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MACPHERSON LESLIE & TYERMAN LLP LAWYERS

Via Fax: 1-867-766-7074

December 10, 2009

MACKENZIE VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD 200 SCOTIA CENTRE BOX 938, 5102-50th AVENUE YELLOWKNIFE, NT X1A 2N7

Attention: Tawanis Testart

Dear Madam:

Re:Talston River Expansion Project (the "Project")Our File:028268-0004

As previously indicated, we are the solicitors for the Carter family.

Our client was very disappointed to learn that the Project was already in front of the MacKenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the "Board") and that it has been set down for final hearings. Despite being the only party that will be directly affected by the proposed Project's impact of Nonacho Lake, the Carters were not contacted or notified by the Board at any time and invited to participate in the review, nor were they made aware of the Board's proceedings and given the opportunity to inquire.

The Carters have operated a tourism enterprise in connection with Nonacho Lake for over 45 years (see <u>www.nonacho.com</u> for more information) and were recently inducted into the Canadian Tourism Hall of Fame (see <u>www.canadiantourismhalloffame.travel</u> for more information). They were the only Northwest Territories residents so honoured.

They are the only inhabitants on Nonacho Lake and accordingly, the only individuals directly impacted by this aspect of the Project. This is specifically noted in the Developer's Assessment Report 2009 in section 6.1.4.5, yet our client was only provided with the Report on December 9^{th} , 2009.

One of the stakeholders in the developer, NWT Energy Corporation (03) Ltd., was contacted by our client regarding the impact of the Project. Concerns were raised with regard to various items, including changes to water level from the new dam and road access into the area. However, except with regard to receipt of the Report noted above, no response has been given by the corporation, no resolution has been developed and our clients' concerns in this matter remain unaddressed.

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Our client is particularly concerned with the impact of the Project on the area in and around Nonacho Lake; we fear that such impact would be detrimental and potentially fatal to our client's operation in and around the lake.

We understand that the Board's review has been ongoing for some time now and that parties have been permitted to request information from the developer regarding the environmental impact of the Project. Further, individuals and entities have been invited to apply for party status. Our client has been deprived of the opportunity to seek additional information regarding the impact the Project will have, and in addition, has not been afforded the time and opportunity to retain its own experts to evaluate the same.

Our office has had recent discussions with the Board's representative and again, despite the fact that our client was not initially contacted regarding this matter, we understand that the Board has scheduled deadlines for final submissions and for final public hearings. Once the aforesaid deadlines and hearing have passed, we understand that it will no longer be possible for the public to participate in the assessment or provide information that may be relevant to the assessment prior to the Board issuing its recommendation.

At this point, we formally request that the Carters be granted official status as a party to this assessment. Please advise if any further steps are required in this regard.

Further, and based on the foregoing, we request that the currently scheduled hearing date and submission deadlines be adjourned in order to provide our clients with an opportunity to properly review all the information submitted to date, request further information from the developer and essentially take those steps that have been available to other parties involved in this matter.

Our client intends on providing both written and oral submissions on this matter. We expect that a member of the Carter family and a representative of our firm will be attending any and all hearing on behalf of the Carters relative to this matter.

We look forward to your response to the above and should you require anything further from us at this time, kindly advise.

Yours truly,

MacPherson Lestie & Tyerman LLP

Per: Pleanor A. Olszewski, Q.C.

cc. Jean Carter

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