



Yamoga Building, Old Airport Road
PO Box 1, Fort Good Hope NT X0E 0H0

Tel: 867-598-2413 Fax: 867-598-2325
www.slwb.com

August 19, 2026

File: S25C-001

Darrell Beaulieu
Denendeh Exploration and Mining Company Limited (DEMCo)
4504 – 49th Avenue, Denendeh Manor #401
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2R1

Sent by email

Dear Darrell Beaulieu,

Re: Denendeh Exploration and Mining Company Limited (DEMCo) – Notification of Timeline Pause – S25C-001 – Mineral Exploration, Camsell River / Great Bear Lake area, NT

The Sahtú Land and Water Board (Board) met on August 19, 2026, and considered the amendment Application Package from DEMCo for Land Use Permit (Permit) S25C-001 for mineral exploration activities in the Camsell River / Great Bear Lake region in accordance with the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA). The Board has decided to invoke paragraph 22(2)(b) of the Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations based on the concerns expressed by the Délnę Got'Inę Government (DGG) in a letter to the Board dated July 27, 2026, and other stakeholder comments submitted as part of the public review of the application.¹

Further, the Board has determined that additional direction and information is necessary to consider the Application. The Board directives are as follows:

¹ See online review system for [Camsell River Project – Jul14 26](#).

Board Directives:

- 1) Further engage DGG in accordance with the *LWB Engagement and Consultation Policy*² and *LWB Engagement Guidelines for Applicants and Holders of Water Licences and Land Use Permits*³;
- 2) Update the Engagement Record (Summary and Log)⁴ and Engagement Plan (as appropriate) to show that meaningful engagement has occurred. Ensure the Engagement Record identifies the concerns and recommendations received and provide specific verifiable details on if these were resolved or remain unresolved and include the proposed mitigation measures and/or the unresolved concerns requiring further work;
- 3) DEMCo to work with DGG to determine an appropriate path forward for any additional Traditional Knowledge information required for this amendment (including whether existing studies are sufficient or whether new work is needed) and provide the following:
 - a. Provide the letter from the community of Déline as described in the SLUP Conformity Table CR#2 (p.22/36 of Project Description).
 - b. Sufficient Traditional Knowledge information.
- 4) The Board finds that the application, as submitted, lacks detail that prevents a complete assessment of the proposed change in project scope. The Board is seeking clarification on camp occupancy, field program scheduling, winter road and access trail design and use, closure and reclamation of new access infrastructure, and the security estimate as identified by CIRNAC-CARD Comment ID #1. Please provide the following information:
 - a. Submit a revised Project Description (or standalone amendment project description) that clearly states:
 - i. The maximum number of persons on site at any one time under both the single-drill and dual-drill scenarios;
 - ii. A detailed camp occupancy schedule (opening, operating, and closing periods for each year of the proposed program; and
 - iii. Confirmation that the 4,000 person-days used in the amendment security estimate are consistent with the stated occupancy and duration.
 - b. Provide a clear, year-by-year description of:
 - i. The anticipated start and end dates for drilling, geophysics, geochemistry, and support activities;
 - ii. Sequencing of activities, including when a second drill would be mobilized; and

² See the Land and Water Boards Website for [LWB Engagement and Consultation Policy](#) and [LWB Engagement Guidelines for Applicants and Holders of Water Licences and Land Use Permits](#).

³ See the Land and Water Boards Website for [LWB Engagement Guidelines for Applicants and Holders of Water Licences and Land Use Permits](#), Appendix E.

⁴ See the SLWB Online Registry for [S25C-001 – Camsell River Project – Drilling Amendment – Engagement Log – Jul7 26](#)

- iii. How the person-days reflected in the amendment security estimate are from the proposed program (including the planned “up to 200” drill holes).
 - c. Submit supplementary information on access infrastructure (Winter Roads, Trails, and Staging) that includes:
 - i. A clear statement of all access methods proposed for the life of the permit, including any future winter road from Gamètì to Hottah Lake to the Camsell River and use of the existing Délı̨nę winter road corridor;
 - ii. For any new or upgraded trails: maximum clearing width, total disturbance footprint, construction methods, and confirmation whether trails will be limited to existing routes or 1.5–5 m widths as previously described;
 - iii. Identification (with updated maps) of all staging areas, temporary camps, fuel caches, and laydown areas, including those within the former Terra Mine Site;
 - iv. Updated maps showing proposed access routes with federal, territorial, Sahtú Settlement Area, and Tlicho land boundaries clearly delineated;
 - v. Confirmation whether any portion of the proposed access requires new clearing or will rely solely on existing trails.
 - d. Submit a revised security estimate that:
 - i. Clearly identifies all changes from the previous estimate and the rationale for each change;
 - ii. Accounts for the full proposed drilling scoped (including up to 200 drill locations), winter road and summer access trail footprints (including staging areas), and the semi-permanent dock;
 - iii. Provides a jurisdictional split (federal vs. territorial) where applicable; and
 - iv. Uses the correct currently held amount as the overlapping figure.
 - e. Revise the Closure and Reclamation Plan to specifically address:
 - i. Closure and reclamation of all winter roads, access trails, staging areas, and fuel caches;
 - ii. Closure and reclamation of the semi-permanent dock referenced in Section 4.3.3 of the Project Description; and
 - iii. Progressive reclamation measures and final reclamation standards for all access-related disturbances.
- 5) Permitting Criteria:
- a. Confirm in writing the rationale used to determine that a Water Licence is not required for this amendment application and any future amendment applications;
 - b. Provide a description of how DEMCo intends to address regulatory requirements for any access that crosses territorial land, Sahtú Settlement Lands, and/or Tlicho Lands, including any necessary authorizations or coordination with other regulators;
 - c. Fill out a Land Use Permit Application Form for the Amendment Application; and
 - d. Include any missed activities and mitigation measures in the Land Use Permit Application Form.
- 6) DEMCo to provide a status update on these documents by November 19, 2026.

The Board considers in-person discussion to be the most meaningful form of engagement and encourage DEMCo and DGG to work together to thoroughly review remaining concerns in-person together with the goal of building consensus.

The Board determined that these further studies and investigations are necessary because the current engagement and consultation record, as contested by DGG, does not provide a sufficiently reliable basis for the Board to understand potential impacts of the proposed land-use operation on the affected lands or on the rights of the Déliné Got'Iné. DGG's internal review process involving multiple governance bodies remains ongoing and is expected to conclude no earlier than mid-September 2026. Pausing the timeline under paragraph 22(2)(b) and section 23.1 of the MVLUR will allow this work to be completed and will enable the Board to make a fully informed decision.

Please contact Benjamin Roy [via email](#) or at (867) 322 6784 with any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Yours sincerely,



Valerie Gordon
Chair, Sahtú Land and Water Board

BCC'd to: Déliné Distribution List
Ibraheem Agbomabini – Resource Management Officer II, GNWT-ECC (Sahtu)
Salina Perry – Manager, Resource Management, GNWT-ECC (Sahtu)
Rick Walbourne – Director, Regulatory and Permitting, GNWT-ECC
Don Arey – GNWT-ECC
Megan Larose – Inspector, CIRNAC