

Territories Resources, Wildlife, and Economic Development

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board Box 938 5102-50th Avenue Yellowknife NT

December 20, 2000

Attention:

Ms. Heidi Klein Executive Director

## Notice of Delay Re Patterson Sawmlli Ltd. Timber Cutting Permit Application

Thank you for the copy of the letter of the Deninoo Community Council, and your note requesting that our Department refrain from issuance of Timber Cutting permits until the requirements of Part V of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* have been met.

Respectfully, we wish to advise you that a delay in issuing harvesting authorizations to Patterson Sawmill Ltd. will have a serious impact on their ability to complete their proposed harvest this winter. In addition, a lengthy delay may jeopardise the viability of an important small business enterprise in the NWT. As access to timber harvesting areas in the north is predicated on frozen ground, a matter of weeks can have the effect of failure or success of the operation, considering the variability of winter conditions in the area of the development.

Respectfully, we ask that the Board take this issue under consideration at their earliest possible opportunity, recognizing the necessity for a timely and expeditious response to the concerns raised both by the Deninoo Community Council, and the impact on the business enterprise of Patterson Sawmill Ltd.

Thanking you, I remain

Yours respectfully,

William Mawdsley

A/Director

Cc: R. P. Bailey

**Headquarters** 

Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations

Forest Management Division
Government Of The Northwest Territories

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