

## **EA0607-002: Tamerlane Pine Point Project**

Meeting Report from the Fort Resolution Scoping Session

Compiled by: the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (“MVEIRB” or “Review Board”)

Location: Community Hall, Fort Resolution

Date: August 17, 2006

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Review Board hosted scoping sessions in Hay River and Fort Resolution on August 16-17, 2006, to gather issues and concerns from all parties about the proposed Tamerlane Ventures’ Pine Point Project, 45 km east of Hay River. The Review Board will be using this meeting report, the report from Fort Resolution, all of the information on the Public Record (available at [www.mveirb.nt.ca](http://www.mveirb.nt.ca)), and any follow-up comments from any interested parties, to develop the *Draft Terms of Reference and Work Plan* for this Environmental Assessment.

While this meeting report is as comprehensive as Review Board staff could make it, this is not a verbatim document. It is based on notes by Review Board staff. Unlike the official statements made at Review Board hearings toward the end of the Environmental Assessment process, scoping sessions are less formal dialogues.

People’s names (other than in association with Developer’s responses) have not been associated with the individual statements they made at the session in this document unless they were invited to give a specific comment. If any inaccuracies are identified, feel free to submit a comment to be placed on the public record of the Environmental Assessment. Digital (Hay River) and digital/analog (Fort Resolution) tapes were made of most of the dialogue at these sessions and will be stored in the Public Record.

Contact Alistair MacDonald at the Review Board with any questions or comments:

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### **ATTENDEES**

*In attendance (only those people who signed in or made their names known):*

Alistair MacDonald – MVEIRB

Patrick Duxbury – MVEIRB

Renita Schuh – MVEIRB

David Swisher – Tamerlane Ventures

Jerry DeMarco – Tamerlane Ventures

Rick Hoos – EBA

Godfrey McDonald – CMS

Joel Holder – GNWT Environment and Natural Resources  
Lionel Marcinkoski – INAC Environment and Conservation  
Catherine Mallet – INAC Waters  
Kellie Emon – INAC Mineral Development Division  
Arthur Beck – NWTMN, Fort Resolution  
Cec Heron – NWTMN, IMA Coordinator  
Andrew Butler – Nuni (Ye) Construction  
Warren D – Fort Resolution  
Denise McKay  
Rosy Bjornson – DKFN  
Cecil Lafferty – Deninu Community Council  
Dora Enzoe – Akaitcho IMA Office  
(?) Enzoe – Lutsel K'e Dene Band  
Kara King  
Pat Simon – Environment Manager, DKFN  
Violet Mandeville – Fort Resolution Metis Council  
Andrew Tofflemire – Crosscurrent Associates (for DKFN)  
Cynthia Cardinal  
Chris Heron – NWTMN – Fort Smith  
Blaine King  
Carol Collins – IMA, Deninu K'ue First Nations  
Raymond Sayine – DKFN  
Chief Robert Sayine – DKFN  
Georgina Biscaye – DKFN member  
Arthur Beck – Fort Resolution Metis  
Joe O'Reilly – Fort Resolution  
Paul Boucher – DKFN Negotiator  
Gord Beaulieu – Economic Development Officer (DKFN)  
Alan Mandeville – DKFN  
Greg B.(?) – DKFN  
Irvin Norn – DKFN  
Henry F.(?)  
Marcel Norn – DKFN elder  
Edward McKay – DKFN elder  
Henry C.(?) – DKFN  
Mary C. Pierrot  
Fred King  
Bill Norn – Norn Fuel Ltd.  
Jim ? – Fort Resolution  
Wilfred? – Fort Resolution  
Gary ? – Fort Resolution

## **SUMMARY OF ISSUES RAISED**

### **Missing or inadequate information was identified in regards to the following:**

- The Dense Media Separation circuit (its footprint, process, inputs and outputs)
- Alternatives to transporting ore to Hay River (rail or railbed road, as well as barge, were identified as possibilities)
- Alternative accommodation on site as opposed to commuting

