

July 30, 2010-07-29

Distribution List

EA1011-002

Moose Property, TNR Gold Corp. Ltd.

**Re: Outline and Instructions for scoping phase of the environmental assessment of TNR Gold Corp. Ltd.-Moose Property Exploration Project**

## **Introduction**

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) is conducting an environmental assessment of TNR Gold Corp. Ltd. Moose Property Exploration Project. The project includes the activities and physical works related to Land Use Permit application MV2010C0015. The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board referred this proposed development to environmental assessment “because of significant public concern that the project might impact traditional land use activities, archaeological and heritage resources, as well as environmental resources in the context of harvesting and cumulative impacts”.

The Review Board has created a public registry for this file where parties to this environmental assessment can find information and other process-related documents. The public registry is available online at <http://www.reviewboard.ca/registry/> - this file is *EA1011-002 –TNR Gold Corp. Ltd.-Moose Property Exploration Project*.

The Review Board is now starting the scoping phase of the environmental assessment process. Scoping identifies the issues that the Review Board will focus on during the environmental assessment. Scoping sessions also allow interested parties - including community members and government departments – to highlight and discuss main concerns related to the proposed project.

## **Scoping**

In the interest of an efficient scoping phase, the Review Board encourages interested parties to review the Project Description Report for the moose Property Project – as well as any other document relating to TNR Gold Corp’s application for development - on the Review Board’s public registry: <http://www.reviewboard.ca/registry/>. The Review Board can provide electronic copies of the Project Description Report on request.

To prepare for scoping sessions, the Review Board also requests that interested parties and the developer consider the following questions:

1. What biophysical, socio-economic and cultural issues should the Review Board consider during the environmental assessment and why?
2. What physical works and activities should the Review Board consider as part of the development?
3. What area and what time period should the Review Board use for assessing potential impacts (including project-specific and cumulative impacts) from this proposed development?
4. What evidence (if any) from previous studies, management plans, or environmental assessments should the Review Board transfer onto the public record for this environmental assessment, and why?



5. What alternative ways of developing the proposed project – to prevent potential significant adverse impacts - should the Review Board consider during the environmental assessment?

## **Scoping sessions**

### **Community scoping sessions**

Review Board staff will host a one day community scoping session. At this scoping session, Review Board staff will describe the Review Board's mandate, describe the environmental assessment process, and identify the goals of the scoping sessions. The developer will then give a presentation that describes their proposed development. Afterwards, organizations and individuals have an opportunity to highlight key issues about the proposed development for the Review Board to examine during the environmental assessment. It is the Review Board recommendation that government agencies submit any concerns via written correspondence by August 13, 2010.

**Tentatively, the scoping session will take place in N'Dilo or Yellowknife the week of August 9-13, 2010. A notice will be sent out with a definite time and place as soon as possible.**

## **Sidebar meetings**

“Sidebar meetings” are when an interested party and the developer meet to discuss concerns about the proposed development, and are part of a fair, effective and efficient process. These meetings can occur at any time during the environmental assessment and the Review Board encourages interested parties to engage the developer, and the developer to engage interested parties. These types of meetings can help the Review Board determine the potential for significant adverse impacts on the environment. For this to happen, an interested party must report to the Review Board how that impact may occur and what specific objectives the developer must meet in order to prevent the significant adverse impact. A meeting summary must also indicate whether the developer has made a specific commitment to prevent what the interested party sees as potentially causing a significant adverse impact. In this way, the Review Board may capture such commitments as measures in its final Report of Environmental Assessment.

## **EA Process**

Information requests, technical sessions or workshops as well as public hearings are commonly used tools in environmental assessment. . The board will develop a work plan for this assessment following the scoping session that may not include all of the process steps available. For a general description of the environmental assessment process, please see the Review Board tutorial at [http://www.reviewboard.ca/review\\_board\\_101](http://www.reviewboard.ca/review_board_101) and other documents in the Review Board's reference library: [http://www.reviewboard.ca/reference\\_lib/](http://www.reviewboard.ca/reference_lib/).

Review Board staff will provide information to organizations and individuals on the distribution list as it becomes available. This includes “EA updates” and instructions on how the process will move forward. The Review Board reminds interested parties that the most effective way to receive updates is by subscribing to the Review Board's automatic e-mail subscription list at <http://www.reviewboard.ca/subscriptions/>.

Regards,

Nicole Spencer  
Environmental Assessment Officer



Mackenzie Valley Review Board

Te: 867.766.7062; Fax: 867.766.7074

Toll Free: 1.866.912.3472

[nspencer@reviewboard.ca](mailto:nspencer@reviewboard.ca)