

News Release

Yellowknife, April 17, 2024 – The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) is pleased to announce the release of our ***Guideline for an optional pathway for major projects to enter environmental assessment*** (the Guideline). The Guideline describes an optional pathway to environmental assessment (EA) for major projects and the information the Review Board needs to consider ordering an EA through this pathway.

The Guideline will:

- help the Review Board get the information it needs to decide whether to order a project directly to EA;
- encourage developers to collaborate with potentially affected communities and Indigenous Governments or Organizations early, and in an ongoing and respectful way;
- decrease the overall time for project approvals in the Mackenzie Valley through more effective and efficient environmental impact assessment processes.

The Guideline was prepared through a public and participatory process that included multiple rounds of public review and information sharing workshops. Through this process, we incorporated feedback from the Land and Water Boards, developers, Indigenous Governments and organizations, as well as territorial and federal government departments. Review Board staff are available to host show and tell sessions for the new Guideline upon request.

The Guideline is available on the Review Board's website [here](#).