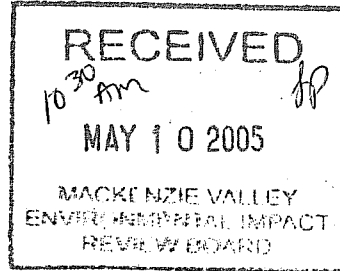


Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
7th Floor - 4910 50th Avenue • P.O. Box 2130
YELLOWKNIFE, NT X1A 2P6
Phone (867) 669-0506 • FAX (867) 873-6610

EA0506-001

May 3, 2005



File: MV2005C0006

Mr. Vern Christensen, Executive Director
Box 938, 200 Scotia Center
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2N7

Fax: 867-766-7074

Dear Mr. Christensen:

**Referral to Environmental Assessment
Alberta Star Development Corp., Land Use Permit MV2005C0006
Mineral Exploration, MacInnis Lake**

This Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) met on April 29, 2005, to deal with the aforementioned application. The decision was made to refer the application to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) for an environmental assessment pursuant to subsection 125(1) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*. The reasons for decision and the preliminary screening report are attached for your information.

If you have any questions, contact Peter Lennie-Misgeld, Senior Regulatory Officer at (867) 669-0506 or email mvlwbpermit@mvlwb.com.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "T. Burlingame".

Todd Burlingame
Chair

Copy to: Tim Coupland, President, Alberta Star Development Corp.
Ed Hornby, South Mackenzie District, DIAND, Yellowknife
Adrian Paradis, MVLWB

Attachment Letter from Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation

PRELIMINARY SCREENING REPORT FORM

PRELIMINARY SCREENER: MVLWB REFERENCE / FILE NUMBER: MV2005C0006 TITLE: Mineral Exploration, MacInnis Lake ORGANIZATION: Alberta Star Development Corp. MEETING DATE: April 29, 2005	EIRB REFERENCE NUMBER:
---	---

Type of Development:
(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | New |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Amend, EIRB Ref. # |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Requires permit, license or authorization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Does not require permit, license or authorization |

Project Summary

Alberta Star Development Corp. is proposing to drill nine (9) anomalies. The project will include:

- a temporary camp;
- fuel storage; and
- nine (9) exploratory drill holes.

All combustible solid waste will be incinerated on site. Non-combustibles will be transported to an approved facility.

Scope

This permit entitles Alberta Star Development Corp. to conduct the following activities for mineral exploration near MacInnis Lake, NT including the establishment of a temporary camp, fuel storage, exploratory drilling and the deposit of sewage and grey water. All activities will take place within 61° 17' N by 110° 18' W and 61° 26' N by 110° 05' W.

Principal Activities (related to scoping)

(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exploration | <input type="checkbox"/> Decommissioning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Installation | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> Abandonment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aerial |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Expansion | <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal | <input type="checkbox"/> Harvesting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operation | <input type="checkbox"/> Quarry | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Camp |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Repair | <input type="checkbox"/> Linear / Corridor | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewage | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid Waste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Intake | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | | |

Principal Development Components (related to scoping)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access Road
<input type="checkbox"/> construction
<input type="checkbox"/> abandonment/removal
<input type="checkbox"/> modification e.g., widening, straightening
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automobile, Aircraft or Vessel Movement
<input type="checkbox"/> Blasting
<input type="checkbox"/> Building
<input type="checkbox"/> Burning
<input type="checkbox"/> Burying
<input type="checkbox"/> Channeling
<input type="checkbox"/> Cut and Fill
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cutting of Trees or Removal of Vegetation
<input type="checkbox"/> Dams and Impoundments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> construction <input type="checkbox"/> abandonment/removal <input type="checkbox"/> modification <input type="checkbox"/> Ditch Construction
<input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Alteration
<input type="checkbox"/> Drilling other than Geoscientific
<input type="checkbox"/> Ecological Surveys
<input type="checkbox"/> Excavation
<input type="checkbox"/> Explosive Storage
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fuel Storage
<input type="checkbox"/> Topsoil, Overburden or Soil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> fill <input type="checkbox"/> disposal <input type="checkbox"/> removal <input type="checkbox"/> storage | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waste Management
<input type="checkbox"/> disposal of hazardous waste
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> waste generation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sewage
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> disposal of sewage
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geoscientific Sampling
<input type="checkbox"/> trenching
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> diamond drill
<input type="checkbox"/> borehole core sampling
<input type="checkbox"/> bulk soil sampling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Gravel <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrological Testing <input type="checkbox"/> Site Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> fertilization <input type="checkbox"/> grubbing <input type="checkbox"/> planting/seeding <input type="checkbox"/> reforestation <input type="checkbox"/> scarify <input type="checkbox"/> spraying <input type="checkbox"/> recontouring <input type="checkbox"/> Slashing and removal of vegetation
<input type="checkbox"/> Soil Testing
<input type="checkbox"/> Stream Crossing/Bridging
<input type="checkbox"/> Tunneling/Underground
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe): |
|--|---|

