

Re: Letter of submission to Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
Taltson Hydro Expansion EA– Deze Energy

I am a community member from Lutsel K'e and would like you to know how I feel about the proposed Taltson Hydro Expansion and Deze Energy's application for the proposed transmission lines through the Kache/Desnethche area.

The area mentioned is one and the same for me, my family and for the community members in Lutsel K'e.

This area must not be disturbed. This is the place where our spiritual connection begins and where our physical, mental, emotional and spiritual healing takes place in a very profound way, spiritually, for us. Many people do not understand the significance of the area nor the site where the "old lady of the falls sits". She has the power to heal in a very spiritual sense and the ability to empower people. She has helped me and others and will continue to heal many generations yet to come.

I was a young girl when I first learned of the place in the barrens land where the "old lady sits" as was explained to me by my mother. I am now 61 years old. My parents and grandparents lived in the Artillery Lake area as did my ancestors that came before them. What a beautiful place for them to live as I have envisioned many times over. My ancestors chose to settle in the most beautiful place in the world. They chose this place to settle in, knowing that there was everything there that we needed and that the future of their people depended on being able to survive.

We as Dene must live in harmony with the land, water and animals in order to survive and place the spiritual essence of our being in the highest hierarchy of life.

The Kache/Desnethche area cannot and must not be desecrated with transmission lines for the most important reason that the area signifies the spiritual being and essence of who we are as Dene.

Respectfully submitted,

Adeline Jonasson (nee Boucher)