

April 5, 2012

VIA EMAIL

Eli Nasogaluak  
Environmental Impact Review Coordinator  
Environmental Impact Review Board  
PO Box 2120 Inuvik, NWT, Canada X0E 0T0  
eirb@jointsec.nt.ca

Dear Mr. Nasogaluak,

**Re: GNWT Round 2 IR Responses, File Number 02/10-05, Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway Construction Project**

Please find attached the Government of the Northwest Territories responses to Information Requests 72, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85 and 86.

The Government of the Northwest Territories' responses to IRs 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78 and 80 are in preparation and are expected to be filed prior to April 30, 2012. The Government is undertaking more extensive data analysis for key VCs as part of this work and requires sufficient time to ensure existing data is obtained from other sources and compiled for our analyses.

The Government of the Northwest Territories' is registered as a single party to the environmental review. The Environmental Assessment and Monitoring Section of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources is responsible for coordinating the relevant departments throughout the environmental review process. In future, we request the EIRB send all requests to the individual registered with the EIRB.

Please contact me at gavin\_more@gov.nt.ca or 867-873-7107 if you have any questions regarding the attached submission.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Gavin More". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'G' and 'M'.

Gavin More  
Manager  
Environmental Assessment and Monitoring  
Environment and Natural Resources

**IR Number:** 72

**Source:** MSES

**To:** GNWT (ENR)

**Subject:** Valued Ecosystem Component (VEC process) (EIS Sections 4.1, 4.2)

### **Preamble**

No baseline wildlife surveys were conducted for the wildlife VCs in support of the project EIS. Regulatory agencies have expectations in terms of the methods and approaches taken in linear developments in the NWT. These expectations are in accordance with CEAA operational policies for follow-up and adaptive management (CEAA 2009 and 2010). For example, the GNWT had several overarching concerns with the Biophysical Assessment Methodology, including the selection of VCs (see GNWT General submission MGP Section 4.1, p.9).

### **Request/Response**

#### **Response to the Preamble**

The GNWT's General Submission for the Mackenzie Gas Project (MGP) was an opening position statement at the start of the Public Hearing phase. It was intended to serve as an initial position for that specific Project and to focus discussion of specific issues for the remainder of the assessment process. The document also stated the position was subject to change based on further discussions throughout the technical phase and public hearings. It must also be made clear any position put forward by the GNWT or the MGP Proponents or the recommendations of the Joint Review Panel are now superseded by the Terms and Conditions issued by the National Energy Board for each of the five components of the MGP.

For clarification regarding the VC selection concern raised in the GNWT's submission, the MGP Proponents' EIS had excluded wolverine as a VC on the basis that mitigations for bears were also the mitigations for wolverine. The GNWT was, and still is, of the opinion that additional mitigations are needed for wolverine at camps or buildings. While the Proponents of the MGP did not modify their VC list, ConocoPhillips provided a resolution to the issue by developing a draft Grizzly Bear/Wolverine Protection Plan for its development at Parsons Lake which it submitted to the Joint Review Panel in October 2006.

The GNWT was also fully aware of the issues raised by Environment Canada during the MGP review regarding use of surrogates for assessment for species at risk VCs.

To reduce any debate regarding the selection of wildlife VCs under the management of the GNWT, the GNWT provided guidance on VC selection to the Developer during the drafting of the EIS. More specifically, the GNWT identified species the Project would not affect, such as polar bear, or were known to have limited potential habitat in the LSA, such as Rusty Blackbird. The GNWT also requested the Developer to discuss the Bluenose-West barren-ground caribou herd based on its long-term winter range even though animals from this herd do not currently

use the area. Direct discussions with the Developer were intended to make the EIS and subsequent technical review more efficient and focused.

**1. Please list ENR expectations surrounding wildlife baseline data in the LSA.**

For the purpose of the GNWT's response to this question, the term 'wildlife' is limited to the species identified as VCs and includes mammals and birds not listed under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* which are under ENR's mandate. Also, wildlife baseline should be considered to include wildlife habitat or key local wildlife features, such as eskers or peregrine nest sites.

The GNWT does not agree that there is a complete lack of baseline data. For some species, in particular barren-ground caribou, grizzly bear, boreal caribou, peregrine falcon and other raptors, the GNWT is normally the source of relevant baseline data. Normally the GNWT provides data to a developer under a licence agreement for its EIS and then undertakes an independent review of the data during the technical report phase of an assessment.

