

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

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Fax : (867) 920 - 4761

Our File EA00-004

July 3, 2001

To: Distribution List

Re: Paramount Resources Cameron Hills Environmental Assessment - EA Submission Conformity

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) received conformity analysis submissions from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and Environment Canada. The submissions are attached to this letter.

The Review Board will consider these submissions and decide whether or not to issue a deficiency statement that would require Paramount to provide additional information to supplement their EA submission.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please call me at 867-873-9193.

Sincerely,



Joe Acorn
Environmental Assessment Officer

Att. Conformity Analysis Letters

Vern Christensen	Executive Director	(867) 873-9029	exec@mveirb.nt.ca
Bridgette Larocque	Finance and Administration Officer	(867) 873-5257	fao@mveirb.nt.ca
Joe Acorn	Environmental Assessment Officer	(867) 873-9193	eao2@mveirb.nt.ca
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ATTACHMENT

June 26, 2001

RE: Comments on Paramount Resources Cameron Hills Drilling Environmental Assessment - EA Report Conformity.

**Prepared for: The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB).
Prepared by: The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND).**

The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) is pleased to provide its technical knowledge and assistance to the Review Board on the above-mentioned proposal. The purpose of the comments is to assist the MVEIRB in carrying out its EA Report Conformity with respect to the Golder Associate Report: "Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) In Response to the Terms of Reference for the Cameron Hills Drilling Project" and the final EA Work Plan and Terms of Reference (amended June 15, 2001).

We have reviewed the EIA report specifically from a conformity analysis perspective, to determine whether it has provided the requested information in the Terms of Reference. We agree that for the most part, the EIA report is in conformity with the TOR except possibly in a few areas, as indicated below. In DIAND's opinion, the information supplied in the EIA report is sufficient from a conformity analysis perspective for the MVEIRB to proceed with its review. For ease of reference, our comments follow the same numbering system as in the EIA Report.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report

4.1.3 Tenure

Conformity is addressed through the attached map which shows the location of surface leases. For completeness and ease of review, it would be useful to include the land tenure references that relate to the leases or other tenure authorisations referred to in Section 3 of the report.

As well, DIAND's information is that Paramount has applied to change the status of some of their leases from INACTIVE to ACTIVE wellsites and this application for change has gone out for consultation. It would be useful to identify on the mapped leases which of those leases relate to the current project and if the stated purpose is now to be changed from inactive wells to production purposes.

4.1.10 Cumulative Impact

Many of our reviewers had trouble accessing digital data specifically the maps which allowed an assessment of the spatial boundaries for cumulative effects assessment.

The developer has noted that no information is available for other non-oil and gas projects in the area, potentially due to confidentiality aspects of mining authorisations. Known developments in the area including other oil and gas developments should factor in to the

determination of the spatial boundary selected.

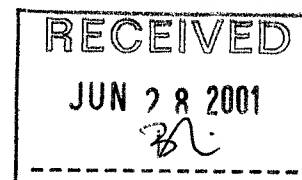
Some discussion or explanation should be provided on the criteria for the determination of whether an impact is significant or not.

The developers assessment of the temporal boundaries for the seem inadequate as presented on the top of page 69 section 10.1. Temporal boundaries would normally follow the life cycle of the project (exploration, construction, operations abandonment) to the point when any VECs impacted have recovered to pre-disturbance conditions.



Environment Canada
Environnement Canada

Environmental Protection Branch
Suite 301, 5204 - 50th Avenue
Yellowknife, NT X1A 1E2
Phone: (867) 669-4700



June 27, 2001

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
PO Box 938
Yellowknife, NT
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By Facsimile: (867)-920-4761

Attention: Joe Acorn

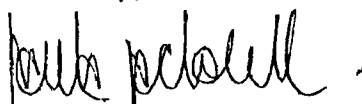
Re: Paramount Resources Cameron Hills Environmental Assessment Submission Conformity

It appears that the issues in the Terms of Reference raised by Environment Canada were addressed in the Environmental Impact Assessment (submitted in June 2000).

At this point the technical merit of the EIA has not been assessed. EC will provide a technical review by July 13, 2001.

You may contact me for any further correspondence regarding this file at (867) 669-4743 or by email, paula.pacholek@cc.gc.ca

Sincerely,


Paula Pacholek,

cc: Stephen Harbicht, Head of Environmental Assessment and Monitoring
Dave Fox, Data Analyst, MSC, AHSD