WLWB will hire a consultant. There are no guarantees.

EMAB does need to write a letter to the WLWB stating that there are public concerns and the need for a technical review to be done and circulated to Parties. If the Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board does not plan to do a technical review then EMAB should do it, and request an appropriate extension

Noted: Lutsel K'e has requested workshops from Diavik. People need more information – if they don't understand there will be a barrier.

EMAB should inform the Parties of our approach and make sure they understand that if they have concerns they should let the Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board know ASAP.

NSMA: We need to know if the WLWB is doing something – if not we need to go ahead. ED will contact Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board to find out.

EMAB should not do a review if other regulators are doing one.

**ACTION:** Write a letter to the WLWB stating the concern re: A21 and the need for a technical review before the decision on preliminary screening is made. (Send draft to EMAB members.)

The community of Lutsel K'e is very concerned for the community of Kugluktuk, because of the Coppermine River. Kugluktuk is also very concerned and might want to work with EMAB on reviewing the proposal.

### **Item 3: EA Review Workshop**

Shelagh encourages Board members to get back to her re: the survey. Also, members should also pick people to attend.

### **Item 4: Budget dispute**

March 1 has come and gone. That was the deadline EMAB set for INAC to start dispute resolution process.

KIA would like to support EMAB – they may write a letter to INAC

The Minister is an integral part of the process.

EMAB needs to have a meeting with Trish ASAP to make sure EMAB's position is understood.  
Something early next week?

Noted: Amazed at INAC's refusal to take on their role. Can't understand the reasoning at all.

Meeting ended at 3:30.