NTS Topographic Map Sheet Numbers
75E08

Latitude / Longitude and UTM System:

Minimum latitude 61° 17' N Maximum latitude 61° 26' N
Minimum longitude 110° 18' W Maximum longitude 110° 05' W

Nearest Community and Water Body:

Maclinnis Lake
Lutsel K'e
Fort Resolution

Land Status (consultation information)

Free Hold / Private Commissioners Land Federal Crown Land Municipal Land

Transboundary Implications

British Columbia Alberta Saskatchewan Yukon
 Nunavut Wood Buffalo National Park Inuvialuit Settlement Region

Type of Transboundary Implication: Impact / Effect Development

Public Concern
(DESCRIBE) _____

PHYSICAL - CHEMICAL EFFECTS

IMPACT

1. Ground Water

water table alteration
 water quality changes

infiltration changes
 other
 N/A

MITIGATION

Proper disposal of sewage and waste products, as well as proper handling and disposal of fuel and other hazardous material should mitigate this concern.

IMPACT

2. Surface Water

flow or level changes
 water quality changes

water quantity changes
 Drainage pattern changes
 temperature
 wetland changes / loss
 other:
 N/A

MITIGATION

Proper disposal of sewage and waste products, as well as proper handling and disposal of fuel and other hazardous material should mitigate this concern.

Spill Contingency Plan in place with NWT 24-Hour Spill Report Line to be contacted at (867) 920-8130.

Fuel cache to be located 100m above high water mark. Land Use Permit Condition 50.

Natural depressions to be used as sumps. Any cuttings resulting from drilling activities are to be impounded at or near the drill site and returned down the hole at the conclusion of the drilling. Land Use Permit Conditions 17, 18 & 19.

Conditions 14, 15 and 16 prescribe disposal methods for drill cuttings containing uranium to mitigate any potential contamination to surface waters.

IMPACT

3. Noise

- noise in/near water
- other: noise increase
- N/A

MITIGATION

No mitigation of localized and short-term noise impact from drilling activities.

IMPACT

4. Land

- geologic structure changes
- soil contamination
- buffer zone loss
- soil compaction & settling
- Destabilization / erosion
- permafrost regime alteration
- other: explosives/scarring
- N/A

MITIGATION

Proper handling of fuel, hazardous materials and waste should mitigate this concern.

Conditions 14, 15 and 16 prescribe disposal methods for drill cuttings containing uranium to mitigate any potential contamination to soil layers.

IMPACT

5. Non Renewable Natural Resources

- resource depletion
- other:
- N/A

MITIGATION

No Mitigation – Removal of sample materials.

IMPACT

6. Air/Climate/ Atmosphere

- Other
- N/A

MITIGATION

BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

IMPACT

1. Vegetation

- species composition
- species introduction
- toxin / heavy accumulation
- other:
- N/A

MITIGATION

IMPACT

2. Wildlife & Fish

- effects on rare, threatened or endangered species
- fish population changes
- waterfowl population changes

MITIGATION

Species at risk that may be encountered in this area include: Peregrine Falcon, Grizzly Bear & Wolverine. While conducting their operations the proponent should be aware of the special status and minimize disturbance to, or contact with, these species.

- breeding disturbance
- population reduction
- species diversity change
- health changes
(Identify)
- behavioural changes

(avoidance)

- habitat changes / effects
- game species effects

Some species, such as caribou, may avoid the vicinity of operations while drilling is occurring. This should be very localized and short term. Having the proponent minimize operations when large populations of game species are in the area of the operation should mitigate any impacts. Land Use Permit Conditions 34, 35 & 36

- toxins / heavy metals
- forestry changes
- agricultural changes
- other:
- N/A

INTERACTING ENVIRONMENT

IMPACT

1. Habitat and Communities

- predator-prey
- wildlife habitat / ecosystem
Composition changes
- reduction / removal of
keystone or endangered
species
- removal of wildlife corridor or
buffer zone
- other:
- N/A

MITIGATION

IMPACT

2. Social and Economic

- planning / zoning changes or
conflicts
- increase in urban facilities or
services use
- rental house
- airport operations / capacity
changes
- human health hazard

MITIGATION

impair the recreational use of water or aesthetic quality

affect water use for other purposes

affect other land use operations

quality of life changes

public concern

other:

N/A

IMPACT

3. Cultural and Heritage

effects to historic property

increased economic pressure on historic properties

change to or loss of historic resources

change to or loss of archaeological resources

increased pressure on archaeological sites

change to or loss of aesthetically important site

effects to aboriginal lifestyle

other:

N/A

NOTES:

Consultation

- Pursuant to section 1.6 (a) and (b) of the **Akaiicho Territory Dene First Nations (ATDFN)** Interim Measures Agreement, the MVLWB 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
- Pursuant to schedule 4.1 of the **Northwest Territory Metis Nation (NWTMN)** Interim Measures Agreement, the MVLWB 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

All drill casing to be removed, if possible, or cut off level with the ground. Land Use Permit Condition 13.

