# Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

August 5, 1999

Box 938

200 Scotia Centre, (5102-50th Avenue) Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

Fax: (867) 920-4761

Our Files: EA99-004; 99-0061; 99-0086

#### DISTRIBUTION

# ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS OF: BHP EKATI DIAMOND MINE EXPANSION & FORT LIARD GAS PIPELINES (Ranger Oil Limited/Canadian Forest Oil/Chevron)

A meeting of experts, Regulatory Authorities (under the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*), Designated Regulatory Agencies (the NEB), and federal and territorial governments is arranged for **Tuesday**, **August 24**, 1999 and **Wednesday**, **August 25**, 1999 in DIAND's large 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom, Bellanca Building beginning each day at 0900. The meeting will deal with the above indicated environmental assessments the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) is currently undertaking.

For both meetings, participants are requested to contribute the following information:

- 1. Questions to pose to the developer and consultants regarding the development and the environmental reconnaissance completed.
- 2. Written recommendations for a scope of development and scope of assessment determination.
- 3. Written indication of information requirements to be included in the EA Guidelines for Review Board approval, and to be provided to the developer for preparation of the EA Report.
- 4. An indication of your participation in any public meetings the Review Board may undertake.

The appropriate developer and its consultants have been requested to attend each meeting to make a detailed presentation to the participants and to answer any questions. Regulatory Authorities that will be issuing licences, permits or other authorizations for this development should, as a minimum, provide their expectations for the developer to meet any regulatory requirements. Detailed agendas are attached.

Please indicate your attendance, or the attendance of your alternate, to Gordon Stewart at <a href="myeirwg2@internorth.com">myeirwg2@internorth.com</a>, or Louie Azzolini at <a href="myeirwg2@internorth.com">lazzo@internorth.com</a>, or by fax or telephone.

Sincerely,

Gordon Stewart

**Environmental Assessment Officer** 

attachments

#### **AGENDA**

#### FORT LIARD GAS PIPELINE

### ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT MEETING

#### 0900 - 1630

# **TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1999**

# Large 8th Floor Boardroom, Bellance Building

- 1. Welcome Gordon Stewart
- 2. Round Table Introductions All
- 3. Explanation of Work Plan Gordon Stewart
- 4. Development Overview Developer and Consultants \*
- 5. Questions and Answers All
- 6. Role of Experts, RA's, and others Gordon Stewart
- 7. Round Table Explanation of Expertise All
- 8. Next Steps Gordon Stewart
- 9. Questions All
- \* Note: developers presentation time for order of appearance may change.

#### **AGENDA**

### BHP ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

#### PRE-CONSULTATION MEETING

#### 0900 - 1630

# **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1999**

# Large 8th Floor Boardroom, Bellance Building

- 1. Welcome Louie Azzolini
- 2. Round Table Introductions All
- 3. Development Overview Developer and Consultants
- 4. Questions and Answers All
- 5. Explanation of Work Plan Louie Azzolini
- 6. Role of Experts, RA's, and others Louie Azzolini
- 7. Round Table Explanation of Expertise and Involvement All
- 8. Next Steps Louie Azzolini
- 9. Questions All

#### bhprang meet

Statu Date	Time	Pag	Name	Company	Fax Number
Faile 06/08/99	6:05:48 PM	4	Guenther Laube	GNWT Justice	9,872-0299
Com 06/08/99	5:57:12 PM	4	Val Walker	GNWT ECE	9,1-867-777-42
Com 06/08/99	5:54:10 PM	4	Kelly Robertson	GNWT RWED	9,873-0114
Com 06/08/99	5:52:44 PM	4	Michael Gagnon	GNWT MACA	9,920-6343
Com 06/08/99	5:50:10 PM	4	Suliang Feng	GNWT ECE	9,1-867-874-33
Com 06/08/99	5:48:46 PM	4	Tom Beaulieu	NWTHC	9,669-7010
Com 06/08/99	5:46:58 PM	4	Andrew Langford	GNWT Health and Social Servic.	
Com 06/08/99	5:45:44 PM	4	Derek Elkin	GNWT Health and Social Servic	
Com 06/08/99	5:43:14 PM	4	Jeff Stein	DFO Canada	9,1-204-984-24
Com 06/08/99	5:40:38 PM	4	Leslie Green	GNWT DOT	9,920-2565
Com 06/08/99	5:39:16 PM	4	Marie Adams	DIAND	9,669 2701
Com 06/08/99	5:37:28 PM	4	Carey Ogilvie	Environment Canada	9,873-8185
Com 06/08/99	5:36:02 PM	4	G.R. McLellan	NWTHC	9,669-7901
Com 06/08/99	5:34:40 PM	4	John Ramsey	NRCAN	9,1-613-995 5719
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Com 06/08/99	5:31:16 PM	4	Sukhi Cheema	GNWT PW&GS	9,873-0226
Com 06/08/99	5:29:04 PM	4,	Angus Mackay	GNWT Health and Social Servic	. 9,873-0442
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Com 06/08/99	5:20:34 PM	4	David Gilday	GNWT ECE	9,873-0200
Com 06/08/99	5:19:08 PM	4	Doug Johnson	NWTHC	9,669-7901
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Com 06/08/99	5:14:02 PM	4	Ron Maciellan	GNWT Health and Social Servic	9,873-0248
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Com 06/08/99	5:07:36 PM	4	Paul Devitt	GNWT ECE	9,873-0338
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Com 06/08/99	4:59:24 PM	4	Don Law-West	DIAND	9,1-819-953-90
Com 06/08/99	4:57:42 PM	4	Bill Hoggarth	GNWT ECE	9,873-0237
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Com 06/08/99			Chris Cuddy		9,1-819-997-96
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#### bhprang meet

