

February 13, 2015

Note to File

EA1213-02

Mackenzie Valley Highway Extension Project, Wrigley to Norman Wells.
Government of the Northwest Territories

To distribution list:

Re: Issuance of the Revised Terms of Reference

The developer and parties are notified of the release of the revised Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Mackenzie Valley Extension Project - Wrigley to Norman Wells.

Background

- December 2013 - The **Review Board issued the ToR** (PR#50) for the proposed 818 km all-weather highway from Wrigley to the Dempster highway near Inuvik.
- August 2014 - The **developer changed the scope of the project** to a 300 km all-weather highway from Wrigley to Norman Wells.
- Due to the change in the project scope, **some of the information requested by the existing ToR was no longer required.**
- September 2014 - The Review Board requested that **the developer review the existing ToR** (PR#50) for conformity with the revised project description and provide proposed edits.
- November 2014 - The **developer's proposed edits on the ToR** were submitted to the Review Board.

Review Board rationale for changes to the ToR

The Review Board gave direction to the developer to review the initial ToR for conformity with the revised project description and provide its proposed edits. When determining which proposed edits to accept the Review Board applied the following questions:

- Is the proposed edit related to the change in the project scope?
- Does the proposed edit clarify the meaning or intent of an existing requirement?

When applying these tests, the Review Board accepted several proposed changes. Some were rejected because they were not supported by the change in project scope. The revised ToR also includes minor grammar and style changes.



Next steps

The next step is for the developer to provide the Developer's Assessment Report which addresses the information requirements set out in the ToR. Once the developer submits its Developer's Assessments Report the Review Board will issue a draft work plan with specific dates for each process step.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Sincerely,

Simon Toogood
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Review Board
Ph: (867) 766-7053
stoogood@reviewboard.ca

