

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Our file: EA0708-002

November 27, 2007

Mr. Larry Lahusen
Uravan Minerals Inc.
Suite 124, 2526 Battleford Ave S.W.
Calgary, AB T3E 7J4

Dear Mr. Lahusen,

Re: Request for Project Description Summary: Uravan Minerals Inc's Boomerang Lake South Mineral Exploration Program

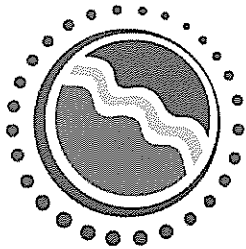
Introduction

The Review Board will soon be issuing a Draft Work Plan and Scoping Questionnaire to assist with identifying and prioritizing issues for this environmental assessment. To assist in this scoping process, the Review Board is requesting that Uravan Minerals Inc. provide a concise summary of the proposed Boomerang Lake South mineral exploration program, including maps. This will assist the Review Board and those organizations and individuals interested in contributing to the scoping process in determining potential local and regional impacts that should be included in the scope of assessment.

Having enough information at both the regional and local scales is essential to effective scoping. Some regional scale issues have been identified during the preliminary screening, but the Review Board and interested groups require an effective synopsis of the specific locations proposed for work, and the exact nature of the proposed activities. The Review Board acknowledges that much of this information is already available from the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board's preliminary screening process, but having all of the pertinent information in one document that can then be distributed by the Review Board along with the scoping questionnaire will be of value, especially given capacity concerns expressed by some organizations.

Responses to the Review Board's *Call for Comments* on how to structure this EA also indicate that some groups felt they did not have time to comment on the preliminary screening, may not have had the capacity to go through all of the preliminary screening material in detail, or have concerns that not enough information was provided in the initial application package to now properly scope the environmental assessment. This project description summary should assist in reducing these concerns; it also provides your organization an opportunity to summarize its knowledge of the proposed work environment and the proposed activities therein.

In order to expedite the environmental assessment process, the Review Board requests that this summary be submitted by Monday, December 17.



Request

Please provide a **maximum 10 page summary** (not including maps) of the Boomerang Lake South mineral exploration program proposal, including at minimum the following:

Maps

Note: Please submit all maps to the Review Board in an ArcView compatible format if possible, as well as in colour PDF versions for public release. Maps should include coordinates, a scale indicator and appropriate key.

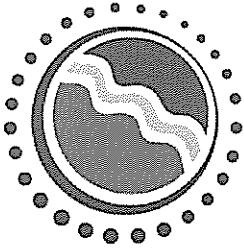
1. A 1:500,000 scale map showing the location of the Boomerang Lake South claim(s), the proposed camp area, rivers and lakes, and the boundaries of the Thelon River Watershed and the Thelon Game Sanctuary. If the boundaries of the Thelon River Watershed or the Thelon Game Sanctuary are not visible at this scale, a 1:5,000,000 or similarly appropriate scale map should be provided as an inset.
2. A 1:50,000 (or similarly appropriate) scale map indicating the extent of the Boomerang Lake South drill program (as proposed in the Land Use Permit amendment application for MV2006C008), and indicating all identified local place names, landmarks, unique or otherwise important landforms, priority drill targets, likely snow machine trails, water sources and water crossings potentially used by caribou. In addition, any areas of high found or potential heritage resources should be identified, if this information is available.

The Review Board would encourage the developer to err on the side of providing additional detail (and more maps if there is too much detail to place on one map) during this exercise.

Project Description Summary

Include a plain language summary of the proposed development and project location, including at minimum the following:

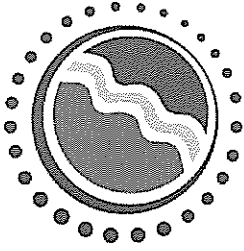
1. A description of the existing environment, including the entire claim boundaries within which work is proposed, with special emphasis on the areas that are priority drill targets, potential surface transportation routes and camp site. This description of the existing environment should include:



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- a. Details on which animals are known to utilize the area and their seasonal abundance (with an emphasis on the Beverly and Ahiak caribou herds and any Species at Risk¹ known or suspected of frequenting the area);
 - b. The names and characteristics of all water bodies that may be physically crossed or utilized in any fashion by the proposed development;
 - c. Any areas of heightened biophysical importance or sensitivity that have been identified in the proposed work area, including unique or otherwise important landforms, areas with high habitat values (identifying for which species), potential water crossings for caribou, and areas with high aquatic resources; and
 - d. Information about human usage and values associated with the proposed work area, including areas where harvesting occurs and the intensity of that harvesting, areas of high known or potential heritage resources, traditional place names, known historic trails, and any identified traditional knowledge about use of the area.
2. A description of the proposed development, including at minimum the following:
- a. Proposed working season, as well as the likely progression of activities by year, and the number of years total activity being applied for;
 - b. Nature of work activities, including an explanation of the stage of exploration being proposed;
 - c. Number of drill targets, likely and maximum number of drill holes, type of drill rig used, amount of predicted drill core and drill core management procedures, physical footprint at each drill site, post-drilling cleanup/reclamation procedures;
 - d. Location and information about the physical footprint and operating requirements of the camp site;
 - e. All modes of transportation to and from the work site, the camp site, and the community where operations will be staged from, including the likely frequency of trips;
 - f. Likely transportation routes by land, water and air, relating to the above;

¹ For the purposes of this exercise, "Species at Risk" can include species covered by the federal *Species at Risk Act*, species identified by the GNWT as potentially at risk, or species listed by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). The developer is responsible for due diligence in identifying species at this point in the environmental assessment.



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- g. Number of employees required;
 - h. Water demands, including information on collection, use and release of water (including likely sources) at the camp and work sites; and
 - i. Waste creation (amounts and type) and waste management at the camp and work sites.
3. Any other information the developer feels may help the Review Board and other interested organizations during the scoping stage of the environmental assessment (e.g., any mitigation already identified for known environmental concerns).

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 766-7052 or by e-mail at amacdonald@mveirb.nt.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alistair MacDonald". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alistair MacDonald
Environmental Assessment Officer

By fax and email