

April 28, 2015

Mr. Pierre Gratton, President and Chief Executive Officer The Mining Association of Canada 275 Slater Street Suite 1100 Ottawa, ON K1P 5H9

## Dear Mr, Gratton:

Dominion Diamond Corporation (DDC) became a registered member of the Mining Association of Canada (MAC) in October 2013 and has completed a Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM) external verification for 2014. Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation (DDEC), is the current operator of the Ekati Diamond Mine which has been in operation since 1998, and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dominion Diamond Corporation.

The external verifier, from BSI Group, assessed the company's reported self-assessed TSM performance indicator results as measured against the requirements of MAC's Towards Sustainable Mining Performance Indicators. The TSM external-assessment for the Ekati Diamond Mine involved a team from all aspects of the operation, including the Process Plant, Health and Safety, Environment, and Community and External Affairs.

DDC acquired the Ekati Diamond Mine from BHP Billiton Canada Inc. on April 10, 2013. Following the acquisition DDC has pursued a range of ongoing initiatives contributing to a stronger MAC TSM performance. A Sustainable Development Policy has been established and DDC has become certified for Environmental Management System ISO 14001 and Occupational Health and Safety Management System ISO 18001. DDC has also engaged with other mining companies for Emergency Response Training and created an Energy Management Steering Committee to improve energy efficiency, which forms part of the Financial Year 2016 Business Plan, and to establish Energy and Greenhouse Gas targets.

Relative to the 2013 self-assessment, there was an improvement in protocols for Safety and Health, Tailings Management and Energy and GHG Emissions Management. There were no changes from the 2013 self-assessment in the Aboriginal and Community Outreach and Biodiversity Conservation Management protocols, which achieved the highest rating. Performance was marked down for the Crisis Management protocol relative to 2013.

The External Verification resulted in the following changes to the self-assessed protocol indicators for 2014. These are detailed in the TSM Verification Report on the External Verification:

Protocol indicators that were marked up from the self-assessment:

• Tailings Management - Indicator 1: A to AA

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Protocol indicators that were marked down from the self-assessment:

- Crisis Management Site Indicator 1: YES to NO
- Energy and GHG Emissions Management Indicator 3: A to C
- Safety and Health Indicator 1: AAA to A
- Safety and Health Indicator 4: AA to A

It was noted that the Crisis Management Corporate Indicators were all changed to Not Applicable as the Corporate Protocol does not apply to Ekati Diamond Mine.

As a result of the External Verification, a gap analysis is being conducted identifying areas of focus for 2015.

As part of the new Financial Year 2016, the Business Plan has outlined new targets such as initiating new safety programs such as Zero Incidence Performance (ZIP) training and increasing medical surveillance testing. DDC has also committed to continued community engagement as part of our operations and delivering on key Impact Benefit Agreements and SEA Socio Economic Agreements with Aboriginal hire and Northern hire targets. As part of the Energy Management Steering Committee new projects are being overseen including the use of biodiesel and the installation of a composter to reduce waste burnt in the incinerator.

Improvements have been made to Crisis Management to meet the site indicator requirements. These include initiating tests of the emergency contact system for personnel working out of the Yellowknife Office. These tests will be conducted during the quarterly crisis management exercises. Communications training will be provided to personnel that are required through the crisis management plan to provide external communications to the public and stakeholders. DDEC will also be adding a 1-800 number to allow employees and contractors who are off site to contact the operations during a crisis for direction and information.

Please feel free to contact the undersigned at <a href="mailto:Chantal.lavoie@ekati.ddcorp.ca">Chantal.lavoie@ekati.ddcorp.ca</a> if you have any questions about the 2014 results.

Sincerely,

Chantal Lavoie, P.Eng President and Chief Operating Officer Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation

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