

Prairie Creek All Season Access Road Project EA1415-01

Technical Session
June 13-16, 2016

Yellowknife – Explorer Hotel



Purpose of the technical session

1. Encourage **open discussion** between parties and the developer on scientific and traditional knowledge information (in an informal setting)
2. Seek **clarification** on responses to IR's, DAR adequacy responses or other evidence on the public record
3. Clarify **project description and scope**
4. Describe **scheduling of activities** for all project phases
5. Identify **impacts** from the project on the environment and people
6. Reduce **unknowns** related to potential impacts
7. Focus on which parts of the development are **likely to cause significant impacts**
8. Describe the **valued components** the development will impact and how



Reasons for Decision - Scope of development for Prairie Creek All season Road (Sept 2014)

- EA1415-01 Excludes project components which have been previously assessed and are permitted (EA0809-002)
- Km 0-37.4 was permitted for all season use
- Upgrades in this 37.4 km section are part of the scope of development. Upgrades include:
 - road design standards
 - upgrades to any features
 - any realignment
 - any stream crossings



Reasons for Decision - Scope of development for Prairie Creek All season Road

- Previously assessed components of the project will be considered through the cumulative effects assessment in this EA1415-01
- Relevant material from EA0809-002 will be used in support of the current EA1415-01
- Airstrips within the Nahanni National Park Reserve are not part of the scope of development for EA14115-01 and will not be considered



Responses to information requests

- Review Board is aware parties have not had the opportunity to ask questions about adequacy responses submitted by the developer after December 21, 2015 (April 20, PR#180)
- Parties have the opportunity to question the developer on these responses to adequacy items during this technical session



Workplan - steps that got us here

May 2014	Referral to EA
Jun 2014	Community scoping meetings
Sep 2014	Terms of reference issued
May 2015	DAR submitted
Dec 2015	Board's Reasons for Decision on adequacy of DAR and requirement for outstanding adequacy items
Feb 2016	IRs submitted by parties
Apr 2016	Developer response to outstanding adequacy items
May 2016	Developer response to party IRs



Workplan – next steps

Jun 2016	Technical sessions
Jun 2016	Undertakings
Jul 2016	Information request round 2
Aug 2016	Responses to information requests round 2
TBD 2016	Community technical session on cultural impacts

Hearing Phase

TBD	Risk assessment report from Oboni
TBD	Developer's response to Oboni
TBD	Technical reports from parties



Introductions

- Please share with us:
 - Your **Name**
 - Your **Organization**
 - Your **favourite spot or feature** of the NWT!



Overview of next four days

Monday, Jun 13

- **Opening Remarks**
- **Overview of Project** (CanZin)
- **Broad Project Description Topics** (Access Control; Road Components; Closure & Reclamation)
- **Fish, Water & Water Quality**
- **Vegetation**
- *Taking stock*

Tuesday, Jun 14

- **Effects to: communities, tourism, NNPR**
- **Cultural resources**
- **Wildlife**
- **Traditional harvesting**
- **Project Description** (Road Design)
- *Taking stock*

Wednesday, Jun 15

- **Project description** (as it relates to **water**)
- **Project description** (as it relates to **permafrost** and thaw-sensitive terrain; **slides** and other geohazards; **road** operations and management; **mitigations & alternatives**)
- *Taking stock*

Thursday, Jun 16

- **Project Description** (continued from Wed)
- **Risk assessment**
- *Taking stock*



To make the technical session productive

- The facilitators and Board staff will keep track of **Commitments** and **Undertakings** and review at the end of each day
- Where possible, provide **responses** to questions in a **timely fashion** (1 – 2 minutes)
- Encourage **side-bar meetings** between developer and parties to discuss and resolve issues
 - Parties should report back during the technical session
- If there are **differences of opinion** on what information is required during the EA phase vs. regulatory, the Review Board will make a ruling after the technical session



Logistics for the technical session

- Please be **on time**
- **Informal** and **open** meeting, Board members are not present
- **Transcripts** of meeting are recorded and posted on registry the following day
- If time permits, **additional agenda** items could be added at the end of the day (Parking Lot)
- **State your name** into microphone prior to speaking every time
- Be mindful of **teleconference** participants
- Other **Housekeeping**



How should we work together?

