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August 6, 2020

File: G20S002

Mr. Mark Cliffe-Phillips  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
200 Scotia Center  
Box 938, 5102 - 50th Avenue  
Yellowknife NT X 1A 2N7

Sent via email

Dear Mr. Cliffe-Phillips,

**RE: Notice of Preliminary Screening Determination – Application for Land Use Permit G20S002  
GNWT INF – Geotechnical Investigations at Inuvik Airport Runway and Quarries**

The Gwich'in Land and Water Board (Board) met on August 6, 2020 and considered the Application from the International Logistical Support Inc. (INF) for Type A Land Use Permit (Permit) G20S002 for geotechnical drilling at the Inuvik Airport and adjacent quarries (Project) in accordance with the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA).

The Board conducted a preliminary screening based on the application and the public record for the proceeding. Based on the evidence provided, the Board is satisfied the screening has been completed according to section 125 of the MVRMA and has decided not to refer the Project to environmental assessment. The Preliminary Screening Report includes the Board's reasons for decision, as required by section 121 of the MVRMA (attached).

If the Board does not receive notice of referral to environmental assessment, it will proceed with the issuance of Permit G20S002 on Monday August 17, 2020.

Our Board and staff look forward to continued communications throughout the pause period. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, please contact Leonard DeBastien at (867) 777- 4954

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wright  
Chair, Gwich'in Land and Water Board

Copied to: Gwich'in Distribution list  
Attached: Preliminary Screening Report including Reasons for Decision



# GWICH'IN LAND AND WATER BOARD

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## PRELIMINARY SCREENING REPORT FORM

<b>PRELIMINARY SCREENER:</b> GLWB <b>REFERENCE / FILE NUMBER:</b> G20S002 <b>TITLE:</b> Geotech - Inuvik Airport runway <b>ORGANIZATION:</b> GNWT INF <b>MEETING DATE:</b> Aug 6, 2020	<b>EIRB REFERENCE NUMBER:</b>
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*NOTE: Amendment items on this preliminary screening form are shown in italics.*

**Type of Development:**  
(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- New
- Amend, EIRB Ref. #
- Requires permit, license or authorization
- Does not require permit, license or authorization

### Project Summary

- The proposed project involves
  1. Summer Geotechnical Investigation at Inuvik Airport runway and Quarries. A total of 36 drillholes will be constructed: 28 boreholes on runway to depth of 5-15m, 3 boreholes in North Quarry and 5 boerholes in Main Quarry- each to depths of 20-30m

### Scope

A) Use of earth drilling machinery for geotechnical investigations

Min Lat  
68.30411389  
Max Lat  
68.30639722  
Min Long  
-133.4561111  
Max Long  
-133.53222222

Dodge 5500 deck truck and trailer -Diesel -208 L + 400 L slip Kenworth T800B tractor and trailer Diesel 856 L saddle tanks  
Terrasonic Ti150cc - Diesel -159 L Bobcat skid steer S650 Diesel 103 L  
CAT 336E L Hydraulic Excavator with Promac Rotary High Production (RHP)  
Mulcher Diesel 620 L  
CAT 349E L Hydraulic Excavator with Promac Rotary High Production (RHP) Mulcher Diesel 720 L

**Principal Activities (related to scoping)**  
(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- |                                       |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Exploration       | <input type="checkbox"/> Decommissioning     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Installation | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial        | <input type="checkbox"/> Abandonment         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance  | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation        | <input type="checkbox"/> Aerial              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Expansion    | <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal         | <input type="checkbox"/> Harvesting          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operation    | <input type="checkbox"/> Quarry            | <input type="checkbox"/> Camp                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Repair       | <input type="checkbox"/> Linear / Corridor | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific/Research |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Intake | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewage            | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid Waste         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:       |  |  |

### Principal Development Components (related to scoping)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access Road                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Waste Management            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> construction                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Disposal of hazardous waste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> abandonment/removal                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Waste generation            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> modification e.g., widening, straightening | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewage                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Automobile, Aircraft or Vessel Movement    | <input type="checkbox"/> Disposal of sewage          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blasting                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Geoscientific Sampling      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> trenching                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Burning                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> diamond drill               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Burying                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> borehole core sampling      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Channeling                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> bulk soil sampling          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and Fill                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Gravel                      |

