



Nov. 2008 Vol. 4 No. 11

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's mission is to conduct quality environmental impact assessments that protect the environment and the social, economic, and cultural well being of the residents of the Mackenzie Valley and all Canadians.

Review Board unveils new look

The Review Board is pleased to officially unveil its new look in this month's issue of Valley Talk. As part of a branding exercise, the Review Board has developed a consistent visual identity to reflect its purpose, processes and decisions to its audiences. The Review Board has never before taken such a dedicated look at what it is conveying through its communications work in the Mackenzie Valley and the rest of Canada. The Review Board initiated this branding exercise to make sure it is dedicating its limited time and resources on best ways of communicating with the right people.

This branding exercises has resulted in a "cosmetic" make over of the website, Valley Talk and other publications, and it also

INSIDE

- Active environmental assessments
- Cancelled environmental assessment
- Active environmental impact reviews
- EAs/EIRs waiting for ministerial approval
- This is what we do: EIA, PS, EA, EIR

included the development of key branding principles, which the Review Board will be mindful of when carrying out its activities.

The most notable visual change was made to the Review Board's logo. While still keeping the symbolism contained within the logo, the Review Board hopes the text change, which now emphasizes "Review Board", will help people visually differentiate the Review Board from other co-management boards in the Mackenzie Valley.

The other components of the brand include a standard color pallet, a new website address: reviewboard.ca and the use of angled boxes to symbolize the various viewpoints the Review Board has to consider when doing its job. The Review Board hopes the end result of all this work will be that its audiences are able to quickly identify the Review Board products and communications as such.

Feel free to visit the revamped Review Board website at its new website address: reviewboard.ca



- Proposed development in environmental assessment or environmental impact review

Want more info?

Visit reviewboard.ca and click our **Interactive Map**



Active environmental assessments



► Yellowknife Gold Project

Tyhee NWT Corp.

EA0809-003

Status: Analyzing scoping evidence

This is a proposed open pit gold mine, located 88 kilometres north of Yellowknife, near the



Tyhee representatives explaining their project to the audience at the Yellowknife Gold Project issues scoping session held in October

old Discovery mine site. The Review Board is reviewing the evidence from the scoping exercises to decide how the environmental assessment should proceed.

► Prairie Creek Mine

Canadian Zinc Corporation

EA0809-002

Status: Analyzing scoping evidence

This is a proposed underground lead-zinc mine, located in the Mackenzie Mountains within the South Nahanni River watershed, and in proximity to the Nahanni National Park Reserve. The Review Board is reviewing the evidence from the scoping exercises to decide how the environmental assessment should proceed.

► Giant Mine Remediation Project

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada EA0809-001

Status: Analyzing scoping evidence

This is a proposed development to reclaim the Giant Mine site, located within the City of Yellowknife. The development includes the future disposition of 237,000 tonnes of arsenic trioxide currently stored underground. The Review Board is reviewing the evidence from the scoping exercises to decide how the environmental assessment should proceed.

► Taltson Hydroelectric Expansion Project

Dezé Energy Corporation Ltd.

EA0708-007

Status: Waiting for Developer's Assessment Report; Terms of Reference were issued in March 2008

This proposed development adds 36 megawatts of power generating capacity to the Taltson Twin Gorges Plant and includes a 690 kilometre transmission line to the diamond mines. The Review Board is waiting for Deze Energy Corp. to submit its Developer's Assessment Report. The Review Board anticipates this report no earlier than the end of November.

► Mineral Exploration at Howard's Pass

Selwyn Resources Ltd.

EA0708-001

Status: Second round of information requests

This is a proposed mineral exploration program on the NWT and Yukon border. The Review Board is reviewing responses to its first round of information requests and has issued a second round of information requests to the developer.

Cancelled

► Hunter Bay Mineral Exploration

Hunter Bay Minerals Inc.

EA0708-006

Status: Cancelled

This is a proposed mineral exploration program in the McTavish arm of Great Bear Lake. The Review Board has cancelled the environmental assessment of this development and closed the file.



Active environmental impact review



- ▶ **Gahcho Kué Diamond Mine**
De Beers Canada Inc. EIR0607-001
Status: Waiting for Environmental Impact Statement; Terms of Reference were issued in October 2007

The Review Board established the independent Gahcho Kue Review Panel to review this proposed diamond mine near Kennady Lake. The Panel is waiting for De Beers to submit its Environmental Impact Statement, anticipated in the late fall of 2008.