In April 2011, ENR and federal departments met the Developer to discuss requirements for additional fieldwork in LSA and borrow site. Subsequent to that meeting, the Developer contracted several studies and Traditional Knowledge workshops [detailed in Conformity Response #2].

During a review of the draft contract terms for wildlife studies, ENR specifically requested the Developer not to contract a raptor survey or fall bear dens surveys. Instead, the Developer is supporting ENR biologists to conduct these surveys. ENR's surveys will extend beyond the LSA for these species since the buffer recommended for peregrine falcons is 1.5 km. The raptor survey is expected to confirm the presence or absence of suitable habitat for raptor species. The GNWT is also working to ensure its Wildlife Management Information System (WMIS) includes appropriate information collected by its biologists, other developers such as MGP Proponents and biologists from the federal government or universities. Discussions are underway to transfer data from Environment Canada to WMIS. The GNWT has the Developer's consultants also develop licence agreements with Environment Canada as part of the commitment by Developer to consult with that department regarding its spring/summer field work.

The GNWT is aware that developers often find it challenging to assess species at risk VCs because of the lack of understanding of some these species in the north. This results from limited knowledge of the ecological requirements for many of these species in the north. In addition, there is limited observational data available for many species and the precise geographic range is often uncertain. For many species not typically monitored by the GNWT, the GNWT did not expect extensive LSA baseline data collection until the Developer further delineated the highway alignment and borrow sites. The GNWT now expects the Developer's spring/summer 2012 field surveys and additional vegetation mapping within the LSA to confirm the presence or absence of some species or suitable habitat for those species including SARA listed or COSEWIC assessed species such as Rusty blackbird or wolverine, to document observations of animals or sign in those habitats and, more generally, to document use of summer habitat.

The LiDAR mapping, terrain mapping [i.e. to determine specific landforms known to be suitable for wildlife such as eskers] and draft vegetation mapping will assist in focussing the 2012 field surveys to ensure likely specific locations of wildlife habitats or use of specific sites by key species are assessed. Once completed, the next steps will be to confirm if fine-tuning of mitigations finalized in the review process are needed.

***2. Please elaborate and explain what ENR will require, with respect to wildlife baseline information, using scientifically defensible rationale, so that the baseline can later be compared to follow-up results.***

It is not clear what a “scientifically defensible rationale” means in this question. The Developer provided a description of its projected fieldwork in Conformity Response 2b. For several key species, GNWT is responsible for collecting baseline as part of its overall species management. In 2002, the GNWT identified a number of vegetation and wildlife activities required to provide information to oil and gas developers for use in project design and environmental assessments or for regional species management. The Western NWT Biophysical Study has contributed substantially to our understanding of key wildlife species. In addition, earlier studies were conducted by the Canadian Wildlife Service in the 1970s as part of oil and gas exploration. As a result, a significant amount of baseline has been collected on grizzly bear and barren-ground caribou. The GNWT has started to modify its monitoring techniques for barren ground caribou in March 2012. This will provide improved baseline ahead of development and provide for effects monitoring of the Cape Bathurst and Tuktoyaktuk Peninsula species.

For some species, the wildlife baseline to be conducted in early summer 2012 should first confirm the presence of key species or key habitat. If confirmed, ENR will determine what additional design or mitigations are required in consultation with the Developer. This additional fieldwork and habitat identification will determine if future surveys are required to monitor the effectiveness of mitigations during construction.

**IR Number:** 81

**Source:** MSES

**To:** Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor)  
GNWT (Bureau of Statistics, Industry, Tourism, and Investment, Public Works and Services)  
Inuvialuit Regional Corporation  
Inuvialuit Development Corporation

**Subject:** Tourism (Developer Response to 2b and 2c, Section 9.0, pp. 83-86)

### **Preamble**

The Developer estimates that *“the total number of tourists to visit the Inuvik-Beaufort-Delta region would increase by about 10% to 5,500 tourists per year with the completion of the Highway. These additional visitors are anticipated to spend an additional \$1,467,500 in the region.”* (Developer Response to 2b and 2c, (p. 84).

In Table 4 of the Developer Response to 2b and 2c (p. 85), the Developer provides information on monitoring change in tourism, commercial and recreational business and revenues, and lists the following measurement parameters:

- Number of tourists
- Amount spent by tourists
- Number and types of businesses operating in Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk
- Household consumption expenditure for commercial and recreational use
- Land used for recreation
- Highway traffic trends
- Number of complaints from local co-management agencies

The Developer identifies several agencies and organizations with existing responsibilities *“related to administering related legislation, providing funds or public services, and/or conducting monitoring”* (p. 85), but does not provide details regarding how project-related effects will be monitored and by whom.

