



The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's mission is to conduct quality 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.

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New tools to help you understand the process

It is important for communities, government, developers and other organizations involved in environmental impact assessment to know how the process works in the Mackenzie Valley so that it is fair, accessible and open.

This month the Review Board will be releasing two new plain language packages to help people understand the process better. One package is dedicated to giving tips for public hearings, while the other is a set of handouts designed to explain each individual step of an environmental assessment.

In addition to the plain language packages, the Review Board has also launched new portion of its website called "Review Board 101". In this section of the website, visitors will find overviews of who the Review Board is and what it does, as well as short status updates about assessments, and a list of upcoming deadlines. Later this month, this page will also include an interactive process diagram to help explain how one step can lead to another. Visitors to the web page can find this section by clicking the Review Board 101 banner on the bottom left of the homepage at reviewboard.ca

The Review Board hopes you find these new resources useful and it welcomes your feedback. You can call the Review Board at 1-866-912-3472 in the territories or 867-766-7050 to get a copies of any of the Review Board's material mailed to you.



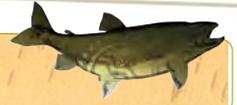
INSIDE

- Updates on environmental assessments and environmental impact reviews
- PDAC 2009
- This is what we do: Incorporating Traditional Knowledge

● Proposed development in environmental assessment or environmental impact review
Visit reviewboard.ca and click our **Interactive Map** for more information



Active environmental assessments



▶ Nico Project

Fortune Minerals Ltd. EA0809-004

Status: Preparing for scoping

This is an open pit and underground cobalt-gold-bismuth mine, located approximately 50 km north-north-east of What Ti. At the end of April and in early May, Review Board staff will visit Wha Ti, Gameti, Behchoko, and Yellowknife, to identify which issues the environmental assessment should focus on.

▶ Yellowknife Gold Project

Tyhee NWT Corp. EA0809-003

Status: Finalizing Terms of Reference and workplan

This is a proposed open pit gold mine, located 88 kilometres north of Yellowknife, near the old Discovery mine site. The Review Board expects to release the final draft Terms of Reference and workplan for this environmental assessment later this month. The next step will be for the developer to produce its Developer's Assessment Report.

▶ Prairie Creek Mine

Canadian Zinc Corporation EA0809-002

Status: Currently drafting Terms of Reference and workplan

This is a proposed 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 Review Board expects to release the draft Terms of Reference and workplan for public comment later this month.

▶ Giant Mine Remediation Project

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada EA0809-001

Status: Draft Terms of Reference and workplan out for public comment

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. The Review Board has issued the draft Terms of Reference and workplan for this environmental assessment. The comment deadline is April 9, 2009.

▶ Taltson Hydroelectric Expansion Project

Dezé Energy Corporation Ltd. EA0708-007

Status: Preparing information requests

This proposed development adds 36 megawatts of power generating capacity to the Taltson Twin Gorges Plant and includes a 690 kilometre transmission line to the diamond mines. The Review Board received Deze Energy Corp's Developer's Assessment Report and deemed it in conformity with the Terms of Reference. With the help of the parties, the Review Board will be developing information requests to gather additional information.

▶ Mineral Exploration at Howard's Pass

Selwyn Resources Ltd. EA0708-001

Status: Hearing Preparation

This is a proposed mineral exploration program on the NWT and Yukon border. The Review Board has scheduled a community hearing for April 7th, 2009. Following the hearing, the Review Board will enter its deliberation and report writing phase.



Active environmental impact review



► 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 Kue Review Panel to review this proposed diamond mine near Kennady Lake. De Beers has informed the Panel that it will not be submitting its Environmental Impact Statement until late 2009.



► Mackenzie Gas Project

Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Ltd. EIR0405-001

Status: *The Joint Review Panel is drafting its Report of Environmental Impact Review*

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. Visit www.ngps.nt.ca for more information.

Waiting for ministerial approval

Reports submitted in 2008

► Crab Lake Mineral Exploration

Bayswater Uranium Corp. EA0708-005

Status: *Waiting for ministerial approval*

This is a proposed mineral exploration program in the Dubawnt River Watershed. On September 12, 2008, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers allow this proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its *Report of Environmental Assessment*.

► EL Lake Mineral Exploration

Bayswater Uranium Corp. EA0708-004

Status: *Waiting for ministerial approval*

This is a proposed mineral exploration program in the upper Thelon River watershed. On September 12, 2008, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers reject this proposed development without ordering an environmental impact review. The Review Board is of the opinion the proposed development will cause significant adverse cultural impacts on Aboriginal people by impacting an area of very high spiritual importance.



Waiting for ministerial approval cont'd



▶ North Boomerang Lake Mineral Exploration

Uravan Minerals Inc. EA0708-003

Status: Waiting for ministerial approval

This is a proposed mineral exploration program in the upper Thelon River watershed. On September 12, 2008, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers reject this proposed development without ordering an environmental impact review. The Review Board is of the opinion the proposed development will cause significant adverse cultural impacts on Aboriginal people by impacting an area of very high spiritual importance.