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Com 06	3/08/99	4:45:10 PM	4	Bronwyn Watters	GNWT ECE	9,873-0115
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Com 06	/08/99	4:41:24 PM	4	Conrad Schubert	GNWT ECE	9,873 0155
Com 06	/08/99	4:40:08 PM	4	Dan Daniels	GNWT ECE	9,873-0443
Com 06	/08/99	4:38:16 PM	4	Dale Thomson	GNWT DOT	9,873-0363
Com 06	/08/99	4:36:54 PM	4	Doug Paget	DIAND	9,1-819-953-25
Com 06	/08/99	4:35:34 PM	4	Doug Soloway	Transport Canada	9,1-204-983-50
Com 06	/08/99	4:33:00 PM	4	Russ Nuedorf	GNWT DOT	9,920-2565
Com 06/	/08/99	4:31:24 PM	4	Carl Lafferty/Stev	. NRCAN	9,1-867-695-24
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Com 06/	/08/99	4:19:30 PM	4	Bruce Evelyn	GNWT ECE	9,873-0338
Com 06/	/08/99	4:17:04 PM	4.	Robert Hay	GNWT Justice	9,873-0307
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Com 06/	08/99	4:12:28 PM	4	Anne Snider	DIAND	9,1-819-953-25
Com 06/	08/99	4:10:02 PM	4	Masood Hassan	GNWT DOT	9,920-2565
Com 06/	08/99	4:08:40 PM	4	Sarah Kalff	DIAND	9,1-819-953-25
Com 06/	08/99	4:07:14 PM	4	Sheila DeVine	GNWT ECE	9,873-0338
Com 06/	08/99	4:05:46 PM	4	John Ramsey	NRCAN	9,1-613-995-57
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Com 06/0	08/99	3:58:14 PM	4	Dave Murray	NWTHC	9,873-9426
Faile 06/0		3:57:38 PM	4	Malcolm Farrow	GNWT ECE	9,920-0499
Com 06/0		3:56:20 PM	4	Rick Upton	GNWT Health and Social Servic	9,873-0461
Com 06/0	08/99	3:53:54 PM	4	Aly Valli	GNWT Health and Social Servic	9,873-0442
Com 06/0	08/99	3:52:38 PM	4	Bryan Johnson	GNWT ECE	9,873-0200
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Com 06/0		3:48:44 PM	4	Jeff Cavanagh	GNWT ECE	9,873-0338
Com 06/0		3:47:18 PM	4	Mark Aitken	GNWT Justice	9,873-0234
Com 06/0	08/99	3:44:38 PM	4	Tom Andrews	GNWT ECE	9,873 0205

# Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

August 5, 1999

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Sincerely,

Gordon Stewart

**Environmental Assessment Officer** 

attachments

Heidi Klein Bridgette Larocque Gordon Stewart Louie Azzolini Roland Semjanovs Executive Director Finance and Administration Officer Environmental Assessment Officer Environmental Assessment Officer

Communications Officer

(867) 873-9029 (867) 873-5257 (867) 873-9193 (867) 873-9189

(867) 873-9636

#### **AGENDA**

### BHP ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

#### PRE-CONSULTATION MEETING

#### 0900 - 1630

### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1999**

### Large 8th Floor Boardroom, Bellance Building

- 1. Welcome Louie Azzolini
- 2. Round Table Introductions All
- 3. Development Overview Developer and Consultants
- 4. Questions and Answers All
- 5. Explanation of Work Plan Louie Azzolini
- 6. Role of Experts, RA's, and others Louie Azzolini
- 7. Round Table Explanation of Expertise and Involvement All
- 8. Next Steps Louie Azzolini
- 9. Questions All



#### **AGENDA**

#### FORT LIARD GAS PIPELINE

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT MEETING**

#### 0900 - 1630

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1999

### Large 8th Floor Boardroom, Bellance Building

- 1. Welcome Gordon Stewart
- 2. Round Table Introductions All
- 3. Development Overview Developer and Consultants
- 4. Questions and Answers All
- 5. Explanation of Work Plan Gordon Stewart
- 6. Role of Experts, RA's, and others Gordon Stewart
- 7. Round Table Explanation of Expertise All
- 8. Next Steps Gordon Stewart
- 9. Questions All



### **WORK PLAN**

for the
BHP Diamonds Inc.
Ekati™ Diamond Mine Expansion
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

prepared by:

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board Box 938, 200 Scotia Centre 5102-50th Avenue

· Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

prepared for:
BHP Diamond Mines Inc.

