



# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Rare Earth Terminology Edition / Chipewyan

Berm

Grind

Pyrometallurgy

Heavy Minerals

Organic Reagent

Hybrid Car

Alloying

Benign

Flotation

Solvent Extraction

Diverse languages and cultures in the North mean interpreters and translators have an important and challenging job. Whether it is explaining what has been said or what has been written, superior translation and interpretation helps people understand and it is important to good decision-making.

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board strongly believes by building the capacity of interpreters and translators, communities, industry, government and regulators can be more confident that what is being communicated has been accurately translated.

At the Review Board's interpreter/translator workshops, the participants discuss English words and ways to explain them in their aboriginal language. The result is a glossary of terms, which contains the English concepts and ideas and the aboriginal-language equivalents.

This glossary of terms is the result of the Review Board's sixth translator workshop, which focused on developing terminology for the rare earth minerals industry. The Yellowknives Dene, with the support of the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor) generously sponsored the workshop.

The translations included in this glossary may require further revisions depending on how the words are used during interpretation and translation. Because the Review Board has not been able to work with and record each dialect, translators are encouraged to speak to elders and community experts for translations. The glossary provides spaces for interpreters and translators to write in their own translations, correct errors, or add general notes.

This glossary can be downloaded from the Review Board's website, in the reference library, at [reviewboard.ca](http://reviewboard.ca).



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## Decline or Ramp

Tunnel going underground starting from surface and gradually going deeper, at an angle that allows trucks to go up and down.

Tjlu ní yághe yonizá

### Back Translation

Underground open road to mine.

Notes:

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## Conveyor

A continuous belt running on wheels, often from underground and running up the ramp to bring material to the surface. Also used to move materials around a plant/mill.

*e.g.: a bit like an escalator without steps.*

Théth naretł'el

### Back Translation

Belt turning around.

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## Metallurgy

The engineering work that processes rock to obtain the valuable materials – minerals and metals. Also the engineering work to make alloys (mixtures) of metals or other elements.

The ts'j ɾełk'éch'a satsáné xałé

### Back Translation

Rock, by it, different metal is made.

Notes:

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## Hydrometallurgy

Extraction of valuable elements from minerals using liquid like water and acid.

Tu, chú nódi slíne cotiu hét'á  
the ts'j łásie náłtsí

### Back Translation

With water and acid, something is taken from metal.

Notes:

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## Pyrometallurgy

Extracting of valuable elements from minerals using fire.

### Back Translation

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## Mill/Plant

A part of a mine operation where metallurgy is done – the rock is crushed (milled) like wheat, and then the flotation occurs to separate the minerals.

The náłt'ës ghálada k'é

### Back Translation

Rock crush work place.

Notes:

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**Fuel**

*e.g.: gasoline, diesel*

Ni yághet ts'í t'ës

**Back Translation**

Notes:

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**Flotation**

Using special compounds, a bit like soaps, that make bubbles, that minerals selectively float on.

Haxqs bet'e satsán the daʔúl

**Back Translation**

By bubbles, metal is taken.

Notes:

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**Refining**

Taking a mineral, compound or element, and purifying it – taking out the material that does not belong.

Satsáne tthe selʔi kúę

**Back Translation**

Metal is fix place.

Notes:

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**Solvent Extraction**

Removing something (like metal) from a solution by putting a different solution in a contact with it, where the thing (like a metal) prefers to be.

ᓃasíe bet'á satsáne tthe ᓃełta hálye

**Back Translation**

Something to separate the metal.

Notes:

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**Recycling**

Convert waste into reusable material.

ᓃak'ek'ëré bet'á nahát'į

**Back Translation**

Notes:

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**Mineral Concentrate**

Material consisting of the valuable minerals in a rock separated from minerals that have little or no value.

Satsane tthe bets'į ᓃasíe dedliné hłchu

**Back Translation**

Taking the purity from a metal.

Notes:

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## Heavy Minerals

Minerals that are heavier than a typical mineral. Technically, the same volume of a heavy mineral maybe as much as twice as heavy as a typical common minerals.

The bet'óréʔa nedáth

### Back Translation

Valuable metal, heavy.

Notes:

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## Fault

A crack through the earth where two bodies of rock have moved relative to one another.

