

## CALL FOR INTEREST – EXPERT ADVISORS

### Road and geotechnical engineering services required for the Mackenzie Valley Highway Project Environmental Assessment EA1213-02

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) conducts environmental assessments in the Mackenzie Valley, Northwest Territories (NWT). Expert advisors are sometimes required during the environmental assessment process to help the Review Board assess potential impacts of projects on the environment and people.

For the remainder of its current environmental assessment for the Mackenzie Valley Highway Project (the Project), the Review Board is looking for road and geotechnical engineering experts to help it consider road routing and design for the proposed all-season road from Wrigley to Norman Wells, NWT.

This document is a request for proposals for civil engineering expertise. In particular, the Review Board is looking for expertise related to roads and other linear developments in northern conditions. Experience should include:

- geological and geotechnical engineering
- construction engineering
- construction over permafrost
- assessment of potential failure modes and risks, including consideration of geo-hazards
- highway design

In this environmental assessment, this particularly relates to the following topics from the Developer's Assessment Report:

- Detailed project description including assessment of alternative routing<sup>1</sup>
- Terrain, soils and permafrost conditions<sup>2</sup>

#### About the Project and Environmental Assessment

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) is proposing to construct a 321 km two-lane all-season gravel highway from Wrigley to Norman Wells, Northwest Territories. The Project is the first all-season road link for several Indigenous communities and will lengthen the winter road season for other communities. The environmental assessment process will soon be entering the analysis phase with the submission of the Developer's Assessment Report by the GNWT.

Below is a short summary of the remaining phases of the environmental assessment and a brief description of the type of support and work required by the expert advisors.

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<sup>1</sup> [Developer's Assessment Report Volume 1](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Developer's Assessment Report Volume 3, Parts 3-7](#)

- **Analysis phase:**
  - review the Developer's Assessment Report and information request responses
  - work with staff to develop lines of questioning for the technical sessions
  - participate in technical sessions, November 19-21
  - work with staff to develop any additional information requests
- **Hearing Phase**
  - review and analyse party and developer interventions
  - work with staff and Board to prepare lines of questioning for the public hearing
  - participate in questioning at the public hearings
  - review final written submissions from parties and developers
- **Decision Phase**
  - review all evidence on relevant topics and advise the Review Board of potential impacts
  - if significant adverse impacts are identified, suggest what mitigation may be required to reduce or avoid those impacts
  - provide advice to Review Board members and staff as they prepare the Report of Environmental Assessment and Reasons for Decision. Possibly help in drafting relevant sections.

### Submission of Proposals

Should you or your company wish to be considered for any or all parts of this Call for Interest, please submit an expression of interest that includes:

- your CV
- a description of your business
- a description of your expertise and the services you can provide
- a rate sheet for those services

Your submission should not exceed a total of 40 pages (excluding CVs). The Review Board may request further details if needed.

Preference will be given to applicants who have experience:

- understanding challenges of road construction in the north
- speaking and writing clearly and in plain language to people who are not experts
- working with clients similar to the Review Board
- participating in and questioning at public hearings or similar events

Submit via email by end of day on **November 1, 2024**, to:

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
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5102-50th Ave.  
Yellowknife NT, X1A 3X7  
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