



**FIVE NATIONS ENERGY INC.**



February 28, 2005

**Letter to the Reader/Stakeholder(s);**

This Environmental Study Report (ESR) has been prepared in accordance with the "Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities" process. An expansion of the existing electrical grid is proposed to supply the Victor Project (diamond mine) in the James Bay lowlands with a reliable main power source for the later stage of construction and during mine operations (maximum operational power demand: 20 MW).

Proposed on-site diesel generated power, originally identified through the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) process for the Victor Project, was withdrawn based on community concerns with diesel fuel transport in James Bay and community support for the transmission line. The closest connection to the existing grid is at Attawapiskat (approx. 100 km east of the mine), however the existing line has insufficient residual power.

The Victor Project Power Supply will entail a new 450 km 115 kV transmission line (from Abitibi Canyon Junction to the mine site). It will generally parallel Hydro One and Five Nations Energy Inc. (FNEI's) rights-of-way (ROW) from Abitibi Canyon Junction to Kashechewan, and the South Winter Access Road from Attawapiskat to the site. There are also requirements for a new transformer substation at the mine site and modifications to FNEI's and Hydro One's existing station facilities.

The Victor Project Power Supply environmental assessment (EAs) builds on EAs conducted for the 1997 FNEI Western James Bay Coast Transmission Line and being carried out for the Victor Project, both pursuant to CEAA. New work has included two rounds of community consultations and traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) studies.

The 3 co-proponents of Victor Project Power Supply are: Hydro One, FNEI and De Beers. SNC-Lavalin, with the assistance of Mushkegowuk Lands and Resources Department, has prepared the ESR for AMEC, on behalf of the 3 co-proponents.

If you feel, after reviewing the ESR or through participation in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of Open Houses, that serious environmental concerns exist, you may write the Minister of the Environment to request the project be subject to an Individual EA. This may result in a formal government review and approval process. A copy of your submission must also be sent to each co-proponent.

Yours truly,

**De Beers Canada Inc.**