

Gouvernement des

OCT 07 2016

Chief Louis Balsillie Deninu K'ue First Nation P.O. Box 1899 FORT RESOLUTION NT X0E 0M0

Dear Chief Balsillie:

Notification of the Tłıcho All-season Road Environmental Assessment (EA1617-01)

On July 21, 2016, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the Review Board) referred the Government of the Northwest Territories' (GNWT) proposed Tłıcho All-season Road (the Project) to environmental assessment. The purpose of this letter is to notify you of the environmental assessment of this Project.

The Project is wholly located in the Wek'èezhìi Resource Management Area but may still be of interest to you. For more information regarding the project, the GNWT encourages you to review the public registry for the environmental assessment at:

http://www.reviewboard.ca/registry/project.php?project_id=958

If, after your review, you identify any potential impacts to your asserted Aboriginal rights that would occur as a result of the Project, please contact Melissa Pink, whose information is below.

If you have any questions regarding the role of the GNWT in the environmental assessment of the Tłycho All-season Road, or how to participate in this process,

please contact Melissa Pink, Manager, Project Assessment Branch, at melissa-pink@gov.nt.ca or 867-767-9183 ext. 24069 or Darren Campbell, Project Assessment Analyst, at Darren campbell@gov.nt.ca or 867-767-9183 ext. 24071.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Seale

Director

Securities and Project Assessment

Department of Lands

c. Matthew Spence Director General, Northern Projects Management Office



Northwest Territories Territoires du Nord-Ouest

OCT 07 2016

Chief Felix Lockhart Łutselk'e Dene First Nation P.O. Box 28 ŁUTSEL K'E NT X0E 1A0

Dear Chief Lockhart:

Notification of the Tłıcho All-season Road Environmental Assessment (EA1617-01)

On July 21, 2016, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the Review Board) referred the Government of the Northwest Territories' (GNWT) proposed Tłıcho All-season Road (the Project) to environmental assessment. The purpose of this letter is to notify you of the environmental assessment of this Project.

The Project is wholly located in the Wek'èezhìi Resource Management Area but may still be of interest to you. For more information regarding the project, the GNWT encourages you to review the public registry for the environmental assessment at:

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If, after your review, you identify any potential impacts to your asserted Aboriginal rights that would occur as a result of the Project, please contact Melissa Pink, whose information is below.

If you have any questions regarding the role of the GNWT in the environmental assessment of the Tłıcho All-season Road, or how to participate in this process,

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Sincerely,

Lorraine Seale

Director

Securities and Project Assessment

Male

Department of Lands

c. Matthew Spence Director General, Northern Projects Management Office





OCT 07 2016

SENT BY EMAIL

President Clem Paul Mountain Island Métis P.O. Box 11051 YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 3X7

Dear President Paul:

Notification of Tłıcho All-season Road Environmental Assessment (EA1617-01)

On July 21, 2016, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the Review Board) referred the Government of the Northwest Territories' (GNWT) proposed Tłıcho All-season Road (the Project) to environmental assessment. The purpose of this letter is to notify you of the environmental assessment of this By way of further background, the GNWT's Department of Transportation previously wrote to you in May, June and September of 2015 and March of 2016 in preparation for submitting the application to the Wek'èezhìi Land and Water Board. We note that no correspondence was received from the Mountain Island Metis in response to those initial notification letters.

The Project is wholly located in the Wek'èezhìi Resource Management Area but may still be of interest to you. For more information regarding the project, the GNWT encourages you to review the public registry for the environmental assessment at:

http://www.reviewboard.ca/registry/project.php?project_id=958

If, after your review, you identify any potential impacts to your asserted section 35 rights that would occur as a result of the Project, please contact Melissa Pink, whose information is below.

If you have any questions regarding the role of the GNWT in the environmental assessment of the Tłįchǫ All-season Road, or how to participate in this process, please contact Melissa Pink, Manager, Project Assessment Branch, at melissa pink@gov.nt.ca or 867-767-9183 ext. 24069 or Darren Campbell, Project Assessment Analyst, at darren campbell@gov.nt.ca or 867-767-9183 ext. 24071.

