



Pre-hearing Conference – December 15, 2009

Meeting Notes

The Mackenzie Valley Review Board staff held a pre-hearing teleconference on December 15, 2009, at 9:30 pm in the Scotia Building Boardroom in Yellowknife, NT. This meeting was in anticipation of the up-coming public hearing scheduled for January 14 and 15, 2010 in Dettah, NT. The purpose of this session was to provide an opportunity for all parties concerned with the Taltson Hydroelectric Expansion Project to get involved in the planning of the upcoming hearing and to put forth any final issues or concerns related to that environmental assessment.

The community hearing will be an opportunity for all interested parties and concerned community members to present any outstanding issues directly to the Review Board. The Review Board will consider all evidence in their decision regarding the Taltson Hydroelectric Expansion Project environmental assessment.

In attendance at the pre-hearing teleconference was the following:

Martin Haelele – Environmental Assessment Manager

Tawanis Testart- Project Lead

Nicole Spencer-Review Board

Paul Mercredi- Review Board

Chuck Hubert -Review Board

Wendy Botkin-Parks Canada

Jenica von Kuster – Engineer Consultant - Dezé Energy

Claire Smith – Dezé Energy

Linda Zurkichen – Dezé Energy

Kelli Lemon – legal counsel for the Carter family
Shane Uren – Dezé Energy
Sophia Garrick – Transport Canada
Shelley Ball -NRCAN
Doug Soloway-Transport Canada
Tracey Williams – Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
Rosy Bjornson -DKFN
Aleksey Naumov – Review Board expert advisor
Tom Unka – Ft. Resolution Metis Council
John Delorme – Ft. Resolution Metis Council
Allen Cadenhead – Transport Canada
Gavin More - GNWT
Jean Carter – Nonacho Lake Fishing Camp Owner
Dean Carter - Nonacho Lake Fishing Camp Owner
John Donihee- Review Board Legal Counsel
Paul Falvo - Review Board Legal - Counsel
Lorraine Seale-INAC
Mark Lange – INAC
Lionel Marcinkoski – INAC
Lisa Perry-Environment Canada

Review of the Rules of Procedure and Public Hearing Process

Tawanis Testart gave a brief review of the Rules of Procedure, which can be found online at the Review Board website here: http://reviewboard.ca/reference_lib/index.php?section=7. In addition, there was a review of hearing process and procedure, and a reminder to parties that there is limited time available in the hearing and parties must adhere to their time limits. These limits will be assigned to parties through a draft agenda that will be circulated later.

Presentation of Topics at the Public Hearing

Topics of discussion in up-coming presentations by the parties are as follows:

LKDFN

- Cultural impacts-Lady of the Falls
- Alternative routing
- Wildlife-caribou
- Size of project, protection of land-Park
- Will have elders

Time requested: 1 hour

DKFN

- No outstanding issues but will speak to show support for project

Time requested: 1 hour, but amended later in the meeting to 30 min

FRMC

- Wildlife-caribou
- Socio-economic impacts

Time requested: 1 hour

Parks Canada

- Resolved issues through process
- Aesthetic impacts
- Cultural sites

Time requested: 20 minutes

Transport Canada

- Navigational Waters/ marine safety issues

Time requested: 20 minutes

NRCan

- Will have sidebar meeting with Developer to discuss blasting plan.

Time requested: 10 minutes

DFO

- Access to area
- Use of explosives
- Draw down/levels in Nonacho Lake
- Operational impacts to zone 1 &2
- Entrainment
- Mitigation for ramping
- Minimum flow for Trudel Creek

Time requested: 30 minutes

GNWT

- Wildlife-caribou
- Training opportunities

Time requested: 30 minutes, then amended later in the meeting to ten minutes

INAC

- Water
- Terrain and permafrost
- Access

Time requested: 20 minutes

Environment Canada

- Water quality
- Migratory birds
- Species at Risk
- Waste Management
- Monitoring

Time requested: 30 minutes

Carter Family

- Impacts to fish species
- Socio-economic effects to business
- Increased access concerns
- Increased tourism

Time requested: 1 hour

Note: During discussions, Tracey Williams asked INAC to confirm the status of the land tenure of the withdrawals made in the 1970s. Lorraine Seale indicated that she would relay the question to INAC's land administration staff and provide an answer after the Pre-Hearing Conference.

An agenda will be sent out to the distribution list in the coming days in order for parties to prepare for the January public hearing. Time requirements for each presentation will be confirmed in that agenda. Please remember that presentations are due at the Review Board on or before January 7, 2010.

Correspondence related to this assessment should be directed to:

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Mackenzie Valley Review Board