

Athabasca Denesuliné Negotiation Team

December 22, 2006

Martin Haefele
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 5,
102 – 50<sup>th</sup> Ave
Yellowknife NT
X1A 2N7

Dear Mr. Haefele:

## Re: Request for Party Status in UR Energy Screech Lake Environmental Assessment

The Athabasca Denesuline request "Party Status" at the scheduled January 2007 Hearing respecting UR Energy Screech Lake Environmental Assessment.

We understand that the deadline to apply for standing at the hearing may have passed; however, in the event that this request is submitted after a deadline, we request that this requirement be waived on the grounds that the Athabasca Denesuline have not been notified regarding this re-activated UR Energy application by either the MVEIRB or the MVLWB as required by Policy Direction issued by Minister Robert Nault, Minister of INAC, on August 22, 2003.

As you are aware from our submission in March 2005 regarding the UR Energy application, the proposed development is within the Athabasca Denesuline traditional territory and the IMA boundary agreed to by Canada and the GNWT as part of the terms of our negotiations. Given our submissions last year and our correspondence with the MVLWB and yourself, we are surprised that we had not been notified about the decision by UR Energy to re-submit their development application for Screech Lake.

Please advise as soon as possible on this request. In the event that our request for standing is denied, we intend to exhaust other remedies to ensure that we are able to participate in this assessment process. The Crown and its institutions have a duty to consultant with First Nations with respect to developments with the potential to impact on First Nations rights and interests. This duty to consult was confirmed by Minister Nault and we expect that his Policy Direction will be followed.

c/o Prince Albert Grand Council

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Phone: 306-922-7612 or 306-922-7613 Fax: 306-763-2973

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I have attached our submissions from last year, as well as five (5) new maps we have prepared as part of our current analysis.

Thank you for cooperation in addressing this request.

Sincerely,

Ron Robillard, Chief Negotiator

Athabasca Denesuline Negotiation Team

cc: Chief Victor Fern, Fond du Lac Denesuline First Nation Chief Freddie Throassie, Black Lake Denesuline First Nation Chief Louis Josie, Hatchet Lake Denesuline First Nation Athabasca Vice Chief-Don Deranger, Prince Albert Grand Council Peter Brook, Management Consultant, PAGC



## PRINCE ALBERT GRAND GOUNGIL

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## FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Date: Dec 22/06	# of Pgs including this page:
	g- map page.
Organization: MUEIRB	Fax Number: 867-766-7074
Attention Martin Haefele	Sender: Reto Brook
Regarding: Othoborca Dene Schen - UD Energy-Screech	
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I have emailed you this letter	
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Reto Brook	
Signature:	

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