



## October 20-21 2020 EMAB Meeting Summary

Meeting held in-person and by teleconference/videoconference. Videoconference was for presentations only.

### Minutes:

- Send letter to ENR Minister stating EMAB has no further concerns with 2019 Environmental Agreement Annual Report
- Have EMAB discussion on TK monitoring at Diavik at next meeting

### Finance

- Waiting for response from Diavik on recommended budget for 2021-2023
- Agreed to reallocate community involvement funds to pay for EMAB director's honoraria to attend recent Diavik community engagement, if not paid from other sources.

### Inspectors report:

- Inspections for June, July & September all looked good
- Inspector issued a warning letter to Diavik for being out of compliance with their Water Licence
  - began construction of PKC spillway without providing required notification to Inspector or WLWB
- Inspector will try to provide photos of yellow haze over mine

### PK to Mine Workings intervention:

- Updated Diavik water quality modelling for PK to Pits project, and Independent Review Panel Report on water quality monitoring received Oct 19
- Staff have drafted Intervention based on submission to MVEIRB
  - waiting for consultant reports to finish the Draft Intervention; try to have these before November 13; WLWB deadline is November 24.
- add recommendation to require EMAB review of cultural criteria for re-connecting pit lake to Lac de Gras
- review differences between EMAB recommendations and Diavik proposals

### EA Amendment update:

- Draft amendment to EA was circulated to Parties on Sept 23
- 90-day review period proposed by GNWT
- All Parties must sign for Amendment to take effect
- GNWT will reach out to Parties about potential edits to the Amendment
- Agreed this is an issue for the Parties; EMAB does not sign amendment

### DDEC Insolvency briefing:

- Diavik legal presented on the DDEC/Diavik Insolvency situation
- Before insolvency Diavik managed the mine; DDEC paid 40% of operating expenses and received 40% of diamonds produced. Since insolvency DDEC is not paying for any expenses and Diavik has been holding DDEC's share of diamonds.
- On Oct 30 Diavik will ask for court permission to sell DDEC's diamonds to pay for expenses, since sale of Ekati fell through
- Diavik plan is to continue operating as long as the benefits are greater than the costs.
- Insolvency has no effect on Diavik's obligations, including security for mine closure. Security is 100% backed by Rio Tinto.



## **WMP Program Description:**

- MSES presented their review of Diavik's July 2020 WMMP (Wildlife Monitoring and Management Plan).
  - Some issues with caribou monitoring; monitoring zone of influence, collecting behaviour data
- EMAB made some recommendations about use of TK in monitoring wildlife
- ENR has directed Diavik to produce a WMMP that meets ENR guidelines by April 1
- EMAB will invite ENR to next meeting to discuss Caribou Collar program and funding and fate of program after mine closure
- EMAB will write a letter to Diavik about value of the TK panel making suggestions for wildlife TK monitoring

## **TK Water Quality Criteria Community Meetings Update:**

- Diavik has met with KIA, NSMA, and Łutselk'e about Cultural use water quality in the pit lakes
- Noted that Łutselk'e did not finish second day of meeting
- Diavik is scheduling meetings with YKDFN and Tlicho
  - Will also reschedule rest of Łutselk'e meeting

## **Air Quality Monitoring**

### Update on Minister Review:

- Minister is reviewing the adequacy of Diavik's Air Quality Monitoring Program (EAQMP) at EMAB's request
  - Timeline not determined
- EMAB will invite GNWT to next meeting to explain the Minister review process

## **Closing**

- GNWT has appointed a new member, Dr. Ngeta Kabiri; he will likely attend next meeting
- Next meeting December 1-2, 2020