



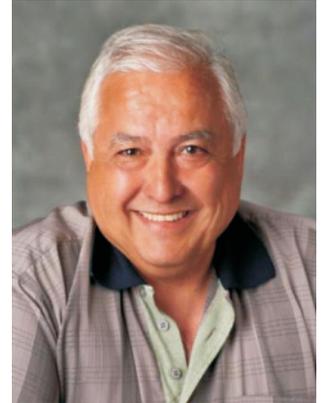
The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's mission is to conduct quality and timely environmental impact assessments that protect the environment and the social, economic, and cultural well being of the residents of the Mackenzie Valley and all Canadians.

Richard Mercredi appointed to Review Board

Mr. Richard Edjericon, Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board, is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Richard Mercredi to the Board.

Mr. Mercredi, nominated by the Government of the Northwest Territories, brings diverse and practical experience to the Board. As a Fort Smith resident, he worked at Public Works and Services for the GNWT for 38 years in a number of positions with increasing responsibility, before eventually becoming Regional Superintendant for Fort Smith in 2000. He filled this position until his retirement in 2008, managing a budget of several million dollars and a staff of 47.

A dedicated community supporter, Mr. Mercredi has served in many volunteer and local community organizations, among them Justice of the Peace, Fort Smith Town Council, Metis Nation of the NWT, Union of Northern Workers shop steward, Fort Smith Hunters and Trapper Association, President of the Fort Smith Ice Fishing Derby, and member of the BQ Caribou Management Board.



Mr. Mercredi is equally dedicated to the environment, and has spent many years trapping and living off the land. He was the Metis representative on the Wildlife Act Review Committee in 2009, and he will bring a valuable perspective on land use and wildlife management practices to the Board based on this experience.

We are very pleased to extend a warm welcome to Mr. Mercredi as a member of the Review Board.



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Proposed development in environmental assessment or environmental impact review.



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. Interested parties have made submissions on the Request for Ruling. The Review Board is reviewing all submissions before making the ruling.

► 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 by the end of this year.

► Prairie Creek Mine

Canadian Zinc Corporation EA0809-002
Status: Information Requests Stage

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. The Information Request process is now underway. Several Information Requests have been received for the Board's consideration.

► 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 the Developer's Assessment Report, expected sometime in the latter half of 2010.

► Taltson Hydroelectric Expansion Project

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

A proposed expansion to add 35 megawatts of power generating capacity to the Taltson Twin Gorges Plant, this project includes a 690-kilometre transmission line to the diamond mines. The Public Record is closed for other aspects of the project. The Review Board is analyzing all information and finishing the report of environmental assessment.

► Nechalacho REE Deposit

Avalon Rare Metals Inc. EA 1011-011
Status: Start up of Environmental Assessment

This proposed rare earth elements mining project is located at Thor Lake, 100 kilometres southeast of Yellowknife, and includes a proposed metallurgical facility at the former Pine Point mine site. The Review Board is starting to plan the scoping sessions.

We'd like to hear from you!

Please read our discussion paper and send us your comments.

"A Framework for Determining Whether a Proposed Development is Likely to be Cause of Significant Public Concern"

You can read it on our website at:

http://reviewboard.ca/reference_lib/index.php?section=32

Please send your comments to: mhaefele@reviewboard.ca





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. The NEB expects to issue its Reasons for Decision in the Fall of 2010. For more information about this process, check the NEB's website at <http://www.neb.gc.ca/clf-nsi/rcmmn/hm-eng.html>.

► 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 in the *Report of Environmental Assessment*. In May, 2010, the INAC Minister advised the Review Board that the Responsible Ministers need more time to review the 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 April 21, 2010, the the minister referred the development back to the Review Board for further consideration. This process is now underway.

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. In May 2010, De Beers was advised that the EIR proceeding has been adjourned, pending receipt of the Environmental Impact Statement(EIS), expected in late 2010. The Panel will reconvene when De Beers files the EIS.

Board Chairperson attends Dene Nation AGM



As part of the Review Board's ongoing community relations program, Board Chairperson Richard Edjericon, attended the Annual General Assembly of the Dene Nation, held this summer at Fort Good Hope, July 12-16. Fine, warm and sunny summer weather greeted the more than 150 attendees who discussed issues and policy direction for the Dene Nation for the coming year. Speakers included Premier Floyd Roland who gave an update on progress on devolution as well as other issues from the territorial government.



This is what we do: starting an EIA



In June, Avalon Rare Metals' Nechalacho Rare Earth Elements project was referred to the Review Board for an environmental impact assessment (EIA). As with most referrals, we received the preliminary screening report and referral notification from the preliminary screener or referral agency, in this case, the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB). They referred it because they found that the project would likely cause significant impact on the environment and be the cause of public concern.

In keeping with our policy of timely EIAs, the Review Board tries to hold issues scoping sessions within 60 days of receiving the referral. We send a letter to the project developer and potential participants notifying them of the EIA start-up. We also send a letter to the organizations on the MVLWB's distribution list, and include a registration form so they can register for our own distribution list that will be posted to the Public Registry. These people are the contacts for their organizations for a specific EIA. We ask them to respond within two weeks in order to establish the list as soon as possible, but additions can be made at any time during the assessment.

The distribution list is not the same as the list of parties to the EIA. All interested parties, including those on the distribution list, must apply for party status at the appropriate stage of the EIA, after the scoping sessions, if they wish to formally participate as a party.

The distribution list is also different from the subscription list for the Review Board's Public Registry on the website. Anyone wishing to follow the progress of an EIA can subscribe to a subscription list, which is set up on the Review Board's website. When documents are posted to the website Public Registry, subscribers get an email advising them of the posting. The

subscription list is confidential, but the distribution list is a part of the Public Registry. If you wish to add your name to a subscription list, please go to reviewboard.ca and click on "E-mail subscriptions."

Public Registry files are set up as soon as the referral notification is received. The Registry holds all the documents for an EIA that the Review Board receives, which are all used for the assessment. These documents are also posted digitally to the Public Registry on the website. The Review Board's EIA process is open and transparent, and all documents filed on the Public Registry are available to anyone who would like to see them. Posting documents to the website ensures that all the material related to a proposed project can be accessed at any time by anyone who is interested.

The Review Board also notifies the public that a new assessment has started. When the screening report is received, the Review Board places ads in Northwest Territories newspapers announcing the start up of the new EIA.

At the same time as the files and ads are created, the Review Board starts planning for the scoping sessions to be held in the communities most likely to experience impacts from the proposed development. We will have more about scoping sessions next month.

Mahsi

Jessica Simpson, Community Liaison Officer

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