



AUG 16 2018

Ms. JoAnne Deneron  
Chair Person  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
200 Scotia Centre, PO Box 939, 5102-50<sup>th</sup> Ave  
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2N7

Dear Ms. Deneron:

**Tłıchǫ All-Season Road [EA1617-01] Report of Environmental Assessment: Responsible Ministers' to invoke a two-month time extension to the timeline for decision**

I am writing to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) on behalf of all responsible ministers to invoke a two-month extension to the timeline for the ministers' decision on the Report of Environmental Assessment (Report of EA) for the Tłıchǫ All-Season Road, EA 1617-01, per section 130 (4.03) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (the Act).

On March 29, 2018, the Review Board submitted a report of the assessment for the Tłıchǫ All-Season Road (the Project) to the Minister of Lands. The territorial responsible ministers (RM) for the Project (the Ministers of Environment and Natural Resources, and Lands) and federally, the Minister of Natural Resources Canada as consolidated by the Minister of Intergovernmental and Northern Affairs and Internal Trade, gave careful consideration to the Report of EA and the recommendation therein, and determined, pursuant to subparagraph 130(1)(b)(ii) of the Act, to consult the Review Board on modifications to three measures.

Responsible ministers notified the Review Board of its decision to consult them on the modifications to measures on June 22, 2018, and concurrently engaged in consultation with potentially impacted Indigenous government organizations on the proposed modifications, seeking comments by July 23, 2018. The Review Board began its engagement with parties to the environmental assessment of the Project regarding the RMs proposed modifications to the measures on June 27, 2018 with the same deadline for comments. Responsible ministers must consider consultation related concerns from IGOs and the Review Board's August 15, 2018 recommendations, resulting from their engagement with parties to the environmental assessment, and undertake final consultation on any further modifications made by responsible ministers to the measures prior to rendering a final decision.

Per section 130(4.02) of the Act, the decision on the Report of EA is due to the Board by August 29, 2018.

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Extending this time limit by two months to October 29, 2018 will afford the territorial and federal governments adequate time to complete Aboriginal consultations on measure modifications, and allow officials from both governments to make well informed decision recommendations, including recommendations with respect to asserted or established Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights, to their ministers.

I remain hopeful that the full two-month extension will not be required. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Melissa Pink, Manager, Project Assessment Branch, Department of Lands, at 867-767-9180 ext 24021 or [Melissa.pink@gov.nt.ca](mailto:Melissa.pink@gov.nt.ca)

Sincerely,



Kate Hearn  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Planning and Coordination  
Lands

- c. Mr. Gary Bohnet, Principal Secretary
- Mr. Willard Hagen, Deputy Minister, GNWT Lands
- Mr. Paul Guy, Deputy Minister, GNWT Infrastructure
- Mr. Joe Dragon, Deputy Minister, GNWT Environment & Natural Resources
- Mr. Mike Aumond, Secretary to Cabinet/Deputy Minister, GNWT Executive and Indigenous Affairs
- Mr. Robert Jenkins, Assistant Deputy Minister, GNWT Environment & Natural Resources
- Mr. Patrick O'Neil, Director General, Explosive Safety and Security Branch, Natural Resources Canada
- Mr. Mark Hopkins, Director General, Natural Resources and Environment Branch, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
- Mr. Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
- Mr. Adrian Paradis, A/ Director-General, Northern Projects Management Office, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency Canada
- Grand Chief George Mackenzie, Tłı̄chǫ Government