



Richard Edjericon
Chairman
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
200 Scotia Centre
Box 938, 5102-50th Avenue
Yellowknife, NT X1 A 2N7

Re: Referral to Environmental Assessment: Application for Land Use Permit for Highway
Right of Way Clearing, KM 1508 to 1478 Proposed Mackenzie Valley Highway

The Department of Transportation (DOT) of the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) submitted an application to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board for the above noted project on February 1, 2013. In its submission, the DOT requested the application and the associated Mackenzie Valley Highway (MVH) Project be referred to environmental assessment under the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA).

Upon further consideration, the DOT would like to exercise its authority under Section 126 (2) (a) of the MVRMA and refer the application and associated MVH Project to environmental assessment. The DOT believes it to be in the best interest of all parties to proceed directly to environmental assessment and initiate an efficient scoping and assessment process.

I trust you will initiate the appropriate actions to commence the environmental assessment for the project. The DOT and its partners in the development look forward to working with the public and the Boards and agencies responsible for review and approval of the MVH to conduct an efficient environmental assessment of the proposed development. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely

Jim Stevens
Director, Mackenzie Valley Highway Project

c: Russell Neudorf, Deputy Minister, Department of Transportation, GNWT
Zabey Nevitt, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
Claimant Group Representatives

