



September 18, 2026

VIA EMAIL

Charlie Catholique
Chair
Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board
EMAB1@northwest.net

Dear Chair Catholique:

Edànet'e, ʔedlánet'e-a, ,

Response to EMAB Regarding Decision on Wind-Down Schedule for EMAB Under Section 17.3 of the Diavik Environmental Agreement

I am writing in response to the Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board's (EMAB) letter dated August 21, 2026, regarding my decision on the wind-down schedule for EMAB.

In your letter, you raised disappointment with the decision and concerns with a perceived discrepancy between this decision and the decision rendered about the Snap Lake Environmental Monitoring Agency (SLEMA).

Each Environmental Agreement is unique. In both cases, as Minister of Environment and Climate Change (ECC), I undertook consultation processes with Parties, as required under each Agreement, and formed a decision after considering all evidence and submissions gathered through those processes. The decisions regarding EMAB and the SLEMA were made independently, in accordance with their respective Agreements and the submissions received. my decisions reflect the distinct circumstances of each project.

In the case of EMAB, the decision to undertake a transitional wind-down considered all submissions and proposals received. This included the submission from EMAB; Diavik Diamond Mines (2012) Inc.'s (DDMI) proposal for technical review funding; the additional information received from Parties; the traditional knowledge monitoring framework, and the broader regulatory and co-management system now in place that will continue to ensure regulatory oversight and opportunities for participation as Diavik Diamond Mine progresses through closure and reclamation.

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My decision regarding EMAB, and the substantiation for it, are publicly available. The reasons accompanying my decision explain the rationale and key considerations that informed that outcome. A particular matter may not be specifically addressed because the reasons are not intended to provide a detailed response to every submission, issue, or item of evidence raised during the process.

I would like to reassure you that in reaching my decision, I considered the record in its entirety and all relevant information before me. The outcome reflects my assessment of the evidence and submissions as a whole, rather than any single factor or individual point raised.

Having completed the process contemplated under the Environmental Agreement and having reached a decision on the matter, I do not intend to revisit or reconsider that decision. At this stage, I believe it is important that our collective efforts focus on implementing the decision and supporting an orderly transition, including the development of the wind-down and records-transfer plans.

To ensure that EMAB's concerns are heard and that implementation proceeds in a constructive manner, I have asked my officials to connect with John McCullum, EMAB Executive Director, to discuss the matters raised in your correspondence, including issues related to implementation of the decision.

Máhsí, mársí, masí, ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jay Macdonald', with several horizontal strokes extending to the right.

Jay Macdonald
Minister
Environment and Climate Change

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