

September 7, 2006

Chris Paci
Deep Consulting Inc. on behalf Dehcho First Nations
Box 89 Fort Simpson, NT
X0E 0N0

Via email

Dear Dr. Paci,

Re: Motion to rule on confidentiality of maps

Further to your letter of Monday, August 20, 2006, this is to confirm that the faxed version of the Dehcho Chiefs' submission that had been filed with the Joint Review Panel (the Panel) on August 4, 2006, has been placed on the Public Registry. So too has the electronic version filed with the Panel on August 17, 2006.

The 'slide deck' presentation that was presented by the chiefs at the August 18, 2006 hearing in Yellowknife and filed with your letter of August 20, 2006 has also been posted to the Public Registry. This slide deck was filed electronically and did not contain the maps referred to below.

On July 12, 2006, you filed a motion on behalf of the five Dehcho Chiefs requesting the Panel to make a ruling that sensitive information, particularly maps marking sites identified through a traditional knowledge study, that were to be contained in the chiefs' forthcoming submission to the Panel, be kept confidential (the Motion). The Panel responded with instructions on how you were to identify sensitive information so that the Panel could make a determination on the Motion. You then proceeded to file the chiefs' submission without identifying those portion(s) you wished to be kept confidential. This submission was received by fax on August 4th and was followed at a later date by an electronic file containing maps that were requested to be kept confidential (the Maps). A paper copy of the Maps was included in the August 4th submission but was blurry and of poor quality. Because the Maps that were the subject of the Motion appeared to the Panel to be the same as the maps contained in the presentation filed by fax August 20th, and because there was no request that any part of that presentation be kept confidential, the Panel responded by way of letter dated August 17, 2006 that it was of the view that a ruling on the Motion was not necessary.

At the August 18, 2006 hearing in Yellowknife, Panel staff and legal counsel met with you to clarify your intentions with respect to the electronic version of the Maps. You stated that despite the failure to identify the information in the chiefs' submission that they wanted kept confidential, the chiefs still wanted the electronic version of the Maps to be kept confidential.

You were offered the opportunity to file the electronic version of the presentation with the Maps omitted and told that, in light of the Panel's Ruling, you would have to make a further request if you wanted the Panel to retain the Maps in confidence.

The Panel has reviewed your letter of August 24, 2006 and has closely examined the electronic version of the Maps. The Panel is of the view that the Maps in their electronic format are at a large enough scale to enable identification of site-specific information that the five chiefs of the Dehcho First Nation consider confidential. The Panel accepts receipt of the Maps in their electronic format in confidence and will not place them on the Public Registry.

Sincerely,



Robert Hornal
Joint Review Panel Chair