



# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Rare Earth Terminology Editions / Tłıchǫ

Alloying

Solvent Extraction

Pyrometallurgy

Hybrid Car

Benign

Berm

Grind

Heavy Minerals

Organic Reagent

Flotation

Diverse languages and cultures in the North mean interpreters and translators have an important and challenging job. Whether it is explaining what has been said or what has been written, superior translation and interpretation helps people understand and it is important to good decision-making.

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board strongly believes by building the capacity of interpreters and translators, communities, industry, government and regulators can be more confident that what is being communicated has been accurately translated.

At the Review Board's interpreter/translator workshops, the participants discuss English words and ways to explain them in their aboriginal language. The result is a glossary of terms, which contains the English concepts and ideas and the aboriginal-language equivalents.

This glossary of terms is the result of the Review Board's sixth translator workshop, which focused on developing terminology for the rare earth minerals industry. The Yellowknives Dene, with the support of the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor) generously sponsored the workshop.

The translations included in this glossary may require further revisions depending on how the words are used during interpretation and translation. Because the Review Board has not been able to work with and record each dialect, translators are encouraged to speak to elders and community experts for translations. The glossary provides spaces for interpreters and translators to write in their own translations, correct errors, or add general notes.

This glossary can be downloaded from the Review Board's website, in the reference library, at [reviewboard.ca](http://reviewboard.ca).



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## Decline or Ramp

Tunnel going underground starting from surface and gradually going deeper, at an angle that allows trucks to go up and down.

Dèyìi gòʔa

### Back Translation

Land, inside, direction.

Notes:

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## Conveyor

A continuous belt running on wheels, often from underground and running up the ramp to bring material to the surface. Also used to move materials around a plant/mill.

*e.g.: a bit like an escalator without steps.*

Whe, wet'à kwe hàzhe

### Back Translation

Belt, with it rocks is taken out.

Notes:

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## Metallurgy

The engineering work that processes rock to obtain the valuable materials – minerals and metals. Also the engineering work to make alloys (mixtures) of metals or other elements.

Kwe ts'ò, satsò kàʔa hagele wet'à asii hohlè

### Back Translation

Metals, different kind, with it something is made.

Notes:

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## Hydrometallurgy

Extraction of valuable elements from minerals using liquid like water and acid.

Tì wet'à satsò kaʔà, kwe ts'ò hàzhe

### Back Translation

Water, with it, minerals is extracted.

Notes:

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## Pyrometallurgy

Extracting of valuable elements from minerals using fire.

Kwe, giìwhii, xè satsò kaʔà hàzhe

### Back Translation

Rock, heated, with different minerals, extracted.

Notes:

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## Mill/Plant

A part of a mine operation where metallurgy is done – the rock is crushed (milled) like wheat, and then the flotation occurs to separate the minerals.

Kwe, nàgedede kò

### Back Translation

Rocks, process, building.

Notes:

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**Fuel**

*e.g.: gasoline, diesel*

Tłe

**Back Translation**

Fuel

Notes:

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**Flotation**

Using special compounds, a bit like soaps, that make bubbles, that minerals selectively float on.

Wet'à satsò kaʔà daèle

**Back Translation**

With it, different minerals floating.

Notes:

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**Refining**

Taking a mineral, compound or element, and purifying it – taking out the material that does not belong.

Satsò kaʔà deèdlj hàzhe

**Back Translation**

Different minerals pure, extracted.

Notes:

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## Solvent Extraction

Removing something (like metal) from a solution by putting a different solution in a contact with it, where the thing (like a metal) prefers to be.

Tì wet'à satsò kaʔà eʔek'àniizhe

### Back Translation

Water with, minerals, extracted.

Notes:

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## Recycling

Convert waste into reusable material.

Wet'à satsò kaʔà daèle

### Back Translation

Asii wet'àanahot'ì.

Notes:

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## Mineral Concentrate

Material consisting of the valuable minerals in a rock separated from minerals that have little or no value.

Kwe ts'ò satsò deèdlj hàzhe

### Back Translation

Rock, from, different minerals, extracted.

Notes:

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## Heavy Minerals

Minerals that are heavier than a typical mineral. Technically, the same volume of a heavy mineral maybe as much as twice as heavy as a typical common minerals.

Satsò kaʔà nèdaa

### Back Translation

Different minerals, heavy

Notes:

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## Fault

A crack through the earth where two bodies of rock have moved relative to one another.

Kwe,ʔatsjɗla

### Back Translation

Rock splits

Notes:

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## Acid

Water (solution), which has an excess of hydrogen ions. Can dissolve some substances. Can be strong or weakly acid. *e.g.: Lemon juice is acid, coca cola is acid.*

Naèdiʔj

### Back Translation

Toxic chemicals

Notes:

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**Neutral pH (water)**

Water (solution) where there is an exact balance between acid (for example, coca cola) and alkali (for example, salt).