#1102, 4920-52nd Street Yellowknife, NT X1A 3T1

Reference Number EA99-003

Date
June, 1999

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### Purpose of the Work Plan

The work plan fulfills the purpose of Part V of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act:

- to establish the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) as the main instrument for the environmental assessment of developments in the Mackenzie Valley;
- to ensure that the impact on the environment of proposed developments receives careful consideration before actions are taken in connection with them; and
- to ensure that the concerns of aboriginal people and the general public are taken into account in that process.

#### **Guiding Principles**

The following principles guide the work plan and the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board).

- The environmental assessment process shall be carried out in a timely and expeditious manner and shall have regard to the protection of the environment from the significant adverse impacts of proposed developments; and
- the protection of the social, cultural and economic well-being of residents and communities in the Mackenzie Valley.

#### Background

The Ekati<sup>TM</sup> Diamond Mine (Ekati<sup>TM</sup>) proposes to develop three additional kimberlite pipes (Beartooth, Pigeon and Sable). Ekati's<sup>TM</sup> development proposal was referred to environmental assessment by the Northwest Territories (NWT) Water Board. The NWT Water Board prepared a joint preliminary screening with DIAND Lands, DIAND Water Resources Division, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Environment Canada. The preliminary screeners concluded there was a lack of baseline data, potential unknown cumulative impacts, public concerns about loss of fish habitat, and the need for a "broader review."

There have been two other diamond mining related environmental assessments in the Northwest Territories: The BHP Diamonds Inc. (BHP) Panel Review under the Environmental Assessment and Review Process Guidelines Orders (EARPGO), and the Diavik Comprehensive Study under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.

#### Scope of the Work Plan

This medium scale development is expected to take about 18 months to complete. The Review Board through its executive director will direct and manage the environmental assessment. Aboriginal people and the general public should have meaningful consultation and participation opportunities. Government will contribute to the environmental assessment guidelines, provide expert advice and pertinent information. The Review Board will provide the Minister of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs (DIAND) its written reasons report. The Minister will distribute the written reasons report and communicate with the Review Board as needed.

Objectives of the work plan are:

- effective, transparent and accountable Aboriginal, public and government involvement
- preparation of an appropriate development description

- preparation of guidelines for the environmental assessment
- analysis of the completed environmental assessment
- the Review Board's reasons for decision report

#### Context of the Work Plan

The Review Board is the main instrument for conducting environmental assessments in the Mackenzie Valley. The Act specifies what the Review Board shall and may include in an environmental assessment, and how previous reports are considered. The work plan takes into account the Review Board's purpose (s.114), principles (s.115), and assessment requirements (s.117). The work plan also considers the following.

- The Review Board's interim guidelines.
- Rules and guidelines governing the Review Board's conduct.
- The involvement of Aboriginal people and the general public.
- Government involvement.
- Culturally appropriate consultation.
- Timely and efficient work

#### **Assessment Team**

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board and its staff would be organized effectively and efficiently to manage the delivery and completion of the Ekati™ Diamond Mine expansion environmental assessment.

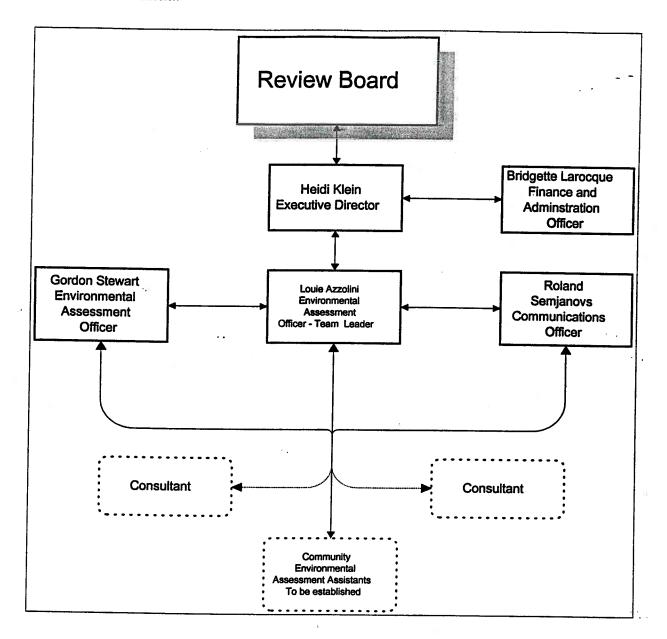


Figure 1

# **Organization Chart**

Environmental Assessment BHP Ekati <sup>TM</sup> Diamond Mine Expansion

#### **Consultation Methods**

Involving Aboriginal people, the general public and government improves the quality of the environmental assessment. Morever, the diversity of potential issues and the communities involved reinforces the need for a coordinated involvement process. Involvement methods proposed throughout the environmental assessment would include translation and interpretation where appropriate. A sample of alternative consultation methods is provided below.

