



August 29, 2024

Notice of Proceeding

Mackenzie Valley Highway, Government of the Northwest Territories

RE: Updated draft workplan

This Notice of Proceeding presents an updated draft workplan, considering feedback from parties. Draft workplans are subject to changes at the discretion of the Review Board.

Workplan

The draft workplan (attached) includes the following upcoming steps:

Developer responds to information requests	September 27, 2024
Community Sessions – Dehcho	Week of October 15-18, 2024
Community Sessions – Sahtú	Week of October 21-25, 2024
Technical Sessions – Yellowknife	November 19-21, 2024

The Review Board will provide details about the location and timing of the community and technical sessions in future Notices of Proceeding.

Parties may submit comments and recommendations on the draft workplan in writing **by September 9, 2024**. The Review Board will post all comments on the draft workplan to the public registry. The Review Board will then consider the comments and release an updated draft workplan if necessary.

Contact

The primary contact on behalf of the Review Board for the Mackenzie Valley Highway project is Senior Environmental Assessment Advisor Catherine Fairbairn (867-766-7054, cfairbairn@reviewboard.ca).

EA1213-02 – Mackenzie Valley Highway Project
Government of the Northwest Territories

Updated Draft Workplan – August 29, 2024

This draft workplan describes the process steps for EA1213-02. This environmental assessment started before legislated timelines came into force on March 25, 2014. Since March 25, 2014, the Review Board and parties have spent (in calendar days):

- 78 days on comments and revisions to a draft Terms of Reference (in response to significant changes to the project by the developer)
- 40 days on a conformity determination of the *Developer’s Assessment Report*
- 99 days on reviewing and commenting on the *Developer’s Assessment Report*
- 56 days on the first round of information requests

In the table below:

- Process steps that are complete are shaded in grey.
- Process steps that are on Review Board or party time are shaded in green.
- Process steps on developer time are shaded in orange.
- Future process steps include approximate deadlines or end dates that are subject to the timing of the developer’s responses.

EA Phase	Process Step	Date	
Scoping	Referral to environmental assessment	Feb 8, 2013	
	Deadline for party status applications	Apr 19, 2013	
	Review Board Reasons for Decision on party status	May 31, 2013	
	Party comment on issues scoping	Jun 28, 2013	
	In-person scoping meetings	Pehdzeh Ki (Wrigley)	Sep 9, 2013
		Tulít’a	Sep 10, 2013
		Rádeyǰǰ Kó (Fort Good Hope)	Sep 11, 2013
		Inuvik	Sep 17, 2013
		Tłegóhǰ (Norman Wells)	Sep 18, 2013
	Developer submits draft <i>Terms of Reference</i> (TOR)	Sep 30, 2013	
	Review Board issues draft TOR	Nov 25, 2013	
	Comments from parties and developer on draft TOR	Dec 10, 2013	
	Review Board issues final TOR	Dec 23, 2013	
	Developer prepares a revised project description	Aug 29, 2014	
Developer prepares a draft TOR	Nov 27, 2014		

	Parties comment on the draft <i>TOR</i>	Jan 23, 2015
	Review Board issues final <i>TOR</i>	Feb 13, 2015
Analytical	Developer submits the <i>Developer's Assessment Report (DAR)</i>	Oct 12, 2023
	Review Board conformity determination Public review of the <i>DAR</i> begins	Nov 21, 2023
	Review Board engagement meetings	Jan-Feb, 2024
	Public review of the <i>DAR</i> ends	Feb 29, 2024
	Overarching Information requests (IRs) from Review Board	Mar 13, 2024
	Developer's responses to public review comments (from ORS)	Apr 19, 2024
	Developer's responses to Review Board Overarching IRs	Jun 19, 2024
	Information requests from Review Board (round 1)	Jul 15, 2024
	Information requests from parties (round 1)	Aug 14, 2024
	Developer's responses to Review Board and party IRs (round 1)	Sep 27, 2024
	Party responses to Review Board IRs (round 1)	Sep 27, 2024
	Community sessions Dehcho Communities the week of October 15 Sahtú Communities the week of October 21	Mid-Oct 2024
	Technical sessions (in Yellowknife)	Nov 19-21, 2024
	Information requests from Review Board and parties (round 2)	Late 2024
	Developer's responses to information requests (round 2)	Early 2025
	Developer submits revised <i>DAR</i> or <i>DAR</i> Addendums	Spring 2025
Hearing	Pre-hearing conference	Early-mid 2025
	Deadline to apply for intervenor status	
	Interventions	
	Developer response to intervention	
	Public hearing preparation (Review Board, parties)	
	All interveners submit hearing presentations	
	Public hearings	
	Hearing undertakings (developer, parties)	
	Closing arguments from parties	
	Closing argument from developer	
Closure of the public record		
Decision	Evidence analysis by the Review Board	Mid 2025
	Board deliberation and initial report drafting	
	Board, legal, and editorial reviews	
	Review Board issues Report of Environmental Assessment	
	Minister(s) responses to Report of Environmental Assessment	