- Alternative technologies in case of freezeway failure
- The likelihood of success of freezeway technology in this environment
- Alternative land uses and users in the project area
- Traditional Knowledge studies
- Reclamation planning
- Description of the underlying geology and its effects on hydrology and water flow in the region
- A larger “local study area” was proposed
- Monitoring plans on all systems at the site
- Identification of all chemicals to be used on site, along with potential environmental impacts and mitigation requirements
- Clarity needed on the physical footprint on the site (buildings, holes, pipes, roads, etc.) – more images and diagrams
- Information on hiring policies and contracting policies
- Information on job requirements
- Information on training initiatives
- More information on explosives (type, storage, handling, transport, environmental effects)
- Information on amounts of dust and noise created by activities
- Information on emissions and contribution to (and impacts of) climate change
- Information about impacts on aquatic environment
- 4 season biophysical baseline studies required
- Lack of information on cumulative effects assessment

**Public concerns about the following issues were identified:**

- Historic cumulative effects of pine point (prior mining history)
- Lack of jobs being created for locals, especially considering impacts on traditional economy of industrial activities
- Need for Impact Benefit or other Agreements on business, employment, harvester and other compensation
- Loss of non-renewable resource wealth on traditional lands
- History of company management in the North
- Inability to compete with outsiders for jobs and business opportunities
- Need for Tamerlane to control their contractors’ actions

**Specific potential impacts identified included:**

- Land clearing (loss of trees and habitat)
- Water quality and quantity issues in the Pine Point area and Great Slave Lake
- Cumulative impacts on a “healing land”
- Loss of animals (SARA-listed species, fur bearers, moose, insects)
- Damage to highway (cost of maintenance and public safety)
- Losses to traditional harvesters (direct and indirect)
- Worker health and safety issues
- Dust
- Noise
- Climate change contribution
- Rock wall stability and ground subsidence
- Socio-economic impacts on housing costs, child care availability, cultural loss

## MEETING REPORT

The meeting commenced at 1:30 pm.

Marcel Norn, a DKFN elder, gave an opening prayer.

The Fort Resolution meeting was introduced by Chief Robert Sayine of the DKFN. In his presentation he noted the value of previous scoping sessions for Gahcho Kue. He said that he would like to see longer scoping sessions take place. He emphasized that anything that happens on the land is important to Dene people. He mentioned that development has happened in his land before; Pine Point happened and left a mess behind and that is a legitimate issue. He also mentioned that Ft. Resolution has not benefited by more recent mining projects such as those occurring in the diamond fields. He stated that he expected to see benefits, such as those occurring across the other side of the lake, such as employment, contracting and Impact Benefit Agreement money. He said that his community expected to have the majority of the jobs from the Tamerlane development.

Lloyd Cardinal, President of the Metis Local, also gave some introductory comments. He started by stating that Metis have the same aboriginal rights to the land as first nations and comments to the contrary bothered him. He felt that everything by-passed Ft. Resolution in terms of jobs. He stated that in the days of Pine Point Mine, only 3% of jobs at the mine were provided for Ft. Resolution. He believed that in the past industry was favoured and they could do what they like, but he noted that other avenues are now available to contest this.

He stated that he wanted to ensure that with this new project was not going to damage the environment. He also said that he wanted his community involved in a participation agreement. He believed there should be an access agreement, with the community's approval that development will occur. In addition, a participation agreement should ensure that that community has the right of first refusal regarding contracts; if the community could not provide the service, then Tamerlane could then go look elsewhere. If those agreements can be arranged then there has to be an IBA providing cash compensation. In absence of a participation agreement, he said that he would ask for \$750,000 over 18 months for this project. He said that he was prepared to make those requests and demands and follow through with them.

He stated that the proponents are not going to destroy our land, take the money and walk away and If they are going to pull resources out of our land, the community wants a piece. He noted that the MVEIRB is responsible to ensure that impacts from those developments are mitigated and he said that communities should have the ability to re-address negative impacts such as through access to benefits. He stated that there are names associated with Tamerlane that have not made a very good show of working in the North in the past, another cause for concern. He also noted that Pine Point Mine was never cleaned up.