Ti

**Back Translation**

Water

Notes:

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**Organic Reagent**

A chemical, usually liquid, that is made from a compound that has used to have it origin in a living material but now means that the main building block of the compound is carbon atoms.

Asii eda-le ts'ò asii hohłè

**Back Translation**

Something alive from, something is being made

Notes:

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**Inert or benign**

A substance that, in less or more quantities, has a harmful effect on life (animal or plant). Toxicity may vary with amount. Some substances are toxic at almost any levels; others are only toxic at high amounts.

Natsò-le, eyits'ò weghò hojj-le

**Back Translation**

It's weak and not harmful

Notes:

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## Development

A project (industry or civil) that is advancing through studies or building. Usually implies that actual physical activity is taking place, such as building.

Dè k'e eghàlahoda

### Back Translation

On land, there is development

Notes:

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## Environmental Stewardship

Taking responsibility for the environment to ensure that a physical activity (building, mining exploration) does not have undue negative effect on the environment. It suggests taking into account environmental issues all the time.

Dè tsjwi ch'aa wek'ets'edi

### Back Translation

Land, damage, from, we protect

Notes:

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## Hybrid Car

A car that has two motors – a normal gasoline motor, plus an electric motor and can be on the electric motor to save gasoline.

Satsòbehchj, t'le eyits'q iìdikò t'à et'le

### Back Translation

Vehicle, gas and electricity with it operates

Notes:

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## Renewable Energy

Any naturally occurring theoretically inexhaustible source of energy, as biomass, solar, wind, tidal, wave, a hydroelectric power that is not derived from fossil or nuclear fuel.

Dè ts'ò wet'a asii et̄e yagihts̄

### Back Translation

Land from, with it, something is made.

Notes:

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## Solar Energy

Energy derived from the sun in the form of solar radiation.

Sadèkò nidi

### Back Translation

Solar energy.

Notes:

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## Stockpile

A supply of material in mining, usually a large supply of some rock or concentrate held in reserve for use during a shortage or during a period of higher prices. May be lower metal content than the normal mined rock.

Kwe whet̄i

### Back Translation

Stockpile

Notes:

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## Wind Turbine

A turbine powered by the wind. Turbine: any various machines having a rotor, usually with vanes or blades, driven by the pressure momentum, or reactive thrust of a moving fluid, as steam, water, hot gases, or air, either occurring in the form of free jets or as fluid passing through and entirely filling a housing around the rotor.

Nihtsi t'a sats'ò etlè

### Back Translation

Wind with, turbine operates.

Notes:

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## Alloying

To mix (metals or metals with non metals) so as to form an alloy.

Satsò kaʔa' ełeta ageʔi

### Back Translation

Different metal, is mixed.

Notes:

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## Barge

A capacious, flat-bottomed vessel, usually intended to be pushed or towed, for transporting freight or passengers.

Ela cho

### Back Translation

Big boat.

Notes:

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**Berm**

Bank of earth in mining usually placed in order to contain a body of water, tailings or other similar material. Often to prevent drainage from the material into the natural environment or to prevent water flowing into the body.

ʔeʔe

**Back Translation**

Berm

Notes:

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**Corduroy  
(as in drill trails, roads, etc.)**

Constructed of logs laid together transversely, as a road across swampy ground.

Dechj t'à tsoa k'e etq hohʔe, dè ts'jwi ch'aa

**Back Translation**

Over swamp trail is made with logs.

Notes:

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**Driller/Helper**

The person in charge of a drill at an exploration project or mine.

Kwe yìigoìdedòq

**Back Translation**

Rock, inside drill, person.

Notes:

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## Energy Efficient

Using energy (electricity, fuel) in such a way as not to waste it.

lìdikò, t̄e wek'enets'e7a

### Back Translation

Electricity, fuel, use efficiently.

Notes:

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## Environment

Ecology, the air, water, minerals, organisms, and all other external factors surrounding and affecting a given organism at anytime.

Yat'a, ti, dè, asiì hazhò eda

### Back Translation

Air, land all living factors.

Notes:

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## Gases of Air Quality

A measurement of the pollutants in the air; a description of healthiness and safety of the atmosphere.

*e.g.: Smog is a mixture of pollutants, principally ground-level ozone and produced by chemical reactions, that greatly affects air quality.*

Nits'ih wexèsihjà

### Back Translation

Air, we measure.

Notes:

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**Grind**

To reduce to fine particles, as by pounding or crushing, bray, triturate, or pulverize.