- Cutting of Trees or Removal of Vegetation
- Dams and Impoundments
  - construction
  - abandonment/removal
  - modification
- Ditch Construction
- Drainage Alteration
- Drilling other than Geoscientific
- Ecological Surveys
- Excavation
- Explosive Storage
- Fuel Storage
- Topsoil, Overburden or Soil
  - fill
  - disposal
  - removal
  - storage

- Hydrological Testing
- Site Restoration
- fertilization
- grubbing
- planting/seeding
- reforestation
- scarify
- spraying
- recontouring
- Slashing and removal of vegetation
- Soil Testing
- Stream Crossing/Bridging
- Tunneling/Underground
- Other (describe):

**NTS Topographic Map Sheet Numbers:**

**Nearest Community and Water Body:**

Inuvik  
Airport Lake

**Land Status (*consultation information*)**

Private (GSA)       Commissioner's Land       Territorial Crown Land       Municipal Land

**Transboundary Implications**

British Columbia       Alberta       Saskatchewan       Yukon  
 Nunavut       Wood Buffalo National Park       Inuvialuit Settlement Region

**Type of Transboundary Implication:**       Impact / Effect       Development

Public Concern \_\_\_\_\_  
 (DESCRIBE)

**PHYSICAL - CHEMICAL EFFECTS**

**IMPACT**

**1. Ground Water**

- water table alteration
- water quality changes

infiltration changes

other

N/A

**IMPACT**

**2. Surface Water**

- flow or level changes
- water quality changes

water quantity changes

Drainage pattern changes

temperature

wetland changes / loss

other:

N/A

**IMPACT**

**3. Noise**

noise in/near water

other: noise increase

N/A

**IMPACT**

**4. Land**

geologic structure changes

soil contamination

buffer zone loss

soil compaction settling

Destabilization / erosion

permafrost regime alteration

other:

N/A

**MITIGATION**

**MITIGATION**

Possibility of contamination from fuel during transport or refueling: No fuel will be stored on site. The applicant has submitted a Spill Contingency Plan outlining preventive measures and spill clean-up. Draft conditions address mitigation related to fuel handling and spill prevention.

**MITIGATION**

Noise may temporarily disturb wildlife, however the impact is expected to be minimal, localized, and over a short duration.

**MITIGATION**

Possibility of contamination from fuel during transport or refueling.

No fuel will be stored on site. The applicant has submitted a Spill Contingency Plan outlining preventive measures and spill clean-up. Draft conditions address mitigation related to fuel handling and spill prevention.

Impacts to permafrost can occur during drilling. Boreholes are to be backfilled upon completion of drilling

- Drilling works will occur on previously disturbed areas, where possible;
- Care will be taken to avoid uprooting vegetation so that roots are left in place to prevent soil erosion;
- Any areas with high soil loss or sediment transport potential will be contained with silt fencing;
- Drilling works during high rain events will be avoided;
- Water disposal from drilling will be directed away from areas that have the potential to drain to adjacent waterbodies

**IMPACT**  
**5. Non Renewable Natural Resources**

**MITIGATION**

- resource depletion
- other:
- N/A

**IMPACT**  
**6. Air/Climate/ Atmosphere**

**MITIGATION**

- Other
- N/A

**BIOLOGICAL**

**ENVIRONMENT IMPACT**  
**1. Vegetation**

**MITIGATION**

- species composition
- species introduction
- toxin / heavy accumulation

- All vehicles entering the work area, and moving between disturbed and undisturbed areas, will be checked for plant material to minimise the risk of invasive species encroachment;
- Any exposed soil will be restored immediately upon completion of drilling, if required;
- Monitor the spread of invasive plants within the work area.

other:

N/A

**IMPACT**  
**2. Wildlife & Fish**

**MITIGATION**

- effects on rare, threatened or endangered species
- fish population changes
- waterfowl population changes
- breeding disturbance
- population reduction
- species diversity change
- health changes (Identify)

The avian nesting bird window for the region is mid-May to mid-August.<sup>3</sup>Error! Bookmark not defined. The following measures will be implemented by the contractor to minimize the impact to wildlife through physical disturbance:

- Pre-clearing bird nesting surveys will be undertaken by an appropriately qualified professional prior to clearing;
- If active nests are found within the clearing limits, a buffer will be established around the nest until such time that the appropriately qualified professional can determine the nest has become inactive. Alternatively, the clearing limits may be realigned to avoid the buffer area.

behavioural changes

Some species may avoid the area during operation. Draft conditions outline mitigation methods for species of concern.

