



**SAMBAA K'E DENE BAND**  
*Box 10, Trout Lake, NWT X0E 1Z0*  
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January 5, 2004

Martin Haefele  
Environmental Assessment Officer  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
Yellowknife, NT

**Fax: 867-766-7074**

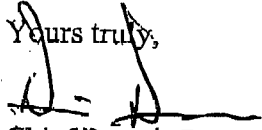
Dear Mr. Haefele,

Thank you for your letter of December 19<sup>th</sup> informing the Sambaa K'e Dene Band that the Mackenzie Gas Project has been referred for Environmental Assessment under the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act. When we first received this letter, we assumed that the EA would also include the Geotechnical Investigation being proposed for this winter. Section 118(2) of MVRMA states that, "No licence, permit, or other authorization required for the carrying out of a development may be issued under any federal or territorial law unless the requirements of this Part [Section 5 of the MVRMA] have been complied with in relation to the development". Please clarify whether the Geotechnical Investigation is considered a component of the overall MGP development, and, if not, why not.

Further to your letter and Draft Work Plan of December 18<sup>th</sup>, we have noted that Trout Lake is not listed under Section 5.1.2: EA Hearings. We assume that this is an oversight on your part because you must be aware that the proposed MGP pipeline will run directly through the traditional land use area of the Sambaa K'e Dene Band. In fact, Trout Lake has been recognized by the Deh Cho First Nations and Imperial Oil as one of four communities in the Deh Cho directly affected by this project. The Sambaa K'e Dene Band is in the process of completing an in-depth traditional knowledge (TK) study of the potential impact of the MGP in its area and has considerable environmental and cultural information to share regarding the proposed project. The Sambaa K'e Dene Band therefore insists that it be included in the EA hearings and expects confirmation of this oversight as soon as possible.

For your information, I have attached a completed 'MGP - Distribution List Confirmation' form and an 'Identification of Environmental Assessment Roles' form. Please contact us immediately if there is any further information that you need at this time. Mahsi.

Yours truly,



Chief Dennis Deneron

- cc. -Greg Smith, Regulatory Officer, MVLWB (Fax 867-873-6610)  
-Deh Cho First Nations (Fax 867-695-2038)  
-Mike McDonald, McDonald and Company (Fax 604-688-3035)  
-Peter Redvers, Crosscurrent Associates Ltd. (Fax 867-874-4505)