*A presentation by Alistair Macdonald of MVEIRB was given regarding the environmental assessment process and the role and goals of scoping sessions. It is available at*

[http://www.mveirb.nt.ca/upload/project\\_document/1156278807\\_process\\_description\\_for\\_tamerlane\\_EA\\_and\\_scoping\\_sessions.pdf](http://www.mveirb.nt.ca/upload/project_document/1156278807_process_description_for_tamerlane_EA_and_scoping_sessions.pdf)

A participant asked a process question: whether specific groups are only allowed to comment on certain parts of the *Draft Terms of Reference*. Alistair Macdonald responded by saying that the *Draft Terms of Reference* were completely open to everyone for comments.

A participant asked how much authority the Review Board has in its recommendations and if there are outstanding questions, can the project be put on hold. He questioned where Tamerlane gets its money from.

*Alistair MacDonald of the Review Board responded by saying that the Review Board makes recommendations to the federal and responsible ministers, who have a very limited number of options in making a final decision based on the Review Board's findings. Also, the Review Board does not usually examine where public companies raise their money from.*

David Swisher responded by saying that Tamerlane is currently conducting a feasibility study which will be overwritten by an accredited professional group. Investment money comes from individuals and institutions; but for Tamerlane, money cannot be raised until the permit process and assessment is complete.

A participant asked if the assessment takes into account the loss of trees and furbearers into account. *Alistair Macdonald responded yes.*

A participant stated that community lacks the time and resources to deal with the issues that are brought up and the technology that is being discussed.

A participant stated that they needed more information on the Dense Media Separation circuit and asked if the government reps knew anything about it. *Alistair Macdonald responded by saying that the proponent was going to speak to these issues in their presentation.*

A presentation was given by David Swisher of Tamerlane Ventures on an overview of the development. All Tamerlane slides are available at [http://www.mveirb.nt.ca/upload/project\\_document/1156278953\\_Scoping%20Presentation%20Afternoon%20Aug%202006.pdf](http://www.mveirb.nt.ca/upload/project_document/1156278953_Scoping%20Presentation%20Afternoon%20Aug%202006.pdf) []

*In the interest of educating the audience more about the development, questions were entertained throughout the presentation. NOTE: Due to the high level of questions from participants, not all of the slides in the presentation on the website were shown during the Fort Resolution scoping session.*

A participant asked if the company had estimated damage costs to the highways from the project activities. He stated that he felt that peoples' lives were going to be made miserable with traffic and damage to road. He asked if the railway could be used instead.

David Swisher said that the re-establishment of the railway would cost 1 million dollars per kilometre. Road transport along the old rail bed would be about \$750,000 per

kilometre. Tamerlane is proposing that a graveyard shift could be conducted to prevent disturbance to residents, and only about 40 trucks per night would be going into Hay River area.

A participant asked if the company was going to provide money for maintenance. David Swisher said that he had spoken to the Ministry of Transportation about his project; he mentioned that the ministry wants to know about the project in order to allocate funds for road maintenance.

A participant suggested that the old railway right-of-way could be flattened out and used as a transport corridor for the concentrate; the material could also be barged out instead [Gossing Landing]. David Swisher responded that their feasibility study will examine transportation options. He also mentioned that they are expecting to complete a feasibility study within 5 or 6 weeks and will have more information at that time.

A participant asked if the freezing will affect the environment and will Tamerlane remove the shaft after completion of work. David Swisher said that Tamerlane has engaged a consultant for the freezing work who presently is working on 16 active freezing projects around the world. Tamerlane will look to their expertise in regards to mitigation and best-practices. He also stated that following mining, the shaft will be sealed with a concrete plug.

A participant questioned why this project is consider a "Pilot" project and did it mean that there is less responsibility to clean up afterwards. David Swisher said the purpose of the project is to prove the feasibility of underground mining in this area. He acknowledged that Tamerlane is responsible for the impacts of its project regardless of name.

A participant asked if past practices is part of this assessment. David Swisher said that Tamerlane is looking at Comino's past activities so as not to make the same mistakes. The statement was made that the development wanted to minimize the project footprint and that underground mining was a big part of that.

A participant wanted a clarification regarding ownership of property in the Pine Point region. David Swisher stated that Tamerlane owns 100% of the mineral rights in this area and had to pay for these rights. He clarified that this does not mean that Tamerlane owns the land.

A participant requested to know about whose names are on the leases and whose name is present on the water licences for the historic Pine Point area. Rick Hoos responded that Comino through its water licence has responsibilities regarding tailings dams and monitoring.