Ni ʔeltál náᑭa

### Back Translation

Ground crack, moved.

Notes:

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## Acid

Water (solution), which has an excess of hydrogen ions. Can dissolve some substances. Can be strong or weakly acid. *e.g.: Lemon juice is acid, coca cola is acid.*

ʔasíe dënits'j

### Back Translation

Something that's bitter. Poison that is used to burn.

Notes:

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## Neutral pH (water)

Water (solution) where there is an exact balance between acid (for example, coca cola) and alkali (for example, salt).

Tu/ku betá pH húlye hułi.

Bet'á náidj słjne huldzáy

### Back Translation

Water that has a pH in it.

Notes:

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## Organic Reagent

A chemical, usually liquid, that is made from a compound that has used to have it origin in a living material but now means that the main building block of the compound is carbon atoms.

?asíe bek'ude ts'j

### Back Translation

Something from something that was once alive.

Notes:

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## Inert or benign

A substance that, in less or more quantities, has a harmful effect on life (animal or plant). Toxicity may vary with amount. Some substances are toxic at almost any levels; others are only toxic at high amounts.

?asíe dána? bet'á bureł?íle

Burł?íle

### Back Translation

Notes:

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## Development

A project (industry or civil) that is advancing through studies or building. Usually implies that actual physical activity is taking place, such as building.

ᐱᐱᓴᓴ ᐱᐱᓴᓴ ᐱᐱᓴᓴ ᐱᐱᓴᓴ

### Back Translation

To work to make something.

Notes:

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## Environmental Stewardship

Taking responsibility for the environment to ensure that a physical activity (building, mining exploration) does not have undue negative effect on the environment. It suggests taking into account environmental issues all the time.

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### Back Translation

Watching the land from damage.

Notes:

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## Hybrid Car

A car that has two motors – a normal gasoline motor, plus an electric motor and can be on the electric motor to save gasoline.

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### Back Translation

Notes:

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## Renewable Energy

Any naturally occurring theoretically inexhaustible source of energy, as biomass, solar, wind, tidal, wave, a hydroelectric power that is not derived from fossil or nuclear fuel.

Harelyu zanaré ts'j ʔjdi k'ón hełtsi

### Back Translation

From all around energy is made.

Notes:

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## Solar Energy

Energy derived from the sun in the form of solar radiation.

Sa nághe t'á ʔjdi koné ʔełtsj

### Back Translation

From the sun eye rays energy is made.

Notes:

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## Stockpile

A supply of material in mining, usually a large supply of some rock or concentrate held in reserve for use during a shortage or during a period of higher prices. May be lower metal content than the normal mined rock.

The nates bet'ánahat'j xa tthën ts'ën nílye

### Back Translation

Rock is piled up for use later.

Notes:

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## Wind Turbine

A turbine powered by the wind. Turbine: any various machines having a rotor, usually with vanes or blades, driven by the pressure momentum, or reactive thrust of a moving fluid, as steam, water, hot gases, or air, either occurring in the form of free jets or as fluid passing through and entirely filling a housing around the rotor.

Satsán niłtş t'á hegoth

### Back Translation

Making power by wind.

Notes:

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## Alloying

To mix (metals or metals with non metals) so as to form an alloy.

ʔełk'éch'a satsáne ʔełtaʔj

### Back Translation

Mixing different metal together.

Notes:

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## Barge

A capacious, flat-bottomed vessel, usually intended to be pushed or towed, for transporting freight or passengers.

Ts'l káré

### Back Translation

Flat boat.

Notes:

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**Berm**

Bank of earth in mining usually placed in order to contain a body of water, tailings or other similar material. Often to prevent drainage from the material into the natural environment or to prevent water flowing into the body.

Tu niłbën ch'á benáre ǰél hałé

**Back Translation**

From the water leaking a dam is built around it.

Notes:

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**Corduroy  
(as in drill trails, roads, etc.)**

Constructed of logs laid together transversely, as a road across swampy ground.

Dechënlëlü tılu nízel k'e (néné)  
náníǰá

**Back Translation**

Log road across the swamp.

Notes:

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**Driller/Helper**

The person in charge of a drill at an exploration project or mine.

