



Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

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Date:	September 2, 2003	Pages:	45 including this page
To:	Distribution List	Fax:	
		CC:	
Re:	Paramount Cameron Hills Extension EA – Recent Addition to Public Registry		

NOTES:

Dear interested parties,

The attached letter was received in our office and added to the Public Registry for the Paramount Cameron Hills Extension EA.

Regards
Martin

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Distribution List**Paramount Resources Ltd – Cameron Hills Expansion
Environmental Assessment**

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DIAND South Mackenzie Distr.	Ed Hornby	District Manager	669-2720
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Paramount Resources	Shirley Maaskant	Regulatory and Community Affairs Coordinator	(403) 264-9206
Joe Acorn			joeacorn@theedge.ca



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AUG 26 2003

MACKENZIE VALLEY
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
REVIEW BOARD

**Northwest Territory
Métis Nation
Interim Measures Agreement Office
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P.O. Box 720, Fort Smith, NT, X0E 0P0
Phone (867) 872-2770
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Fax**To:** Martin Haefele – EAO MVEIRB**From:** Jason E. Lepine – I.M.A. Coordinator**Fax:** ⁸⁶⁷
~~867~~ 867-766-7074**Pages:** 2 + fax cover**Date:** August 25, 2003**File:****Re:** Paramount Resources – Cameron Hills**• Comments:** Letter attached for your review

NORTHWEST TERRITORY MÉTIS NATION

August 25, 2003**VIA FACSIMILE**

**Shirley Maaskant
Regulatory & Community Affairs Coordinator
Paramount Resources Ltd.
4700 Bankers Hall West
CALGARY, AB T2P 5C5**

Dear Shirley,**I.M.A File: 03-RB-R0005****Response to your letter of August 21, 2003**

The Northwest Territory Métis Nation (NWTMN) would like to acknowledge receiving your letter dated August 21, 2003. The overall tone of the letter and specifically the closing paragraph provided great insight to how the NWTMN will have to approach your specific project and associated EA.

It is very unfortunate that Paramount Resources has chosen to disregard the inherent rights of South Slave Métis. The duty for developers to consult aboriginal peoples is currently being formed in Canadian case law. Despite many cases such as "*Haida*" being under appeal it would have been in Paramount Resources best interest to employ a more cooperative and responsible corporate citizen approach when dealing with such a sensitive matter. Since section 35(2) of the Constitution Act includes Métis among the "aboriginal peoples of Canada" Métis rights are a subset of aboriginal rights and are given equal weight.

Unfortunately, your disregard for developing case law and politically correct actions towards aboriginal rights has begun to foster a more adversarial approach between our organizations. I would urge Paramount Resources to reverse this trend and rescind your previous position that denies South Slave Métis our inherent right to dutiful and meaningful consultation on development that is occurring on our traditional territory; and lands within close proximity to our Interim Measures Agreement area.

Given the geographic and hydrologic realities of the eastern and northern slopes of the Cameron Hills plateau it is the opinion of the NWTMN that there exists a significant opportunity for negative cumulative impacts to occur. These impacts will flow a short 40km into either the Hay River or make the longer journey into Great Slave Lake. Both of these bodies of water are within the NWTMN Interim Measures Agreement area and

are of important cultural value to both Métis and Dene peoples of the South Slave Region. Your development and those impacts created by over harvesting of timber on the slopes of the plateau make for an interesting combination of effects that should be more closely investigated. Ultimately, should Paramount Resources decide to continue ignoring the realities of NWT aboriginal claims and the inherent rights of NWTMN beneficiaries, we would have no other choice but to pursue options available to us under s. 32 of the MVRMA.

I would once again urge your company to step back and take a more cooperative approach to this outstanding issue of consultation and benefit between our organizations – our door is always open to cooperation. The NWTMN would much rather see you join us in helping make the Paramount Resources gas gathering system project a model of involvement and success between developer and *all aboriginal peoples*.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Jason E. Lepine
I.M.A Coordinator

c.c NWTMN Executive
 All Métis Councils
 Yellowknife Field Office
 Martin Haefele - EAO MVEIRB