

EAD 3005  
Inna Mandell - May 17/05

Ministre des Affaires indiennes et  
du Nord canadien et interlocuteur fédéral  
auprès des Métis et des Indiens non inscrits

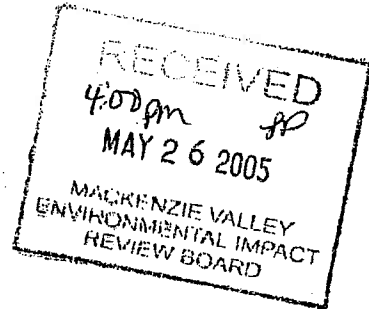


Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H4

Minister of Indian Affairs and  
Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor  
for Métis and Non-Status Indians

MAY 17 2005

Louise Mandell, Q.C.  
Barrister and Solicitors  
500 - 1080 Mainland Street  
VANCOUVER BC V6B 2T4



Dear Ms. Mandell:

Thank you for your letters dated July 20, August 31, 2004 and April 27, 2005, regarding the decision-making process described under section 130 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* and the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's Report of Environmental Assessment and Reasons for Decision on Paramount Resources Limited's Cameron Hills Extension Project. The consultation process to which you refer in your letter is undertaken pursuant to subsection 130(1)(b)(ii) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*, which states:

*"After considering the report of an environmental assessment, the federal Minister and the responsible ministers to whom the report was distributed may agree...after consulting the Review Board, to adopt the recommendation with modifications...."*

As defined in the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*, consultation pursuant to subparagraph 130(1)(b)(ii) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*, is conducted between the Federal Minister, the Responsible Ministers and the Review Board. For this development proposal, the Federal Minister is the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Responsible Ministers include Fisheries and Oceans, Environment Canada, and the Government of the Northwest Territories, as represented by the Ministry of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development.

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As the Federal Minister, I have recently written to the Review Board providing notice of the joint decision (Federal Minister and Responsible Ministers) to consult with the Review Board to modify its recommendation. This decision was taken under section 130(1)(b)(ii) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*. Officials of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada will soon be contacting the Review Board to arrange details of the consultation.

Yours sincerely,

SIGNED BY  
ORIGINAL SIGNÉ PAR

The Honourable Andy Scott, PC, MP

c.c.: The Honourable Stéphane Dion, PC, MP  
The Honourable Geoff Regan, PC, MP  
The Honourable Ethel Blondin-Andrew, PC, MP  
Mr. Joseph L. Handley  
Mr. Brendan Bell  
Mr. Kenneth Vollman  
Ms. Gabrielle Mackenzie-Scott