



## **EMAB Meeting Summary – February 7-8, 2023**

Meeting held in-person and by teleconference/videoconference.

### **Minutes/Action Item Follow-up**

- No outstanding recommendations

### **Finance**

- Revised recommended budget for 2023-25 approved.
- Diavik letter with agreed conditions on EMAB recommended 2023-35 budget approved.
- Approved revised budget for 2022-23 with Diavik additional contribution
- letter to Diavik regarding contributions repayable approved.

### **Update on Diavik Meeting of EA Parties, Jan 20'23**

- Expression of Interest process for developing TM Monitoring Plan for Closure cancelled.
- Parties agreed to set up two working groups: Traditional Knowledge WG to develop TM Monitoring Plan and Environmental Agreement WG to discuss possible changes to EA.
- Draft two letters to each of the members of the Working Groups recommending that an EMAB Staff Member attend the TK and EA Working Groups as an observer.
- Diavik is proposing a meeting on Feb. 22'23 of the TK WG. EMAB should observe.
- Add one-day EMAB meeting on future role of EMAB to agenda for next EMAB meeting. Report on results to EA WG.

### **GNWT Air Quality Guideline Update**

- ENR will send EMAB a high-level response explaining the reasons for the continued delay in developing the Guideline.

### **Water Licence Amendment for Natural Drainages & Update on FCRP Review**

- Technical session planned for March 6-10. Hearing will be at the end of May.
- EMAB submitted 118 comments and recommendations on the WL Amendment. Most of them are related to the FCRP as well.
- Most of EMAB recommendations are on the surface water action level framework, monitoring frequency, and technical questions to be answered and/or detailed.
- Consultants reported on WL Amendment and FCRP reviews to date: closure, aquatics, health and wildlife (see meeting minutes for details).

### **Diavik Revised Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan**

- Concern about ENR review process for documents
- Send message to Diavik and Cc ENR asking Diavik to provide EMAB with proposed caribou Zone of Influence analysis methods.
- ENR will respond to EMAB Recommendations on the DDMI revised WMMP soon.

### **Update on GNWT Long-Term Liability Policy/Approach**

- Pubic Lands Act regulations will address long-term liability on land leases. Development is still in progress.
- Diavik's security deposit will be reviewed after WLWB makes a decision on the FCRP.
- Dept. of Lands will merge with ENR on April 1'23.



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- Closure Guidelines are being reviewed by Land and Water Boards with input from Indigenous organizations and governments.
  - Continuing concern about long-term liability if something goes wrong after the mine is closed.
  - Noted there is a Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment in the Slave Geological Province.

### **Update on WLWB/GNWT legal issues regarding EQC's and decisions**

- Disagreement may affect the decision on the Water Licence Amendment for Natural Drainages.

### **Workplan, Budget and Board Calendar for 2023-24**

- Budget for 2023-24 approved.
- Board calendar for 2023-24 approved.

### **TK Panel**

- Draft a letter expressing EMAB concerns about Diavik's decision to cancel the 2021 Fish Camp Video.
  - Include EMAB concerns about Diavik approach to follow-up fish sampling. Review recommendations from 2021 Fish Camp report and reference relevant parts.
- Concerns about the way Diavik ran the TK Panel. Redraft EMAB letter on TK Panel Governance to reflect current situation.
- TK WG will discuss the role of the TK Panel in developing the TK Monitoring Plan
- Post recent TK Panel reports to EMAB website noting final version was not verified by the Panel in the same way as previous reports.

### **Additional Item – Governance**

- Email from Diavik asks about the expectation that Board members have reviewed the material when voting on an email motion.
- Board members expressed concern about this question. EMAB Board Members all do their jobs: review material and make informed decisions. Good to have sufficient time for decisions.

### **Next Meeting**

- Tentative dates for the next meeting are April 18-19, 2023.