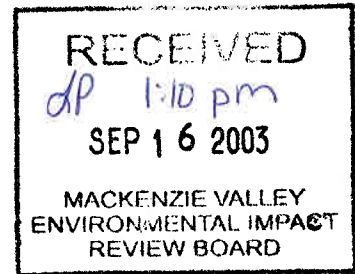




10 September 2003

Mr. Todd Burlingame  
Chairperson  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
PO Box 938  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7



Dear Mr. Burlingame:

**Report of Environmental Assessment and Reasons for Decision for the Northrock Summit Creek B-44 Exploratory Well**

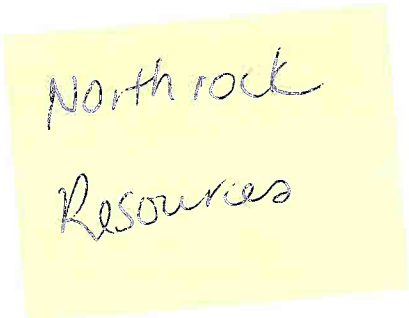
The National Energy Board (NEB) thanks the Members and staff of the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) for the, "Report of Environmental Assessment and Reasons for Decision for the Northrock Summit Creek B-44 Exploratory Well" (EA Report), submitted by the Review Board on 8 August 2003. The EA Report contains the recommendation of the Review Board pursuant to sub-paragraph 128(1)(b)(ii) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA).

The NEB, as the designated regulatory agency under the MVRMA for the above development, has considered the EA Report and, pursuant to paragraph 131(1)(a) of the MVRMA, the NEB adopts the Review Board's recommendation. Consequently, the NEB will proceed with its regulatory process under the *Canada Oil and Gas Operations Act*.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact John Korec, Environmental Assessment Officer at (403) 292-6614. Thank you.

Yours truly,

*for/*   
T. M. Baker  
Chief Conservation Officer



c.c.: The Honourable Mr. Robert D. Nault, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development  
The Honourable David Anderson, Minister of Environment  
The Honourable Jim Antoine, Resource, Wildlife and Economic Development, Government of the Northwest Territories  
Executive Director, Sahtu Renewable Resource Board  
Fort Norman Métis Land Corporation  
Greg Yeoman, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society  
Executive Director, Sahtu Land and Water Board  
Steve Harbicht, Environment Canada  
Robert McLeod, Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development, Government of the Northwest Territories