

## Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

December 27, 2006

Ron Robillard Chief Negotiator Athabasca Denesuline Negotiation Team Suite 206, 1004 – 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue West Prince Albert, Sask, S6V 4Y4

Sent by E-mail: rrobillard@pagc.sk.ca

Dear Mr. Robillard:

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

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) recently received a letter from you (December 22, 2006) requesting party status for the above environmental assessment (EA). You also stated in the letter you were not aware this application had been reactivated. Martin Haefele is the lead Environmental Assessment Officer on this file, however, he is away on Christmas holidays and therefore I shall attempt to address your concerns.

In response to your first request, the Review Board may grant party status to any organization it believes will contribute to the EA process and though we encourage parties to apply during the stated timeframe, the Review Board will certainly consider late requests. I will follow-up directly with the Review Board first thing in the new year on your request and Martin or I will get back to you directly. We encourage all interested parties to fill out a "Request for Party Status" form. I have attached the Review Board's "Rules of Proceedings" in an e-mail to you so that you can easily access the form.

For your information, a public hearing is scheduled to take place for this environmental assessment in Lutsel K'e on January 16 and 17, 2007. On December 13, 2006, the Review Board staff hosted a pre-hearing conference to discuss how this hearing would run and to review what issues various parties would like to bring forward. On our website:

www.mveirb.nt.ca, under "News and Events" we have a tape recording of the second half of the Ur Energy pre-conference hearing.

You also raise a concern that your organization was not informed that this application had been re-activated. I cannot speak on behalf of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board's (MVLWB) processes, however I did have a quick look at their Public Registry for this file and it appears that on July 26, 2006 a notification letter was sent to:

Interim Measures Coordinator, Athabasca Denesuline c/o Prince Albert Council Fax: (306) 763-2973

When a project is referred to our Board, we use the initial distribution list established by the MVLWB to create a distribution list. I have reviewed our Public Registry and it appears that we have attempted on several occasions to inform and contact the Athabasca Denesuline regarding this environmental assessment. Again, I encourage you to go to our website to get further information about this assessment. For easy reference, I am enclosing a copy of an email that was sent to yourself and an R. Good on September 21, 2006.

If we have erred in who we have sent information to regarding this environmental assessment, we would appreciate it if you could please provide us with the contact information of the appropriate person(s). Thank you for your interest in this environmental assessment. The Review Board recognizes the valuable contributions Aboriginal organizations bring to its processes and we encourage and look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

Mary Tapsell

Manager, Environmental Impact Assessment

cc: Martin Haefele, Senior Environmental Assessment Officer Vern Christensen, Executive Director



From:

Martin Haefele

Sent:

Thursday, September 21, 2006 10:37 AM

To:

'rrobillard@pagc.sk.ca'; 'rgood@pagc.sk.ca'

Subject:

Environmental Assessment of proposed Ur Energy uranium exploration

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Follow up Completed

Attachments:

Athabasca Denesuline EA0506-003.pdf.TXT; general notification.pdf.TXT

Dear Athabasca Denesuline Negotiation Team:

On September 11, 2006 I wrote to you announcing the start up of an environmental assessment (EA0607-003) for a proposed uranium exploration project in the Thelon River watershed by the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB). In that same letter I indicated that the public record for a previous environmental assessment (EA0506-003) of essentially the same project would be transferred into the record for the new assessment. EA0506-003 was cancelled as the developer withdrew the application. You made a submission to EA0506-003.

It has been brought to my attention that including submissions in the record for the current assessment without the explicit consent of the person or organization making the submission would be improper. If you would like the MVEIRB to consider your submission to the previous assessment, please confirm your submission. You may do so by replying to this e-mail message. Your submission, as well as my letter of September 11 are attached for your reference. Of course, you may add additional information or comments at any time during the assessment process. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me at (867) 766-7053.

Sincerely Martin Haefele





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Martin Haefele **Environmental Assessment Officer** Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

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