### **Request/Response**

- 1. Please describe the specific activities that your agency or organization will undertake with regard to monitoring project-related tourism (and any effects of this tourism), including the frequency of monitoring. Please indicate which of the measurement parameters listed above your agency or organization will monitor. Please describe any additional indicators or measurement parameters that your agency or organization will monitor. Please explain how the results of monitoring will be reported (both by**

***your agency/organization and to your agency/organization) such that mitigation can be adapted, if necessary.***

ITI would not conduct project-related tourist monitoring but can share the tourist data collected from annual trip diary project reports. The trip diary reports are annual surveys of summer road travelers that travel to the NWT, including the Inuvik region. Estimates of visitor volumes to Tuktoyaktuk, and associated spending, can be reported for the summer period, if sample sizes are sufficient. These reports are updated annually and can be located on ITI's website at <http://www.iti.gov.nt.ca/tourismparks/tourismresearch.shtml>.

The NWT Bureau of Statistics does not house tourism related indicators and will not conduct project-related tourism monitoring. The mandate of the Bureau has been described in the response to a previous filing (Developer Response to EIRB to Requests #2(b) and #2(c): Attachment 1, pp. 11-12). In fulfilling this mandate, the Bureau provides statistical information to the public on a wide array of social, demographic, economic and labour market statistics. These data are often available at a community, Territorial or Canadian level and stem from a variety of sources including Statistics Canada, administrative records, and surveys conducted by the NWT Bureau of Statistics. The NWT Bureau of Statistics updates these data regularly as new information becomes available. The data is made publically available to anyone in a variety of formats including: publications such as the community profiles, by the numbers, statistics quarterly; and downloadable excel tables from websites.

***2. Please describe whether, and how your agency or organization will be involved in mitigating adverse effects of project-related tourism, as well as enhancing positive effects of tourism.***

ITI will not be directly involved in mitigating any adverse effects of project related tourism. ITI does distribute information to tourists through the Visitor Information Centres in both Dawson City and Inuvik. The Department also assists local businesses to take advantage of increased tourist traffic by providing business support programs and services.

The NWT Bureau of Statistics provides statistical information to other departments and the public on a wide array of community level data. However, specific project-related mitigation activities are outside the mandate of the NWT Bureau of Statistics.

Although the development of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway is expected to slightly increase tourism through increased road traffic, the GNWT is not anticipating a significant increase in visitor volume to the Beaufort Delta region as a result of the development of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway.

**IR Number:** 82

**Source:** MSES

**To:** GNWT (Department of Transportation, Industry, Tourism, and Investement)

**Subject:** Tourism (IR Responses Round 1, IR #39)

### **Preamble**

In the response to Round 1 IR #39, the Developer confirmed that the increase in tourist visits to the region is estimated to be 10%, or an additional 500 tourists per year, and further, that the increase in traffic volumes (from the current level of 139 vehicles/day to the estimated 150-200 vehicles/day) includes traffic from tourism. The Developer also stated that it confirmed with GNWT Industry, Tourism and Investment that no precise seasonal breakdown of traffic is available.

It will be necessary to understand seasonal variation in traffic volumes in order to predict seasonal variation in tourism and prepare for associated effects, including increased Highway usage and influxes of tourists into the communities of Tuktoyaktuk and Inuvik.

### **Request/Response**

- 1. Please state which agency or organization will be responsible for monitoring traffic volumes, the frequency that these will be monitored, to whom this information will be reported, and the frequency of reporting this information.***

The NWT Department of Transportation collects traffic at a number of permanent and seasonal counting stations on the territorial highway system. These stations provide hourly information on traffic for the entire year. These stations are positioned to capture the general flow of traffic on the highway network. Counts at these stations may be supplemented by periodic visual counts and surveys. These visual counts and surveys may also provide information on the vehicle type, origin (licence plate) and occupancy.