Sincerely,

for Lorraine Seale

Director

Securities and Project Assessment

Department of Lands

c. Matthew Spence
Director General, Northern Projects Management Office





North Slave Métis Alliance President Bill Enge P.O. Box 2301 YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2P7

Dear President Enge:

<u>Section 35 Consultation and the role of the Government of the Northwest Territories: Tłıcho All-season Road Environmental Assessment (EA1617-01)</u>

As you are aware, on July 21, 2016, the Mackenzie Valley Impact Environmental Review Board (the Review Board) referred the Government of the Northwest Territories' (GNWT) proposed Tłįchǫ All-season Road (the Project) to environmental assessment. The purpose of this letter is to outline the Project and the role of the GNWT as both proponent and decision maker, and to encourage your continued participation in the environmental assessment.

As proposed, the Tłącho All-season Road will be 94 km and extend from Highway 3 to the community of Whatì. The road is wholly located in the Wek'èezhìi Resource Management Area and will include 15 water crossings, four of which will be bridges.

As the proponent for the road, the GNWT, and more specifically, the Department of Transportation, is best able to answer your questions regarding project design and impact mitigation. The GNWT will continue to consult with the North Slave Métis Alliance throughout this environmental assessment to address any concerns that may arise.

As a participant in the environmental assessment process, there will be opportunities for you to communicate any concerns you may have regarding potential adverse impacts from the Project to both to the GNWT and to the Review Board. We encourage you to:

- clearly indicate whether you anticipate adverse impacts on your asserted Aboriginal rights as a result of the Project, and if so, clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on those right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated, as well as any evidence that will help in understanding those impacts; and,
- support the Review Board's understanding of the evidence, including Traditional Knowledge, with respect to both potential impacts and mitigations.

The GNWT and Government of Canada bear the responsibility for the duty to consult regarding any potential adverse impacts to Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights resulting from the Tłįchǫ All-season Road. The GNWT will be relying both on the consultative processes of the Review Board, and as the proponent for this project, its own bilateral consultation with Aboriginal governments and organizations, to fulfill its duty to consult.

Throughout the environmental assessment process the GNWT will carefully monitor and track all Aboriginal governments and organizations' statements of any potential adverse impacts on asserted or established Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights. We will assess whether any potential adverse impact on these rights have been meaningfully and completely addressed and ensure that we have met our duty to consult before any decision under section 130 of the MVRMA is made regarding the Project.

The GNWT's Minister of Lands has the delegated environmental assessment decision-making authority for this project.¹ The ministers of other relevant GNWT and federal departments will participate in the environmental assessment decision-making process; the Tłįcho Government will also will also exercise their decision-making authority related to the Project. The Department of

¹ For projects located wholly on non-federal land, under the Devolution Final Agreement, the Minister of Lands has the delegated environmental assessment decision authority under section 130 of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA).

Transportation and its Minister, as the department leading the GNWT in the role of the proponent, will not participate in the environmental assessment as a decision-maker.

If you have any questions regarding the role of the GNWT in the environmental assessment of the Tłıcho All-season Road, or how to participate in this process, please contact Melissa Pink, Manager, Project Assessment Branch, at melissa pink@gov.nt.ca or 867-767-9183 ext. 24069 or Darren Campbell, Project Assessment Analyst, at <u>Darren campbell@gov.nt.ca</u> or 867-767-9183 ext. 24071.

For Lorraine Seale

Securities and Project Assessment

Department of Lands

Matthew Spence c. Director General, Northern Projects Management Office

Mark Cliffe-Phillips

Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board



Government of Gouvernement des
Northwest Territories Territoires du Nord-Ouest

OCT 07 2016

President Garry Bailey Northwest Territories Métis Nation P.O.Box 720 FORT SMITH NT X0E 0P0

President Ken Hudson Fort Smith Métis Nation P.O. Box 720 FORT SMITH NT X0E 0P0 President Trevor Beck Hay River Métis Council 10 Industrial Drive HAY RIVER NT X0E 0R6

President Arthur Beck Fort Resolution Métis Council P.O. Box 137 FORT RESOLUTION NT X0E 0M0

Dear Presidents:

Notification of the Thcho All-season Road Environmental Assessment (EA1617-01)

On July 21, 2016, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the Review Board) referred the Government of the Northwest Territories' (GNWT) proposed Tłącho All-season Road (the Project) to environmental assessment. The purpose of this letter is to notify you of the environmental assessment of this Project. By way of further background, the GNWT's Department of Transportation previously wrote to you in May, June and September of 2015 and March of 2016 in preparation for submitting the application to the Wek'èezhìi Land and Water Board. We note that no correspondence was received from the Northwest Territories Métis Nation in response to those initial notification letters.

