



August 22, 2011

VIA EMAIL

Vern Christensen  
Executive Director  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
#200 Scotia Centre  
5102 – 50th Avenue  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

**RE: Request for Clarification of Community Hearing Notice for the Consolidated Goldwin Ventures Inc. Mineral Exploration Program Environmental Assessment EA0506-005**

On April 5, 2011 the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) notified Parties to the Consolidated Goldwin Ventures Inc. Mineral Exploration Program (CGV) Environmental Assessment (EA) EA0506-05 of its approach to undertaking the Federal Minister's request for further consideration of several issues (Federal Minister's Letter of April 11, 2010). The approach stated:

*"In order to bring this proceeding to closure, the Review Board decided to take the following steps:*

- 1. The current board members will undertake a detailed review [of] the existing public record, including hearing transcripts.*
- 2. The public record for this file is being re-opened for information relevant to the issues under further consideration.*
- 3. Parties will be given until April 29, 2011 to submit new evidence that may have arisen since the Review Board issued its report of environmental assessment and any comments they may have on the issues under further consideration.*
- 4. Parties may respond to submissions received by the Review Board until May 6, 2011. The public record then closes.*
- 5. Following the closure of the public record the Review Board will deliberate and make its decisions on the issues under further consideration."*

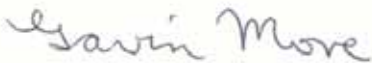
On May 10, 2011 the Review Board provided additional information on its approach to completion of the CGV EA further consideration work. In response to an April 26, 2011 motion by the Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN), the Review Board stated *"The Review Board has decided to grant the YKDFN Request for an oral hearing of the Elders. Reasons for this decision will be released under separate cover."* In the letter, the Review Board also asked Parties to confirm their agreement for the Review Board members to completing the further consideration work by May 24, 2011. The Review Board stated that *"If the required consents are received, the Review Board will set a date for a public hearing order to receive evidence from YKDFN Elders."*

As of August 18, 2011 the Review had not placed its reasons for the decision to allow an oral hearing of the Elders on the public registry.

On August 11, 2011 the Review Board provided a Note to File notifying Parties of a Community Hearing for the CVG EA to be held on September 12 - 13, 2011. Based on the Review Board's guidelines for community hearings, it is unclear if the September hearing is intended to go beyond the stated intention of holding an Elders oral hearing.

The Government of the Northwest Territories requests the Review Board clarify its August 11, 2011 Note to File by providing clear direction to Parties regarding its expectations for the September Community Hearing.

Sincerely



Gavin More  
Manager  
Environmental Assessment and Monitoring  
Environment and Natural Resources