

NORTH SLAVE MÉTIS ALLIANCE

PO Box 2301 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7



April 10, 2015

Sachi de Souza & Simon Toogood
Environmental Assessment Officers
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
200 Scotia Centre
Box 938, 5102-50th Ave.
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

Re: Husky Oil Operations Ltd. – Chedabucto Mineral Exploration Program Information Requests

The North Slave Metis Alliance (NSMA) reviewed the Husky's (Proponent) Chedabucto Project (Project). The NSMA would like to thank the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) for the opportunity to participate in the Environmental Assessment process for the Project. The proposed Project occurs within NSMA's traditional territory, and NSMA members – past, present, and future, have used and will continue to use the area for traditional and recreational purposes. With this view in mind, we would like to offer the following general comments on the Proponent's proposal.

The NSMA representatives have met the Project's representatives, face to face, a number of times, most recently on April 1, 2015, to discuss the Project. Through these meetings, the NSMA's concerns about the potential impacts of the Projects on the NSMA's Aboriginal rights were expressed. It is our view that, through the meetings and ongoing communications, these concerns have been mostly addressed.

The NSMA also points out that, due to lack of internal capacity, no additional traditional land use and traditional knowledge studies have been conducted for this area. This has been an issue since the inception of the Project, and has been known to both NSMA and the Project. Although the NSMA has evidence to ascertain its members' traditional use of the area, to adequately assess the Project's impact, we need additional studies to definitively describe how and to what extent the proposed Project will affect our members' Aboriginal rights.

Therefore, the NSMA requests ongoing dialogue with the Project, to ensure that NSMA will have adequate support from the Project when the NSMA is ready to conduct such studies in the proposed Project area.

In principle, the NSMA is supportive of the proposed exploration of silica sand in the White Beach Point area. The NSMA's specific concerns and information requests are submitted separately in the MVEIRB online review system for the Proponent's to review.

Sincerely,
Shin Shiga
Regulatory Analyst