The Project is wholly located in the Wek'èezhìi Resource Management Area but may still be of interest to you. For more information regarding the project, you are encouraged to review the public registry for the environmental assessment at:

http://www.reviewboard.ca/registry/project.php?project_id=958

If, after your review, you identify any potential adverse impacts to your asserted Aboriginal rights that may occur as a result of the Project, please contact Melissa Pink, whose contact information can be found below. The GNWT and the Government of Canada bear the responsibility for the duty to consult regarding any potential adverse impacts to Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights resulting from the Tłįchǫ All-season Road. The GNWT will be relying both on the consultative processes of the Review Board, and as the proponent for this project, its own bilateral consultation with Aboriginal governments and organizations, to fulfill its duty to consult

If you have any questions regarding the role of the GNWT in the environmental assessment of the Tłįchǫ All-season Road, or how to participate in this process, please contact Melissa Pink, Manager, Project Assessment Branch, at melissa pink@gov.nt.ca or 867-767-9183 ext. 24069 or Darren Campbell, Project Assessment Analyst, at darren campbell@gov.nt.ca or 867-767-9183 ext. 24071.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Seale

Director

Securities and Project Assessment

Department of Lands

c. Matthew Spence
Director General, Northern Projects Management Office

Mark Cliffe-Phillips Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Ursula Vogt Executive Director, Northwest Territory Métis Nation



Gouvernement des
Territoires du Nord-Ouest

OCT 07 2016

Grand Chief Eddie Erasmus Tłįcho Government PO Box 412 BEHCHOKO, NT X0E 0Y0

Dear Grand Chief Erasmus:

<u>Section 35 Consultation and the role of the Government of the Northwest Territories: Tłicho All-season Road Environmental Assessment (EA1617-01)</u>

As you are aware, on July 21, 2016, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the Review Board) referred the Government of the Northwest Territories' (GNWT) proposed Tłącho All-season Road (the Project) to environmental assessment. This letter follows up on our August 10, 2016 letter to the Review Board, which outlines the role of the GNWT as both proponent and decision-maker, and takes into account the August 17, 2016 Tłącho Government's letter to the Review Board outlining your role as intervenor and decision-maker.

As you are also aware, the proposed Tłįchǫ All-season Road will be 94 km and extend from Highway 3 to the Community of Whatì. The road is wholly located in the Wek'èezhìi Resource Management Area and will include 15 water crossings, four of which will be bridges.

The GNWT has worked closely with the Tłįchǫ Government over the past 10 years to achieve a Project that meets the needs of the community of Whatì and respects the input of Tłįchǫ members. We appreciate the time and efforts the Tłįchǫ Government have already invested in this Project. As the proponent for the road, the GNWT, and more specifically, the Department of Transportation, is best able to answer your questions regarding project design and impact mitigation. The GNWT will continue to consult with the Tłįchǫ Government throughout this environmental assessment to address any concerns that may arise.

The GNWT and Government of Canada bear the responsibility for the duty to consult regarding any potential adverse impacts to Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights resulting from the Tłįchǫ All-season Road. The GNWT will be relying both on the consultative processes of the Review Board, and as the proponent for this project, its own bilateral consultation with Aboriginal governments and organizations, to fulfill its duty to consult.

As an intervenor in the environmental assessment process, there will be opportunities for you to communicate any concerns you may have regarding potential adverse impacts from the Project to both to the GNWT and to the Review Board. We encourage you to:

- clearly indicate whether you anticipate adverse impacts on your established Treaty rights as a result of the Project, and if so, clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on those right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated, as well as any evidence that will help in understanding those impacts; and,
- support the Review Board's understanding of the evidence, including Traditional Knowledge, with respect to both potential impacts and mitigations.

Throughout the process the GNWT will carefully monitor and track all Aboriginal governments and organizations' statements of any potential adverse impacts on asserted or established Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights. We will assess whether any potential adverse impact on these rights have been meaningfully and completely addressed and ensure that we have met our duty to consult before any decision is made under section 130 of the MVRMA regarding the Project.

The GNWT's Minister of Lands has the delegated environmental assessment decision-making authority for this project. The ministers of other relevant GNWT and federal departments will participate in the environmental assessment decision-making process.

