

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXCEL TEMPLATE:**

1. Do not leave blank rows above or between comments.
2. Do not modify or delete the instructions or the column headings (*i.e.* the grey areas).
3. Each comment must have an associated topic and recommendation.
4. All formatting (*i.e.* bullets) will be lost when this file is uploaded to the Online Comment Table.
5. If necessary, adjust the cell width and height in order to view all text.
6. Cutting and pasting comments from WORD documents cannot include hard returns (spaces between paragraphs).
7. If you would like to create paragraphs within a single cell, please use a proper carriage return (ALT & ENTER).

**TOPIC**

**COMMENT**

**RECOMMENDATION**

*Be as specific as you think is appropriate; for example a section or page of the*

*Comments should contain all the information needed for the proponent and the Board to understand the rationale for the accompanying recommendation.*

*Recommendations can be for the proponent or for the Board. Recommendations should be as specific as possible, relating the issues raised in the "comment" column to an action that you believe is necessary.*

GNWT Lands	The Tłıchq Government has identified a concern with the four leases held by Husky that have been identified as key migratory bird habitat and as desirable for inclusion in the Dinàgà Wek'èhodì National Wildlife Area. The Tłıchq have concluded that there may have been a failure to properly consider these issues at the time of issuance of the mineral leases to Husky. For reasons of habitat and animal protection, Tłıchq have identified a need to include these leases as part of the Dinàgà Wek'èhodì National Wildlife Area.	How will GNWT balance its desire for economic development with its stated desire for habitat and animal protection as, for example, per its support for Protected Areas?
GNWT Lands	All animals on the land, but especially the caribou, are at the heart and soul of the Tłıchq people and culture. Even though it might be found that the exploration project will not likely have any direct negative effects for the boreal caribou, the possible silica mine resulting from the exploration will indeed destroy prime boreal caribou habitat. A crucial part, under both the federal and territorial Species at Risk Act, is the protection of prime habitat.	GNWT should inform on how it intends to manage the concerns, given the Tlıcho wish to see the mineral leases transferred.

GNWT Lands	<p>When an Aboriginal Government identifies long term concerns with the potential activity, the GNWT has a corresponding duty to understand the potential for the activity to proceed and to proactively take the necessary steps to deal with those concerns. For example, in BC, recently, when a specific area that was considered for exploration and mining was later identified as not acceptable, the province worked with the proponent (Fortune Minerals) to encourage the Proponent to disinvest. The province compensated the Proponent for the minerals leases held, and the parties all agreed that should the development ever become viable within ten years that the Proponent could buy the property back.</p>	<p>The GNWT's needs to set out its understanding of the suitability of mining in the area, given the depth of traditional use, cultural importance, and recreational significance of the area. Please identify whether the GNWT has considered the viability of mining in this region.</p>
Canada	<p>The Tłı̨chǫ Government has identified a concern with the four leases held by Husky that have been identified as key migratory bird habitat and as desirable for inclusion in the Dinàgà Wek'èhodì National Wildlife Area. The Tłı̨chǫ have concluded that there may have been a failure to properly consider these issues at the time of issuance of the mineral leases to Husky. For reasons of habitat and animal protection, Tłı̨chǫ have identified a need to include these leases as part of the Dinàgà Wek'èhodì National Wildlife Area.</p>	<p>Canada needs to inform on the consideration of the sensitivities associated with the issuance of these mineral leases to this area at the time of issuance of the leases</p>

Husky	<p>To prevent possible impacts on harvesting activities and cultural sites from the development, the persons interviewed for the Tłıchq TK study has suggested the protection of the following areas: (1) the island Kp̄k'èdii (Old Fort Island), (2) the area Kwehàgee and Kwehàgeet'aa (Wrigley Point), (3) the area surrounding the lakes Łiēt̄ (Chedabucto Lake) and Ts'oot̄i and (4) the four islands on Tideè northeast of the proposed development area, and (5) the island Dìnàgàà including the smaller islands connecting to the mainland. The protection area, and (5) the island Dìnàgàà including the smaller islands connecting to the mainland. The protection of these five areas is important in order to keep intact the cultural value of these important historical sites and maintain the possibility of future harvesting activities.</p>	<p>Please identify how the areas identified as culturally significant and needed for harvesting will be protected during the exploration of this region.</p>
Husky	<p>All animals on the land, and especially the caribou, are at the heart and soul of the Tłıchq people and culture. Even though it might be found that the exploration project will not likely have any direct negative effects for the boreal caribou, the possible silica mine resulting from the exploration will indeed destroy prime boreal caribou habitat.. A crucial part, under the federal and territorial Species at Risk Acts, is the protection of habitat. Those laws also cite the importance of cooperation and coordination to conserve species at risk and the recognition of their habitat.</p>	<p>Please explain what the best available mitigation strategies are for this culturally and ecologically important species.</p>
Husky and Best Practice	<p>In response to the NSMA request for identification of best practices, Husky used a definition from Wikipedia for best practices in the industry. Wikipedia does not set standards for the industry, but Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada does.</p>	<p>Please review the conformity of Husky's approach with the Best Practices Guide from PDAC on Mineral Exploration Guidelines.</p>