A participant asked whether acquiring minerals will require an access agreement with the Aboriginal communities. David Swisher stated that there may be opportunities if the project is viable.

A participant requested to know what kind of restoration system is planned and what monitoring is proposed to protect health. David Swisher responded saying that if the pilot project is not successful Tamerlane will remove all equipment, cap the shaft, regrade the site, and re-vegetate the area including the infiltration basin as per Section 15 of the Mackenzie Valley Land Use Regulations.

A participant questioned the applicability of technologies used at Diavik in contrast to those at Tamerlane's project due to the difference in permafrost regimes. She had concerns about the type of cap being used and also wanted to know how local sulphurous artesian flows could effect the freezing process.

David Swisher noted that Tamerlane is going to freeze a small area and they plan to use a supercooled brine solution to draw heat away.

A participant asked why brine was going to be used for a refrigerant. David Swisher responded saying that brine is both cheaper and safer to handle than nitrogen. Rick Hoos added that at Diavik and Ekati they use the permafrost with thermosyphons to move the cold from natural permafrost. The system with Tamerlane is different because there is no local underlying permafrost; active freezing will be used to create a thick donut of ice 600 ft deep that will prevent water flow into the mine shaft and workings. Rick acknowledged that sulphur in the water will cause freezing to be slower, but that this would simply require adding more salt to the brine mix. He noted that the brine will be in pipes and won't come into contact with the outside environment. The water will move around the ring; after mining is completed, the pipes will be turned off and the ice will thaw.

A participant asked if the pipes will be turned off and removed. Rick Hoos said yes.

A participant asked if they had tested for natural salt in the groundwater. Rick Hoos said yes and said that the salt will just prolong the freezing process.

A participant stated that he assumed that Tamerlane would check the pipes for leak, but what would happen if a break occurred, for example due to earthquakes (which he noted do occur in the area). David Swisher responded saying that is why Tamerlane wants to use brine, as its effects are less significant. He also stated that each pipe will have a monitor to measure increases and decreases in pressure.

A participant asked if Tamerlane could commit to engaging Aurora College to help train local environmental monitors. She said she wanted to see her own people watching the site and said that she wanted Tamerlane to help pay wages and costs for the training.

David Swisher said that it may not be too prudent to proceed like that given the short time line of the project. He stated that Tamerlane needs time to extract its sample and if the technology proves positive then they will look at training for community members for further developments.

A participant stated that the training could occur fairly quickly, 5 weeks and it would enable communities to monitor the project. David Swisher responded saying that they would welcome people to visit the site to see all the things that will happen there, and that all they ask for is some lead time to set up those visits.

A participant asked what would be used to dilute the brine from a broken pipe. David Swisher stated that it would probably need to dilute the brine with water 10:1. He also mentioned that if there were any leaks on the surface they would clean it up.

A participant asked if the release water was going to be toxic and what is going to happen to ensure that it won't be toxic. David Swisher stated that the water is going to be reused in the Dense Media Separation Circuit and that the water release will not be toxic, and monitoring will occur.

A participant asked about the substance to be mixed with the water in the DMS and if it was dangerous. Godfrey Macdonald explained the origins and properties of ferrosilicon. He further noted that it is inert and it can be handled directly with hands. He stated that it is very expensive and acknowledged that a very small amount of ferrosilicon gets lost in the direct shipment ore and in the float product and fines rejects that are then used in the backfill underground.

A participant asked a question regarding the ores composition and what was the economic valuable components. Godfrey Macdonald said that product will be a zinc/lead, direct shipment ore, which will not be milled like the Pine Point Mine to produce separate zinc and lead concentrates.

A participant asked how many holes are to be dug. David Swisher said that one hole approximately 22 ft in diameter will be dug. *It was later confirmed that a ventilation shaft will also be bored on site.*

A participant noted from the MVEIRB handout that the test mine would include a small number of new roads. David Swisher said that they will only be using roads that have already been established with some maintenance and upgrading and will not create roads that are already there.