¹ For projects located wholly on non-federal land, under the Devolution Final Agreement, the Minister of Lands has the delegated environmental assessment decision authority under section 130 of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA).

GNWT is aware that the Tłącho Government will have decision-making authority under section 131 of the MVRMA, and the responsible ministers will work with the Tłącho Government as appropriate during the decision period. The Department of Transportation and its Minister, as the department leading the GNWT in the role of the proponent, will not participate in the environmental assessment as a decision-maker.

If you have any questions regarding the role of the GNWT in the environmental assessment of the Tłįchǫ All-season Road, or how to participate in this process, please contact Melissa Pink, Manager, Project Assessment Branch, at melissa pink@gov.nt.ca or 867-767-9183 ext. 24069 or Darren Campbell, Project Assessment Analyst, at Darren campbell@gov.nt.ca or 867-767-9183 ext. 24071.

Sincerely,

CV Lorraine Seale

Director

Securities and Project Assessment

Department of Lands

c. Matthew Spence Director General, Northern Projects Management Office

> Mark Cliffe-Phillips Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Laura Duncan Tłįchǫ Executive Officer, Tłįchǫ Government



Government of Gouvernement des

Northwest Territories Territoires du Nord-Ouest

nct 07 2016

Chief Edward Sangris Yellowknives Dene First Nation (Dettah) P.O. Box 2514 YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2P8

Chief Ernest Betsina Yellowknives Dene First Nation (Ndilo) P.O. Box 2514 YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2P8

Dear Chiefs:

Section 35 Consultation and the role of the Government of the Northwest Territories: Tłıcho All-season Road Environmental Assessment (EA1617-01)

As you are aware, on July 21, 2016, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the Review Board) referred the Government of the Northwest Territories' (GNWT) proposed Tłycho All-season Road (the Project) to environmental assessment. The purpose of this letter is to outline the Project and the role of the GNWT as both proponent and decision-maker, and to encourage your participation in the environmental assessment.

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As the proponent for the road, the GNWT's Department of Transportation is best able to answer your questions regarding project design and impact mitigation. The GNWT will consult with the Yellowknives Dene First Nation throughout this environmental assessment, as requested, to address any concerns that may arise.

The GNWT and the Government of Canada bear the responsibility for the duty to consult regarding any potential adverse impacts to Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights resulting from the Tłıcho All-season Road. The GNWT will be relying both on the consultative processes of the Review Board, and as the proponent for this project, its

own bilateral consultation with Aboriginal governments and organizations, to fulfill its duty to consult. As an intervenor in the environmental assessment process, there will be opportunities for you to communicate any concerns you may have regarding potential impacts from the Project to both to the GNWT and to the Review Board. We encourage you to:

- clearly indicate whether you anticipate adverse impacts on your asserted Aboriginal rights as a result of the Project, and if so, clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on those right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated, as well as any evidence that will help in understanding those impacts, and,
- support the Review Board's understanding of the evidence, including Traditional Knowledge, with respect to both potential impacts and mitigations.

Throughout the environmental assessment process the GNWT will carefully monitor and track all Aboriginal governments and organizations' statements of any potential adverse impacts on asserted or established Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights. We will assess whether any potential adverse impact on these rights have been meaningfully and completely addressed and ensure that we have met our duty to consult before any decision under section 130 of the MVRMA is made regarding the Project.

The GNWT's Minister of Lands has the delegated environmental assessment decision-making authority for this project.¹ The ministers of other relevant GNWT and federal departments will participate in the environmental assessment decision-making process; the Tłıcho Government will also will also exercise their decision-making authority related to the Project. The Department of Transportation and its Minister, as the department leading the GNWT in the role of the proponent, will not participate in the environmental assessment as a decision-maker.

¹ For projects located wholly on non-federal land, under the Devolution Final Agreement, the Minister of Lands has the delegated environmental assessment decision authority under section 130 of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA).

If you have any questions regarding the role of the GNWT in the environmental assessment of the Tłıcho All-season Road, or how to participate in this process, please contact Melissa Pink, Manager, Project Assessment Branch, melissa pink@gov.nt.ca or 867-767-9183 ext. 24069 or Darren Campbell, Project Assessment Analyst, at darren campbell@gov.nt.ca or 867-767-9183 ext. 24071.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Seale Director

Securities and Project Assessment

Department of Lands

Matthew Spence C. Director General, Northern Projects Management Office