- Kitchen Table Meeting
- Informal and formal interview
- Formal interview
- Representative group
- Public Information Session/Open House
- Public Meeting
- Workshop
- Advisory group
- Written Submission
- News Conference
- Newsletter
- Newspaper insert
- News Release
- Newspaper Advertising
- Television Announcement
- Radio Announcement
- Direct Mail

#### The Work Plan

#### Work Plan Objectives

The work plan achieves the following objectives:

- Preparation of an appropriate development description for the Review Board.
- Guidelines that instruct the developer about what shall be assessed and what parts of the environment shall be considered in the environmental assessment.
- A completed environmental assessment report.
- A broad range of Aboriginal, general public and government input throughout the environmental assessment.
- Cooperation with government agencies and departments throughout the environmental assessment.
- The Review Board's decision and written reasons on the environmental assessment.

#### Work Plan Outline

There are four parts of the environmental assessment: The start-up, guidelines, the environmental assessment and the Review Board's written decision.

The start up phase sets the ground work for the environmental assessment. It includes pre-consultation by the Review Board's staff and the preparation of a suitable development description by the developer.

The guidelines phase concludes with instructions to the developer, and perhaps government, about the contents of the environmental assessment report.

The completed environmental assessment report is checked to make sure it conforms with the guidelines. When the conformity check is finished, the analysis of the environmental assessment report is done.

After the analysis of the environmental assessment report, the Review Board prepares its written reasons regarding the decision it takes on the proposed development.

# Phase One - Start-up

### Starting the Environmental Assessment

At the start of the environmental assessment the developer, government and the communities in the Mackenzie Valley are informed of the referral. The notification lets people know that while the development is in the environmental assessment process, no licence, permit or other authorization can be issued by government. As part of the referral, staff opened a public registry on the development and started tracking development issues. Public, and government notification of the referral was done by:

- Written submission the preliminary screening report
- News release
- Newspaper advertising

The Review Board will provide staff its initial observations on BHP's development description and direct staff to prepare a work plan for the Review Board's consideration and approval.

Tasks involved in starting the environmental assessment are listed below.

- Open case file
- Open public registry and registry log
- Public notification of referral
- notify regulatory authorities of the referral
- Review Board notifies the developer of the referral
- Initial regulatory authority and expert advisor identification

**Duration:** 

About one month

Deliverable:

Public registry, public notification, government notification, developer notification, issue

tracking, expert advisor identification.

#### **Pre-Consultation**

Pre-consultation is used to identify and inform stakeholders about the environmental assessment process. Community, First Nation, government and experts would be identified and contacted.

The initial consultation would parallel BHP Diamonds Inc. preparing a revised development description and would conclude shortly after the Reiew Board issues its guidelines to the developer. Pre-consultation tasks include:

- First Nations consultation start up phase
  - Initiate contact with First Nation representative
  - Introductory meetings
- Pre-scoping meetings and discussions with regulatory authorities and experts to review referral, development description and supporting information provided by the developer.
- Prepare public notification list
  - Communities
  - Organizations
  - Special interest Groups
  - First Nations
  - Relevant businesses
  - Representative groups
- Staff may conduct public information sessions to inform the public and First Nations about the Review Board and the development proposal
- Staff may conduct further informal public scoping
- Site visit by the Review Board.
- Review Board prepares its environmental assessment work plan

**Duration**:

About three months

Deliverable:

Awareness of the Review Board the environmental assessment process.

### **Development Description Requirements**

The Review Board will guide BHP Diamonds Inc. regarding the preparation of an appropriate development description. The developer is responsible for providing a development description that is suitable for consultation with Aboriginal, public and government stakeholders.

The Review Board would inform stakeholders of its direction to the developer using the following involvement methods.

- Fax out regarding the Review Board's direction to the developer.
- News Release to the media.
- Newspaper Advertising informing people of the overall environmental assessment process and the Review Board's direction to the developer.

BHP will provide copies of its final development description to community, First Nation, expert advisors, and government participants.

**Duration:** 

About two months

Deliverable:

Direction to developer on preparation of its development description and a list of

participants who are to receive copies of the final development description.