*NOTE – This discrepancy is a result of conflicting passages from pages 20 and 28 in the Project Description Report. The Developer verbally stated to MVEIRB on August 22, 2006, that the latter – “additional roads will be improved” – is the accurate project description at this time.*

A participant wanted to know how many positions are required and what qualifications will be required to fill them.

A participant wanted to know why the milling isn't going to happen and wondered if there was a portable machine to do milling. David Swisher said that a mill is very expensive and for the pilot project it won't be needed.

A participant wanted to know how Tamerlane intended to get material up the vertical shaft and equipment down the shaft. David Swisher said that diesel machines similar to a front end loader will be used to shovel the ore underground, they will be dismantled and reassembled underground.

A participant asked how ventilation is going to happen, considering diesel power will be used. David Swisher said that a 8 foot ventilation shaft will be dug with air forced in to change the air.

A participant asked if there will be sensor underground to test for hazardous conditions. David Swisher said that the air will be monitored.



A participant asked how long would it take to get people out of the underground works in an emergency situation. David Swisher said 15 or 20 minutes would be necessary to have people exit via the main shaft or ventilation shaft.

A participant asked when Tamerlane will discuss benefits to the communities, stating the community wants ample time to prepare for bidding for contracts and supplying services. He also noted that it is hard for Native people to get financed to get businesses going. He was worried that potential business competitors in Hay River can be ready tomorrow for the project.

A participant stated that Tamerlane doesn't own the land, they own the mineral resources and Tamerlane hasn't asked for our permission. He stated that people were going to be forced out of the area for more than two years, so what is in it for them. He also compared the people of Ft. Resolution to investors because they provide the land input.

David Swisher said that they are doing a feasibility study and applying that to future possible operations to see what they can offer to communities.

A participant said that Tamerlane is going to take 200 – 300 million dollars out of the ground. David Swisher replies that there are many variables, plans are adjusting, capital costs are varying and yes the goal is to make money and enhance communities.

A participant asked how long the ore will be extracted for. David Swisher said the project will take 12-15 months for construction and another 12-15 for ore extraction and it proves viable, they will use the same shaft to access other deposits.

A participant stated that Ft. Resolution will face difficulties financing business to compete with Hay River. David Swisher mentioned that he is working with Jerry DeMarco to figure out various options; a list of services will be provided at some future date.

An elder spoke about her concern regarding water. She said that the underground water used to be good to drink and well water use to be drunk in town. She didn't understand why the water at the pilot project is not good for consumption. She expressed her concerns about the water being damaged as was the case in Pine Point.

A participant stated that there needs to be some clarity about how large the ore deposit is. She suggested that a schematic drawing of the project depicting all the components would be useful. David Swisher noted that Tamerlane is working on developing 3-D drawings for the feasibility study.

An Elder expressed concerns about the capacity of the freezing system to freeze the shaft due to the presence of sulphur, he noted that sulphur rich water doesn't freeze. David Swisher said that the system will be able to freeze the area; it just takes a little more effort.

An Elder wanted to know what Tamerlane's policy on education, drug use and criminal records was. He noted that at Diavik and Ekati, these things get in the way of people being hired. David Swisher said that people without education can get hired. Work ethic and quality of the worker is more important. However criminal records and drug use may impact on the security of other workers, and these things are important.

Another Elder spoke about his experiences working at Pine Point. He stated that he worked fourteen years at Pine Point as an oiler. He stated that no one wanted the oiler job and they said a 10<sup>th</sup> grade education was required. A retiring worker trained him for two weeks. His trainer told his supervisor that he was a good worker. He worked as an oiler afterwards and oiled and greased all the equipment. He said that the contract restricted his advancement and payment due to education policies. David Swisher agreed with the views expressed and said that such a policy wouldn't occur with his project.

Another Elder said that he had lived in Pine Point for 17 years. He worked on a loading crew for 1 year. Then he became a crew leader for 9 persons from Fort Resolution. A supervisor helped him progress in my job despite his not having education. He worked with 9 persons from Ft. Resolution and said that he was a good worker. He observed that the concentrate that was poured into truck was very heavy and cautioned about transporting the material along the highway in the pilot project case. He said that the road is not wide and it is slippery. He thought the railroad bed would be a good option to transport material. He stated that if the work is conducted as the project stated then the community will like it, but not if it isn't beneficial.