(Identify)

habitat changes / effects

game species effects

toxins / heavy metals

forestry changes

agricultural changes

other:

N/A

#### **INTERACTING ENVIRONMENT**

##### ***IMPACT***

##### ***MITIGATION***

###### **1. Habitat and Communities**

predator-prey

wildlife habitat / ecosystem  
Composition changes

reduction / removal of keystone  
or endangered  
species

removal of wildlife corridor or  
buffer zone

other:

N/A

##### ***IMPACT***

##### ***MITIGATION***

###### **2. Social and Economic**

planning / zoning changes or  
conflicts

increase in urban facilities or  
services use

rental house

airport operations / capacity  
changes

human health hazard

impair the recreational use of water or aesthetic quality

affect water use for other purposes

affect other land use operations

quality of life changes

public concern

other:

N/A

**IMPACT**

**3. Cultural and Heritage**

**MITIGATION**

effects to historic property

increased economic pressure on historic properties

change to or loss of historic resources

change to or loss of archaeological resources

increased pressure on archaeological sites

change to or loss of aesthetically important site

effects to aboriginal lifestyle

other:

N/A

Draft Permit Condition requires Archological assessment of high-potential areas in advance of ground disturbance activities. f any new cultural or heritage resource site is discovered during the project, work must cease and the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre shall be contacted immediately.

**PRELIMINARY SCREENER / REFERRING BODY INFORMATION**  
(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

	RA or DRA	ADVICE	PERMIT REQUIRED
Environment Canada	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fisheries and Oceans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canadian Heritage (Parks Canada)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Natural Resources Canada	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Works and Gov't Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transport Canada	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Northern Oil and Gas Directorate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canadian Nuclear Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industry Canada	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canadian Transportation Agency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National Defence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GNWT – ENR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GNWT - MACA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GNWT - Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GNWT - Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GNWT – Lands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prince of Wales Heritage Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worker's Compensation Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MVEIRB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MVLWB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gwich'in Land and Water Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gwich'in Social & Cultural Institute	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gwich'in Tribal Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gwichya Gwich'in Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gwichya Gwich'in Renewable Resources Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nihtat Gwich'in Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nihtat Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teet'it Gwich'in Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teet'it Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ehdiitat Gwich'in Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ehdiitat Renewable Resource Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hamlet of Aklavik	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hamlet of Fort Mcpherson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Charter Community Of Tsiigehtchic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Town of Inuvik	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**REASONS FOR DECISION**  
(LIST ALL REASONS AND SUPPORTING RATIONALES FOR PRELIMINARY SCREENING DECISION)

**DECISION:**

The Gwich'in Land and Water Board (The Board) is satisfied that the preliminary screening of application G20S002 by GNWT Department of Infrastructure for the purpose of geotechnical drilling has been completed in accordance with Section 125 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*. The Board is satisfied that a reasonable period of notice was given to Communities and First Nations affected by the application as required by Subsection 63(2) of the *MVRMA* so that they could provide comments to the Board.

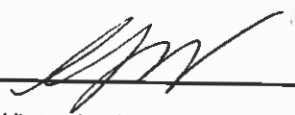
Having reviewed all relevant evidence on the Public Registry, including the submissions of the Applicant, the written comments received by the Board and any staff reports prepared for the Board, the Board has decided that in its opinion that:

- there is no likelihood that the proposed development might have a significant adverse impact on the environment; and
- there is no likelihood that the proposed development might be a cause of public concern.

The Board is also of the opinion that the application can proceed through the regulatory process and that any impacts of the development on the environment can be mitigated through the imposition of the terms and conditions in the attached Land Use Permit.

As a result, the Board, having due regard to the facts and circumstances, the merits of the submissions made to it, and to the purpose, scope and intent of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* and the Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations has decided that this Land Use Permit be issued subject to the terms and conditions contained therein.

PRELIMINARY SCREENING DECISION	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Outside Local Government Boundaries</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	The development proposal might have a significant adverse impact on the environment, <i>refer it to the EIRB.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	The development proposal might have public concern, <i>refer it to the EIRB.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Wholly within Local Government Boundaries</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	The development proposal is likely to have a significant adverse impact on air, water or renewable resources, <i>refer it to the EIRB.</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	The development proposal might have public concern, <i>refer it to the EIRB.</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>



Chair, Gwich'in Land and Water Board