Item	Information Required	Conformity Recommendation
A - Summary	**Summary**	
A-1	*Non Technical Summary* : Please provide a plain language, non-technical summary of the Developer's Assessment Report (DAR) to enable the public to follow the proceedings.	Deficient. *The submission refers to section A-2, the Executive Summary, instead of providing a Non-Technical Summary. These sections are intended to reach different audiences. The non-technical summary can be achieved most easily by expanding on the introduction. There should be a concluding statement on predicted impacts as part of this summary.*
A-2	*Executive Summary* : Please provide an executive summary of the DAR, containing the most relevant points for decision-makers.	Deficient. *The Executive Summary should be a stand alone item that presents overall conclusions about the socio-economic and environmental impacts (including magnitude, duration, reversibility, etc.) and the ability to mitigate adverse effects. A final concluding statement should express the anticipated net effect - negative/positive for the local area and region over the short and longer term as defined in the scope of the assessment.*
A-3	*Conformity Table* : The DAR is requested to include a table cross referencing the items in these Terms of Reference with relevant sections of the DAR.	Deficient. *Each section begins with a statement of the required item of the TOR, includes a response to the item and where applicable cites other appendices where further information can be found. In several instances, the sections do not actually respond to the item in the TOR and the appendices do not contain required information. The approach used is acceptable if the information provided fulfills the TOR. As present, it does not.*
B - Developer		
B-1	*Company Corporate History* : Summarize the company's corporate history in Canada and the Northwest Territories. Also include the corporate histories of any partners.	Conforms to TOR.

B-2	*Proposed Development Ownership:* List all owners of the proposed developments and the portion each will own. Also include details of financial securities for government liabilities in the event of bankruptcy or other unforeseen failure to complete the project.	Conforms to TOR.
B-3	*Organizational Structure:* Identify corporate and individual responsibilities for the proposed development and associated operations.	Deficient. *Only partially addressed in section B.4.1 through description of the Deh Cho Bridge Corporation (DCBC). The responsibilities of the Board of Directors and the Chief Operating Officer relative to the implementation of the proposed development is unclear. What is the role and responsibility of the Board of Directors and staff of the DCBC relative to project implementation? The roles and responsibilities of consultants are well described.*
B-4	*Operational Structure* : Describe the relationship between the parent company, its' contractors, and subcontractors. Also detail how the company will ensure the contractors and subcontractors utilized will be responsible for, and honour commitments made by the parent company.	Deficient. *The responsibilities of the Board of Directors and the Chief Operating Officer relative to the implementation of the proposed development is unclear. What is the relationship of the DCBC relative to staff and project consultants? Descriptions of the Community Benefits Commitment Plan and the Concession Agreement with the GNWT describe some responsibilities. Who will implement and audit socio-economic comitments (employment, trust fund, etc.) during and after construction? Who will implement and audit environmental commitments during and after construction (fish and wildlife and habitat quality, etc.)? How will the GNWT ensure these commitments are fulfilled once the concession period is over? How will the transition period be handled?*
B-5	*Environmental Performance Record:* Provide a record of environmental performance of the company and its contractors in conducting this type of development.	Deficient. *The DCBC has already secured consultants (engineering companies, environmental consultants), although general contractors have yet to be identified. Given that some contractors have not yet been identified, what will DCBC seek to provide assurance of good environmental performance on the part of its consultants and contractors?*

