

**A Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Major Development Projects
Having Transboundary Impacts**

Between

The Department of Environment for the Province of Alberta (herein referred to as "Alberta
Environment")

And

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (herein referred to as the "Review
Board")

(herein referred to collectively as the Parties)

Preamble

WHEREAS the Parties recognize and acknowledge the important differences in the scope of environmental impact assessment in the Mackenzie Valley and in the Province of Alberta resulting from the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* and the *Alberta Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*.

AND WHEREAS the Parties recognize and respect each other's jurisdiction, including their respective responsibilities for environmental impact assessment;

AND WHEREAS the Parties are committed to the exercise of their environmental impact assessment powers and duties in a coordinated and cooperative manner;

AND WHEREAS the Parties believe that the objectives of their respective environmental assessment processes are consistent in both principle and intent;

AND WHEREAS the Parties are conscious of the need to give explicit consideration to environmental factors at an early stage in the decision-making process;

AND WHEREAS the Parties agree that increased knowledge of the regulatory processes of each party allows for more effective participation in the regulated process of each Party;

AND WHEREAS the Parties wish to minimize the significant adverse impacts of development including transboundary developments;

AND WHEREAS the Parties wish to continue their effort to coordinate the environmental impact assessment processes between their respective jurisdictions:

Scope of Memorandum of Understanding

- A. The Review Board and Alberta Environment will notify its counterpart of any project within its jurisdiction that may impact the environment in the other jurisdiction.**

- B. The Review Board and Alberta Environment will share appropriate information about proposed projects and potential impacts.**

- C. Alberta Environment specifically agrees to share appropriate information about proposed projects in the following manner:**
 - i. Alberta Environment shall refer all Proposed Terms of Reference to the Review Board to ensure awareness and to provide an opportunity for the Review Board to be aware of the Proposed Terms of Reference;**

 - ii. Alberta Environment will provide the Review Board with copies of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report for each proposed development, unless otherwise notified by the Review Board;**

 - iii. Alberta Environment will share all project-related information received from the Review Board with other relevant Alberta provincial agencies to enable the agencies with an interest in the project to interact with the Review Board.**

- D. The Review Board specifically agrees to share appropriate information about proposed projects in the following manner:**
- i. The Review Board shall refer all Proposed Terms of Reference to Alberta Environment to ensure awareness and to provide an opportunity for Alberta Environment to be aware of the Proposed Terms of Reference.**
 - ii. The Review Board will provide Alberta Environment with copies of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report for each proposed development, unless otherwise notified by Alberta Environment.**
 - iii. The Review Board will share all project-related information received from Alberta Environment with other relevant Mackenzie Valley agencies to enable the agencies with an interest in the project to interact with Alberta Environment.**
- E. Each Party shall notify the other Party as soon as is practical of a specific project that has a high potential for impacting the other Party's jurisdiction. Upon notification, the Parties will develop a plan for enhanced communications for the specific project.**
- F. The Parties shall develop and share descriptions of the current regulatory processes in their respective jurisdictions.**
- G. The Parties shall review the effectiveness of this Memorandum of Understanding and the procedures described herein on a regular period agreed upon by the Parties.**

H. This Memorandum of Understanding is effective on the last date of signing by the Parties and expires on December 31, 2015, unless renewed by the Parties for a further five year period.

I. Notwithstanding clause H, either Party may withdraw from the Memorandum of Understanding for any reason by giving the other Party advance written notice to that effect.

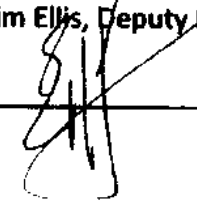
Signed by:

For the Department of the Environment
of the Province of Alberta

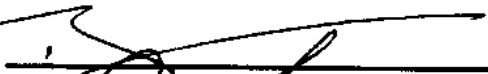


Mr. Jim Ellis, Deputy Minister

Witnessed by:



For the Mackenzie Valley
Environmental Impact Review Board



Mr. Richard Edjerleh, Chairperson

Witnessed by: