



105 Veterans Way  
PO Box 2018, Inuvik NT X0E 0T0

Tel: 867-777-4954 Fax 867-777-2304  
www.glwb.com

January 26, 2022

File: **G21S003**

Mr. Mark Cliffe-Phillips  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
200 Scotia Center  
Box 938, 5102 - 50th Avenue  
Yellowknife NT X1A 2N7

Sent via Email

Dear Mr. Cliffe-Phillips,

**Re: Notice of Preliminary Screening Determination – Application for Land Use Permit Geotechnical Drilling in Inuvik**

The Gwich'in Land and Water Board (Board) met on January 26, 2022 and considered the Application from EGT Northwind Ltd. for Type A Land Use Permit (Permit) G21S003 for geotechnical drilling in Inuvik 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 Regulatory Process for G21S003 on Monday February 7, 2022.

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 Executive Director Leonard DeBastien at (867) 777-4954.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Wright  
Chair, Gwich'in Land and Water Board

Copied to: Gwich'in Distribution List

Attached: Preliminary Screening Report



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## PRELIMINARY SCREENING REPORT FORM

<b>PRELIMINARY SCREENER:</b> GLWB (AlecSandra Macdonald) <b>REFERENCE / FILE NUMBER:</b> G21S003 <b>TITLE:</b> Geotechnical Drilling at Inuvik <b>ORGANIZATION:</b> EGT Northwind Ltd. <b>MEETING DATE:</b> January 26, 2022	<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)

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | New   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Amend, EIRB Ref. #                                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Requires permit, license or authorization         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Does not require permit, license or authorization |

**Project Summary**

- Geotechnical investigation – Inuvik historic waste disposal site

**Scope**

- A) Conduct a geotechnical drilling operation

**Principal Activities (related to scoping)**

(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

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

**Principal Development Components (related to scoping)**

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

**Latitude / Longitude and UTM System:**

Minimum Latitude: 69.32166667  
 Maximum Latitude: 69.32166667  
 Min Longitude : - 133.51694444  
 Max Longitude : -133.51694444

**Nearest Community and Water Body:**

- Inuvik
- Campbell Lake

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

- Private (GSA)  Commissioners Land  Territorial 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

**MITIGATION**

Small risk of encountering artesian well. Bentonite shall be used to plug any flowing groundwater.

**IMPACT**

**2. Surface Water**

- flow or level changes
- water quality changes

- water quantity changes
- Drainage pattern changes
- temperature
- wetland changes / loss
- other:
- N/A

**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. Conditions address fuel containment and spill kits.

**IMPACT**

**3. Noise**

- noise in/near water
- other: noise increase

N/A

**MITIGATION**

**IMPACT**

**4. Land**

- geologic structure changes
- soil contamination

- buffer zone loss soil
- compaction & settling
- Destabilization / erosion
- permafrost regime alteration
- other:
- N/A

**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. Conditions address fuel containment and spill kits.

Possibility of subsidence if water enters the bore holes. Condition requires holes be covered with fill upon completion of drilling.

**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
- other:
- N/A

localized brush clearing may take place, much of the site has been previously disturbed

**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)

behavioural changes

(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

If 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. LUP Conditions 22-23 pertain to archaeological and heritage resources.

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

	RA or DRA	ADVICE	PERMIT REQUIRED
Environment Canada	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fisheries and Oceans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GNWT - MACA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GNWT - infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GNWT - Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GNWT – Department of Lands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prince of Wales Heritage Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worker's Compensation Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MEISC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MIWB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gwich'in Land and Water Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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



**Reasons for Decision**

The Gwich'in Land and Water Board (the Board) is satisfied that the preliminary screening of Application G21S003, for EGT Northwind, Geotechnical Drilling in Inuvik, has been completed in accordance with section 125 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA).

The Board is satisfied that communities and First Nations affected by the Application have been notified and provided adequate time to provide comment on the Application as required by land claim and self-government agreements, the MVRMA, policy directions relating to Interim Measures Agreements, and any other applicable legislation and agreements.

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:

- The proposed development will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment; and
- The proposed development is not 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 conditions of a land use permit.

<b>Preliminary Screening Decision</b>	
<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> <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> <i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>
<b>Wholly Within Local Government Boundaries</b>	
x	The development proposal is likely to have a significant adverse impact on air, water or renewable resources, <i>refer it to the EIRB.</i> <i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>
x	The development proposal might have public concern, <i>refer it to the EIRB.</i> <i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>

**Preliminary Screening Organization**

Gwich'in Land and Water Board

January 26, 2022

**Signature**



Elizabeth Wright, Chair