- **Yes Please!**

- What will help us succeed?

- **No Thanks!**

- What should we try to avoid?



Let's get started...



Technical session agenda

Monday June 13, 10:30 am

Presentation - CanZinc

- All season road alignment
- Alignment changes from approved winter road route
- Alignment changes since DAR submission April 2015
- Construction schedule and timing
- Major water course crossings and infrastructure



Technical Session Agenda

Monday June 13, morning

- Access management and control
- Road components
 - Temporary camps
 - Tetcela transfer facility
- Closure and reclamation



Technical Session Agenda

Monday June 13, afternoon

- Fish, water, water quality
- Water withdrawals
- Erosion and sediment control
- Considerations for aquatic species at risk
- Water quality at borrow pits
- Water quality
- Vegetation



Taking Stock

- Review of:
 - Commitments
 - Undertakings
 - Currently Unknown



Welcome to Day 2

- Roundtable of introductions
- Reminder of meeting etiquette
- Review of today's agenda



Technical Session Agenda

June 14 morning through mid-afternoon

- Effects to communities, tourism and NNPR
- Cultural resources including archaeological sites
- Wildlife, including but not limited to
 - Species at risk disturbance mitigations
 - Effects from noise and blasting
 - Boreal caribou
 - Effects assessment methodology
 - Effects from borrow pits
- Traditional harvesting



Technical Session Agenda

Tuesday June 14, afternoon starting around 3 pm

- Project description
 - Road design and alignment
 - Review of proposed alignment and considerations for preferred alignment as it relates to engineering considerations



Welcome to Day 3

- Roundtable of introductions
- Reminder of meeting etiquette
- Review of today's agenda



Taking Stock

- Review of:
 - Commitments
 - Undertakings
 - Currently Unknown



Technical Session Agenda

Wednesday June 15, morning

- Road design
- Project description as it relates to water
 - Sundog Creek realignment
 - Major watercourse crossings
 - Minor watercourse crossings
 - Road footprint within floodplains
 - Potential for road washout
 - Mitigations and alternatives
 - Temporary water crossings



Technical Session Agenda

Wednesday June 15, afternoon

Project description including

- Permafrost and thaw-sensitive terrain
 - Existing conditions
 - degradation, slumping
- Slides and other geohazards
- Road operations and management
 - Traffic, weather
- Mitigations and alternatives



Taking Stock

- Review of:
 - Commitments
 - Undertakings
 - Currently Unknown



Welcome to Day 4

- Roundtable of introductions
- Reminder of meeting etiquette
- Review of today's agenda



Technical Session Agenda

Thursday June 16, morning

Continuation of project description

- Permafrost and thaw-sensitive terrain
 - Existing conditions
 - degradation, slumping
- Slides and other geohazards
- Road operations and management
 - Traffic, weather
- Mitigations and alternatives



Technical Session Agenda

Thursday June 16, afternoon

- Risk assessment
 - Confirmation of the system being assessed
 - Consequence analysis
 - Risk tolerability



Taking Stock

- Review of:
 - Commitments
 - Undertakings
 - Currently Unknown



Reflections on the Technical Session

- What **worked well**?
- What would you **change** if you could do it again?



Workplan – next steps

Jun 2016	Technical sessions
Jun 2016	Undertakings
Jul 2016	Information request round 2
Aug 2016	Responses to information requests round 2
TBD 2016	Community technical session on cultural impacts

Hearing Phase

TBD	Risk assessment report from Oboni
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New baseline or further studies

- Why is this information required to assess the significance of impacts?
- What potential impacts are being considered?
- What project components or activities are associated with the potential impacts?



New baseline or further studies

- Are the proposed mitigation or management activities that already consider these impacts? If so, are they likely adequate? If not, are there other potential mitigations that can mitigate the impacts?
- When is the information required? Immediately, prior to technical reports, during regulatory, prior to construction or operations?



Adjournment