- ▶ **Mackenzie Gas Project**
Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Ltd. EIR0405-001
Status: The Joint Review Panel is drafting its Report of Environmental Impact Review

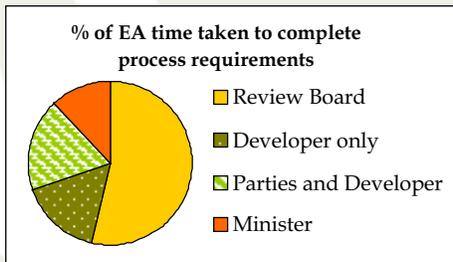
The Review Board, the federal Minister of Environment and the Inuvialuit Game Council jointly established the Joint Review Panel to independently review this proposed gas pipeline. Visit www.ngps.nt.ca for more information.

Waiting for ministerial approval

Reports submitted in 2008

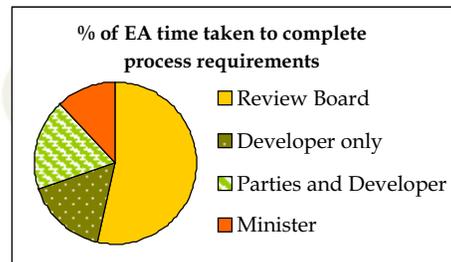
- ▶ **Crab Lake Mineral Exploration**
Bayswater Uranium Corp. EA0708-005
Status: Waiting for ministerial approval

This is a proposed mineral exploration program in the Dubawnt River Watershed. On September 12, 2008, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers allow this proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its *Report of Environmental Assessment*.



- ▶ **EL Lake Mineral Exploration**
Bayswater Uranium Corp. EA0708-004
Status: Waiting for ministerial approval

This is a proposed mineral exploration program in the upper Thelon River watershed. On September 12, 2008, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers reject this proposed development without ordering an environmental impact review. The Review Board is of the opinion the proposed development will cause significant adverse cultural impacts on Aboriginal people by impacting an area of very high spiritual importance.





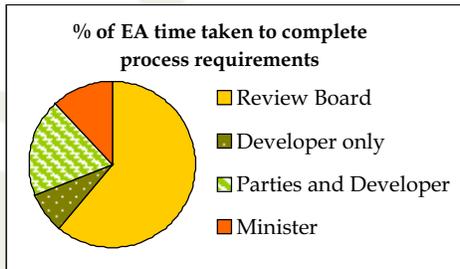
Waiting for ministerial approval cont'd

▶ North Boomerang Lake Mineral Exploration

Uravan Minerals Inc. EA0708-003

Status: Waiting for ministerial approval

This is a proposed mineral exploration program in the upper Thelon River watershed. On September 12, 2008, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers reject this proposed development without ordering an environmental impact review. The Review Board is of the opinion the proposed development will cause significant adverse cultural impacts on Aboriginal people by impacting an area of very high spiritual importance.

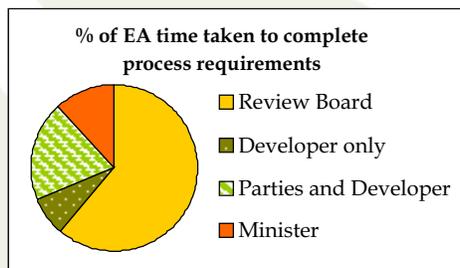


▶ South Boomerang Lake Mineral Exploration

Uravan Minerals Inc. EA0708-002

Status: Waiting for ministerial approval

This is a proposed mineral exploration program in the upper Thelon River watershed. On September 12, 2008, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers reject this proposed development without ordering an environmental impact review. The Review Board is of the opinion the proposed development will cause significant adverse cultural impacts on Aboriginal people by impacting an area of very high spiritual importance.



▶ Mineral Exploration Program

Sidon International Resources Corp. EA0506-006

Status: Waiting for ministerial approval

This is a proposed mineral exploration program at Defeat Lake. On February 6, 2008, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers allow the proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its *Report of Environmental Assessment*.



