



Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

Affaires indiennes
et du Nord Canada

PO Box 1500
Yellowknife, NT
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August 13, 2010

[VIA EMAIL]

To: Nicole Spencer
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
2nd Floor - 5102 50th Avenue
Box 938
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7
Fax. 867-766-7050 / nspencer@reviewboard.ca

Dear Ms. Spencer :

Re: TNR Gold Corp. Ltd. – Moose Property Exploration Project EA1011-002; Initial Scoping Comments

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) is responding to your request of July 30 for government agencies to provide comments on key issues to be examined in the environmental assessment. These comments are based on information gathered during the preliminary screening process. INAC may wish to comment further if additional information from the proponent or interested parties becomes available.

INAC has reviewed the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board's (MVLWB) decision of July 22 to refer the project to environmental assessment. In its decision, the MVLWB summarized concerns raised by the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, the Deninu Kue First Nation and Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation that led to the referral of the project to environmental assessment. INAC suggests that the scope of the environmental assessment be focused on the concerns expressed about potential impacts to archaeological and cultural resources, traditional land use activities and harvesting. INAC, in its correspondence of June 29 and July 7 to the MVLWB during the preliminary screening process, did not raise any environmental concerns that could not be addressed in a land use permit.

When considering the workplan for this environmental assessment, INAC encourages the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) to establish an efficient process that allows for full, fair and effective participation and input from all potentially affected parties. Information gained during the MVEIRB's public review is a key component of the Crown's s.35 consultation process. In support of this process, INAC encourages all potentially affected parties to submit their concerns about potential impacts of the project to established or potential Aboriginal and or Treaty rights through the MVEIRB's process. INAC anticipates that this approach will allow the MVEIRB to fully consider the concerns raised by the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, the Deninu Kue First Nation, and the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation well as any potential measures which may mitigate those concerns.

If you wish to discuss these comments further, please contact Lorraine Seale at lorraine.seale@inac.gc.ca or 867-669-2590.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Teresa Joudrie', written in a cursive style.

Teresa Joudrie
Director, Renewable Resources and Environment