▶ South Boomerang Lake Mineral Exploration

Uravan Minerals Inc. EA0708-002

Status: Waiting for ministerial approval

This is a proposed mineral exploration program in the upper Thelon River watershed. On September 12, 2008, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers reject this proposed development without ordering an environmental impact review. The Review Board is of the opinion the proposed development will cause significant adverse cultural impacts on Aboriginal people by impacting an area of very high spiritual importance.

▶ Mineral Exploration Program

Sidon International Resources Corp. EA0506-006

Status: Waiting for ministerial approval

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*.

Reports submitted in 2007

▶ Mineral Exploration Program

Consolidated Goldwin Ventures Inc. EA0506-005

Status: Waiting for ministerial approval

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*.

Reports submitted in 2006

▶ SDL-8 2D Geophysical Program

Paramount Resources Ltd. EA0506-007

Status: Waiting for ministerial approval

This is a proposed oil and gas geophysical program in the Cameron Hills area. On November 14, 2006, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers allow this proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its *Report of Environmental Assessment*.

Reports submitted in 2005

▶ Dehcho Geotechnical Survey

Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Ltd. EA0304-009

Status: Waiting for ministerial approval

This is a proposed oil and gas geotechnical program in the Dehcho region. On February 28, 2005, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers allow this proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its *Report of Environmental Assessment*. In June 2005, the Minister of INAC initiated the consult-to-modify process. The Review Board continues to wait for feedback from the ministers.



From left to right, Jerry Loomis (Board Member), Renita Jenkins (Communications Manager), Vern Christensen (Executive Director), and Richard Edjericon (Chairperson) pose for a picture at the Review Board's booth during this year's PDAC international convention and tradeshow held in early March.

While at the convention, the Review Board members and staff attended many talks, and made themselves available for questions at the tradeshow booth from mining industry representatives, government officials, community members and environmental impact assessment practitioners from across Canada. In

addition, Vern Christensen presented on the Review Board's efforts to improve the northern regulatory system in the Investors Innovation forum at the conference.

This is what we do: Incorporating Traditional Knowledge



The Review Board considers any traditional knowledge and scientific information that is made available to it during an environmental assessment. To help everyone understand how traditional knowledge plays a role in

the environmental assessment process, the Review Board published a set of guidelines in July 2005 called *Guidelines for Incorporating Traditional Knowledge in Environmental Impact Assessment*.

Traditional knowledge is knowledge that is rooted in the traditional way of life of Aboriginal people. It is aboriginal people's knowledge about the environment, their use and management of it and their moral and ethical values of the

environment and the relationship between humans, animals and the land. Traditional knowledge encompasses relationships with the spiritual world, the natural environment and between people. It is reflected in language, social organizations, values, institutions and laws. Traditional knowledge is typically handed down from elders to youth within a group that lives in a particular area.

The reasons the Review Board created these guidelines were to:

- contribute to a fair and balanced environmental impact assessment process;
- encourage public participation in the environmental impact assessment process;
- respect and value the benefits that traditional knowledge offers in good environmental decision making; and



This is what we do: Incorporating Traditional Knowledge

○ provide participants with greater knowledge and understanding of the environment in which a development is proposed, the potential impacts of that development and the significance of those impacts.

The *Guidelines for Incorporating Traditional Knowledge in Environmental Impact Assessment* explain what the Review Board expects from developers when working with traditional knowledge holders and how traditional knowledge holders can share their knowledge directly with the Review Board during the environmental impact assessment of a proposed development. How developers, communities and other groups can incorporate traditional knowledge in the preliminary screening, environmental assessment and environmental impact review processes are explained in the guidelines. The guidelines key message is that developers and traditional knowledge holders need to work together prior to environmental impact assessment to gain the full value of traditional knowledge during the project planning.

The *Guidelines for Incorporating Traditional Knowledge into Environmental Impact Assessment* are the first of their kind in Canada. Incorporating traditional knowledge in environmental impact assessment is a requirement set by the land claim agreements in the Mackenzie Valley and the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*. These guidelines are not a “stand alone” document and they are meant

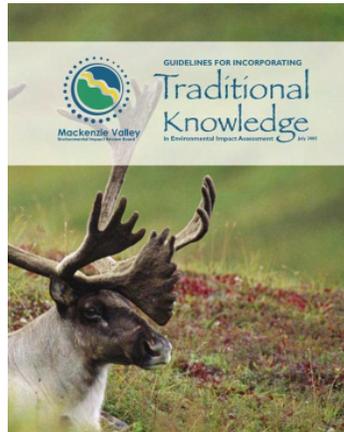
to be used with the *Environmental Impact Assessment Guidelines*.

If you would like a copy of these guidelines, they are available on our website in the reference library at reviewboard.ca. You can

also ask for a copy by calling the Review Board toll free in the territories at 1-866-912-3472. Over the next year, the Review Board hopes to be working on updating and translating summaries all of the guidelines into the five Dene languages of the Mackenzie Valley.

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