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ENVIRONMENTAL INPACT

REVIEW BOARD

MACKENZIE VAIT遵Y

Dec. 2, 2003

To:

Vern Christensen, Executive Director Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board Fax: (867) 766-7074

Re: Paramount Cameron Hills Extension EA

On Wednesday Oct. 29th, Joe Acorn, a consultant to the Ka'a'Gee Tu First Nation (KTFN), was informed by Shirley Maaskant of Paramount Resources Ltd. that she would be in Yellowknife on Oct. 30th and 31st and that she had a meeting set up with Todd Burlingame, Chair of the Review Board. The purpose of the meeting with the Chair was to voice Paramount's concern that the turmoil at the Review Board was going to affect the progress of Paramount's environmental

On Monday Nov. 3rd, Mr. Acorn spoke to Ms. Maaskant again. Ms. Maaskant said that she had met Mr. Burlingame and that he had given her assurances that the progress of the EA would not be affected by the Board's problems.

On Nov. 3rd, Mr. Acorn also spoke to Alan Ehrlich, Senior Environmental Assessment Officer of the Review Board and asked about the meeting between the Chair and Ms. Maaskant. Mr. Ehrlich knew nothing about it but said that he would look into it and respond later that day. When Mr. Ehrlich called back, he said that the Chair had told him that Ms. Maaskant was overplaying what happened and that the meeting was just a chance encounter in a bar.

Although KTFN does not know where the meeting occurred, that is not relevant. What is relevant is that the Chair of the Board met privately with a company that was in EA to discuss the status of that EA and, when confronted with the matter, attempted to downplay the meeting as a "chance" encounter, which it clearly was not. This action by the Chair brings into question the fairness and integrity of the Review Board's process. No Board member should be having private meetings with companies that are in EA.

The KTFN are also concerned about other recent events which have occurred at the Review Board in which a Board member who disagreed with the Chair and the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) was fired. The KTFN believe that the actions of the Chair in this matter have shown him to be too closely allied with the Minister of INAC for him to be considered an independent and impartial decision-maker.

As a result of these two incidences, the KTFN are requesting that Todd Burlingame be removed from the Review Board for the purposes of the Paramount Cameron Hills Extension environmental assessment. The KTFN is asking the Review Board to make a ruling on this matter as per Review Board Rules of Procedure #44.

Alan Landry

KTFN Band Councilor and Oil and Gas Advisor