A participant stated that the developer should have come into the community prior to scoping sessions to do this educating about what the development is all about. She wanted to know why the land use permit application was 5 years when the actual project is for less than 2 years and would that permit unapproved projects to occur as a result.

David Swisher noted that anything that Tamerlane want to do above and beyond what is in front of us will have to go through the regulatory process just like this development, and that requires a Preliminary Screening and the potential for an Environmental Assessment.

### **Supper Break at 5pm**

After supper the DKFN's representative Paul Boucher made a presentation regarding their concerns and issues the environmental assessment needs to address. Andrew Tofflemire, the DKFN's consultant, followed up on some of the issues. Patrick Simon of the DKFN gave a presentation as well. He noted that politics will be dealt with in another forum and had confidence that they would be dealt with. All of these presentations are available at

[http://www.mveirb.nt.ca/upload/project\\_document/1156189513\\_DKFN%20scoping%20s%20ubmission%20-%20august%2017%202006.pdf](http://www.mveirb.nt.ca/upload/project_document/1156189513_DKFN%20scoping%20s%20ubmission%20-%20august%2017%202006.pdf)

*NOTE: The DKFN presentation materials were very extensive, and because they are already on the Public Record, a synopsis of their issues and concerns are not included here. They will be considered by the Review Board when developing the Draft Terms of Reference.*

In addition to the presentation, the following points were stressed by Patrick Simon:

1. The development description is not currently sufficient; more work in terms of providing maps and diagrams is necessary.

2. The footprint of the landscape that may be potentially affected needs to be better understood; not just where the infrastructure is located. Dust dispersion is an example of how concerns can go beyond the immediate physical footprint of the development.
3. More information regarding process chemicals needs to be provided; particularly reaction with other compounds.
4. Consideration of chromium releases to the environment.
5. The development description needs to be elaborated upon with for example, the number of holes present, the number of buildings, the number of piles of material.
6. It is expected that Tamerlane ultimately assume responsibility for the actions of all their contractors or service providers
7. There is not enough information on the handling, storage and disposal of explosives on site
8. How the Developer deals with speaking to the Deninu K'ue – observing protocols about how one comes into the community. Importance of recognizing leadership.

A participant stated that Tamerlane should have had given information regarding monitoring prior to this scoping session. She stated that she would like to know more information on

- noise monitoring,
- fish and other aquatic life (plankton),
- dust and dust control, and
- contribution to (and affects on project of) climate change.

A participant expressed the opinion that all types of monitoring be conducted during all 4 seasons. She also stated that IBA dollars should benefit the whole community, not just one group of people as this leads to disputes.

A participant stated that when Pine Point closed Ft. Resolution wasn't consulted, and he noted that cancer rates went up.

A participant spoke about Tamerlane's proposed use of the highway. He believed that the highway was the only thing that was gotten out of Pine Point Mine experience. He believed that the right of way of the former railway could be used as a haul road. He suggested that the government could assist in financing the expenses. He also stated that the GNWT could consider a toll road system to cover costs of maintaining the road if the developer is going to be using it.

A participant expressed her concerns about childcare and the difficulty to get good care, and how this will ongoing impact could be accelerated if workers are driving or bussing to the mine. She also mentioned that housing is an issue for aboriginal people in NWT.

An Elder asked how old do people have to be work at the project and what class of driver's licence do they require to drive the trucks. He said that he had two 19 year old grandsons. David Swisher responded that 18 years is likely the age to be considered for employment as there are safety requirements to deal with.

A participant discussed her concerns about the use of ferrosilicon. She read out information from the legal Material Safety Data Sheet on the substance and listed some

potential health and safety effects such as dust explosions and dust inhalation and phosphine.

Godfrey Macdonald responded stated that dust concerns were due to its small particle size (as fine as icing sugar, at least as fine as flour) although he said that he had never noticed dust stains on workers' masks, he believed it was because the material is quite heavy. He also stated the material in the plant will be kept wet. He said generation of phosphine wasn't a risk as that is not something to be expected in a mining operation such as the pilot project.

