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July 25, 2023

File: MV2022X0022

Mark Cliffe-Phillips  
Mackenzie Valley Review Board  
200 Scotia Centre  
Box 938, 5102-50th Avenue  
Yellowknife NT X1A 2N7

Sent by email

Dear Mark Cliffe-Phillips,

**Re: Mine Training Program – Notice of Preliminary Screening Determination – Renewal Application for Land Use Permit MV2022X0022 – KM 232, HWY 5, NT**

The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (Board) met on July 20, 2023, and considered the Application package from the Government of the Northwest Territories-Aurora College (GNWT-AC) for Land Use Permit (Permit) MV2022X0022 for the Mine Training Program (Project) in accordance with the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA).

The Board completed two preliminary screenings for the Project on July 16, 2009, and June 7, 2017,<sup>1</sup> and GNWT-AC has not proposed changes to the Project. Accordingly, the Board has determined that the Project is exempt from preliminary screening under Part 1, Schedule 1, section 2 of the Exemption List Regulations to the MVRMA. Consequently, no further preliminary screening was conducted. The Board's Preliminary Screening Determination and Reasons for Decision is attached.

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<sup>1</sup> See MVLWB Online Registry [www.mvlwb.com](http://www.mvlwb.com) for [MV2009F0009 – Preliminary Screening – Jul 16-09](#) and [MV2017X0014 – GNWT Aurora College – Issuance – Preliminary Screening Report – Jun7-17](#).

Please contact Kathy Racher via [email](#) or at (867) 766-7457 with any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tanya MacIntosh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

Tanya MacIntosh  
Chair, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

BCC'd to: Akaitcho Distribution List  
Leigh Gauthier – GNWT-AC

Attached: Preliminary Screening Determination and Reasons for Decision



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## Preliminary Screening Determination and Reasons for Decision

Land Use Permit Application	
<b>File Number</b>	MV2022X0022
<b>Company</b>	Government of the Northwest Territories-Aurora College – Thebacha Campus
<b>Project</b>	Mine Training Program
<b>Location</b>	KM 232, Highway 5, NT
<b>Activity</b>	Miscellaneous
<b>Date of Decision</b>	July 20, 2023

### 1.0 Decision

In accordance with subsection 124(1) of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA), the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB or Board) met on July 20, 2023, to make a preliminary screening determination on the renewal Application from the Government of the Northwest Territories-Aurora College – Thebacha Campus (GNWT-AC or Applicant) for Land Use Permit MV2022X0022 (Permit)<sup>1</sup> for the Mine Training Program (Project).<sup>2</sup>

The Board has determined that the Project is exempt from preliminary screening, because the Project was previously screened, and the Applicant has not proposed changes to the Project.

<sup>1</sup> See MVLWB Online Registry [www.mvlwb.com](http://www.mvlwb.com) for [GWNT-AC – Application – Nov15 22](#).

<sup>2</sup> The Project is the Mine Training Program, which is the proposed development, where “development” is defined in Part 5 of the MVRMA as:

“any undertaking, or any part or extension of an undertaking, that is carried out on land or water and includes an acquisition of lands pursuant to the *Historic Sites and Monuments Act* and measures carried out by a department or agency of government leading to the establishment of a park subject to the *Canada National Parks Act* or the establishment of a park under a territorial law.”

The Board's determination, including reasons for its decision, are detailed in sections [3.0](#) and [4.0](#).

## **2.0 Background and Scope of Screening**

The Applicant applied for a Permit on November 15, 2022. The Application was deemed incomplete until June 9, 2023, when the required information was submitted to the Board. This Permit is for activities associated with delivering the Aurora College - Surface and Underground Miner Training Program. The Applicant is applying for a term of five years.

The Applicant has held separate permits for the Project since 2009. Permit MV2009F0008 covered the road maintenance activities and quarry operations and was screened July 2009. MV2009F0008 was replaced by Permit MV2016F0017 which was considered exempt from preliminary screening.

Permit MV2017X0014 was issued to cover the quarry use for the training program. It was screened June 7, 2017.<sup>3</sup>

This application is a combined Permit that covers the scope of both previous Permit activities with no new changes to the original preliminary screenings.