C - Development Description		
C-1	*Timing:* Provide the proposed schedule for the project, and identify any time constraints.	Conforms to TOR.
C-2	*Access Route:* Describe the access route for all building materials required for the proposed development. Also, describe the detour access route proposed for ferry traffic and bridge traffic during the various phases of construction, including any highway realignment activities.	Conforms to TOR *(based on the information provided in this section and additional information provided in Appendix 1).*
C-3	*Construction Methods:* Describe the methods used to build the bridge, abutments and detour access roads.	Conforms to TOR *(based on the information provided in Appendix 1).*
C-4	*Operations:* Describe the operations in terms of timing, traffic volumes on the river and on the Highway. Also, describe the operations in terms of employees, contractors, schedules and worker accommodations.	Deficient. *The timing of operations is clear in terms of when different construction phases will take place and the duration of each phase. How many trucks, barges, etc. will be used in different phases of operations? What is the anticipated frequency of trips along each route (i.e., to access gravel, etc.)? How many employees and contractors are expected to be on-site at any given phase of the operation? What volumes of water, fuels and wastes will be transported, stored on-site or disposed of relative to camp operations? Estimates should reflect level of camp use at different phases of operations.*
C-5	*Maintenance Requirements* : Describe the projected maintenance requirements for the bridge, both short and long term. Include the physical nature of predicted maintenance activities as well as their frequency and potential environmental impacts. (*For example: will icing on the bridge result in the requirement for chemical control measures?*)	Deficient. *The DAR identifies potential for the need to maintain various components of the bridge as well as the super and sub-structure over the short and long term due to damage, erosion and normal wear and tear. What is the inspection schedule for routine maintenance over the short-term? What is the inspection schedule for long term maintenance based on the known life of bridge components?*

C-6	*Waste Management:* Give a description of the proposed waste management plans and sites.	Deficient. *The DAR states that this item is addressed in Appendix 1, the project description. In most instances, details of the waste management plan are not provided. The provision of these plans has been deferred for later approval by the MVLWB. The assessment of the probability and magnitude of impacts requires this information now (i.e., volumes produced, frequency of the transport of wastes, disposal locations). How will wastes be managed?*
C-7	*Accidents and Malfunctions:* List any possible accidents or malfunctions that may occur and describe the procedures to be followed in such instances (include the probability, potential magnitude and potential environmental impacts of any such accidents or malfunctions*). Do proposed contingency plans include an alternative system of transport in the event that the bridge is closed to traffic for a long period of time due to structural damage?*	Deficient. *This section appears to emphasize post-construction accidents and malfunctions, providing important details to highlight the likelihood of structural failures. What accidents and malfunctions may occur during bridge construction?*
C-8	*Abandonment and Restoration:* Describe the plans for abandonment and restoration, including the construction site, detour access roads, ferry landings and the river bottom. Include plans for long term monitoring, maintenance and remediation.	Deficient. *Plans for abandonment and restoration are largely excluded from the project description except for borrow pits. The restoration and reclamation plans for other aspects of the operation have not been provided. Review and approval of these plans has been deferred to the MVLWB at a later date. Information about restoration and reclamation is important to the determination of the duration of associated environmental impacts. What are the plans for the abandonment and restoration of the construction site, detour access roads, ferry landings and the river bottom? Please provide details of long-term maintenance, monitoring and remediation.*
C-9	*Air photos and Drawings* : Include a plan view drawing, to scale, of the proposed development superimposed on an air photo or satellite image of the site. Also include an elevation view drawing, to scale, of the proposed development.	Conforms with TOR.

C-10	*Other:* Describe any other relevant proposed activities or development components.	Conforms with TOR.
C-11	*Modifications* : Provide details of any changes or modifications to the development description as presented in the Preliminary Screening phase that may occur throughout the EA phase. This information should be provided on an ongoing basis.	Conforms with TOR.
D - Effects of the Physical Environment		
D-1	*Description of Effects:* List and describe all effects that the environment may have on your development (e.g. effects of ice movements in the Mackenzie River)	Conforms with TOR. *A thorough discussion of northern environmental variables is presented.*
D-2	*Changes to Development:* List and describe any changes or modifications to your proposed development that may be caused by the environment (e.g. late river ice break-up, flooding).	Conforms with TOR. *Sections D.1 and D.2 address the full scope of this item.*

E - Alternatives	Provide an explanation of alternatives to the various parts of the development where appropriate alternatives are possible. This discussion shall include, but is not limited to, development timing and a description of potential environmental impacts that were considered when evaluating and selecting alternatives (e.g. why were certain types of equipment selected, why will the bridge spans be hauled by barge to the site etc.). Include consideration of environmental impacts from the current ferry system, and construction and operation of winter ice road crossing.	Conforms with TOR. *Instead of providing alternatives bridge designs, the optimization criteria considered in the selection of the bridge design and schedule is presented. This is sufficient given the most likely and prevalent impacts.*
F - Regulatory Regime	Provide a table summarizing relevant licenses, permits or other authorizations required for the proposed development. Also include a summary of land ownership and the present state of each license or authorization required.	Conforms with TOR.
G - Public Consultation		

