

June 5, 2012

VIA EMAIL

Jim Stevens
Director, Mackenzie Valley Highway
Department of Transportation
Government of the Northwest Territories
Yellowknife, NT

Dear Mr. Stevens,

Re: Comments on Canadian Census Request to Developer – May 25, 2012

This letter is in response to the Department of Transportation's request to the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) departments to consider the socio-economic information directive issued by the Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB) to the Developer on May 25, 2012; specifically a directive to consider new information from the 2011 Canadian Census, the GNWT Bureau of Statistics and the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation.

On page 2 the EIRB stated:

4. *Canadian census information for 2011 and recent information from the GNWT Bureau of Statistics and from the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) is available, and should be used to update socio-economic baseline information, impact predictions and mitigation measures where applicable.*

On page 4 the EIRB stated:

5. *The Developer will update the socio-economic impact assessment with 2011 Canadian census data and any new information available from the GNWT Bureau of Statistics and the IRC. The Developer will identify where any impact predictions and proposed mitigation measures have changed as a result and provide any necessary explanations.*

Regarding request to update information from the Canadian 2011 Census, it is important to understand that the results will be released over time. To date, Statistics Canada has only released the following products:

February 8, 2012 - Population and dwelling counts

May 29, 2012 - Age and sex

The schedule for release of future products is:

September 19, 2012

- Families, households and marital status
- Structural type of dwelling and collectives

October 24, 2012

- Language

It is also worth noting an additional Statistics Canada survey called the National Household Survey will also provide national level information on many topics. This survey replaced the 'long form' Census. According to Statistics Canada¹, the 2011 National Household Survey collected social and economic information that communities need to plan services such as child care, schooling, family services, housing, roads and public transportation, and skills training for employment. The NHS was sent to ~4.5 million households. Participation was voluntary. The scheduled release dates by topic are:

May 8, 2013

- Immigration
- Citizenship
- Place of birth
- Language
- Ethnic origin
- Visible minorities
- Religion
- Aboriginal Peoples

June 26, 2013

- Labour
- Education
- Place of work
- Commuting to work
- Mobility and migration
- Language of work

August 14, 2013

- Income
- Earnings
- Housing
- Shelter costs

GNWT Bureau of Statistics - NWT Community Population Estimates

The GNWT Bureau of Statistics advises the 2011 Canadian Census results should not be used as population estimates as the 2011 Census population data represents the count of people who filled out

¹ <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/index-eng.cfm>

their Census forms. As not all households will have completed forms, the Bureau does not rely solely on this source of statistics but prepares and issues population estimates by community annually. Table 1 presents the most recent population estimates for the Inuvialuit and Gwich'in communities which are the primary communities of interest to the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway Project.

Table 1. Population Estimates for Inuvialuit and Gwich'in Communities As At July 1, 2011.

Community	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Northwest Territories	43,675	43,830	43,638	43,681	43,545	43,198	43,399	43,301	42,561	41,665	40,844
Aklavik	655	647	634	633	629	616	629	624	638	674	687
Fort McPherson	797	798	797	808	806	807	812	808	816	807	831
Inuvik	3,504	3,550	3,592	3,569	3,600	3,651	3,657	3,628	3,571	3,550	3,395
Paulatuk	341	329	316	314	310	305	302	305	323	314	319
Sachs Harbour	135	136	136	131	126	127	122	121	113	118	125
Tsiigehtchic	128	132	141	155	175	181	189	202	209	212	198
Tuktoyaktuk	935	927	920	916	909	907	940	960	963	984	999
Ulukhaktok	479	480	460	447	434	412	425	413	424	415	417

Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics provided June 5, 2012

The EIS provided the Bureau's population estimates up to and including 2010. The additional year provided in Table 1 does not substantially change the estimated numbers of persons living in the directly affected communities of Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk.

Regarding any new information available from the GNWT Bureau of Statistics, it should be noted that data is compiled on an ongoing basis and from a variety of sources. The Bureau provided the most current information available for the EIS and reviewed a draft of socio-economic baseline chapter of the EIS to ensure accuracy prior to the Developer's submission to the EIRB. That said, the Bureau is not aware of any significant changes between information provided to the Developer's consultants in May 2011 when the EIS was finalized for submission and current information. To further assist the Developer, the Bureau would require a more specific request for available updated information by topic rather than the EIRB's blanket request for all updates.

Furthermore, in discussion with social programming departments regarding the EIRB's directive, the departments cannot recommend any particular pathways of effects to update as the limited size of the work force and preferential local hiring is seen as substantially eliminating pathways of negative effects of the project related to health and wellness services, impacts on infrastructure or other GNWT services. If the EIRB can identify specific pathways of effects, the GNWT departments will endeavour to provide the appropriate information to the Department of Transportation but at this time the EIRB's direction is considered to be too broad to determine what the EIRB requires. While each of the very substantial list of variables in the EIS could be updated with one additional year of data, the GNWT departments

suggest this approach would not result in any meaningful new perspectives beyond the evidence submitted to date.

The GNWT departments are not aware of specific new information available from the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation as highlighted by the EIRB. As indicated in past filings, the GNWT Bureau of Statistics and other social programming departments cooperate with the Corporation. It is not clear if the information the EIRB suggests should be obtained from the Corporation is information provided by the Bureau or GNWT departments or if it is new information available only from the Corporation. It would be necessary for the Developer to contact the Corporation regarding the EIRB's request to confirm whether they have new information that significantly changes the EIS baseline.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gavin More".

Gavin More
Manager
Environmental Assessment and Monitoring
Environment and Natural Resources

cc Bob Simpson – Inuvialuit Regional Corporation