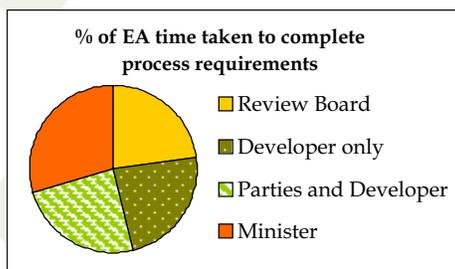
Reports submitted in 2007

▶ Mineral Exploration Program

Consolidated Goldwin Ventures Inc. EA0506-005

Status: Waiting for ministerial approval

This is a proposed diamond exploration program in the area of Drybones Bay. On November 30, 2007, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers allow the proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its *Report of Environmental Assessment*.





Waiting for ministerial approval cont'd

Reports submitted in 2006

► SDL-8 2D Geophysical Program

Paramount Resources Ltd. EA0506-007

Status: Waiting for ministerial approval

This is a proposed oil and gas geophysical program in the Cameron Hills area. On November 14, 2006, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers allow this proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its *Report of Environmental Assessment*.



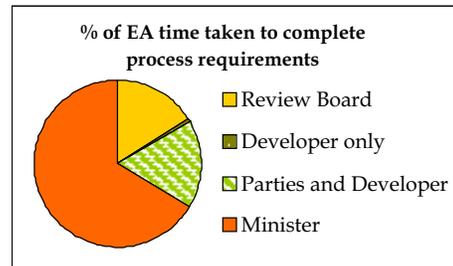
Reports submitted in 2005

► Dehcho Geotechnical Survey

Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Ltd. EA0304-009

Status: Waiting for ministerial approval

This is a proposed oil and gas geotechnical program in the Dehcho region. On February 28, 2005, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers allow this proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its *Report of Environmental Assessment*. In June 2005, the Minister of INAC initiated the consult-to-modify process. The Review Board continues to wait for feedback from the ministers.



This is what we do: EIA, PS, EA, EIR



In our field of work, there are many terms commonly used which sound similar and are therefore confusing. What exactly is the difference between environmental impact assessment, preliminary screening, environmental assessment and environmental impact review anyway?

Environmental impact assessment is the whole process that happens before the regulatory stage and before a permit, licence or authorization is given for proposed developments. This process,

includes preliminary screening, environmental assessment and environmental impact review. It is designed to prevent significant adverse impacts on the environment and protect the well being of residents in the Mackenzie Valley. It is also designed to ensure that the concerns of Aboriginal people and other members of the public are considered.

There are three stages of review in the environmental impact assessment process, each of which builds upon the other for a more detailed look at the development. At the end of each stage, a decision is made about whether or not to allow the development to proceed to the regulatory phase for permitting, licensing or authorization.



This is what we do cont'd

The first stage is called preliminary screening, which is done by a land and water board, or other regulator. If the preliminary screener thinks that a proposed development might cause significant adverse impacts or public concern, then it is referred to environmental assessment. Otherwise, in 95% of the cases, the application is sent on to the regulatory phase.

The Review Board does environmental assessments, the second stage. The Review Board looks closely at the work done in the preliminary screening and at possible environmental impacts or public concern. If the proposed development is likely to have significant adverse impacts or public concern then it can be rejected or ordered to the highest level of review. If not, then the application can proceed to the regulatory phase.

Environmental impact review is highest level and it is done by an independent panel. Review Board members may be appointed to the panel, and so can new people with expertise in the issues being looked at. If the proposed development is likely to have significant adverse

impacts or public concern, then it can be rejected. If not, then the application can proceed to the regulatory phase.

Hopefully this clears up some of the confusion. If you still need clarification, you can go to reviewboard.ca and visit the "About us" and "Reference Library" sections.

- *Jessica Simpson*

Community Liaison Officer

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Suite #200, Scotia Centre, 5102-50th Avenue
Box 938, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

Telephone: (867) 766-7050

Facsimile: (867) 766-7074

Toll-free: 1-866-912-3472

Web: mveirb.nt.ca

To automatically subscribe to this newsletter, visit our website and click "Subscriptions" or email Renita Jenkins, Manager of Communications at rjenkins@mveirb.nt.ca

Three Levels of Environmental Impact Assessment