G-1	*Records* : Provide minutes and a summary of consultation undertaken with the public, Aboriginal organizations, land owners, federal, territorial and municipal governments, industry, directly/indirectly affected communities of the North Slave Region and others. Include dates and participants. This should include clear evidence of, and details from, consultation directly with members of potentially affected communities (in addition to community-based corporations). It is particularly important to include details from consultation with community members from Fort Providence.	Conforms to the TOR. *General correspondence is provided even though detailed records of consultation were not kept.*
G-2	*Issues* : Identify the issues raised, how they were resolved and what issues remain unresolved.	Conforms to the TOR. *General details are provided by stakeholder. Since the design evolved in response to input from consultation, most issues appear to have been resolved through design or proposed mitigation.*
H - Assessment Boundaries		
H-1	*Spatial:* Provide a rationale for setting the spatial boundaries for the impacts described below.	Conforms to TOR.
H-2	*Temporal* : Provide a rationale for setting the temporal boundaries for the impacts described below.	Conforms to TOR.
I - Human Environment		

Socio-Cultural and Economic Matters		
I-1	*Direct Economic Impacts:* Describe potential direct economic impacts on the community of Fort Providence in particular, and on the other communities affected by all weather access across the Mackenzie River (e.g. employment, tolls, cost of local supplies and services).	Deficient. *The description of costs and benefits for each stakeholder group has been described from a cost-benefit perspective. This approach does not allow for the interpretation of the magnitude of positive and negative impacts relative to each other in order to get a comprehensive picture of the overall effect of the project for the sptial and temporal scope of the assessment defined by the developer. Approach for impacts assessment as stipulated in the TOR has not been used. What are the valued components considered? Which impacts relate to these valued components? How are the impacts assessed relative to duration, magnitude, reversibility, significance, etc (as described in section 4.1)? How are ranking criteria defined? Examples can be provided upon request.*
I-2	*Indirect Economic Impacts:* Describe potential indirect economic impacts and their significance on the Northwest Territories (e.g. cost of living).	Deficient. *The description of costs and benefits for each stakeholder group has been described from a cost-benefit perspective. This approach does not allow for the interpretation of the magnitude of positive and negative impacts relative to each other in order to get a comprehensive picture of the overall effect of the project for the sptial and temporal scope of the assessment defined by the developer. Approach for impacts assessment as stipulated in the TOR has not been used. What are the valued components considered? Which impacts relate to these valued components? How are the impacts assessed relative to duration, magnitude, reversibility, significance, etc (as described in section 4.1)? How are ranking criteria defined? Examples can be provided upon request.*

I-3	*Direct Socio-Cultural Impacts:* Describe potential direct impacts on the social and cultural environment of NWT communities affected by all weather access across the Mackenzie River (e.g. changes in traffic volume and results on other community attributes, effects on river users and river traffic).	Deficient. *The description of costs and benefits for each stakeholder group has been described from a cost-benefit perspective. This approach does not allow for the interpretation of the magnitude of positive and negative impacts relative to each other in order to get a comprehensive picture of the overall effect of the project for the sptial and temporal scope of the assessment defined by the developer. Approach for impacts assessment as stipulated in the TOR has not been used. What are the valued components considered? Which impacts relate to these valued components? How are the impacts assessed relative to duration, magnitude, reversibility, significance, etc (as described in section 4.1)? How are ranking criteria defined? Examples can be provided upon request.*
I-4	*Indirect Socio-Cultural Impacts* : Describe potential indirect impacts on the social and cultural environment of NWT communities affected by all weather access across the Mackenzie River. Describe other indirect socio-cultural impacts (including impacts to current employees working on the Mackenzie River Ferry).	Deficient. *The description of costs and benefits for each stakeholder group has been described from a cost-benefit perspective. This approach does not allow for the interpretation of the magnitude of positive and negative impacts relative to each other in order to get a comprehensive picture of the overall effect of the project. Approach for impacts assessment as stipulated in the TOR has not been used. What are the valued components considered? Which impacts relate to these valued components? How are the impacts assessed relative to duration, magnitude, reversibility, significance, etc (as described in section 4.1)? How are ranking criteria defined? Examples can be provided upon request.*
Cultural and Heritage Resources		
I-5	*Local Cultural and Heritage Resources:* Identify archeological and other heritage resources as well as sites or areas of cultural significance in or near the project area.	Deficient. *It is standard environmental assessment practice to identify the basis for such conclusions. What individuals or agencies were contacted for information? What information was requested for what area? What response was provided?*
I-6	*Direct Cultural Impacts:* Describe potential direct impacts on sites or areas identified in I-5.	Conforms to TOR *(once supporting information for I.5 is provided).*