## Phase Two - Guidelines

### Environmental Assessment Guidelines

The environmental assessment guidelines (guidelines) ensure the Review Board and stakeholders receive the information they need to understand the environmental consequences and benefits of the proposed development. The guidelines are the Review Board's instructions to the developer.

Staff will coordinate public, First Nation, community, government and expert involvement in the preparation of the draft guidelines. After the Review Board's consideration and adoption the guidelines, they are issued to the developer.

**Duration**:

About three months

Deliverable:

Draft and final guidelines, public/stakeholder consultation, direction to the developer including confirmed scope of development and associated scope of assessment, identification of "key" issues, effects, baseline data requirements, and desired results of research, and suggested environmental assessment report table of contents.

# Phase Three - Environmental Assessment

### Conformity Check

After receiving the developer's completed environmental assessment report the Review Board will ensure the developer has provided the information requested in the guidelines. Aboriginal, general public and government involvement will occur in the conformity check. The Review Board will decide conformity and direct the developer accordingly. The Review Board will notify stakeholders when the conformity check is complete.

### Analysis and Adequacy of the environmental assessment

The Review Board's staff will coordinate the analysis of the environmental assessment. The aim is to provide opportunities for people (in government and communities) to participate and express their ideas, evidence and facts in ways that meet their needs (e.g., traditional knowledge holders and scientific experts). The more complete the analysis the better the environmental assessment.

The intent is to find and focus on unresolved or unclear issues, and to provide the Review Board information that will contribute to its decision. Some issues will be scientific, other traditional knowledge based, others personal and value based. Aboriginal, general public and government involvement would occur at community gatherings, elders' gatherings and technical sessions. All gatherings and sessions would be open to everyone always.

### Developer Response to Analysis

The developer will have the opportunity of responding to the conformity check and analysis parts of the environmental assessment. BHP Diamonds Inc. can formally provide and present its views on the information brought to the Review Board's attention after submission of its environmental assessment report including any proposed amendments, additions or refinements to the development or the environmental assessment.

**Duration**:

About 6 months to complete from date the environmental assessment is received by the

Review Board.

Deliverable:

Conformity analysis report, technical session report, community session report and

developer's response.

# Phase Four - Review Board's Decision

#### Written Reasons

The Review Board will prepare its determination after considering the environmental assessment report, its analysis, and other pertinent information. The Review Board will then prepare its written reasons. The Review Board will give the Minister of DIAND its written reasons, and the Minister will distribute them

to every responsible minister. The referring bodies and the developer also receive copies of the Review Board's written reasons.

The Review Board's staff would work with the Review Board in the preparation of its written reasons.

**Duration**:

About 2 months

Deliverable:

Report of the environmental assessment.

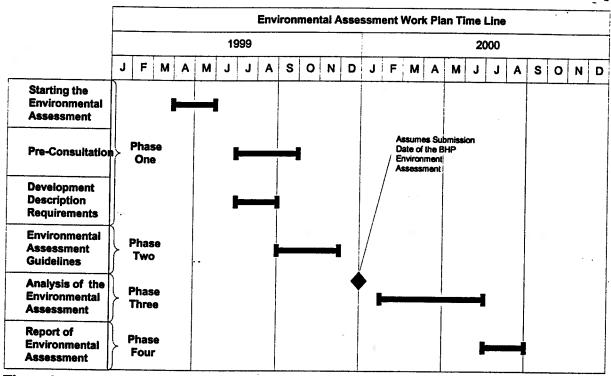


Figure 2

# Work Plan Schedule

The work plan provides an overview of the tasks, time lines and activities needed to complete the environmental assessment. It is summarized in the following figure and the table on the following page.

Table 2: Project Schedule and Expense

	Environmental Assessment Milestones	Duration	
Phase One	Start-up of the environmental assessment	April and May 1999 (2 months)	
	Pre-consultation	July to September 1999 (3 months)	

	Development Description Requirements	July and August 1999 (2 months)  September to November 1999 (3 months)		
Phase Two	The environmental assessment guidelines			
Phase Three	Consideration of the developer's environmental assessment	After developer submits the environmental assessments (5 months)		
Phase Four	Review Board's Report of environmental assessment	(2 months)		
	Total	not including time taken to prepare the environmental assessment (about 15 months)		

The team leader would be responsible to the executive director for overall project management/coordination. All invoices would be co-authorized by the finance and administration officer and the project coordinator to a set limit established with the executive director.

