



**Environment Environnement
Canada Canada**

Environmental Protection Operations Directorate
Suite 301, 5204 - 50th Avenue
Yellowknife, NT, X1A 1E2

August 28, 2007

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
200 Scotia Centre
Box 938, 5102-50th Ave
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

Our file:

Via email: aehrlich@mveirb.nt.ca

**Re: Consolidated Goldwyn Ventures (EA 0506-05)
Supplementary Information Requests**

The Public Record for Consolidated Goldwyn Ventures (EA 0506-05) closed on May 3, 2007. The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) has made preliminary conclusions about the impacts of the proposed development and is now looking for parties' views regarding proposed mitigation measures. For this reason, the Public Record has been re-opened.

The MVEIRB has noted that there is little quantitative information available on the cumulative changes in the area and further states that this information will be needed to make decisions to manage cumulative impacts of future developments in the area. The MVEIRB reached a preliminary decision that there is public concern regarding cumulative impacts of the proposed development in combination with past, present and reasonably foreseeable future developments.

The Review Board has not concluded that this impact can be mitigated but is considering recommending the following potential mitigation measure:

Requiring a long-term monitoring program, focusing on cumulative effects in Shoreline Zone and resulting impacts on the culture and well-being of the Aboriginal users of the land.

On behalf of Environment Canada (EC), I have reviewed the Supplementary Information Requests for EA 0506-05 circulated by the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board on August 3, 2007 and have the following comments with respect to the file for Consolidated Goldwyn Ventures.

IR Number: 2.5

Subject: Monitoring for Enhanced Management

1. *Please provide your views on the feasibility of these measures.*
Environment Canada supports in principle the implementation of a long-term monitoring program for the Shoreline Zone, but feels that it goes beyond the scope of a single mineral exploration program. There would need to be discussion of the duration of the monitoring program, and of who will be responsible for implementing the program. This discussion should also include what the Aboriginal resource users view as their role in the monitoring program as well as how the resulting data will be evaluated. In this case, it is unclear how in the context of this short-term development, the proponent could be expected to implement a long-term monitoring program. It is also not clear how this measure could be taken forward for implementation in a regulatory instrument. For these reasons, we do not feel it is feasible to take forward this measure as proposed. We propose that this be put forward as a "Suggestion" rather than a "Measure" given the regional nature of the monitoring, and thus set a forum for future discussion and action.
2. *Please provide your views on the capacity of these measures to reduce or prevent the impact described.*
Long-term monitoring can inform Cumulative Effects Monitoring and Management, especially from an ecological perspective. However, given the disparity in time scales the most effective approach may be to define the proponent's monitoring contribution, to be done in the context of the duration of the project,

which will later contribute to a larger regional monitoring program. Such a program could be a topic of discussion between all interested parties (i.e. land managers), as noted above.

3. *Is there any mitigation measure your organization would like to propose instead, or in addition, as a reliable alternative to achieve the same mitigation? If so, please describe why you view it as a feasible and effective mitigation for the impact described above.* EC is not proposing any alternative mitigation.

If the Review Board chooses to recommend such a measure, the report of Environmental Assessment should clearly explain how the measure would be applied to mitigation of potential project specific effects of Consolidated Goldwin Ventures Inc proposed exploration program.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments with regards to the foregoing at (867) 669-4708 or by email at ivy.stone@ec.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Ivy Stone
Environmental Assessment / Contaminated Sites

cc: Carey Ogilvie (Head, Environmental Assessment North, EPOD, Environment Canada, Yellowknife, NT)
Mike Fournier (Northern Environmental Assessment Coordinator, EPOD, Environment Canada, Yellowknife, NT)
Anne Wilson (Water Pollution Specialist, EPOD, Environment Canada, Yellowknife, NT)