



Environmental Assessments on the go

The Review Board maintains a Public Registry in its office in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. Key documentation is available at www.mveirb.nt.ca

EA03-004 Drybones Bay Mineral Exploration, New Shoshoni Ventures

Status: Completed & Awaiting Ministerial Approval

EA03-009 Deh Cho Geotechnical Survey, Imperial Oil Ventures Ltd.

Status: Completed & Awaiting Ministerial Approval

This environmental assessment remains in the "Consult to Modify" process with the Responsible Ministers that have jurisdiction over this development. On January 27th, 2006, the Review Board issued a "Reasons for Decision" explaining that it had sufficient evidence that the intent of Measure #10 had been met. Subsequently, the Review Board removed the measure from the Report of Environmental Assessment. Measure #10 sought evidence of progress toward Access and Benefit Agreements between Imperial Oil and the five Dehghah Alliance Society member communities.

On February 27th 2006, the Dehcho First Nations filed a judicial review action seeking to overturn the decision by The Review Board.

EA0506-004 Yellowknife Gold Project, Tyhee NWT Corporation

Status: Pending Developer's Assessment Report

EA0506-005 Drybones Bay Exploratory Drilling, Consolidated Goldwin Ventures

Status: Awaiting adequate Information Request Responses

EA0506-006 Exploratory Drilling at Defeat Lake, Sidon International Resources Corp.

Status: Awaiting adequate Information Request Responses

The Review Board is waiting for the developer to submit adequate Information Request Responses

EA0506-007 SDL8 2D Geophysical Program, Paramount Resources Ltd.

Status: Preparing Terms of Reference

The Review Board is now considering the information presented during the community scoping hearing that was held in Hay River on February 29th 2006 and the Review Board will be releasing the Terms of Reference shortly.

EA0506-008 Gahcho Kué Project, DeBeers Canada Inc.

Status: Issues Scoping

On March 21-24 2006, a technical scoping workshop was held in Yellowknife. Technical experts met and discussed issues they felt should be considered in the assessment. A follow-up technical scoping hearing will be held in Yellowknife on April 10th, 2006 so that the Review Board can hear the results from the groups that participated in the workshop.

The Review Board will be holding community scoping hearings to find out what issues communities want to see addressed in the assessment.

The Review Board will travel to Dettah on April 11th, 2006 and Behchoko on April 25th, 2006. The Lutsel K'e Community Hearing originally scheduled for April 4th, 2006 has been cancelled. A new date has not been set at this time.

Website Tip

Confused about how to find documents in the Online Public registry? In the "Public Registry", you can use either the list of Active Projects and the Search Engine to find your documents. If you know what assessment you are looking for, a hint is to click on the Project Name in either the Active Projects list or the Search Results, you will be brought to that project's page which has links to each stage of the EIA Process. Documents are filed under the stage most relevant to the contents and purpose of the document.

To be added to the distribution list for future Valley Talk newsletters, please send your email address to rschuh@mveirb.nt.ca.

EA Practitioner's Workshop: A big success!

On March 15th and 16th, 2006 the Review Board held its annual Environmental Assessment Practitioner's Workshop in Yellowknife. This year's workshop was hosted by the Board with financial assistance from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. Over 120 people attended the workshop, the theme of which was "Raising the Bar for Socio-Economic Impact Assessment". The workshop provided a forum for the discussion of issues and opportunities for better inclusion of social, economic and cultural considerations into environmental impact assessment. There were expert speakers, panel "talk shows", round table discussions and breakout groups throughout the two days. The Review Board is looking forward to applying the generated information and ideas into the draft *Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Guidelines* which are nearly ready for public review.

Environmental Impact Assessment Wildlife Conference

On March 9-10th, the Western and Northern Affiliate of the International Association for Impact Assessment hosted this conference on Environmental Impact Assessment and wildlife. The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board was pleased to help sponsor this event. The

conference featured technical talks on wildlife and EIA in a broad Northern context to include the key themes of caribou population and management, carnivore research and impact prediction, traditional Knowledge and wildlife research, species at risk, and, effects of oil and gas activities on birds.



Earlier this month, Dennis Bevington, MP Western Arctic (centre) stopped in to acquaint himself with the work of the Board. He met with the Review Board Chairperson, Ms. Gabrielle Mackenzie-Scott (right) and, Board Member, Mr. Jerry Loomis (left). Mr. Bevington was a board member himself from 1999-2001.

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