#### WORK PLAN

for the

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

of the

Ranger Oil Limited, Canadian Forest Oil Limited, and Chevron

Integrated P-66A/N-61/K-29 Fort Liard

Gas Wells and Pipeline Tie-in

prepared by:

Gordon Stewart
Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 938, 200 Scotia Centre
5102 - 50th Avenue
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7

August 03, 1999

Reference Numbers Ranger/CFO 99-0061 Chevron 99-0086

### 1.0 PURPOSE OF THE WORK PLAN

This Work Plan provides a framework for the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) to conduct an environmental assessment of the Ranger Oil Limited, Canadian Forest Oil Limited, and Chevron Integrated P-66A/N-61/K-29 Fort Liard Gas Wells and Pipeline Tie-in (the Development) development proposal in accordance with Part V of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA).

The framework contains a description of the development as provided by the developer, a description of the considerations and general approach to completing the environmental assessment process, a detailed work plan for the EA of the Ranger Oil Limited, Canadian Forest Oil Limited, and Chevron Integrated P-66A/N-61/K-29 Fort Liard Gas Wells and Pipeline Tie-in development proposal, and resource allocation estimates for completing the EA by staff and the Review Board.

#### 2.0 INTRODUCTION

Ranger Oil Limited, together with its partner Canadian Forest Oil Limited, submitted applications to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) for a Land Use Permit, and to the National Energy Board (NEB) for approval of a Development Plan, to build a gas pipeline from its P-66A well to tie-in to the existing Westcoast Energy gas pipeline at the Amaco gas plant near Pointed Mountain, NT. Upon reviewing the Preliminary Screening report of DIAND, the Review Board called up the development, for cumulative effects and uncertainty reasons, for an environmental assessment (EA) on its own motion under ss.126(3) of the MVRMA.

Shortly after this, Ranger Oil submitted an amendment to its Land Use Permit application, and other required authorizations, to broaden the scope of the development to include the Chevron K-29 and possibly the Canadian Forest Oil N-61 gas wells, as well as an altered pipeline route. It is this revised, integrated development proposal that is described herein for the purposes of this environmental assessment.

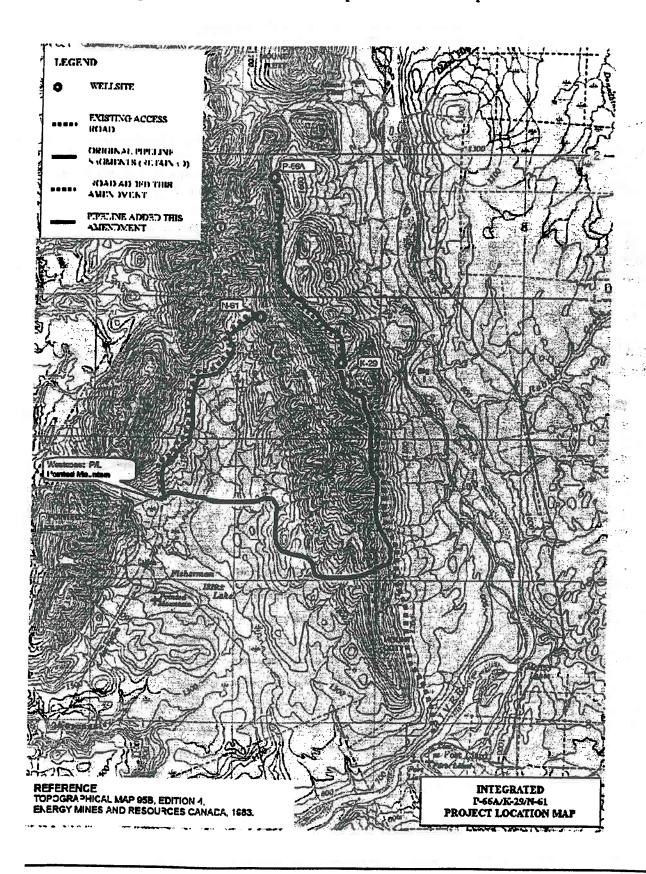
### 3.0 BACKGROUND

This section outlines the description of the development as provided by the developer. Additional information on development components may be requested by the Review Board to complete the EA. A complete scope of development will be determined by the Review Board and will be included as part of the EA Guidelines which will be issued to the developer as guidance for completing an EA Report.

Ranger Oil Limited together with its partner Canadian Forest Oil Ltd. are amending regulatory applications (NEB - Development Plan, DIAND - Land Use Permit, and NWT Water Board - Water Licence) to revise the Liard P-66A pipeline route to align with a recent decision made by the companies in the Liard Valley Producers Group (LVPG) to use a joint (integrated) pipeline route. The LVPG reached this agreement after considering the following information:

- Announcement by Chevron Canada Resources of gas discovery at Liard K-29;
- Risk analysis of directionally drilled crossing method of the Liard Range;

Figure 1 - Integrated P-66A/N-61/K-29 Development Location Map



### Environment means the components of the Earth and includes

- (a) land, water and air, including all layers of the atmosphere;
- (b) all organic and inorganic matter and living organisms; and
- (c) the interacting natural systems that include components referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b).