All equipment, fuels and supplies to be removed from drill sites upon completion of holes.

Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation (LKDFN) submitted concerns outlining:

- MacInnis and Nonacho Lake areas are extremely important to LKDFN and Deninu Kue First Nation for hunting, fishing, and trapping. Numerous historical, archaeological and spiritual sites are located within the Nonacho Lake basin. LKDFN conclude that the potential for negative impacts on culturally and ecologically important areas is too great and do not support full scale mining in the area, therefore, they do not support any initial stages of mineral exploration.

MITIGATION

Reporting archaeological discoveries and maintaining safe working distances should mitigate this concern. Land Use Permit Conditions 42, 43, 44 and 45.

PRELIMINARY SCREENER / REFERRING BODY INFORMATION
(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

	RA or DRA	ADVICE	PERMIT REQUIRED
Environment Canada	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fisheries and Oceans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canadian Heritage (Parks Canada)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National Energy Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Natural Resources Canada	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Works and Gov't Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transport Canada	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Northern Oil and Gas Directorate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canadian Nuclear Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industry Canada	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canadian Transportation Agency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National Defence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GNWT - RWED	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GNWT - MACA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GNWT - Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prince of Wales Heritage Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MVEIRB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deh Cho First Nations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Liidlii Kue First Nation (Ft Simpson)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deh Gah Got'ie Dene Council (Ft Prov.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acho Dene Koe First Nation (Fort Liard)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nahanni Butte First Nation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pehdzeh Ki First Nation (Wrigley)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TthedzehK'edeli First Nation (JMR)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ka'a'gee Tu First Nation (Kakisa)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sambaa K'e Dene Band (Trout Lake)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K'atlodeeche First Nation (Hay River)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
West Point First Nations (Hay River)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hamlet of Fort Providence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hamlet of Fort Liard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Village of Fort Simpson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Town of Hay River	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Enterprise Settlement Corporation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dogrib Treaty 11 Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dogrib Rae Band	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wha Ti First Nation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dechi Laot'l Council (Wekweti)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gameti First Nation (Rae Lakes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lutselk'e Dene First Nation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yellowknives Dene First Nation (Ndilo)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yellowknives Dene First Nation (Dettah)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rea-Edzo Metis Local #64	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
North Slave Metis Alliance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hamlet of Rae Edzo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Charter Community of Wha Ti	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
City of Yellowknife	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fort Smith Metis Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Salt River First Nations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Smith Landing First Nation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Katlodeeche First Nation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
West Point First Nation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Northwest Territory Metis Nation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hay River Metis Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deninu Ku'e First Nations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fort Resolution Metis Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deninu Ku'e Env. Working Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Akaiicho Territory Government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Town of Hay River	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deninoo Community Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Town of Fort Smith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Enterprise Settlement Corporation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REASONS FOR DECISION
(LIST ALL REASONS AND SUPPORTING RATIONALES FOR PRELIMINARY SCREENING DECISION)

DECISION:

The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (The Board) is satisfied that the preliminary screening of application MV2005C0006, Alberta Star Development Corp., mineral exploration has been completed in accordance with section 125 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.

The Board is satisfied that a reasonable period of notice was given to Communities and First Nations affected by the application as required by subsection 63(2) of the *MVRMA* so that they could provide comments to the Board.

Having reviewed all relevant evidence on the Public Registry, including the submissions of the Applicant, the written comments received by the Board and any staff reports prepared for the Board, the Board has decided that in its opinion that:

- there is no likelihood that the proposed development might have a significant adverse impact on the environment; and
- there is likelihood that the proposed development might be a cause of public concern.

Pursuant to section 125(1) of the *MVRMA*, the Board refers Land Use Permit MV2005C0006 submitted by Alberta Star Development Corp. to conduct Mineral Exploration at MacInnis Lake to the MVEIRB for Environmental Assessment based on public concern expressed by the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation (LKDFN). The LKDFN expressed concern regarding potential impacts of the project to the environmental, cultural, spiritual and economic importance of the Nonacho Lake basin and the MacInnis Lake area. LKDFN stated that these areas are very important to their community as well as Deninu Kue First Nation for hunting, trapping, and fishing. Numerous sites of archaeological, historical and spiritual importance are located within the Nonacho Lake Basin. The LKDFN also expressed concern on uranium exploration occurring within their traditional territory.