Kwe, t̀è lanì nàagede

**Back Translation**

Rock, flour like, grind.

Notes:

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**Limestone**

A sedimentary rock (formed in water, not in volcanoes) consisting predominantly of calcium carbonate, varieties of which are formed from the skeletons of marine microorganisms and coral; used as building stone and in the manufacture of lime.

Tetsàkw'ò kwe

**Back Translation**

Aquatic microorganisms rock.

Notes:

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**Permanent Magnet**

A magnet that retains its magnetism after being removed from an external magnetic field. Magnet; a body, as a piece of iron or steel that possesses the property of attracting certain substances, as iron.

Satsò ełets'ò et'ii

**Back Translation**

Metal, steel, toward, it pulls.

Notes:

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## Reagent

A substance that, because of the reactions it causes, is used in industrial processes and chemical analysis.

Asii ełetaʔats'ehʔi t'à łàdj at'j

## Back Translation

Substance, is mixed and chemical reactions changes.

Notes:

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## Spill Kit

Tools and equipment, organized into a bag or case, used to clean up spills of industrial materials such a diesel fuel, grease, etc.

Wet'à sinagoʔi gøht'ø

## Back Translation

With it, cleanup kit.

Notes:

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## Supply Chain

Any sequence of processes involved in the production and distribution of a commodity – for example iron, is mined, then transported to a steel mill where it is made into steel, and then the steel is sold to a car body and finally the car is sold to the final customer.

Kwe ts'ò satsò kaʔà t'à ełek'èda asii hołè

## Back Translation

Rock from, different minerals, with it, something is produced in order.

Notes:

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## Technology (mining)

Knowledge that deals with the creation and use of technical means (machines) and their interrelations with life, society and the environment, drawing upon which subjects as industrial arts, engineering, applied science, and pure science.

Sòmbak'è hohlè nàawo

### Back Translation

Mining technology.

Notes:

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## Water Conservation

Careful use of water in order not to waste it. Such as reducing use, recycling.

Ti wekenehots' eɔ̀-wet'ànahot'j

### Back Translation

Water, conserve-recycle.

Notes:

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## Acid Plant

An industrial operation to make acid (see acid) – especially by burning sulphur to make sulphuric acid.

Naèdiłj (acid) hohlè k'è

### Back Translation

Poisonous chemicals, place where it is produced.

Notes:

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**Communications**

Means of sending messages, orders, etc., including telephone, telegraph, radio and television.

Wet'à eleyatits'eedi

**Back Translation**

Communications

Notes:

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**Control Technician (in the mill)**

The person in the mill part of a mining operation, who controls the operation, usually sitting at a computer screen where there is information about everything that is happening in the process.

Kwe naèdekò, gha satsò k'èdidòq

**Back Translation**

Mill, for, technician.

Notes:

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**Crush**

To squeeze or pound into small fragments or particles as ore, stone, etc. – at a mine there is usually equipment with large steel plates (“jaws”) that smash the rock into small pieces, from where it goes into the rotating mill.

Kwe tageezhii

**Back Translation**

Rock is crushed.

Notes:

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## **Detonators**

Device, as percussion cap, used to make another substance explode. The detonator just makes a small exploration, which causes the big one.

Wet'à kwe naàk'è, wek'èets'ihchi

## **Back Translation**

With it rock explode.

Notes:

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# Index

## A

Acid 8  
Acid Plant 17  
Alloying 12

## B

Barge 12  
Benign 9  
Berm 13

## C

Communications 18  
Control Technician (in the mill) 18  
Conveyor 4  
Corduroy (as in drill trails, roads, etc.) 13  
Crush 18

## D

Decline 4  
Detonators 19  
Development 10  
Driller 13

## E

Environment 14  
Environmental Stewardship 10  
Energy Efficient 14

## F

Fault 8  
Flotation 6  
Fuel 6

## G

Gases of Air Quality 14  
Grind 15

## H

Heavy Minerals 8  
Helper 13  
Hybrid Car 10  
Hydrometallurgy 5

## I

Inert 9

## L

Limestone 15

## M

Metallurgy 4  
Mill 5  
Mineral Concentrate 7

## N

Neutral pH (water) 9

## O

Organic Reagent 9

## P

Permanent Magnet 15  
Plant 5  
Pyrometallurgy 5

## R

Ramp 4  
Reagent 16  
Recycling 7  
Refining 6  
Renewable Energy 11

## S

Solar Energy 11  
Solvent Extraction 7  
Spill Kit 16  
Stockpile 11  
Supply Chain 16

## T

Technology (mining) 17

## W

Water Conservation 17  
Wind Turbine 12



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