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Mackenzie Valley
Environmental Impact Review Board
200 Scotia Centre
Box 938; 5102-50th Avenue
Yellowknife, NWT
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Attention: Alan Ehrlich

Dear Sir:

Re: Taltson River Expansion Project
Our File: 028268-0004

The Carter family thanks the Mackenzie Valley Review Board (the "Board") for this opportunity to provide final submissions regarding the power line routes proposed as part of the Taltson Hydroelectric Project. These comments reiterate the concerns that were emphasized in the Written Submissions of January 29th, 2010 (the "Written Submissions") and focus on the environmental impact of the power lines as well as the social and economic impact that the lines will have on the Carter family heritage and the family business on Nonacho Lake.

Environmental Concerns

The Carter family adopts the concerns expressed by Environment Canada regarding the impact that the project will have on the migratory birds of the Northwest Territories, and the concerns expressed by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans that further study may be required before the full impact of the alternate route on fish and aquatic species is known. Accordingly, the Carters call upon the Board to ensure that sufficient research has been undertaken to ensure the protection of those waterfowl and aquatic populations that are likely to be adversely impacted by this alternate route. As a result of the uncertain impact on wildlife, the Carters submit that an Environmental Impact Review is appropriate.

Social, Cultural and Economic Concerns

The Carter family heritage as tourism pioneers of the Northwest Territories was discussed at length in the Written Submissions, as was their long history as residents and business owners on Nonacho Lake. The Carter family has relied on the remoteness of the Northwest Territories wilderness to market their fly-in fishing camp as an experience in the rugged wilderness, where

travellers can come to 'get away from it all' without the distraction of the telephone, television or other modern amenities.

The proposed transmission route will begin within sight of the Carter camp on Nonacho Lake, and will continue alongside some of the Carters favourite fishing destinations, destroying the ability of the Carters to market their camp as located in the pristine and wild North.

Even more alarming, however, is the fact that the transmission lines are of a significant height, and will be along the direct route used by the Carters when flying into the camp. While the Carters fly with altimeters, they do not use any other navigational instruments, and the transmission line location poses a significant danger to pilots accessing the Nonacho Lake camp.

Conclusion


As has been their position from the outset, the Carters understand that progress and change are inevitable, even in the rugged North. However, they maintain that such progress and change should interrupt, as little as possible, the heart and the spirit that make up the Northwest Territories. Accordingly, the Carters reiterate their request that the Board ensure that the remaining environmental questions be answered before the project move forward. Further, they request that the Board remember its mandate to protect the social, cultural and environmental concerns of the affected parties, and that they consider the detrimental effects that these power lines, as part of the project as a whole, will have on the Carter family business. The Carters submit that the only way to do this is to require an Environmental Impact Review.

Once again, the Carters thank the Board for the opportunity to provide these final comments, and trust that the Board will act in the best interests of the environment and the people of the Northwest Territories.

Yours truly,

MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman LLP

Per:


Eleanor A. Olszewski, Q.C.

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