A participant asked why the Materials Safety Data Sheet she had did not list any environmental effects and how would Tamerlane be disposing of it. Godfrey Macdonald said that the substance has been used for many years and effects would have been noticed by now if there were any. He also mentioned that the company would sell any leftover ferrosilicon after mining was completed, as it is too valuable to waste.

A participant wanted to know about compensation for harvesters in the project area and she noted that traplines are not registered in the area. David Swisher noted that they had just found out about the trapping circumstances and would need to speak to the community about who uses the land and where the traps are. He noted that in the past companies have made reparations for impacts on trapping.

A participant stated that animals travel farther than the study area, to the Buffalo River, and that a traditional knowledge study needs to be conducted.

A participant expressed concern that Tamerlane was predicting no significant cumulative impacts from their operation in combination with prior Pine Point activities; he disagreed with that.

David Swisher responded saying that Tamerlane has been more concerned with its own personal impacts. Rick Hoos added that he understands the land is going through a healing process and that Tamerlane does not want to cause more impacts. David Swisher stated that during the pre-feasibility study, Tamerlane examined historic records on the Pine Point Mine and took them into consideration when designing their project. He stated that they wanted to avoid the mistakes of past mining activities.

A participant requested to know what would happen if the proposed technology fails. David Swisher responded saying that in such a case, Tamerlane would not give up and would instead re-evaluate its process. If the mining still could not occur, then Tamerlane still must fulfill its responsibility to reclaim the site properly.

A participant had several information requests:

- She re-iterated her opinion that the baseline studies were insufficient as they were based on only one season and that studies should be conducted during all four seasons.
- She wanted to know more about the training possibilities that could be offered through the project as well as what sorts of support services would be required.
- She requested more information on how Tamerlane proposed to house their employees and where they would be located.

- She felt it would be good to have job descriptions provided in order that people could be identified as potential workers.
- She finally noted that she would like to see technical sessions on specific project components such as the DMS.

A participant stated that he wanted to know more about the timelines for the environmental assessment. He requested to know what the MVEIRB would be doing over the next few months and he mentioned that any activities on the land by the developer or MVEIRB could impact on harvesting activities around the pilot project site. He noted that people would like know what will happen this winter so that they can plan their activities accordingly.

*Alistair Macdonald of MVEIRB noted that the EA process is likely to proceed well beyond the winter season, if other EA's are any indication, and that no physical works can proceed on the applied for licenses and permits until the EA is complete and these regulatory documents issued. He also stated that an EA work plan will be forthcoming with the Draft Terms of Reference within the month, and will provide more clarity about the timelines. MVEIRB has no activities other than one potential site visit on the land.*

David Swisher added that until Tamerlane receives its permits and licences for mining, it cannot conduct any physical activities

An Elder spoke about his concerns that underground digging may lead to collapsing (ground subsidence). He didn't want the land to be damaged; he noted that people have to make sure that the wildlife are protected if activities is to proceed. David Swisher responded by saying that Tamerlane will backfill the mining developments to provide stability and avoid subsidence of the workings.

An Elder spoke about the importance of thinking of the young children and their future and that is why it is important to protect the land. He believed that land would not be the same 15 years from now. He stressed that he wasn't saying no to development, but that it was important to consider things like trapping and hunting, as well as water quality. He noted that lots of people from Ft. Resolution used to go to the area and that grandfathers had watched and kept the land and the same must be done for today's children.

An Elder stated that her grandfather was buried in the area around the Buffalo River. She disagreed with another person's comments in Hay River about who has rights to the land; she thought the comments were driven by money concerns. She noted that people from Deninu K'ue have trapped the area. She said that she didn't mind people from Hay River being hired, but Ft. Resolution is close to Pine Point and people should be hired as well.

A participant stated that he had moved to Ft. Resolution in the 1960's before the road was developed. After the road was built alcohol was brought in and it has a bad effect on the community for 10 years. As a community wellness worker, he wanted to know what Tamerlane is going to do related to social impacts; such as helping with projects, such as the cultural week activities being held on the island.

David Swisher responded that at this project stage it is difficult to say what sort of assistance could be provide regarding socio-economic impacts; however Tamerlane will

want to help once there is more certainty about the long-term viability of the development.

