



Parks Canada Parcs
Canada Canada

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FAXED
26.09.05

SEP 27 2005

Mr. Vern Christensen,
Executive Director,
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board,
P.O. Box 938,
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 2N7

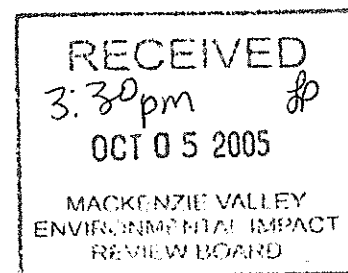
Dear Mr. Christensen,

As part of the review of "EA0405-002 CZN Phase 3 Drilling", I would like to have the following information put on the record.

Parks Canada is working on a feasibility study that will result in proposed boundaries for an expanded Nahanni National Park Reserve. This feasibility study includes research into conservation values and mineral potential and will involve consultation with the public, stakeholders and First Nations. Parks Canada has defined the area of interest for park expansion, an area that takes in the entire watershed of the South Nahanni River as well as the area of the North Karst and is also known as the greater Nahanni ecosystem.

In a letter to the Deh Cho Land Use Planning Committee in May 2005, I expressed support for a conservation zone designation for the entire area of interest for park expansion. The long term management of the Greater Nahanni Ecosystem must ensure the maintenance of its conservation values. The designation of a conservation zone should lead to appropriate management decisions and compatible land uses that would protect the watershed, the wildlife and wilderness values of the area. This in turn would assure the ecological integrity of Nahanni National Park Reserve. And, in the period before expanded park boundaries are determined, a conservation zone designation for the Greater Nahanni Ecosystem should help to ensure that conservation values are not lost and that certain boundary options, yet to be determined, are not foreclosed before decisions are made. We also wish to ensure that throughout the process of expanding the national park reserve existing third party rights will be respected.

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Thank you for your consideration of Parks Canada's comments and suggestions. I hope that this information is helpful to the Board in its work on this and other environmental assessments.

Sincerely,



f Kevin McNamee
Director, Park Establishment Branch
Parks Canada