



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

November 9, 2011

GNWT
Department of Transportation
Lahm Ridge Tower
2nd Flr, 4501 - 50 Ave
P.O. Box 1320
Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2L9

Dear Mr. Jim Stevens,

Re: Environmental Impact Review Board Direction to the Developer on Next Steps in the Environmental Impact Review Process

On November 8, 2011 the Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB or Review Board) convened to consider the Developer's progress towards achieving conformity with the Environmental Impact Statement Terms of Reference (ToR). The Review Board considered the results of a meeting held in Yellowknife on October 14, 2011 by EIRB Staff and Advisors with the Developer and its Consultants. The EIRB also considered information shared during a follow-up telephone conversation amongst its Staff and Advisors and the Developer, held on October 25, 2011.

The Review Board is concerned that some portions of the information required by the EIS ToR remain outstanding. The EIRB's concerns were conveyed by its Staff to the Developer in writing on October 14th and discussed further on October 25th. The Review Board is of the opinion that further Direction may assist the Developer to satisfy conformity requirements in this proceeding.

Based on these discussions and the further deliberations of the Review Board, the following Direction is provided to the Developer:

1. The Developer should submit the following to the Review Board at its earliest convenience, and in any event, no later than December 9, 2011:
 - a. An explanation setting out the Developer's decision to remove the Upland Alternative from consideration in the Review, and providing sufficient engineering and environmental detail to justify this decision.
 - b. A consolidated list of any new studies, engineering and environmental information that will be provided during the course of this Review. The list should indicate those studies that have begun or are planned for a future date, an indication of when each study will be completed, and a discussion of how the information resulting from these studies will address the information requirements found in the EIS ToR.
 - c. A description and discussion of methodologies through which information about road impacts can be developed and an indication of the Developers' proposal for the ways they plan to make impact predictions and develop appropriate mitigation measures, including monitoring plans.

2. Upon satisfactory review of the additional information, once filed, the Review Board is prepared to consider moving this proceeding on to the Technical Review Phase and will provide any necessary Direction to the Parties once such a decision has been taken.

If you have any questions regarding this Direction, please contact Eli Nasogaluak by email (eirb@jointsec.nt.ca) or by telephone (867) 777-2828.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eli Nasogaluak', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Eli Nasogaluak
Coordinator
Environmental Impact Review Board
eirb@jointsec.nt.ca or (867) 777-2828

cc. CEEA