As a result, the Board, having due regard to the facts and circumstances, the merits of the submissions made to it, and to the purpose, scope and intent of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* and the Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations has decided that these Land Use Permit and Water License applications be referred to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board for Environmental Assessment pursuant to subsection 125(1) of the *MVRMA*.

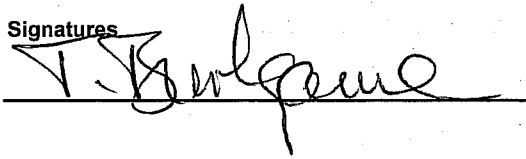
PRELIMINARY SCREENING DECISION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Outside Local Government Boundaries
<input type="checkbox"/>	The development proposal might have a significant adverse impact on the environment, <i>refer it to the EIRB</i> .
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The development proposal might have public concern, <i>refer it to the EIRB</i> .
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wholly within Local Government Boundaries
<input type="checkbox"/>	The development proposal is likely to have a significant adverse impact on air, water or renewable resources, <i>refer it to the EIRB</i> .
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	The development proposal might have public concern, <i>refer it to the EIRB</i> .
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Proceed with regulatory process and/or implementation.</i>

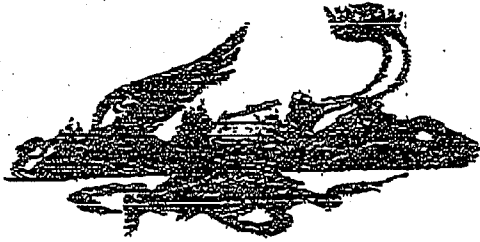
Preliminary Screening Organization

Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

April 30, 2005

Signatures





Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
 Wildlife, Lands & Environment Department
 P.O. Box 28
 Lutsel K'e NT
 X0E-1A0
 Phone: 867-370-3097
 Fax: 867-370-3143

Pete Enzoe, Chair
 Wildlife, Lands & Environment Committee
 Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation

April 14, 2005

Tim Coupland, President
 Alberta Star Development Corp.
 Suite 200, 675 West Hastings St.
 Vancouver, BC V6B 1N2
 Fax (604) 801-5499

**Mackenzie Valley Land
 & Water Board**

File

APR 15 2005

Application # MV2005C0006

Copied To AP

**Re: Application for Land Use Permit, Mineral Exploration – MacInnis Lake
 (MV2005C0006)**

Your application for mineral exploration within the traditional territory of the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation has been assessed by the Wildlife, Lands & Environment Committee. We hereby reject the issuance of this permit.

As you may or may not be aware, Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation is one of the Akaitcho Territory Treaty 8 First Nations. Akaitcho First Nations do not recognize the jurisdiction of the Mackenzie Valley Land & Water Board, and are involved in ongoing negotiations with the federal government to resolve outstanding Treaty land entitlement, self-government and Aboriginal rights issues. There is an Interim Measures Agreement (IMA) signed by Akaitcho First Nations and the federal and territorial governments in 2001. As well, there has been a Policy Directive from the federal Minister of Indian & Northern Development, Andy Mitchell, directing the MVLWB to work alongside Akaitcho First Nations to implement the provisions of the IMA.

As per the IMA, we have assessed the potential impacts of this project on environmental, cultural, spiritual, and economic factors. We have concluded that the potential negative impacts on culturally and ecologically important areas are too great to justify, no matter how short-term and low-impact the activities may be. We do not want to see any full-scale mining in this area, and therefore will not support even the initial stages of such activity.

The MacInnis Lake area and the Nonacho Lake basin has been historically and continues to be extremely important to our community and to the Deninu Kue First Nation. This is a vital traditional hunting, fishing and trapping area. There are also numerous sites of

2

historical, archaeological, and spiritual significance within the Nonacho Lake basin. We also have some serious concerns with the type of minerals you would be exploring for, namely uranium. We are intent on preventing any uranium mining within our traditional territory.

Please be advised that we intend to be vigilant in the defence of our Treaty rights, and are prepared to take immediate action to protect them if they are not respected.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact myself or Monica Krieger (Manager, Wildlife, Lands & Environment Department) at 867-370-3197.

Sincerely,

Monica Krieger for

Pete Enzo

Cc: Adrian Paradis, Regulatory Officer, MVLWB
Stephen Ellis, Akaitcho IMA Implementation Coordinator

2