

DEC 1 4 2015

George Miller, Chair Kaska Dena Council PO BOX 9 LOWER POST, BC V0C 1W0

Dear Mr. Miller:

<u>Participation in the Selwyn Chihong Mining Limited's Howard's Pass Access</u> <u>Road Upgrade Project Environmental Assessment (EA1516-01)</u>

The Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Lands (the GNWT) is writing to you in reference to the environmental assessment (EA) and anticipated regulatory processes for the proposed Selwyn Chihong Mining Limited's Howard's Pass Access Road Upgrade Project (the Project).

As the area of the proposed Project is partially on federal land, the delegation of EA decision-making authority to the GNWT's Minister of Lands under the Devolution Final Agreement does not apply. Therefore, for this particular EA, the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (formerly Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada) will retain the EA decision authority under section 130 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA). The Ministers of relevant GNWT departments will participate in the EA decision process as Responsible Ministers.

The GNWT is responsible for ensuring that it has met its duty to consult with respect to any aspects of the Project within its jurisdiction that might negatively affect asserted or established Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights. The GNWT will rely on the consultative processes of the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) as well as developer engagement to assist in fulfilling the GNWT's duty to consult. Throughout these processes, the GNWT will carefully monitor and track Aboriginal government and organizations' statements of any potential negative effects on asserted or established Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights.

Before any decision is made under section 130 of the MVRMA, the GNWT will assess whether any potential negative effects on asserted or established Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights have been adequately addressed. The GNWT encourages your participation in the MVEIRB and post-EA processes for the proposed Project. The



GNWT also encourages you to work closely with the Project developer who is the best source of information on the proposed Project.

If you have any questions regarding the role of the GNWT in the Project EA, please contact Paul Mercredi, Project Assessment Analyst, Department of Lands, by phone at (867) 767-9183 (extension 24068), by email at paul-mercredi@gov.nt.ca, or Lorraine Seale, Manager, Project Assessment Branch at (867) 767-9183 (extension 24067) and email Lorraine-Seale@gov.nt.ca.

Sincerely,

Terry Hall Director

Land Use and Sustainability

c. Chief Jack Caesar, Ross River Dena Council
 Chief Daniel Morris, Liard First Nation
 Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental
 Impact Review Board
 Matt Spence, Director General, Northern Projects Management Office



DEC 1 4 2015

Grand Chief Herb Norwegian Dehcho First Nations PO BOX 89 FORT SIMPSON, NT X0E 0N0

Dear Grand Chief Norwegian:

Participation in the Selwyn Chihong Mining Limited's Howard's Pass Access Road Upgrade Project Environmental Assessment (EA1516-01)

The Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Lands (the GNWT) is writing to you in reference to the environmental assessment (EA) and anticipated regulatory processes for the proposed Selwyn Chihong Mining Limited's Howard's Pass Access Road Upgrade Project (the Project).

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Sincerely,

Terry Hall Director

Land Use and Sustainability

c. Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge, Deh Gah Got'ie First Nation Chief Gladys Norwegian, Jean Marie River Chief Lloyd Chicot, Ka'a'gee Tu First Nation Acting Chief Steven Jose, Liidlii Kue First Nation Chief Michael Matou, Nahanni Butte Dene Band Chief Dolphus Jumbo, Sambaa K'e Dene Band Chief Courtney Cayen, West Point First Nation Chief Tim Lennie, Pehdzeh Ki First Nation Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board Matt Spence, Director General, Northern Projects Management Office



DEC 1 4 2015

VIA FAX

Ms. Ethel Blondin-Andrew Chairperson Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated PO BOX 155 DÉLÎNÊ, NT X0E 0G0

Dear Ms. Blondin-Andrew:

<u>Participation in the Selwyn Chihong Mining Limited's Howard's Pass Access</u> Road Upgrade Project Environmental Assessment (EA1516-01)

The Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Lands (the GNWT) is writing to you in reference to the environmental assessment (EA) and anticipated regulatory processes for the proposed Selwyn Chihong Mining Limited's Howard's Pass Access Road Upgrade Project (the Project).

As the area of the proposed Project is partially on federal land, the delegation of EA decision-making authority to the GNWT's Minister of Lands under the Devolution Final Agreement does not apply. Therefore, for this particular EA, the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (formerly Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada) will retain the EA decision authority under section 130 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA). The Ministers of relevant GNWT departments will participate in the EA decision process as Responsible Ministers.