### Follow-up program means a program for evaluating

- (a) the soundness of an environmental assessment or environmental impact review of a proposal for a development; and
- (b) the effectiveness of the mitigative or remedial measures imposed as conditions of approval of the proposal.

Harvesting in relation to wildlife, means hunting, trapping or fishing activities carried on in conformity with a land claim agreement or, in respect of persons and places not subject to a land claim agreement, carried on pursuant to aboriginal or treaty rights.

Heritage resources means archaeological or historic sites, burial sites, artifacts and other objects of historical, cultural or religious significance, and historical or cultural records.

Impact on the environment means any effect on land, water, air or any other component of the environment, as well as on wildlife harvesting, and includes any effect on the social and cultural environment or on heritage resources.

Mitigative or remedial measure means a measure for the control, reduction or elimination of an adverse impact of a development on the environment, including a restorative measure.

## 4.1.3 Purposes

- s.114 The purpose of this Part is to establish a process comprising a preliminary screening, an environmental assessment and an environmental impact review in relation to proposals for developments, and
  - (a) to establish the Review Board as the main instrument in the Mackenzie Valley for the environmental assessment and environmental impact review of developments;
  - (b) to ensure that the impact on the environment of proposed developments receives careful consideration before actions are taken in connection with them; and
  - to ensure that the concerns of aboriginal people and the general public are taken into account in that process.

# 4.1.4 Guiding Principles

- s.115 The process established by this Part shall be carried out in a timely and expeditious manner and shall have regard to
  - (a) the protection of the environment from the significant adverse impacts of proposed developments; and

- Others, such as government and First Nations, may be requested to provide information and expert advice the Review Board considers relevant to the EA. This could include: information about the environment; social, cultural and economic conditions; how government policies, programs and regulations may affect a development; and, expert advice on any matter considered part of the scope of development.
- Developing and refining "the story" for an EA is done through a series of steps: scoping, baseline, analysis of impacts, mitigation and monitoring. If the direction is wrong, the rest of the story will suffer. A good EA begins with good scoping. The Review Board is required to define the scope for an environmental assessment, and to communicate this scoping decision to the developer.
- Scoping includes both the scope of development the size, time period and extent of the development proposal to be investigated by an environmental assessment, and the scope of assessment the potential effects and study areas to be covered by an environmental assessment.
   The Review Board will determine which effects should be investigated and presented.
- Specifying the kind of results expected to be in the completed environmental assessment report
  ensures that the developer, the public and others will have a clear understanding of the outcome of
  the environmental assessment work.
- The story does not end with the completion of the EA, it continues to unfold throughout the lifecycle of the development. The developer may be required to provide evidence of its commitment to an adaptive management approach that shows how new learning will feed back into on going development design, and how development activities will change and components will be adapted as a result.

Developers, RA's, the DRA (NEB) as required, federal and territorial governments, First Nations, expert advisors, the public and other interested parties can use these best practices to formulate any submissions to the Review Board with respect to a development. They should also assist in ensuring that as complete a submission as possible is made to the Review Board. More specific direction with respect to best practices will also be found in the Scope of Development determination of the Review Board.

# 4.3 Milestones and Responsibilities

This section summarizes the process for completion of an EA, consistent with the Interim EA Guidelines of the Review Board, and the roles and responsibilities of all parties involved.

### 4.3.1 Assessment Process

The EA process is outlined below in Table 1, showing appropriate milestones and responsibility assignments. The RA's, the DRA (NEB) \* as required, and expert advisors would provide information and advice related to regulatory requirements for the development.

<sup>\*</sup> NOTE: The DRA (NEB) would be involved when any licence, permit or other authorization is required from it for the carrying out of the development.

Deliverable:

Public registry, public notification, government notification, developer notification, issue tracking, expert advisor identification.

### Complete Development Description

The Review Board may require a more detailed and complete description of the proposed development from the developer. This would enable the Review Board to determine a proper scope of development and issue a complete set of EA Guidelines that address all phases and components of the development.

Deliverable:

A more detailed and complete description of the proposed development provided by the developer.

#### Pre-Consultation

Pre-consultation is used to identify and inform RA's, the DRA (NEB) as required, federal and territorial governments, First Nations, expert advisors, the public and other interested parties about the environmental assessment process. Pre-Consultation would begin upon receipt of a complete development description from the developer and should conclude by the time the Work Plan is approved by the Review Board. The development of the draft Work Plan would occur concurrently with Pre-consultation.

#### Pre-consultation tasks include:

Pre-scoping meetings and discussions with RA's, the DRA (NEB) and experts as required, to review the development description and supporting information provided by the developer.

Develop communications plan, which should include,

- Prepare public notification list of interested parties, including
  - Communities
  - Federal and Territorial government departments and agencies with an interest, or relevant expertise
  - General public
  - Expert advisors if used
- Inform and notify appropriate communities,
- Site visit by the Review Board.