The permanent traffic counters located throughout the Northwest Territories highway network collect traffic data on a continual basis. This data is stored to memory every hour. Approximately once per month, personnel working out of the highway maintenance camps download the data to a module, clear the internal memory of the counter, and send the downloaded data to the Transportation Planning, Policy and Environment Division. Personnel in that Division download the data from the module to the government network in a flat file (ASCII format) and conduct a first level screening of the data. Any problems are noted and corrupt data is disregarded. The data are then copied into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet and analysed to obtain the information presented in an Annual Highway Report. An example of the Annual Highway report can be viewed at the following link

[http://www.dot.gov.nt.ca/live/documents/content/HighwayTrafficStats\\_2008.pdf](http://www.dot.gov.nt.ca/live/documents/content/HighwayTrafficStats_2008.pdf)



Annual Highway Reports are posted to the GNWT DOT website. A limited number of hard copies are also produced and shared with agencies requesting a copy.

DOT intends to install two (2) permanent counting stations on the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway. One will be installed north of the Town of Inuvik municipal boundary and the other south of the Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk municipal boundary. These counting stations will be operational at the time of the highway opening. Initial data from these counters could be available for casual reporting approximately 5-6 weeks after the opening of the highway.

**IR Number:** 83

**Source:** MSES

**To:** GNWT (Bureau of Statistics, NWT Housing Corporation, Public Works and Services)  
Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

**Subject:** Demographic Trends and Housing (IR Responses Round 1, IR #28; Developer Responses to 2b and 2c, p. 81; Developer Response to 2b and 2c, Section 12.0, p. 112)

### **Preamble**

In the Developer Response to 2b and 2c (section 8.0, p. 81), the Developer states that while the project is not expected to affect Inuvik's projected growth rate, *"...the completed Highway will increase accessibility to the Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk. Although the population of Tuktoyaktuk has been slowly decreasing since 1996, it is possible that once the Highway is established, Tuktoyaktuk could maintain or increase its population."*

In the response to Round 1 IR #28, the Developer provided information on current monthly housing costs, as well as the amount of occupied and unoccupied dwellings, and stated that *"The creation of new demand for housing from a Project is a function of demographic changes and increased affluence from employment income."* The Developer further stated that the project is unlikely to create new demand for housing, as it is anticipated that the majority of workers will be from Inuvik or Tuktoyaktuk, and that the relatively short economic increase during construction is not expected to increase demand of existing community residents for new housing.

However, as noted in the Developer Response to 2b and 2c (Section 8.0, p. 81), year-round access to Tuktoyaktuk could attract residents, or otherwise affect mobility between communities in the ISR, which, in turn, could affect the demand for housing and housing costs.

The Developer has noted that demographics are monitored at the territorial level by the GNWT Bureau of Statistics and the regional level by the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation. The Developer has also identified the NWT Housing Corporation and GNWT Public Works and Services as *"agencies that have responsibilities related to administering and monitoring housing"* (p. 112) but does not provide details regarding how project-related effects will be monitored and by whom.

### **Request/Response**

- 1. Please describe the role of your agency, department, or organization in monitoring in-migration and out-migration for the communities of Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk, as well as mobility between the communities of the ISR. Please include the frequency of monitoring and reporting, and indicate which other departments, agencies, and organizations the information will be made available to.***

With regard to population growth at the community level, the NWT Bureau of Statistics collects population data for NWT communities, and revises population estimates annually for each community based on Health Records, vital statistics and Statistics Canada data. In addition to the annual revision to population estimates, the data undergoes an adjustment every 5 years to incorporate current data from the Census. This information on the changes of community population provides general patterns of migration. However, with regard to migration between communities, data is available every 5 years from the Census. The last Census was conducted in 2011. The NWT Bureau of Statistics makes both the Census data and the annual population estimates available to the public.

This type of monitoring falls outside the responsibilities of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation (NWT HC) or Public Works and Services.

***2. Please describe the role of your agency, department, or organization in monitoring housing including demand for housing, housing costs, availability, and conditions, in both the communities of Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk. Please include the frequency of monitoring and reporting, and indicate which other departments, agencies, and organizations the information will be made available to.***

The NWT Bureau of Statistics collects community level information on housing costs, housing conditions, and the number of occupied households as part of NWT Community Surveys. The NWT Community Survey is conducted every 5 years; the last iteration was in 2009, and the next is scheduled for 2014. This information is supplemented by Census data which also provides community level information on housing costs, housing conditions and the number of occupied households. The Census is conducted every 5 years; the last iteration was in 2011. The NWT Bureau of Statistics makes information from both the NWT Community Surveys and the Censuses available to anyone.