The Applicant has not proposed changes to the Project, and under Schedule 1, section 2 of the Exemption List Regulations to the MVRMA, project areas and activities that have already been subject to Part 5 of the MVRMA, and for which no changes are proposed, are exempt from preliminary screening.<sup>4</sup>

The Project areas and activities that have already been subject to Part 5 are listed below. Further information about these Project areas and activities, and associated impacts and mitigations, is detailed in the Board's Preliminary Screening Determination, dated July 16, 2009, and June 7, 2017.

### Previously Screened Activities:

- Quarrying and road maintenance activities.
- Use of self-propelled motorized machinery for moving earth.
- Construction and operation of an open-frame timber structure.
- Operation of a crew trailer and outhouse.

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<sup>3</sup> See MVLWB Online Registry for [MV2009F0009 – Preliminary Screening – Jul 16-09](#) and [MV2017X0014 – GNWT Aurora College – Issuance – Preliminary Screening Report – Jun7-17](#).

<sup>4</sup> As per Schedule 1, section 2.1 of the [Exemption List Regulations](#), no preliminary screening is required for:

“A development, or a part thereof, for which a permit, licence or authorization is requested that

(a) was part of a development that fulfilled the requirements of the environmental assessment process established by the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*; and

(b) has not been modified since the development referred to in paragraph (a) fulfilled the requirements of the environmental assessment process established by the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.”

## **2.1 Public Record and Regulatory Proceeding**

To assist the Board in its preliminary screening determination for the Project, the Board distributed the Application and a draft Permit for public review on June 9, 2023, inviting reviewers to provide comments and recommendations on the Application and the preliminary screening (e.g., on impacts and mitigation measures) using the Online Review System. Comments were due June 29, 2023, with responses from the Applicant due July 6, 2023. The Board received comments and recommendations from Government of the Northwest Territories-Environment and Climate Change – Fort Smith (GNWT-ECC).<sup>5</sup>

Since there were no requests to extend the reviewer comment deadline, the Board is satisfied that a reasonable period of notice was given to affected communities and First Nations, as required by subsection 63(2) of the MVRMA.

Pursuant to Schedule 4.1 of the Northwest Territory Métis Nation (NWTMN) Interim Measures Agreement, the Board determined that written notice was given to the NWTMN and that a reasonable period of time was allowed for NWTMN to make representations with respect to the Application.

Pursuant to subsection 1.6, paragraphs (a) and (b) of the Akaitcho Territory Dene First Nations (ATDFN) Interim Measures Agreement, the Board determined that written notice was given to the ATDFN and that a reasonable period of time was allowed for ATDFN to make representations with respect to the Application.

## **3.0 Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigations**

Although the Board has determined that the Project is exempt from preliminary screening, the Board will consider the potential impacts and proposed mitigations in establishing the Permit conditions. For Board licences and permits in general, potential impacts can be mitigated through existing, standard, and/or project-specific permit conditions. These conditions may include requirements for management and monitoring plans that provide detailed information regarding the implementation of mitigation measures and the evaluation of their effectiveness.

All Parties have had an opportunity to provide recommendations to the Board regarding draft conditions. In finalizing the conditions, the Board will consider these recommendations and all of the evidence provided through the regulatory proceeding.

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<sup>5</sup> See the LWBs' Online Review System for [GNWT-Aurora College – Mine Training Program – July 6 23](#).

### **3.1 Consideration of Potential Impacts**

The Board considered whether the Project might have a significant adverse impact on the environment. In general, impacts of the Project on the environment can be mitigated through the use of permit conditions.

A draft Permit was circulated for review during the regulatory proceeding, and all Parties were given the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations on the draft conditions. In finalizing the conditions, the Board will consider all of the evidence provided through the regulatory proceeding.

### **3.2 Consideration of Public Concern**

In addition to considering the potential impacts of the Project, the Board considered whether the Project might be a cause of public concern.

Based on the evidence provided during the regulatory proceeding, the Board did not identify any comments or issues that indicate that the Project is a cause of public concern.

### **4.0 Conclusion**

The Board completed preliminary screenings of the Project on July 16, 2009, and June 7, 2017, and the Applicant has not proposed changes to the Project. Accordingly, the Board has determined that the Project is exempt from preliminary screening under Part 1, Schedule 1, section 2 of the Exemption List Regulations to the MVRMA. Consequently, no further preliminary screening was conducted.



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**Tanya MacIntosh, Chair**  
**Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board**

July 25, 2023

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**Date**