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Joint Diamond Mine Grizzly Bear Hair Snagging Monitoring

De Beers would like to restate its support and clarify its position on the Joint Regional Grizzly Bear Hair Snagging program with the defined objective *“to monitor the spatial and temporal trends in the relative abundance, distribution, and movement of grizzly bears in a study area of approximately 30,000 km²”*

On December 5, 2011, the diamond mines met to discuss the proposed joint monitoring program and the outcome from that meeting was an agreement in principle among the mines to proceed with a joint approach to conducting a regional grizzly bear hair snagging program. This was followed up in a letter to ENR from De Beers on December 12, 2011. In that letter, De Beers also indicated that support for the proposed program was subject to conditions that included the following:

- Program design, methods and logistics to be developed in 2012 with consultation and input from communities, ENR and the companies;
- Community Traditional Knowledge will be a key component in the design and implementation;
- Program implementation will be from 2013-2014, with the next implementation anticipated to be 2018;
- Participation in this program would replace existing bear monitoring programs going forward, aside from incidental observation monitoring;

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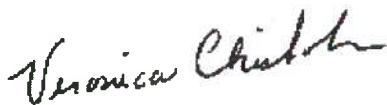
- Pending input and discussion with the Snap Lake Environmental Monitoring Agency (SLEMA) under the Environmental Agreement;
- ENR's commitment to house the data in its Wildlife Management Information System to ensure that this data remains available to future developers and researchers; and
- To support any future efforts toward cumulative effects assessment and grizzly bear management plans.

De Beers provided comments on a draft study design in April 2012 and restated that De Beers' preference is to participate in the monitoring in 2013 to allow time for consultation with Aboriginal communities, SLEMA and regulators, as well as ensure the above conditions were incorporated into the final design. De Beers plans to continue engagement on the proposed monitoring plan in 2012 for the southern project area including site visits in August, a monitoring working group meeting, and community visits in the fall. An update to the study design will be considered following engagement. It should be noted that De Beers plans to follow a field approach that is similar to the northern study area, as submitted by BHP and Diavik, so that results will be comparable.

De Beers is open to meeting directly with SLEMA to discuss the current plan, as well as your comments/recommendations on the Program. In addition, De Beers will provide an update to ENR and SLEMA following engagement.

Should you have questions, please contact me at Veronica.Chisholm@debeerscanada.com or 867-446-8701.

Sincerely



Veronica Chisholm
Permitting Manager