I-7	*Indirect Cultural Impacts*: Describe potential indirect impacts on any of the sites or areas identified in I-5 (e.g., through increased access by different user groups).	Conforms to TOR *(once supporting information for I.5 is provided).*
I-8	*Cumulative Effects*: Describe the impacts on any of the sites or areas identified in I-5 that this development may have in conjunction with previous, present, and reasonably foreseeable future developments in this area.	Conforms to TOR *(once supporting information for I.5 is provided).*
Land and Resource Use		
I-9	*Traditional Land Use:* Discuss the potential impacts of the proposed development on traditional land use and occupation.	Deficient. *It is standard environmental assessment practice to identify the basis for such conclusions. What individuals or agencies were contacted for information? What information was requested for what area? What response was provided? Although not cited in this section, the Golder report (see Appendix 14) indicates traditional use for fish harversting. Please reconcile this discrepancy by verifying traditional use.*
I-10	*Existing land use:* Discuss the potential impacts of the proposed project on existing land use and occupation.	Deficient. *Approach for impacts assessment as stipulated in the TOR has not been used. What are the valued components considered? Which impacts relate to these valued components? How are the impacts assessed relative to duration, magnitude, reversibility, significance, etc (as described in section 4.1)? How are ranking criteria defined? Examples can be provided upon request.*
I-11	*Recreational Activities:* Discuss the potential impacts of the proposed development on recreational activities.	Deficient. *Approach for impacts assessment as stipulated in the TOR has not been used. What are the valued components considered? Which impacts relate to these valued components? How are the impacts assessed relative to duration, magnitude, reversibility, significance, etc (as described in section 4.1)? How are ranking criteria defined? Examples can be provided upon request.*

Visual and Aesthetic Resources		
I-12	Discuss the potential impacts of the proposed permanent structure on the visual and aesthetic resources of the area.	Deficient. *Approach for impacts assessment as stipulated in the TOR has not been used. What are the valued components considered? Which impacts relate to these valued components? How are the impacts assessed relative to duration, magnitude, reversibility, significance, etc (as described in section 4.1)? How are ranking criteria defined? In consideration of visual impacts, the following questions should be considered: What is the zone of influence, based upon local topography, for the development (i.e., From what distance can the development (i.e., bridge, cement quarry, camps, storage areas, etc) be seen?) Does the project noticeably increase visual contrast and substantially reduce scenic quality, as seen from any high sensitivity foreground or middleground viewpoint? Does the development block or disrupt existing views or reduce public opportunities to view scenic resources? Do the visual resource conditions under the development conflict with policies and regulations governing aesthetics? Examples can be provided upon request.*
J - Physical and Biological Environment		
J-1	*Air Quality and Climate:* Discuss the potential impacts of the proposed development on the local and regional air quality and climate.	Deficient. *Approach for impacts assessment as stipulated in the TOR has not been used. In this case, dust and emissions associated with combustion appear to be the valued components. Which impacts relate to each of these valued components? How are each of the impacts assessed relative to duration, magnitude, reversibility, significance, etc (as described in section 4.1)? How are ranking criteria defined? The net effect on the air quality and climate have been provided. More direction can be provided upon request.*

