

Minister of Indian Affairs
and Northern Development



Ministre des Affaires
indiennes et du Nord canadien

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H4

JAN 31 2002



Mr. Gordon Lennie
Chair
Mackenzie Valley Environmental
Impact Review Board
PO Box 938
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2N7

Dear Mr. Lennie:

As Federal Minister, and on behalf of the responsible Minister (Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development, Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT)), I am writing to convey the decision on the Report of Environmental Assessment of the Patterson Sawmill Ltd. Timber Harvesting Application (EA Report), submitted by the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the Board) on September 17, 2001. This decision was taken after:

- considering the above noted EA Report;
- undertaking consultation with the Board on measures contained in the EA Report, pursuant to paragraph 130(1)(b)(ii) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (Act); and
- considering the letters to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) from the GNWT dated December 21, 2001, and from the Board, dated December 20, 2001.


Pursuant to paragraph 130(1)(b)(ii) of the Act, the responsible Minister and I have agreed to adopt the recommendation of the Board under paragraph 128(1)(b)(ii) of the Act, subject to the modification of the second measure identified by the Board as being necessary to prevent a likely significant adverse impact on the environment. (See enclosed measures)

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I wish to thank the Board for discharging its duties under the Act in this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert D. Nault". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "R".

Robert D. Nault, P.C., M.P.

Encl.

c.c.: The Honourable Jim Antoine, M.L.A.