The mandate of the NWT HC is to provide access to adequate, suitable and affordable housing (see Revised Mandate and Role of NWT HC attached to this response). The revision replaces the portion of the GNWT's November 18, 2011 letter describing the mandates of GNWT social programming departments (file 095-1). The NWT HC works closely with the NWT Bureau of Statistics on the housing component of the NWT Community Survey which provides detailed information on housing conditions in each community. The information from that survey is supplemented by information from the Canadian Census which also provides detailed housing information at a community level. The NWT HC also compiles a variety of program data and information about our own assets that support monitoring.

The Department of Public Works and Services is an essential partner in the achievement of government goals in the NWT through the provision of high quality services, and expert support in:

- Asset management
- Procurement

- Records management
- Computer systems and telecommunications
- Community fuel provision
- Community water systems

The Department is not responsible for the provision of public housing.

***3. Please describe the expected length of time that would be required to respond to increased housing demand, including upgrading available housing as well as building new housing.***

The NWTHC District Offices work to continually update their community data to provide a current picture of our communities' housing needs. This information along with information from the NWT Community Survey and Census, along with other information supports the development of an annual capital plan. This capital plan is the basis for delivery of housing infrastructure by the NWTHC in each fiscal year.

The NWT Bureau of Statistics provides statistical information to the public on a wide array of social, demographic, economic and labour market indicators on an on-going basis. However, the NWT Bureau of Statistics is not directly involved in implementing programs related to housing. This type of activity would belong outside the mandate of the NWT Bureau of Statistics.

## **Revised Role and Mandate of NWT Housing Corporation**

The Northwest Territories Housing Corporation's (NWT HC) mandate is to provide access to adequate, suitable and affordable housing. Through the provision of housing programs and services, the NWT HC contributes to the health and education of NWT residents and to the development of sustainable, vibrant and safe communities. The goals of the NWT HC are to:

- Increase the supply of adequate, suitable and affordable housing in communities to address the housing needs of NWT residents;
- Acquire and plan for sufficient land for the purpose of providing affordable housing;
- Provide homeownership and rental programs and services that are effective and appropriate;
- Enhance the long term sustainability and energy efficiency of housing in the NWT, and;
- Promote personal responsibility and accountability for housing through community based training and support.

The NWT HC is responsible for GNWT funded social housing programs as well as the delivery of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) funded social housing programs. As a result, some of the NWT HC's programs are funded unilaterally by the GNWT while others are cost-shared with the CMHC.

The NWT HC's Headquarters is supported by five District Offices. The NWT HC also partners at the federal, territorial and community levels. Key partners in the delivery process include:

- a) Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) is a key funding partner for the NWT HC, providing an annual subsidy toward the operation and maintenance of public housing, as well as partnering with the NWT HC on the delivery of federal housing programs.
- b) Local Housing Organizations (LHOs), in partnership with and agents of the NWT HC, are responsible for the management and administration of social housing rental units in 23 communities across the NWT. This includes the public housing units, market units and rental units under CMHC unilateral programming. The NWT HC's District Offices are responsible for this role in communities without an LHO. LHOs provide property management services including the allocation of units, the assessment and collection of rents, and the provision of preventative and demand maintenance services. Each LHO has an advisory board which oversees LHO operations.
- c) Under the terms of the Social Housing Agreement (SHA) with CMHC, the NWT HC is responsible for the administration of various operating agreements with third party NGOs. These agreements provide varying levels of support from program funding to specialized loans.

The NWT HC conducts its business planning on an annual basis. This exercise includes a capital planning component (i.e. construction/repair). In addition to the annual business plan, the

NWTHC also prepares a three-year capital plan and a longer range 20-year capital needs assessment. This allows the NWTHC to monitor community demand and to plan its construction and repair activities. By planning in advance for construction in subsequent construction years, the NWTHC hopes to minimize the impact from inflationary forces that may result from increased economic activity.

