



Yamoga Building, Old Airport Road,
P.O. Box 1, Fort Good Hope, NT X0E 0H0

Tel: 867-598-2413 Fax: 867-598-2325
www.slwb.com

March 3, 2022

File: S19S-005

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

Sent by email

Dear Mark Cliffe-Phillips,

Re: Notice of Preliminary Screening Determination – Amendment and Extension Application for Land Use Permit – Geotechnical Drilling Program for Colville Lake School Replacement Sites, Sahtu Region, NT

The Sahtu Land and Water Board (Board) met on March 2, 2022 and considered the Amendment and extension request from Government of the Northwest Territories – Department of Infrastructure (GNWT-INF) for adding an additional site (Site B) to the Type A Land Use Permit (Permit) S19S-005 for the Geotechnical Investigation of proposed Colville Lake School replacement sites in accordance with the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA)*.

The Board reviewed the updated preliminary screening for Site B based on the public record for the proceeding. Based on the evidence provided, the Board is satisfied the screening has been completed according to section 125(2)(a) of the MVRMA and has decided **not to refer** the project to environmental assessment. The Board's reasons for decision, as required by section 121 of the MVRMA, are attached.

The Board requests MVEIRB to consider either an exemption from preliminary screening or a reduced pause period, to allow the Board to issue the amended permit on Friday March 4, 2022 for the following reasons:

- a) The lands being added to the site investigation were contemplated in the original application.
- b) The site is located on Sahtu Private Lands and are the preferred option for the community.
- c) The Sahtu Lands Inspector has no concerns with the Project or the site location.
- d) The timeline for mobilization of equipment to the site over the winter road and notification to the Inspector to complete the work in 2022 season requires the Permit be issued by March 4, 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 Paul Dixon at (867) 598-2413 ext. 225 or email at Paul.dixon@slwb.com.

Yours sincerely,



Tanya Mechtosh
Chair, Sahtu Land and Water Board

Copied to: Robin Ferguson, GNWT-INF
Wilbert Kochon, Chief, Behdzi Ahda First Nation
Joseph Kochon, Band Manager, BAFN
Rares Ungureanu, CET, BAFN Project Coordinator
Jonathan Gillingham, Manager, Resource Management – GNWT-Lands Sahtu Region

BCC'd to: K'asho Got'ine Distribution Lists

Attached: Preliminary Screening and Reasons for Decision