The GNWT is responsible for ensuring that it has met its duty to consult with respect to any aspects of the Project within its jurisdiction that might negatively affect established and potentially asserted Treaty rights. The GNWT will rely on the consultative processes of the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) as well as developer engagement to assist in fulfilling the GNWT's duty to consult. Throughout these processes, the GNWT will carefully monitor and track Aboriginal government and organizations' statements of any potential negative effects on established and potentially asserted Treaty rights.

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Sincerely,

Terry Hall Director

Land Use and Sustainability

c. Behdzi Ahda First Nation Band Council
Ayoni Keh Land Corporation
K'asho Got'ine Community Council
Xahweguweh/Yamoga Land Corporation
Fort Good Hope Métis Local #54
Déline First Nation
Déline Land/Financial Corporation

Délıne Land/Financial Corporation
Norman Wells Land Corporation
Tulita Band Council
Tulita Yamoria Community Secretariat
Tulita Land Corporation
Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Ma

Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Matthew Spence, Director General, Northern Projects Management Office



DEC 1 4 2015

Chief Simon Mervyn and Council First Nation of Na-cho Nyak Dun PO BOX 220 MAYO, YT Y0B 1M0

Dear Chief Mervyn:

Environmental Assessment of Selwyn Chihong Mining Limited's Howard's Pass Access Road Upgrade Project (EA1516-01)

The Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Lands (the GNWT) is writing to you in reference to the environmental assessment (EA) and anticipated regulatory processes for the proposed Selwyn Chihong Mining Limited's Howard's Pass Access Road Upgrade Project (the Project).

The Project area appears to be outside of Na-cho Nyak Dun's claim into the Northwest Territories, however the Project may still be of interest to you. As such, this letter serves to notify Na-cho Nyak Dun of the Project. For more information regarding the project, you are encouraged to review the public registry for the EA at:

http://www.reviewboard.ca/registry/project_detail.php?project_id=949&doc_stage=0

If, after your review, you identify any potential impacts to caribou harvesting related to the Project as proposed, you are encouraged to contact the GNWT personnel identified below. Please also note that the developer is the best source of information on the proposed Project.

The GNWT is responsible for ensuring that it has met its duty to consult with respect to any aspects of the Project within its jurisdiction that might negatively affect asserted or established Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights. In such cases the GNWT would rely on the consultative processes of the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) as well as developer engagement to assist in fulfilling the GNWT's duty to consult.



If you have any questions regarding the role of the GNWT in the Project EA, please contact Paul Mercredi, Project Assessment Analyst, Department of Lands, by phone at (867) 767-9183 (extension 24068), by email at paul_mercredi@gov.nt.ca, or Lorraine Seale, Manager, Project Assessment Branch at (867) 767-9183 (extension 24067) and email paul-mercredi@gov.nt.ca, or Lorraine Seale@gov.nt.ca.

Sincerely,

Terry Hall Director

Land Use and Sustainability

c. Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board Matthew Spence, Director General, Northern Projects Management Office



DEC 1 4 2015

Mr. James Wilson President Gwich'in Tribal Council PO BOX 1509 INUVIK, NT X0E 0T0

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Environmental Assessment of Selwyn Chihong Mining Limited's Howard's Pass Access Road Upgrade Project (EA1516-01)

The Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Lands (the GNWT) is writing to you in reference to the environmental assessment (EA) and anticipated regulatory processes for the proposed Selwyn Chihong Mining Limited's Howard's Pass Access Road Upgrade Project (the Project).

Given that the Project area is outside of the Gwich'in Settlement Area but within the Treaty 11 area, the Project may be of interest to you. As such this letter serves to notify the Gwich'in Tribal Council of the Project. For more information regarding the project, you are encouraged to review the public registry for the EA at:

http://www.reviewboard.ca/registry/project_detail.php?project_id=949&doc_stage=0

If, after your review, you identify any potential impacts to harvesting related to the Project as proposed, you are encouraged to contact the GNWT personnel identified below. Please also note that the developer is the best source of information on the proposed Project.

The GNWT is responsible for ensuring that it has met its duty to consult with respect to any aspects of the Project within its jurisdiction that might negatively affect asserted or established Treaty rights. In such cases the GNWT would rely on the consultative processes of the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) as well as developer engagement to assist in fulfilling the GNWT's duty to consult.



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Terry Hall Director

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VIA FAX

Chief Harry Deneron Acho Dene Koe First Nation GENERAL DELIVERY FORT LIARD, NT X0G 0A0 President Ernie McLeod Métis Local 67 PO BOX 81 FORT LIARD, NT X0G 0A0

Dear Chief Deneron and President McLeod:

<u>Participation in the Selwyn Chihong Mining Limited's Howard's Pass Access</u> Road Upgrade Project Environmental Assessment (EA1516-01)

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