



The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's mission is to conduct quality and timely environmental impact assessments that protect the environment and the social, economic, and cultural well being of the residents of the Mackenzie Valley and all Canadians.

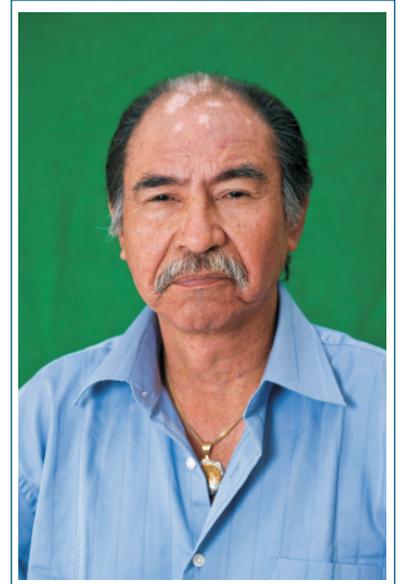
Tlicho Government appoints James Wah-shee to Board

The Review Board is very pleased to announce that Mr. James Wah-shee has been appointed by the Tlicho Government to a position as Member of the Board.

A long-time Northern leader, James Wah-shee has been an active participant in the economic and political development of the Northwest Territories for more than forty years.

He has filled many roles during this time, all of them influential, including terms as President of the NWT Indian Brotherhood, Chair of the Federation of Natives North of Sixty, and Member of the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly, where he also served as Deputy Premier.

No stranger to the business world, Mr. Wah-shee gained executive experience as President of the D e n e d e h Development Corporation, and as a compliment to his Legislative Assembly experience, he served as the negotiator for Self-government for the Dogrib Treaty 11 Council, now the Tlicho Government.



Currently, Mr. Wah-shee is President of the NWT Aboriginal Summit, and also sits on the Board of the Northwest Territories Power Corporation. Residing in Yellowknife, he is a Tlicho citizen and a respected Tlicho elder.

We extend a warm welcome to Mr. Wah-shee.



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- Updates on environmental assessments and reviews

Proposed development in environmental assessment or environmental impact review.

Visit reviewboard.ca and click our **Interactive Map** for more information



Ongoing environmental assessments

► NICO Project

Fortune Minerals Ltd. EA0809-004
Status: Waiting for Developer's Assessment Report

This proposed open pit and underground cobalt-gold-bismuth mine is located approximately 50 km NNE of Whati. Waiting for Fortune Minerals' Developer's Assessment Report, expected in June 2010.

► Yellowknife Gold Project

Tyhee NWT Corp. EA0809-003
Status: Waiting for Developer's Assessment Report

A proposed open pit gold mine, this project is located 88 kilometres north of Yellowknife, near the former Discovery mine site. Waiting for Tyhee's Developer's Assessment Report, expected in the second quarter, 2010.

► Prairie Creek Mine

Canadian Zinc Corporation EA0809-002
Status: Waiting for Developer's Assessment Report

The developer proposes an underground lead-zinc mine located in the Mackenzie Mountains within the South Nahanni River watershed, and in proximity to the Nahanni National Park Reserve. Waiting for Canadian Zinc's Developer's Assessment Report, expected in March, 2010.

► Giant Mine Remediation Project

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada EA0809-001
Status: Waiting for Developer's Assessment Report

This is a proposed development to reclaim the Giant Mine site, located within the City of Yellowknife. The development includes the future disposition of 237,000 tonnes of arsenic trioxide currently stored underground. Waiting for INAC's Developer's Assessment Report, expected in April 2010.

► Taltson Hydroelectric Expansion Project

Dezé Energy Corporation Ltd. EA0708-007
Status: Public Hearings completed

► An expansion proposal to add 36 megawatts of power generating capacity to the Taltson Twin Gorges Plant, the project includes a 690-kilometre transmission line to the diamond mines. The Public Record is now closed. The Board expects to complete the assessment and final report in late spring, 2010.

Right: Translators at the end of the workshop held in Deline, September 2009. Photo by Jessica Simpson.





