

## NOTE TO FILE

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December 24, 2010

### **Re: Preparing information requests**

After considering INAC's Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 response to the Review Board's deficiency statement, the Review Board has found Developer's Assessment Report to be in conformity with the Terms of Reference. Parties should now review the Developer's Assessment Report and the additional information to decide what information they would like to formally request. The information requests are intended to give parties the information they need to help them reach their conclusions about potentially significant impacts.

There are two rounds of information requests planned in this environmental assessment (please see the Revised Workplan of Dec. 23, 2010 for details). Parties should send their information requests directly to the developer and copy the Review Board for the public record. The Review Board may issue its own information requests in this period.

**The deadline for parties' information requests is Monday January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The developer's deadline for responding is February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011.** This will be followed by technical meetings and then a second round of information requests in March and April.

Appendix F of the Review Board's *Environmental Impact Assessment Guidelines* provides guidance on formatting information requests (attached). Note that the above instruction means that the third and fourth paragraphs of Appendix F do not apply in this assessment.

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# Appendix F: Information Request Guidance and Samples

### Information Request Guidance Note

To ensure that parties to the EA have access to the information necessary for the review of the developer's assessment report, the Review Board has a formal information request (IR) process.

An IR is a written request for information from a party in an EA to any other party in the EA, issued through the Review Board. The party that receives the IR is required to provide the Review Board with a written response that satisfactorily addresses the questions or issues raised by the IR.

Although IRs may originate from parties besides the Review Board, the Review Board issues all IRs. The Review Board may issue its own IRs, as well as those originating externally.

If the Review Board receives more than one IR asking for the same information, it can amalgamate them into one IR to prevent redundancy. The Review Board has the right to rule on the relevance and acceptability of IRs, and will decide whether to issue each IR. It will assign each IR an official number, and will issue them to the appropriate party.

For each IR, please submit your request in the following format:

#### Reference

Identify the source document, and where specifically in the document (e.g. section number, page number, table number, appendix number, etc.) your request originates.

If there is more than one source, list them individually.

#### Terms of Reference Section:

List the section of the ToR, and if possible, the specific item within that section (e.g. ToR s. 4.2, Aquatic Resources, 3rd bullet.).

#### Preamble:

Describe why you are making the request. Is the source document unclear? Are there inconsistencies or errors in the document? What will you do with the response? Why, specifically, do you need to know this information? Please be thorough and clear with your reasons.

#### Request:

What information do you want? What exactly is the recipient being directed to do or provide? For example:

- a) Provide document X.
- b) Explain why you did (whatever), as opposed to ....
- c) What is your rationale for the number you stated in...?

## Sample Information Requests

### I.R. 1.1

Source: Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

To: Mackenzie Minerals Inc.

#### Reference

DAR, s. 5.2.2.1 Physical Impacts, p. 68-74

#### Terms of Reference Section

ToR s. 4.9 Aquatic Resources, 2nd bullet

"Mackenzie Minerals Inc. shall provide information on aquatic resources, mitigation measures and predicted residual impacts. [...] This section shall include, but not be limited to, a discussion of the following:

- [...] species of fish present at the time of the river crossings and their life stages, movement, migration patterns and habitat use [...]."

#### **Preamble**

The movement of fish as a migratory route and habitat for fish in the Willow River is well-known. Few studies document the seasonal movements of fish species although local communities may be aware of these movement patterns.

#### **Request**

Can Mackenzie Minerals Inc. predict which species of fish will be in the Willow River at the proposed time of the operation? If so, please describe the species of fish expected, and the timing of their migrations.

### **I.R. 1.2**

Source: Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

To: Mackenzie Minerals Inc.

#### **Reference**

DAR, s. 6.2.2.1 Physical Impacts, p. 80-91

#### **Terms of Reference Section**

ToR s. 4.9 Aquatic Resources, 3rd bullet

"WG shall provide information on aquatic resources, mitigation measures and predicted residual impacts.

[...] This section shall include, but not be limited to, a discussion of the following:

- [...] general information on Willow River fish species at risk for which data are available in the literature [...]."

#### **Preamble**

On page 7, 2nd paragraph from the bottom of the response to the Deficiency Statement regarding material in Section 9.2.2.1 (p. 110-111 of the DAR)

that there is little or no information on fish species at risk. This implies that there are no fish species at risk in the project area, but the listing on page 34 suggests otherwise.

#### **Request**

Please provide information, based upon what is known, of fish species at risk in the development area.