Ministre des Affaires indiennes et
du Nord canadien et interlocuteur fédéral
auprès des Métis et des Indiens non inscrits

Minister of Indian Affairs and
Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor
for Métis and Non-Status Indians

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H4

JAN 2 2 2008

Ms. Gabrielle Mackenzie-Scott
Chair
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact
   Review Board
PO Box 938
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2N7
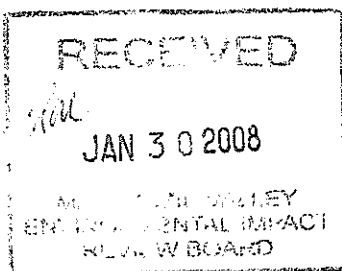
Dear Ms. Mackenzie-Scott:

This is in response to your letter of November 21, 2007. I would like to first thank you for
your welcome at the Board Forum on November 7, 2007. It was a pleasure to speak
with you and to outline my plans for regulatory improvement across the North.

I was very pleased to see your support for the Northern Regulatory Improvement
Initiative and for my appointment of Neil McCrank, as my Special Representative for the
Northern Regulatory Improvement Initiative. My announcement was an important first
step in building a comprehensive agenda for regulatory improvement across the North,
an endeavour that will only be successful if is built on collaboration and has the broad
support of stakeholders.

Departmental officials are currently working with Mr. McCrank to map out his
engagement of groups and individuals over the coming months and I can assure you
that the members of the Board Forum will be included in this engagement.

Collectively and individually your organizations are integral to the regulatory regime
in the Northwest Territories and so your views and recommendations will be
invaluable to Mr. McCrank's engagement and subsequent report development. Your
recommendations about the overall regulatory regime, as well as your views of the
concept of a Major Projects Management Office, will be welcome.

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Once again, thank you for bringing your views to my attention. I look forward to working with you as I continue the development and implementation of my plan for regulatory improvement across the North.

Sincerely,

Chuck Strahl

c.c.:   NWT Board Forum Members