The challenge for the GNWT, along with its community partners, is to adapt to changes in individual needs by promoting the availability of adequate, suitable and affordable housing for residents of the NWT. The GNWT, through the NWTHC, addresses this challenge through a number of programs. The NWTHC's two key social housing program areas are assisted homeowner and homeowner repair programs and assisted rental programs and current programs include:

- Public Housing Program provides income-based subsidized rental housing to residents in need. This program is available to residents of the NWT who are unable to find adequate, suitable or affordable housing without spending more than 30% of their gross household income on housing. The NWTHC public housing unit portfolio consists of over 2300 units across the NWT.
- Providing Assistance for Territorial Homeownership (PATH) allows clients the opportunity to become homeowners by assisting in the construction or purchase of a modest home. Assistance is provided in the form of a forgivable loan. Clients obtain additional funding from an approved financial institution or other verifiable sources. Contributing Assistance for Repairs and Enhancements (CARE) assists existing homeowners in making necessary repairs to their home to ensure a safe and healthy residence and to increase the useful economic life of their home. Assistance is provided in the form of a forgivable loan to subsidize the cost of preventative maintenance checks, repairs and renovations for their existing home.
- Homeownership Entry Level Program (HELP) provides assistance to prospective first-time homebuyers. Clients who are not able to secure mortgage financing or are unsure of their responsibilities as homeowners are provided the opportunity of experiencing homeownership commitments before purchasing a home. Assistance is provided through a lease on a NWTHC home to the eligible applicant(s). The applicants pay 20% of their gross income toward the lease (rent) payment and shelter costs (power, water delivery, etc).
- Solutions to Educate People (STEP) provides education and counselling assistance consisting of four courses designed to prepare participants for the requirements of homeownership. STEP aims to increase homeownership applicants' financial skills, as well as their knowledge of the home purchase process and basic home maintenance repairs.

In partnership with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), the NWTHC has also been delivering the following programs:

- Homeowner Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP) provides financial assistance to low-income homeowners for mandatory repairs that will preserve the quality of affordable housing.
- Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program – RRAP for Persons with Disabilities provides financial assistance to allow homeowners and landlords to pay for modifications to make their property more accessible to persons with disabilities.
- Home Adaptations for Seniors' Independence (HASI) provides financial assistance for minor home adaptations that will help low-income seniors to continue to perform daily activities in their home independently and safely.
- Emergency Repair Program (ERP) provides financial assistance to help low-income households in rural areas, for emergency repairs required for the continued safe occupancy of their home.

The NWTHC commissions the NWT Bureau of Statistics to undertake housing needs surveys every five years, as a component of the NWT Community Survey. It is a tool to monitor changes in housing conditions, assist in targeting resources to communities, guide program development for specific housing programs, and identify incidence of need through various demographic groups across the NWT. The latest survey was conducted in 2009. Information from the 2009 survey will enhance the NWTHC's ability to respond to specific community needs.

**IR Number:** 84

**Source:** MSES

**To:** GNWT (Health and Social Services)

**Subject:** Emergency Response (Developer Response to 2b and 2c, Section 11.2, pp. 97-100)

### **Preamble**

The Developer states that “No issues were identified with the level of emergency and law enforcement services available during winter road operation; however, emergency response levels should be monitored and assessed by GNWT Health and Social Services during the operational phase of the Highway” (Developer Response to 2b and 2c, p. 97).

### **Request/Response**

- 1. As the Developer has recommended that emergency response levels should be monitored and assessed by GNWT Department of Health and Social Services during operations, please indicate whether your department agrees to monitor and assess emergency response levels, including potential changes in emergency response levels as these relate to the proposed project.**
- 2. If the response to (1) is yes, please provide information on how emergency response levels will be monitored, including the indicators and measurement parameters that will be used, the frequency of monitoring and reporting, and indicate which other departments, agencies and organizations the information will be made available to.**

GNWT Department of Health and Social Services will track the number of emergency room visits at the Inuvik Hospital. Data will be reported on using the Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale. Data will be collected before, during and after the construction phase. This data will be made available publicly through the GNWT Department of Health and Social Services Annual Report and posted on the Department’s website at <http://www.hltss.gov.nt.ca/>.



**IR Number:** 85

**Source:** MSES

**To:** GNWT (Department of Justice)

**Subject:** Local Law Enforcement Services (IR Responses Round 1, IR #39; Developer Response to 2b and 2c, Section 11.2, pp. 97-100)

### **Preamble**

The Developer states that *“Emergency Response is currently offered through the Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk Fire Departments and the RCMP,”* and further, that *“the RCMP will patrol the Highway, similar to their responsibilities in other jurisdictions in Canada. The effects on RCMP staffing Levels are anticipated to be minimal”* (Developer Response to 2b and 2c, p. 97).

In their response to Round 1 IR #39, the Developer confirmed that current traffic volumes (139 vehicles per day) will increase to 150-200 vehicles per day (year round), and that this includes traffic from tourism.

