

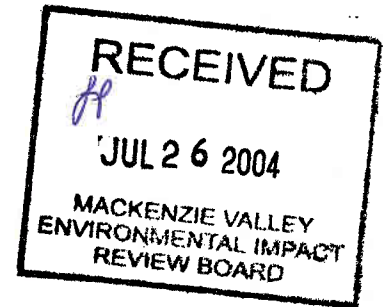
IR Number:

Source: Environment Canada

To: Deh Cho Bridge Corporation

DAR Section: K.1 Cumulative Impacts

Terms of Reference Section: K Cumulative Impacts



Preamble

The proponent adequately describes the bridge within the context of the overall transportation corridor and history of development of the highway. However the proponent does not provide enough detail on existing resource use activities within the study area. The proponent could, but is not limited to include in it's cumulative effects assessment: the community of Fort Providence, existing quarries (in use or abandoned), existing roadways, trails, personal use cabins, docking facilities, airstrips (in use or abandoned), the proposed toll facilities and any new areas of disturbance related to the project.

Request

The proponent should provide a broader review of and more definitive conclusions of the potential cumulative environmental effects.

The proponent should consider utilizing one of the approaches outlined in the following documents, in order to conduct their review of cumulative effects:

Addressing Cumulative Environmental Effects in Environmental Assessments under the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act. Interim Guide, September 2000.

Cumulative Effects Assessment Practitioners Guide February 1999. Prepared for: Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency. Prepared by: The Cumulative Effects Assessment Working Group and AXYS Environmental Consulting Ltd.

Operational Policy Statement, March 1999 OPS-EPO/3- 1999, Addressing Cumulative Environmental Effects under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.

A Reference Guide for the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act: Addressing Cumulative Environmental Effects. November 1994.

Cumulative Effects in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region: A guide for proponents.

The proponent should consider using the following categories in their cumulative effects assessment:

- *Scoping*
- *Analysis*
- *Mitigation*
- *Determining Significance*
- *Follow-up*

As well as give some consideration to:

Spatial boundaries – may extend beyond a development's immediate site to include the area likely to be affected;

Temporal boundaries - may extend beyond the timing of construction and operation to include the period of occurrence of the effects.

As described in the MVEIRB's Interim Guide, September 2000 the proponent's analysis should include an assessment of:

- 1. the status of the receiving environment, including its important characteristics and other stressors (e.g. how have past developments and activities affected or stressed the environment)?*
- 2. the cumulative environmental effects of the development, including, interactions among effects the development may cause in the environment, such as those between effects on water quality and effects on fish resulting from sedimentation and destruction of the shoreline vegetation cover*
- 3. interactions among any effects on: health and socio-economic conditions; physical and cultural heritage; current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes by aboriginal persons; any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, palaeontological or architectural significance, caused by changes in the environment; and interactions among changes to the development caused by the environment.*

And in their assessment of cumulative impacts, the proponent should consider all types of existing information such as, but not limited to:

- federal, provincial and municipal government departments and agencies, especially land use planners and environmental staff;*
- the public registry on the MVEIRB web site;*
- registries or files of environmental assessments maintained by provincial departments and/or agencies;*
- development owners and/or operators;*
- local academic and research institutions;*
- local residents and community and environmental groups;*
- environmental reports;*

- *land use maps, air photos, and satellite images;*
- *records of official plan or zoning by-laws;*
- *fire insurance maps;*
- *local chambers of commerce;*
- *assessment records; and*
- *industrial directories.*