Completed. Waiting ministerial approval



► Mackenzie Gas Project

Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Ltd. EIR0405-001

Status: Completed. Waiting for ministerial decision

The Review Board, the federal Minister of Environment and the Inuvialuit Game Council jointly established the Joint Review Panel to independently review this proposed gas pipeline. The Responsible Ministers and the NEB are now considering the Joint Review's Panel's recommendations. Their response to the JRP recommendations is required before the regulatory process can begin. For the full report, go to: www.ngps.nt.ca/registryDetail_e.asp.

► Mineral Exploration Program

Sidon International Resources Corp. EA0506-006

Status: Completed. Waiting for ministerial decision

This is a proposed mineral exploration program at Defeat Lake. On February 6, 2008, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers allow the proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its *Report of Environmental Assessment*.

► Mineral Exploration Program

Consolidated Goldwin Ventures Inc. EA0506-005

Status: Completed. Waiting for ministerial decision

This is a proposed diamond exploration program in the area of Drybones Bay. On November 30, 2007, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers allow the proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its *Report of Environmental Assessment*.

Ongoing environmental impact reviews

► Gahcho Kué Diamond Mine

De Beers Canada Inc.

EIR0607-001

Status: Waiting for Environmental Impact Statement; Terms of Reference were issued in October 2007



The Review Board established the independent Gahcho Kué Review Panel to review this proposed diamond mine near Kennady Lake. On November 20, 2009, De Beers informed the Panel it will complete the feasibility study in August 2010 and will file its Environmental Impact Statement in Q4 of 2010.

This is what we do: making wise decisions together



The Review Board takes seriously its commitment to producing timely and quality environmental assessments. By developing timelines, the Review Board can create a balanced and fair approach to environmental assessments.

Timelines are included in the workplan which is usually issued at the same time as the Terms of Reference for the Developer's Assessment Report of the proposed development. All participants, including the developer, communities and government organizations, can comment on the draft workplan, Terms of Reference and timeline before the final versions are issued. This



This is what we do: making wise decisions together

ensures that all involved are aware of the work to be done during the assessment, in what order, including the date, the work needs to be done by, and the kind of information that the Review Board needs to do a thorough assessment.

The workplan, timeline and the Terms of Reference documents are based on the scope of the proposed development and on the scope of the issues identified by the stakeholders that are potentially affected by the proposed development. An “issues scoping session” is one of the first steps in conducting an environmental assessment. Scoping sessions are held in the communities most likely to be affected and are an opportunity for interested people to share their views about the proposed development and its potential impacts.

The Review Board uses the information gained from the scoping sessions to develop the draft workplan, timeline and Terms of Reference which are finalized once participants have submitted their comments. The workplan will clearly identify the process for the environmental assessment, the time frame for the process and the roles and responsibilities of each party. Stakeholder participation in the documents’ development ensures that the process is as fair as possible and addresses the issues most relevant to the environmental assessment. It also works to build a stronger commitment by all parties to the timelines set out in the workplan.

Even the best laid plans sometimes run into problems. Unforeseen circumstances can occur that cause delays in the process. Timelines may be extended because developers, community organizations or government take longer to submit their reports in the early stages of the assessment process, such as the Developer's Assessment Report, technical reports or because of consultation obligations under section 35 of the Constitution Act. On average, the time requirements of the Review Board are similar to those of the Canadian

Environmental Assessment Agency and other similar jurisdictions.

Extending timelines can also have benefit. More time allows for closer scrutiny of the issues, thereby reducing the chances that any are missed, which could cause delays in the process, court action or a lengthy consult-to-modify process after the assessment is completed. Good feedback from participants can improve project design, such as occurred during an assessment completed by the Review Board a couple of years ago. Lastly, capacity issues can be addressed. Community organizations and federal or territorial government departments sometimes need more time to manage their participation in an environmental assessment. It is important that all participants carefully review draft work plans and timelines when they are distributed for comments. Once finalized, these documents are the guidelines need commitment from all to ensure the assessment is completed on time.

By coordinating the planning and scheduling of the assessment process with all stakeholders, we can enhance the timeliness of the environmental assessment process as we “work together to make wise decisions.”

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