

## **News Release**

January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011

## The Mackenzie Valley Review Board recommends approval of the proposed TNR Gold Corporation Ltd. mineral exploration project

YELLOWKNIFE – On January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) submitted its *Report of Environmental Assessment* on the proposed TNR Gold Corporation Ltd. mineral exploration project to the Honourable John Duncan, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. TNR Gold proposes to complete a mineral exploration-drilling project of up to 15 holes on the Moose Property lease area on the north shore of Great Slave Lake in the NWT approximately 115 km east-southeast of Yellowknife. Lithium and tantalum will be the focus minerals.

To make its decision in this environmental assessment, the Review Board relied upon all the information on the public record. It is the Review Board's opinion that the proposed TNR Gold Mineral Exploration Project at Moose Property is not likely to cause significant adverse impacts or to be a cause of significant public concern if the developer implements the mitigation commitments outlined in the Review Board's *Report of Environmental Assessment*.

In its decision, the Review Board noted that:

- the scale of the proposed project is relatively small, the activities proposed involve common exploration techniques and the developer has committed to mitigation measures which address the specific issues of concern identified in the environmental assessment;
- the developer has committed to conducting archaeological site visits involving the communities and the Prince of Whales Wales Northern Heritage Centre;
- there is little evidence to suggest that any impacts on traditional harvesting in the Moose Property area will be significant;



- this exploration project is not likely to cause significant socio-economic impacts, and
- the standard terms and conditions in the Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations are effective for the mitigation of negative impacts from development activities such as campsite operations and clean-up, restoration and equipment removal.

The decision is in accordance with subsection 128(1)(a) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act.* This development may proceed to permitting, subject to the ten-day waiting period set out in section 129(a) of the Act.

## About the Review Board

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board was established by the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* in 1998 as an independent administrative tribunal responsible for the environmental impact assessment process in the Mackenzie Valley, Northwest Territories. As a comanagement board, aboriginal land claim organizations nominate half of the board members, and the federal and territorial governments nominate the other half of the board members. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Canada appoints all the members to the Review Board.

## For further information, please call:

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