

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Box 938
200 Scotia Centre, (5102-50th Avenue)
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

Our File EA00-004

January 26, 2001

Melody McLeod
Interim Chair
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
7th Floor - 4910 50th Avenue
P.O. Box 2130
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P6

**Re: Paramount Resources Ltd.
MV2000A0041
MV2000L1-0009
Oil and Gas Exploration, Cameron Hills, NT**

In a January 16th, 2001 letter to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board), Paramount Resources Ltd. requested that the Review Board amend the Cameron Hills environmental assessment Work Plan and Terms of Reference to "...include the possible 10 future wells...".

On January 25th, 2001, the Review Board declined to amend the Terms of Reference as requested and has issued Reasons for Decision, a copy of which is attached for your review. The Review Board is bringing this matter to your attention because our Reasons for Decision could call into question the approach that the MVLWB staff intend to follow to respond to requests from a developer to drill future wells at locations that were not specified in either the land use permit or water license.

Most particularly, the Review Board was concerned about the apparent assumption that preliminary screenings would not be necessary for the development of these future wells and that approval for these wells could be granted without either an amendment to the existing permits and licenses or the issuance of new permits and licenses.

If our Reasons raise any questions, I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this matter with you directly.

Sincerely,



Frank Pope
Co-chair of the Review Board

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