### **Request/Response**

***1. Given that the proposed project will increase the amount of vehicles per day, as well as require year-round patrolling of the Highway, please describe current staffing levels and how these might be expected to change during the operations.***

Currently the Inuvik detachment has 22 positions and the Tuktoyaktuk detachment has 6 positions. The RCMP expect that year round access by road into Tuktoyaktuk will increase calls for service by police in this community. Policing services in Inuvik are also expected to be affected but to a lesser extent. The RCMP predict that the year round operation of the road will result in the transportation of more alcohol as well as illicit items into and out of Tuktoyaktuk. The RCMP will assess their policing needs in light of these factors and either re-profile existing resources or make a case for increased resources.

***2. Please describe the role of the RCMP in monitoring and reporting on law enforcement in the communities of Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk, and in patrolling of the proposed Highway, regardless of whether these are determined to be project-related effects. Include the frequency of monitoring, the frequency of reporting, and to whom the information will be made available.***

RCMP detachments provide monthly reports on their operations to the community government as well as senior management of the RCMP. A summary brief is then forwarded to the Department of Justice. Each detachment also develops “Annual Performance Plans” in discussion with local communities. These plans will be adjusted to identify priorities related to

the new highway; initiatives could be developed to monitor or target certain issues. This practice would continue during and after the construction of the proposed highway.

**IR Number:** 86

**Source:** MSES

**To:** Health Canada  
GNWT (Department of Justice, Health and Social Services, Beaufort-Delta Health and Social Services Authority)  
Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

**Subject:** Medical and Health Care Infrastructure, Human Health and Community Wellness (Developer Response to 2b and 2c, Section 11.3 pp. 100-102; Developer Response to 2b and 2c, Section 13.0, pp. 112-116)

### **Preamble**

With regard to Medical and Health Care Infrastructure, the Developer states that “The opening of the Highway may cause an initial rise in health care demand in Inuvik, with Tuktoyaktuk residents accessing health care services on a regular basis, but since it is already a regional medical care hub, it is unlikely to require a significant increase in permanent staff to meet the demand,” (Developer Response to 2b and 2c, pp. 100).

In terms of Human Health and Community Wellness, the Developer notes that benefits of the project include increased and year-round access to medical and dental facilities, which are likely to improve the health conditions for Tuktoyaktuk residents, with the potential risk being increased access to alcohol (p. 113).

The Developer has identified several agencies and organizations with existing responsibilities “related to administering related legislation, providing funds or public services, and/or conducting monitoring” (Developer Response to 2b and 2c, Section 13.4, p. 114-116), but does not provide details on how project-related effects will be monitored and by whom.

### **Request/Response**

**1. Please describe the role of your department, agency, or organization with regard to monitoring health conditions and various aspects of community wellness in general, and any efforts or activities that your department, agency, or organization will be involved in to mitigate and monitor project-related effects.**

The GNWT Department of Health and Social Services will continue to provide alcohol and drug prevention activities, community wellness activities, treatment and counselling programs and aftercare in the Beaufort Delta region based on the needs of the population.

**2. Please provide information regarding what your department monitors, including the indicators and measurement, parameters, the frequency of monitoring and reporting, and to whom the information is reported and made available.**

The GNWT Department of Health and Social Services monitors and evaluates the efficacy of our programs and tracks health and social indicators in the region. Indicators of health and social well-being are made available in various reports. Results are tabled in the Legislative Assembly and made public on our website at [www.hltthss.gov.nt.ca](http://www.hltthss.gov.nt.ca). Below are two reports containing data relevant to socio-economic monitoring:

1. *NWT Addictions Report* is produced every two years by the GNWT Department of Health and Social Services and the NWT Bureau of Statistics. This report provides information about the trends and patterns of alcohol, illicit drug, tobacco use and gambling activities in the Northwest Territories.
2. The *Health Status Report* is published every five years and provides indicator data for many key health and social wellness indicators such as; chronic and communicable diseases, mental health and addictions, housing, healthy eating and exercise, income and employment, and education and crime rates.

Additionally, the NWT Bureau of Statistics collaborates with the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation to report publicly on indicators related to well-being. The indicators are publicly reported at <http://inuvialuitindicators.com>. The indicators include: accidental death rate, children receiving services, hospitalizations due to injury, hospitalizations due to poisoning and injury, nurse diagnosed injuries and poisonings, live births with high birth weight, live births with low birth weight, number of cases of sexually transmitted infections and number of premature deaths.