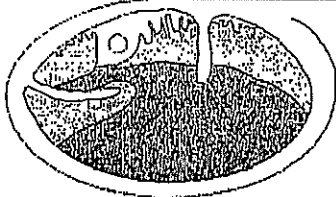


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Sambaa K'e**Trout Lake, NT**

Sambaa K'e Dene Band
P.O. Box 10
Trout Lake, NWT
XOE- 1Z0

Phone: (867) 206-2800
Fax: (867) 206 2828
Email: sambaake@direcway.com

February 20th, 2004

Vern Christenson
Executive Director
MVEIRB
Yellowknife, NT

FAX: 867-766-7074

**Re. Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Ltd. Land Use Permit Application
MV2003X0045 and Water Licence Application MV2003L8-0012.**

Vern Christenson,

The Sambaa K'e Dene Band hereby refers the above noted permit applications to the MVEIRB for Environmental Assessment under Section 126 (2c) of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act.

In our opinion:

- The impact of the proposed work has not been properly assessed and there is significant risk of disruptions to the woodland caribou herds currently occupying the area between the Trout Lake winter road and K'eotse (Trainer Lake).
- Imperial Oil is still considering locating a temporary camp at the junction of the winter road and Enbridge pipeline even though the community has provided evidence that this area is located close to natural underground springs and is unsuitable for a camp location. The community has recommended a more suitable site a few kilometres to the south.
- The community is not confident that the contractors identified by the Developer to carry out this work have adequate knowledge of the cultural and environmental

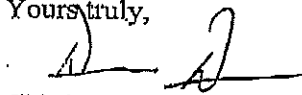
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values and concerns of the community -- they will therefore not be in a position to provide adequate protection to the land.

- No formal discussions have been initiated with the community regarding use of the winter road even though the heavy vehicle traffic associated with this investigation project will be very disruptive to animals and local residents.
- We understand that Imperial Oil is still considering establishing pipeline facilities in the K'eotsch watershed area in spite of significant TK information regarding the sensitivity of this watershed.

Given the reluctance of Imperial to respond appropriately to some of the specific community concerns relating to potential cultural and environmental impacts, the Samba K'e Dene Band has decided to refer the project to EA in order to ensure a thorough environmental review prior to the commencement of the work. All of our concerns must be adequately and clearly addressed before work can proceed. Mahsi.

Yours truly,



Chief Dennis Deneron

CC.

- DCFN
- Pehdzeh Ki First Nation
- Liidlili Koe First Nation
- Jean Marie River First Nation
- Metis Local 52
- Bob Wooley, MVLWB
- Minister Michel, INAC