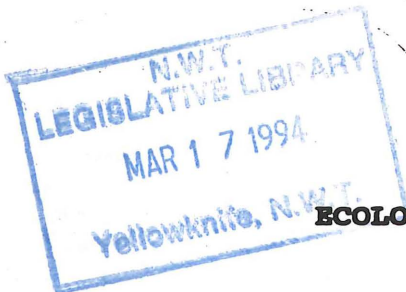


ECOLOGY NORTH



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ECOLOGY NORTH NEWS RELEASE

15 March 1994

Ecology North has been notified by Fasken Campbell Godfrey, legal representatives of De Beers Centenary A.G. ("De Beers"), that legal action will be taken should EN proceed with the public showing of the television documentary, *The Diamond Empire*. EN had planned to show the documentary as part of its regular monthly meeting, but has now postponed the showing of the video.

EN hoped to stimulate public discussion of the environmental implications of diamond exploration and mining in the NWT. Such discussion was wisely initiated in the Legislature of the NWT last week by questions from Members of the Legislative Assembly John Ningark, Sam Gargan, Henry Zoe, and Jim Antoine.

Chris O'Brien, a Director of EN, stated "Ecology North was only trying to encourage public discussion on future mining development in the Northwest Territories. De Beers apparently feels that this film is defamatory". This documentary was recently aired on North American television.

Diamonds have been discovered in the vast tundra region north of Yellowknife. An area one third the size of Alberta has been staked, constituting the largest mining rush in history. Diamond exploration is moving quickly with over 150 companies involved. Bulk sampling for diamonds on several kimberlite pipes is being conducted on at least two properties. Camps of up to 1000 persons are being constructed, and proposals for associated infrastructure such as hundreds of kilometres of new all-weather roads through pristine wilderness are being considered.

De Beers is an international company with a strong interest in diamond mining. It is not known what interests, if any, De Beers has in this new Canadian diamond field.

Formed in 1971, Ecology North is a small environmental organization based in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. Membership is composed of a mix of environmentalists and natural history enthusiasts. Ecology North is dedicated to providing a base for education and information on the northern environment; to fostering public interest and action on northern environmental issues; to providing research, teaching and training on the northern environment and to providing a forum for the discussion of environmental issues. Ecology North's goal is to be an advocate for the wise use and conservation of the northern environment.

Fasken Campbell Godfrey

BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS

John A. Campion
(416) 865-4357

Of the Bars of Ontario and the
Northwest Territories

March 14, 1994

BY TELECOPIER (403) 873-3654

Ecology North
4807 49th Street
Suite 8
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
X1A 3T5

Attention: Mr. Chris O'Brien, Director

Dear Mr. O'Brien:

Re: The Diamond Empire

We have been retained by De Beers Centenary A.G. ("De Beers"). Our client has advised us that it is the intention of Ecology North to show a film known as the "*The Diamond Empire*" on Tuesday, March 15, 1994 in Yellowknife. We have reviewed a newspaper article indicating that the broadcast will be open to the public at no charge. On behalf of De Beers, we hereby inform you that the film contains statements defamatory of De Beers and the Oppenheimer family.

In particular, this film is objectionable on numerous grounds, including but not limited to the following:

- (i) it wrongly suggests that the production of diamonds has been suppressed on the false premise that the supply of diamonds is plentiful;
- (ii) it wrongly makes use of material which has been the subject of a legal dispute between De Beers and the British Broadcasting Corporation;

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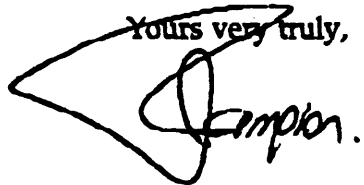
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Fasken Campbell Godfrey

this request. Accordingly, it would be appreciated if you would immediately communicate to us your intention to withdraw this film from public broadcast or other distribution.

Yours very truly,


John A. Campion

JAC/sc