



Renewable Resources & Environment  
Box 1500  
Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2R3

May 19, 1999

Heidi Klein  
Executive Director,  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
P.O. Box 938  
Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2N7

**RE: Point of contact in DIAND with respect to Environmental Assessments:**

The purpose of this letter is to confirm earlier discussions with the Review Board on processes and points of contact in the Department with respect to the Environmental Assessment process.

As the Act specifies certain responsibilities of the federal Minister (DIAND) under sections 128(2)(a) and 130(1),(2)(3)(4) where an Environmental Assessment was carried out by the Review Board.

The main contact in DIAND for the Review Board on Environmental Assessments and specifically relating to the responsibilities outlined in the sections noted, will be the Environment and Conservation Division. This office will undertake the coordination required of the federal Minister under the Act.

It is important to note that the Preliminary Screeners in the department who currently issue licences and permits will continue to deal directly with the Review Board on notifications of applications and preliminary screening reports. The Environment and Conservation division will not be involved directly with the Review Board at this stage.

We understand the need to remain in close contact with the Review Board on any referrals for Environmental Assessments. We are in the process of developing internal procedures which will help make the process an efficient one from the department's point of view and trust you will offer suggestions in this regard as appropriate.

For now, the staff member assigned to coordinate the flow of information from the Review Board as described above will be Marie Adams (Ph. 867-669-2597). I trust this meets your needs.

Sincerely,

Mary Tapsell  
Manager, Environment & Conservation  
cc. District offices, Lands, Waters, ATR.