The heldëth dëne

The heldëth dëne ts'éni

**Back Translation**

Person that drills

Person that helps the driller.

Notes:

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## Energy Efficient

Using energy (electricity, fuel) in such a way as not to waste it.

ʔɪdí k'ón bek'enetʔá

### Back Translation

Conserving energy.

Notes:

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## Environment

Ecology, the air, water, minerals, organisms, and all other external factors surrounding and affecting a given organism at anytime.

Harelyú ʔanáre ʔasíe dána

### Back Translation

Everything around that is alive.

Notes:

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## Gases of Air Quality

A measurement of the pollutants in the air; a description of healthiness and safety of the atmosphere.

*e.g.: Smog is a mixture of pollutants, principally ground-level ozone and produced by chemical reactions, that greatly affects air quality.*

T'a bet'á ts'ejí / nɪʔts'l búldzáy

### Back Translation

What you breathe is measured.

Notes:

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**Grind**

To reduce to fine particles, as by pounding or crushing, bray, triturate, or pulverize.

ʔasíe náldeth

**Back Translation**

To grind.

Notes:

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**Limestone**

A sedimentary rock (formed in water, not in volcanoes) consisting predominantly of calcium carbonate, varieties of which are formed from the skeletons of marine microorganisms and coral; used as building stone and in the manufacture of lime.

ʔetech'ádlíe gu tth'éné tsj the neté

**Back Translation**

From underwater dead animals rock is made.

Notes:

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**Permanent Magnet**

A magnet that retains its magnetism after being removed from an external magnetic field. Magnet; a body, as a piece of iron or steel that possesses the property of attracting certain substances, as iron.

Satsáne ʔełerílt'us ʔat'í

**Back Translation**

Metal that stick together became.

Notes:

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**Reagent**

A substance that, because of the reactions it causes, is used in industrial processes and chemical analysis.

ʔasíe ʔełta ʔi ʔëne ʔedú ʔat'í

**Back Translation**

Substance mix together to make change.

Notes:

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**Spill Kit**

Tools and equipment, organized into a bag or case, used to clean up spills of industrial materials such a diesel fuel, grease, etc.

ʔasíe n'jtl'ir bek'alde xa ts'etáy thela

**Back Translation**

Something to wipe up spill is there.

Notes:

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**Supply Chain**

Any sequence of processes involved in the production and distribution of a commodity – for example iron, is mined, then transported to a steel mill where it is made into steel, and then the steel is sold to a car body and finally the car is sold to the final customer.

T'ą bet'át'atu beghą naʔót'e ts'ën beghálada

**Back Translation**

By the people how work is done until it's complete.

Notes:

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## Technology (mining)

Knowledge that deals with the creation and use of technical means (machines) and their interrelations with life, society and the environment, drawing upon which subjects as industrial arts, engineering, applied science, and pure science.

Benunishaq

### Back Translation

To know.

Notes:

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## Water Conservation

Careful use of water in order not to waste it. Such as reducing use, recycling.

Tu bek'enehá

### Back Translation

Careful of water in order not to waste it.

Notes:

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## Acid Plant

An industrial operation to make acid (see acid) – especially by burning sulphur to make sulphuric acid.

### Back Translation

Notes:

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## Communications

Means of sending messages, orders, etc., including telephone, telegraph, radio and television.

ʔełts'ën dáyáts'él̄ti

### Back Translation

Talking to each other.

Notes:

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## Control Technician (in the mill)

The person in the mill part of a mining operation, who controls the operation, usually sitting at a computer screen where there is information about everything that is happening in the process.

Dëne betł'azí satsáne hetł'él

### Back Translation

The person in charge of running the mill.

Notes:

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## Crush

To squeeze or pound into small fragments or particles as ore, stone, etc. – at a mine there is usually equipment with large steel plates (“jaws”) that smash the rock into small pieces, from where it goes into the rotating mill.

Náltʔ'ës

### Back Translation

To crush.

Notes:

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## **Detonators**

Device, as percussion cap, used to make another substance explode. The detonator just makes a small explosion, which causes the big one.

Bet'á ʔałk'iníłk'éth

## **Back Translation**

Something that cause explosion.

Notes:

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