



Snap Lake Environmental Monitoring Agency
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Marc Casas
Regulatory Officer
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
7th Floor – 4910 50th Avenue
P.O.Box 2130
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P6

File: Water Licence MV2011L2-0004

March 11, 2013

Re: Rainbow Trout Early Life Stage (ELS) Toxicity Testing

Dear Mr. Casas,

Snap Lake Environmental Monitoring Agency (SLEMA) has reviewed De Beers request on the change of the above testing. SLEMA would like to provide the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) with the following comments.

SLEMA does not agree with the change from 70-day embro/alevin/fry (EAF) test to 7-day trout embryo viability test. Instead, SLEMA suggests that De Beers conduct the 70-day test for not less than 2 years or 4 comparable tests (same season) and compare the 7 and 30-day results (which De Beers will have) with the 70-day results. Then the data will speak for themselves. An alternative is to do a literature review of the relative sensitivity of fish tests that go from hatch to alevin survival versus hatch to fry. The species of interest are those most relevant to Snap Lake.

If you have any questions whatsoever please feel free to contact the undersigned or David White at 867-765-0961 / dwhite@slema.ca.

Sincerely,

Johnny Weyallon

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Weyallon', on a light blue background.

Chairperson