Deliverable: Awareness of the Review Board and the environmental assessment process.

### EA Work Plan Developed

A work plan of the process for completing the EA will be developed by staff. The work plan will reflect unique details of the EA that are specific to the particular development proposal. For example, if the developer had completed and submitted a fairly detailed EA Report along with any application(s) that triggered the MVRMA process, this may affect the length of time and level of effort spent on a particular step in the EA process, and would be reflected in the Work Plan. An estimate of resource requirements for completing the EA would also be developed. This Work Plan can be developed concurrently during the Preconsultation phase.

### Preparation and Submission of EA Report

The developer will use the EA Guidelines to complete its EA report – that is, to tell the "story" of how people and the natural world could be changed by the proposed development and what is to be done about these changes.

Directions from the Review Board to others (e.g., that may have relevant information related to the development) will result in the receipt of the appropriate relevant information.

Deliverable: An EA report from the developer that addresses the requirements of the EA Guidelines, and additional information from other sources as directed by the Review Board.

### Conformity Check

After receiving the developer's completed EA report the Review Board will ensure the developer has provided the information requested in the guidelines. Opportunity will be provided for those parties that have expressed an interest to be involved in the EA to contribute to this stage.

Where a developer has submitted a fairly detailed EA report with the original application (e.g., at preliminary screening or at the start of the EA), this conformity check would likely occur shortly after the Review Board's approval and release of the EA Guidelines.

Deliverable: A draft deficiency statement of the EA report for Review Board consideration and approval.

### **Deficiency Statement**

The Review Board will decide conformity and issue a deficiency statement that will direct the developer accordingly.

Deliverable: Review Board issues deficiency statement on developers EA report.

# Analysis and Adequacy of the Environmental Assessment

The Review Board's staff will coordinate the analysis of the environmental assessment. The aim is to provide opportunities for RA's, the DRA (NEB) as required, federal and territorial governments, First Nations, expert advisors, the public and other interested parties that have expressed an interest in participating in the EA process, to participate and express their ideas, and present their evidence and facts (e.g., traditional knowledge holders and scientific experts) to the Review Board. The more complete the analysis the better the environmental assessment.

The result of this step is to find and focus on unresolved or unclear issues, and to provide the Review Board information that will contribute to its decision. Some issues will be scientific or traditional knowledge based, others personal and value based. The developer, RA's, the DRA (NEB) as required, federal and territorial governments, First Nations, expert advisors, the public and other interested parties are invited to be involved at community gatherings, elders' gatherings and technical sessions, as all gatherings and sessions would be publicly announced and always open to the public.

Table 2 - Review Board Staff and Responsibilities

Staff Person & Title	Responsibility		
Gordon Stewart, Environmental Assessment Officer	Lead on EA		
Louie Azzolini, Environmental Assessment Officer	EA support		
Roland Semjanovs, Communications Officer	Communications support		
casual, Environmental Assessment Assistant	EA support (as required)		
Bridgette Larocque, Finance & Administration Officer	Administrative and budget support		
Heidi Klein, Executive Director	EA support and Review Board liaison		

### 5.0 DETAILED WORK PLAN

Ranger Oil Limited submitted its original development application in April 1999, and included with it the following reports:

- Environmental Assessment Report for the Proposed Ranger Oil Limited and Canadian Forest Oil Ltd. P-66A Well Tie-in
- Technical Report on The Proposed Ranger Oil Limited and Canadian Forest Oil Ltd. P-66A Well Tie-in

These reports provided an environmental assessment of the original pipeline route proposal over the Liard Range, as well as an assessment of a proposed alternate route south around Mt. Coty. With the announcement of an integrated development, the following documents were provided:

- Technical Report on The Proposed Chevron Canada Resources Fort Liard Pipeline
- Amendment to the Proposed Ranger Oil Limited and Canadian Forest Oil Ltd. P-66A Well Tie-in, Environmental Assessment Report

These reports provide EA information on the Ranger Oil Limited, Canadian Forest Oil Limited, and Chevron Integrated P-66A/N-61/K-29 Fort Liard Gas Wells and Pipeline Tie-in development not covered in the original Ranger submission. The intention is to accept these reports as the developers EA report for this development.

Implications of this to the Work Plan are that once the Review Board issues its EA guidelines, which will contain a scope of development determination, the next step in the EA process will be the conformity check of these documents.

Table 3 provides an estimated time line for completion of each indicated milestone. Please note that circumstances, such as operational realities, may require that changes be made to this estimated time table. In other words, the milestone estimated completion dates may be extended or shortened. Also, the developer had completed an environmental assessment report for the development prior to submitting its application(s). This EA report was researched and completed based on the developers own criteria for meeting any requirements of the MVRMA.

### Send Log

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