

WG PR

NEB File: 9180-W730-2
MVEIRB File: EA02-002
10 April 2003

Mr. Alan Ehrlich
Acting Manager of Environmental Impact Assessment
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
5105-50th Avenue
Box 938
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
X1A 2N7
Email: aehrich@mveirb.nt.ca

Dear Mr. Ehrlich:

**Environmental Assessment for the WesternGeco Ltd.
Mackenzie and Liard Rivers Seismic Program 2003
National Energy Board (NEB) Information Request No. 1**

Pursuant to our obligations under the *Canada Oil and Gas Operations Act* and the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*, the National Energy Board (NEB) has conducted a review of the Environmental Assessment submitted by WesternGeco to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) for the above noted project. Questions and comments resulting from the review are contained in the attached document, Information Request (IR) No. 1.

We request that WesternGeco provide a response by **2 May 2003 to the MVEIRB and Mr. T.M. Baker, Chief Conservation Officer of the NEB**. Should you have any questions regarding the attached information request, please contact Mieke Vander Valk at (403) 292-5048 or at <mvandervalk@neb-one.gc.ca>.

Yours truly,

T.M. Baker
Chief Conservation Officer

mv/Attachment

c.c. Keith Rosindell, WesternGeco (Canada) Ltd., rosindell1@calgary.westerngeco.slb.com

Attachment 1

**Environmental Assessment for the WesternGeco Ltd.
Mackenzie and Liard Rivers Seismic Program 2003**

National Energy Board (NEB) Information Request No. 1

We request that, if possible, WesternGeco respond no later than 2 May 2003 to the MVEIRB and Mr. T.M. Baker, Chief Conservation Officer of the NEB. Should you have any questions regarding this request for information, please contact Mieke Vander Valk at (403) 292-5048 or at mvandervalk@neb-one.gc.ca.

General Matters

2-1. Reference:

(I) IMG Golder Corporation. 2003. Environmental Assessment for the WesternGeco Mackenzie and Liard Rivers 2D Seismic Program 2003 (February)

- EA Table 6-1 Regulatory Approvals Required for the WesternGeco Delta Seismic Project 2003, pg. 44.

Terms of Reference:

Not applicable

Preamble:

Not applicable

Request:

For future submissions, please change the NEB contact to:

T.M. Baker

Chief Conservation Officer

2-2. Reference:

WesternGeco's response to the NEB IR # 2 for the WesternGeco Mackenzie Delta Marine 2D Seismic Program 2003 portion of this program.

Terms of Reference:

Section 4.16 Accidents and Malfunctions p. 10

Preamble:

Not applicable

Request:

Can WesternGeco please confirm;

- a) That the Spill Response Flowchart and Oil Pollution Prevention Team information provided in question 2-3 of the above referenced IR applies also to the Mackenzie and Liard Rivers portions of this program.

National Energy Board Environmental Matters

2-3. Reference:

(I) IMG Golder Corporation. 2003. Environmental Assessment for the WesternGeco Mackenzie and Liard Rivers 2D Seismic Program 2003 (February)

- EA Section 11 Environmental Protection and Monitoring Table 11-1 (pg. 142-143)
- Section 8.5.1 Special Designated Areas (pg. 84-93)

(II) IMG Golder Corporation. 2002. Environmental Impact Assessment for the WesternGeco Mackenzie River 2D Seismic Program 2002 (April)

Terms of Reference:

Section 4.17 Environmental Protection Plan pg.10

Preamble:

The NEB notes that WesternGeco provides a description of potential project impacts, proposed mitigation, monitoring and other project commitments throughout sections of the EA and the EIA. Table 11-1 (pg 142-143) of the EA provides a summary of the potential project environmental issues and proposed mitigation. However this table does not capture all of the project mitigation committed to in References I and II.

Request:

Please provide a consolidated summary of this information including, at a minimum, the following:

- (a) potential impacts;
- (b) proposed mitigation measures and other project commitments, with reference to location of additional detail provided in sections of the EIA or EA or other Project submissions, where appropriate. Where mitigation or commitments are location specific(e.g., Special Designated Areas identified in section 8.5.1 of Reference I), provide location information in the summary;
- (c) components of the proposed monitoring plans, where appropriate; and
- (d) assignment of responsibility for ensuring compliance with proposed mitigation, project commitments and monitoring to specific job positions associated with the Project.