A participant asked if Tamerlane was willing to support people's participation for the scoping session; he believed that people were volunteering their services to Tamerlane. He stated that he felt the company should pay. David Swisher responded saying that Tamerlane will not pay people to participate as the environmental assessment is not their process. *Alistair Macdonald confirmed that MVEIRB does not pay people for participating in environmental assessments.*

A participant stated that the Mackenzie Valley Boards approve land activities without consent of Ft. Resolution. He said people are not begging for jobs and that if people take jobs then their rents go up significantly. He stated that protecting the land is more important than just jobs.

A participant spoke concerning the Land Use Permits and Water Licence applications. He noted that the company's study area encompasses three ore bodies, but the applications are only for the extraction of one orebody. He stated that he need assurance that Tamerlane does not attempt to amend and extend their permits to include projects that haven't been assessed. He mentioned the Paramount developments as a possible way that this could proceed.

*Alistair Macdonald stated that if Tamerlane wanted to pursue other ore bodies, new licences and permits would be required that would be subject to preliminary screening and possible environmental assessment. He stated that he would speak to MVEIRB legal counsel about this concern and get back to Chris about it.*

A participant stated her opinion that Ft. Resolution was not going to benefit from this project regarding businesses. She felt that housing, catering and other services would be provided by established companies in Hay River.

David Swisher responded saying that they haven't provided a list of potential opportunities yet. He stated that infrastructure development will occur before mining and that Tamerlane will require their specialized contractors to go to the communities so that they can hire people if they don't have experience.

A participant asked if Tamerlane will be compensating trappers in the area. She also noted that Tamerlane will need to work with people in the communities to determine the potential environmental impacts and that would include site visits.

A participant spoke on the importance of consultation with communities and stressed the need for the development of positive relationships between the various parties. He also mentioned as an example that a Traditional Knowledge Study would be part of developing good relationships.

A participant said that it was important for developers to meet with all the community, not just one particular group within the community. Metis and First Nations are all impacted by new developments.

A participant stated that Tamerlane hasn't spoken to people about its contracting plans. He stated that he felt that Tamerlane is going against the grain in its dealing with the

community. He stated that Tamerlane should cover costs for the meeting, in that way it would show good faith. He question how Tamerlane could pay for an 80 million dollar project (*CLARIFICATION NOTE: the developer identified in the Hay River Scoping Sessions that capital costs were likely in the range of \$200 million*) and still not pay for consultation with the communities. He stated that Tamerlane is coming into the land in order to make profits and he suspected that the government would help them in their project. He stated that the community needs those government resources to pave the road into town, provide a youth centre and a number of other things. He asked why the MVEIRB and Government representatives had not shared any concerns about the project at the scoping sessions. He finally stated that without economic opportunities, his community would not support the project.

*Alistair MacDonald responded to the question of why MVEIRB staff do not list their concerns at the scoping sessions – because all parties will see the Review Board's priorities for the Environmental Assessment when the Draft Terms of Reference come out. It would not be fair or reasonable for the MVEIRB to come out to communities only to share MVEIRB concerns – it is MVEIRB's job to collect all parties' concerns and adapt them into reasonable Terms of Reference for the EA.*

A participant posed a question regarding the drill holes around the project site. She wanted to know why drill holes were capped with drift wood and bore holes lined with rusty iron and wanted to know what would happen to the holes if the pilot project doesn't happen. She also stated she thought that the water in the area had disappeared as a result of the drilling. David Swisher responded by saying that holes are recapped after a survey; the wood simply indicates where they are. The large twelve inch borehole present on the site was drilled for water studies in the late 1970's. He also confirmed that the water was still in the area.

A participant stated that he would like to see technical sessions to happen as soon as possible. *Alistair Macdonald asked that letters be sent to the Review Board listing any requests or ideas for process improvements.*

An Elder thought that oil had been drilled for in the area of the project. David Swisher said that the drill hole on site was for water. He not believe there was any evidence of oil in the area.

*Alistair MacDonald closed by thanking all those present for sharing their issues and concerns, and going over what happens next – the development of a Draft Terms of Reference (a list of instructions for the Developer on what they need to consider in their formal Developer's Assessment Report) which will be distributed by the Review Board for public comment.*

Patrick Simon gave the closing prayer.

Session adjourned at approximately 9:45 pm.