

Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway Project Review

Identification of Requirements for Information Needs on Granular Resources

Submitted by: Wildlife Management Advisory Council (Northwest Territories) (WMAC)

Submitted to: Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB)

For: Technical Teleconference on Granular Resources, August 2, 2012

In addition to the information expected to be provided by the Developer as laid out in the EIRB 'Direction to the Developer', July 31 2012, WMAC is requesting that the following information with respect to granular resources also be provided:

1. The cumulative ecological effects expected from the development of borrow pits and their associated infrastructure (roads, etc.) on Barren-ground Caribou and Grizzly Bear populations and habitat (especially eskers) up to 50 years following road construction within an expanded cumulative effects study area¹, that is both more realistic and scientifically anchored to the actual spatial requirements of both species in the ISR, rather than the insufficient cumulative effects study area outlined in the Developer's EIS.
2. In combination with the borrow pits, their associated infrastructure, and the ITR itself, the cumulative effects of these and all other existing and proposed developments within this expanded cumulative effects study area, especially the Mackenzie Gas Project, the Parsons Lake Gas Field development and the expansion (expected to occur over the next three to five years) of infrastructure for the supply of natural gas to the town of Inuvik.

WMAC also requests clarification from the Developer as to whether the above requested information and other information - as detailed in the EIRB letter 'EIRB Decision and Reasons in Response to Developer's Request for Ruling', 16 July 2012 - will be provided in advance of the proposed technical hearings so as to provide adequate time for its review.

¹ The information provided to date on potential borrow pit sites is equivocal in that it does not specify the exact location of the sites that will be developed nor the extent to which the sites will be developed. This is of particular concern for Cumulative Effects Assessment (CEA) given that a number of potential sites identified by the Developer are outside of the area to which they propose to conduct their CEA.