*J-*2	*Terrain and Soils*: Discuss the potential impacts of the proposed development on the local terrain and soils.	Deficient. *Approach for impacts assessment as stipulated in the TOR has not been used. The valued components chosen in this case appear to be soil structure and capability/quality. Which impacts relate to these valued components? How are the impacts assessed relative to duration, magnitude, reversibility, significance, etc (as described in section 4.1)? How are ranking criteria defined? Examples can be provided upon request.*
*J-*3	*Vegetation and Plant Communities*: Discuss the potential impacts of the proposed development on the local vegetation and plant communities.	Deficient. *Approach for impacts assessment as stipulated in the TOR has not been used. What are the valued components considered (indicator species - rare or invasive, biodiversity)? Which impacts relate to these valued components? How are the impacts assessed relative to duration, magnitude, reversibility, significance, etc (as described in section 4.1)? How are ranking criteria defined? Examples can be provided upon request.*
*J-*4	*Water Quality and Quantity*: Discuss the potential impacts of the proposed development on the Mackenzie River's water quality and quantity in the immediate project area, downstream and upstream (e.g. substrate disturbance, increased suspended sediments, substrate type, water flow, water depth, channel width, ice flow, ice jamming, damming effects, and any other impacts related to spring ice breakup).	Deficient. *Approach for impacts assessment as stipulated in the TOR has not been used. Although not cited in this section, baseline conditions for water quality have been examined. Some valued components such as sedimentation have been assesed in conjunction with fish habitat. Some hydrological measures have not been assesed. What valued components are examined for hydrological considerations? Which impacts relate to these valued components? How are the impacts assessed relative to duration, magnitude, reversibility, significance, etc (as described in section 4.1)? How are ranking criteria defined? More direction can be provided upon request. The inclusion of a water quality monitoring program for bridge construction is noted in Appendix 14.*

*J-*5	*Aquatic Resources and Habitat* : Discuss the potential impacts of the proposed project on the aquatic resources and habitat in the immediate project area and downstream (discuss the current habitat characteristics and range of species present, any potential impacts to fish and invertebrates, as well as any proposed monitoring plans).	Conforms to TOR *(based on information submitted in Appendix 14).*
*J-*6	*Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat* : Discuss the potential impacts of the proposed project on the wildlife and wildlife habitat in the project area. Specifically, examine the effects of the proposed development on wildlife movement along the riverbank as well as up and down the river itself (*e.g. what is the likelihood for collisions of migratory birds with the bridge structure under conditions of low visibility?*).	Deficient. *Approach for impacts assessment as stipulated in the TOR has not been used. What are the valued components considered (i.e., indicator species, habitat qualities - fragmentation, etc.)? Birds appear to be the only valued component considered. Impacts to birds are described. Valued components for wildlife movement along the riverbank have not been selected nor assessed. How are each of the impacts assessed relative to duration, magnitude, reversibility, significance, etc (as described in section 4.1)? How are ranking criteria defined? Examples can be provided upon request.*
J-7	*SARA* : Pursuant to section 79 of the Species at Risk Act, conduct an assessment of the potential effects of the project on species at risk. This assessment should include: identification of species at risk that may be affected by the project, identification of measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate potential effects on these species or their habitat, and a proposed approach to monitoring of these effects.	Deficient. *Only species that may be present in the area should be discussed. Potential project effects should be identified along with measures to avoid, minimize and mitigate potential effects. In order to evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation in subsequent stages of the environmental assessment, potential impacts should be assessed relative to duration, magnitude, reversibility, significance, etc (as described in section 4.1)? An approach to monitoring potential effects must be described. Further direction can be provided upon request.*
*J-*8	*Noise* : Discuss the potential impacts of the proposed project on the noise levels within the project area and surrounds.	Conforms to TOR.
K - Cumulative Impacts		

K-1	Predict the cumulative impacts that might result from the proposed development impacts in combination with other past, present or reasonably foreseeable future developments and activities.	Deficient. *What past, present and reasonably foreseeable development are considered as part of this evaluation? How are induced development and the distribution of economic benefits evaluated on a regional basis?*