

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

*Your file: 2620-D-4-7
Our file: EA03-005*

December 9, 2004

National Energy Board
Attention: Terry Baker
Chief Conservation Officer
444 Seventh Avenue
Calgary, Alberta
T2P 0X8

RE: NEB Consult to Modify, Paramount Cameron Hills Extension EA03-005

We are in receipt of your correspondence dated October 15 and October 28, 2004 regarding the proposed modifications to the Review Board's Paramount Resources Ltd. Report of Environmental Assessment (June 1, 2004). The Board has had the opportunity to review your comments and proposed modifications and would like to seek clarification on several points prior to any further discussions:

1. **Scope Determination:** It appears the NEB has changed the scope from what was determined by the Review Board at the outset of the EA, which was in part directed at cumulative effects. The Review Board is seeking clarification as to why the NEB has modified the 'scope determination', as set out in page 1 of 14. The Review Board's intent is that recommendations finally adopted by the DRA apply to all of the development plan reviewed by the MVEIRB, and not just the land use permit and 5 well tie-in project (in keeping with section 131(2) of the MVRMA).
2. In recommendations 2, 3, and 4 NEB uses the terms "appropriate regulatory" or "appropriate government agencies" and "through an approved distribution medium to other members of government and the public". The Review Board would like the NEB to specify its intent through the use of this language.
3. In NEB comments on recommendation 2, it is noted that not all commitments made by Paramount Resources Ltd. have been listed in the Board's Appendix A of the Report of EA. The Board would like to request the comprehensive list of Paramount's commitments used by NEB.

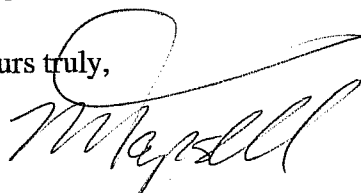
4. In the Board's recommendations 5 and 6, how will NEB ensure mitigation given the revised language proposed?

It is the Board's intent to pursue the consult to modify process with the NEB and the Responsible Ministers in a timely manner. The Board requires the above-noted information in order to continue participation in the process. As you may be aware, the Board is currently seeking comments from the parties to the EA on the proposed wording changes, with a deadline of December 17, 2004. The Board would greatly appreciate a prompt response from your organization as well.

The Review Board's Reference Bulletin, outlining the Review Board's procedures on post-Report of Environmental Assessment consultation, as defined in Sections 130 and 131 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA) is available on the website at www.mveirb.nt.ca.

If you require any further information or wish to seek clarification on this matter, do not hesitate to contact Mary Tapsell, Manager of Environmental Assessment at: (867) 766-7063.

Yours truly,



Mary Tapsell

